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Wednesday, August 31, 1988
Bhadra 9, 1910 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES
(English Version)

Eleventh Session

(Eighth Lok Sabha)

(Vol. XLII contains Nos. 21 to 25)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

———

Wednesday August 31, 1988/
Bhadra 9, 1910 (Saka)

———

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[English]

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Why are you in black, Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : For your information, this is not black. This is blue.

[Translation]

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : What is the matter ? Today you are looking very smart, Sir.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Today, you are wearing blue, that is why Shri Dandavate has not come today.

MR. SPEAKER : You have very sharp eyes.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Bairagis have such eyes.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right.

———

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Electronics units of BEL in Gujarat

*428 SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the details of electronics units proposed to be established in Gujarat by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan by the Bharat Electronics Limited ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : BEL does not have any proposal to establish elcctronics units in Gujarat within the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : The main objective of this public undertaking, Bharat Electronics Ltd. is to produce defence equipment like radars and communication equipment like radio relay for the army and for that purpose, this public undertaking is under the Ministry of Defence. I would like to know what is the total amount of production and what is the share of Defence equipment and civilian customers.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : BEL is one of our very good eletronic industries in our country and it is not only supplying to the Defence, it also meets the requirements of the All India Radio, Doordarshan, wireless, Posts and Telegraphs etc. In money value, I can say that in 1985-86, the production value was Rs. 226.01 crores and in 1986-87 it was Rs. 326.91 crores and in 1987-88 it went up to Rs. 411.94 crores. In 1988-89 action plan, the va ue of production is Rs. 470.00 crores. I cannot say the exact amount between the civil and defence but, as the hon. Member has asked the question on this, I can say that 58% is towards Defence and 42% is towards civil needs.

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : The hon. Minister has given the reply that "BEL does not have any proposal to establish electronics units in Gujarat within the Seventh Five Year Plan period." The

hon. Minister has replied without any sympathy.

Out of nine production units in the whole country, no unit is set up in Gujarat. Gujarat is very good electronics industrial zone and many small units are producing electronics equipment. I would like to know if there is any proposal in the Seventh Plan. What is the strategy of the 8th Plan ? Will the hon. Minister, who is my friend and who has also sympathy for Gujarat, consider to set up at least one unit in Gujarat during the 8th Plan ?

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : If my Ministry can set up one unit in Gujarat, then I will be happy. I have all sympathy for Gujarat. We have only nine units and they are all public enterprises. We will work out the 8th Plan. But I cannot say now anything as to when BEL will be able to set up a unit in Gujarat.

Nuclear power plants with Soviet help

+

*429 SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN :

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) where two nuclear power plants are to be set up in the country with Soviet assistance ; and

(b) if so, the terms agreed upon by both the countries for setting up these plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STAE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DETELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Soviet Union has offered setting up in India of a nuclear power station consisting of two units each of 1000 MWe pressurised light water reactors using enriched uranium as fuel. The terms are under consideration of the Government.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Sir, I would like to know whether the Indian Nuclear Scientists have any reservation on the safety aspects of the Soviet reactor design and also whether it is a fact that ths Russians themselves are not highly satisfied because of the shortcomings of this Soviet Nuclear Plant. *Pravda* has published an article on May 20, this year, by academician Legasov who had subsequently committed suicide pinpointing the weaknesses of their nuclear power plants. If that is so, what is the reaction of the hon. Minister to that ?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : Sir, our Scientists have gone very thoroughly into the safety aspects of the Soviet nuclear plant offered to us. What the hon. Member has stated is in respect of another type of Soviet nuclear power plant the Chernobyl type. What we are getting from the Soviet Union is not a Chernobyl type reactor, but what is called the VVER in Soviet terms equivalent to what the rest of the world call the PWR i.e. pressurised Light Water Reactors. These reactors have been established to be some of the safest reactors developed in the world, unlike the Chernobyl one which had certain safety defects. Apart from that, operationally also there was some human and management error at Chernobyl which created this tragic accident. So, our Scientists, particularly the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, have looked into the safety and engineering aspects of the VVER type reactors offered by the Soviet Union to India and they have in principle accepted with the safety features in it. As I said, in the Soviet Union itself, I think there are about 25 reactors of this type. In the world also, there are a large number of reactors which have been established to be some of the safe reactors.

About the suicide of the Russian nuclear Scientist, his article was mainly concerned with the Chernobyl type reactors. He says that several Soviet Scientists have worned about the defects of this. But, his main point was not about the technological factor but about the mistakes in management and also in instrumentation in the Chernobyl type of reactors.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSTOTHAMAN : I hope that his suicide has no connection with this article. Anyway, I think you very much, Mr. Minister. Further, on that basis, I would like to know whether the Government will be kind enough to establish one unit in Kerala taking into account shortage of power in the State. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : When it comes to Kerala, he is not concerned about safety aspects. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No fear now ? Is the fear psychosis over?
(Interruptions)

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Let the Minister give me the answer.
(Interruptions)

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : The second question is about re-assurance because the hon. Member assumes that the reactor is safe.

MR. SPEAKER : Give him sympathetic consideration.
(Interruptions)

SHRI. K.R. NARAYANAN : The matter is under consideration. *(Interruptions)* The installation of future reactore are under consideration. As far as Kerala is concerned, Government of India is very sensitive to the power requirement of Kerala and wherever the new Atomic Energy Reactor is establised, anything put up in the Southern Electricity Zone will share the energy with Kerala. Already, from Kalpakkam, Kerala is getting about 25 MW of electricity. From Kaiga also, it will get a share. Therefore, wherever new reactor is placed, Kerala will get a share of the power from that reactor.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Sir, the hon. Minister referred to the safety technology which is based on the VVER 440 light water reactor using enriched uranium. I would like to know whether this will involve the recurring import of enriched uranium from Soviet Union because we do not have the technology for enrichment. We are using the crude uranium for our reactors. I would also like to know whether all the spent-fuel will be taken back by the Soviet Union because then it would not be greatstain on our foreign exchange resources.

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Sir, all these matters are under discussion and subject to final decision. But certainly the Hon. Member's first point was regarding enriched uranium we will have to get enriched uranium from the Soviet Union and that would be on the international technology agency safeguards. Just as we have the safeguard with regard to the Rajasthan, Plant, in the same way, we would have a safeguard with the atomic energy agency.

As regards the spent fuel, we are negotiating with the Soviet Union and we feel that it would be possible for us to persuade Soviet Union to take back the spent fuel. But these are subject to fina decision.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : As I understand, the Soviet Union has submitted to us this offer two years back. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what are the reasons for having the delay in taking a decis on? Is it on the technical side or the financial side?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Actually, I think, the first suggestion was made even earlier in 19~9. I won't call it a delay. But the process of discussion and negotiation has gone on because there are so may important aspects involved in it-aspect of safeguards, safety, the type of reactor we are getting the cost financing etc. All these matters are involved. And also we have to bring this reactor into our own programme of indigenous development of these reactors. Of course, these are thousand megawatt electricity reactors. We are getting two of them. Therefore, it is an important decision involving very complicated issues including the safeguards which concern really India's sovereign right. All this has to be sorted out. That is the reason why we have held

extensive discussion in order to get an agreement which is perfectly satisfactory from our point of view.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : The atomic energy programme led to a great deal of indigenisation and self-sufficiency of the country. With this Soviet technology, we will be using light water and enriched uranium dependent on import and regular supply of enriched uranium from Soviet Russia. Is it not a fact that this new technology and the old Candou Reactor of Canada with the heavy water programme, that we have in India, would lead to a financial strain on the programme?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : I think, probably it would not. Far from adding financial strain, it might slightly relieve us because there may be certain amount of of Soviet credit for this reactor which, of course, has to be worked out. But there is no compromise on development of indigenous technology. We are going ahead with designing, development of PHWR reactor, installation of new one in order to reach our target of 10,000 megawatt electricity by 2000 A.D. This, to have another technology does not in any way come in the way of its indigenous development. In fact, certain degree of variety in technology might only add to our technological knowledge and sophistication.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : May I know whether Government has taken decision with regard to location of nuclear power plant at Nagarujanasagar?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : As I have said earlier this matter is under consideration. The Site Selection Committee has made various recommendations for the sites of nuclear plants all over the country and Nagarujanasagar is one of the sites under consideration of the Government.

Notices issued under section 135 of Cantonment Act, 1924 by Kanpur Cantonment Board

*432. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether notices issued under section 135 of the Cantonment Act, 1924 by the Cantonment Board, Kanpur since May 1987 have not yet been acted upon;

(b) whether the Board has prosecuted those residents who were issued such notices for non-compliance;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what further immediate action is proposed against those found to be defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Notices to 97 residents/owners of buildings in Kanpur Cantonment were issued. Out of them, 17 residents responded that positively to the notices remaining residents pleaded that due to scarcity of water and non-availability of sewerage lines in the vicinity of their houses, it was not possible for them to act upon the notices,

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Pending augmentation of water supply and adequate facilities of sewerage lines, no action is contemplated against the defaulters.

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : According to Section 135 of Cantonment Act wherever the old privies are existing they should be converted into water-borne lavatory system to maintain cleanliness. The hon. Minister has said in the reply:

> "Due to scarcity of the water and non-availability of sewerage lines in the vicinity of their houses, it was not possible for

them to act upon the notices."

Therefore, the night soil carring system is still existing. To stop this inhuman system when the hon. Prime Minister visited Kanpur he ordered for water-borne sanitary system in the town of Kanpur and Cantonment area. In view of this I would like to know what efforts are being made to lay down the sewerage lines wherever they are not there and to provide sufficient water in the Kanpur cantonment area?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : I entirely agree with the hon. Member that the practice of carrying night soil on the head is an inhuman one and must be put an end and all the resources that we have should be utilised this purpose. The Prime Minister has also issued directions in this respect. In fact, several years ago the Malkani Committee which went into this matter had made recommendations but here there are some practical problems. One is that unless you have sufficient water you cannot have a sewerage system and, therefore, until water is provided this problem cannot be taken care of. Now what is being done is that U P Jal Nigam has a scheme to supplement water supply and thereafter it will be done In the meantime if anything more can be done we will look into it.

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD : What further steps are likely to be taken to initiate stern measures against all those who still employ members of Harijan community to carry night soil ?

SHRI K.C PANT : I think it is not a matter of punishment. The Municipal Board on the Cantonment Board allows this practic to continue because in the absence of sewerage system this becomes necessary. That is why I said in the beginning that we must see how quickly we can put an end to this problem. I can tell my hon. friend that earlier also once the Government carried out an elaborate exercise in the 70's to this end. Something was done. But in some of the older cities, where there are multi-storeyed buildings—I think, in Old Delhi practical difficulties were encountered.

Nevertheless this is a problem in which all of us share your attitude and we would like to do our best.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY : Sir, particularly this Kanpur Cantonment Board was constituted long back in 1924. I am told that this problem is there since then. Even our hon. Prime Minister, when he visited Kanpur a few years back, had given clear instructions to keep the city and the cantonment cleaner and also provided the funds.

After the sanction of the Government funds, what action has the Government taken to provide sewerage and water facilities ?

SHRI K. C. PANT : As I explained, the U. P. Jal Nigam was asked to prepare a scheme to supplement the water supply. They are expected to send the scheme by March 1989. It is not a question of funds not being available with the Board, the Board has the funds. But the scheme must first come. It must be approved. Then only we can proceed.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : I want to ask the hon. Minister a general question on the administration and policy of the Cantonment Boards. As far as Kanpur is concerned. I would like to know about the drinking water system, sewerage system or other administrative matters.

Over the last 100 years or so, Cantonment Boards, like Kanpur, Allahabad, Jabalpur, were demarcated from the municipal corporation limits at a distance. They have become so intermingled with the civilian population that today it is very difficult to meet the needs of the civilian population living in the Cantonment Board areas in these cities, particularly because of pressure of population. The Act is very old. The grants, which are given by the Ministry of Defence, are very meagre keeping in view the population for which it caters for various necessities of life and comfortable municipal responsibilities.

Will the hon. Minister indicate whether the Government is considering to amend the Cantonment Boards Act to the degree that that the civilian population living in the cantonment areas are also able to enjoy the same facilities of civic life as the areas under the municipal corporation and the municipal committee.

SHRI K. C. PANT : It is a very wide question. Really speaking, my hon. friend has raised an issue which must be gone into. I recognise the validity of the presumptions on which he has based the question. But we must take into account the fact that these cantonments were meant for the Defence services and not for the civilian population. For instance, 4.247 acres is the area of Kanpur Cantonment of which the civil area is about 560 acres. So, the area is not that large. Papulation is fairly large—88,000. Population is certainly an important thing. But this is an area which was meant for the cantonment. I would like to emphasise that point because today the city may have grown around the cantonment. In many cantonments in the country, the city may have grown around the cantonment. Land has become costly and there are encroachments and so on and so forth. But the Army has got these cantonments for 100 years or so in some places. whether some other alternative arrangements can be made or not, these are matters to be considered in depth. I do not think that I can give you any assurance in this respect.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Sulabh-Sauchalaya' schemes have gone a long way in solving the problem of sewerages towards which attention of the hon. Minister has been invited by our hon. friend Shri Sreenivasa Prasad. In so far as I know, a scheme of Sulabh Sauchalaya was prepared and submitted to the D. G. Cantonment Board by all including Ranikhet Cantonment Board for approval but the grants given by the Ministry to Cantonment Boards have been curtailed, as a result of which scheme is still pending clearance. May the hon. Minister let us know whether the proposal regarding enhancing the grants for Cantonment Board on this head is considered sympathetically and cleared.

SHRI K.C. PANT : In so far as Kanpur is concerned, Cantonment Board has constructed Sulabh Sauchalaya at 5 places with the help of Sulabh International. Besides, they have constructed two Sulabh toilets on their own and are going to construct six more. In so far as the general principle that for Sulabh Sauchalaya more grants should be provided, I am also of the same view but I am not aware of the details of the schemes submitted by the respective Cantonment Boards. I will see to it and if found feasible, grants will be increased. I am in favour of this scheme,

[English]

Talks regarding Ram Janam Bhoomi and Babri Masjid issue

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*433. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had offered to hold talks on the Ram Janam Bhoomi and Babri Masjid issue in the third week of August;

(b) if so, whether the talks have taken place; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Talks are continuing. It will not be in the public interest to disclose the details at this stage.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I think everybody in the House is very anxious that an early settlement should be arrived at on this very vexed issue which has got potential for a great deal of conflict and

strife in our country, I am not pressing the Minister for the details, because he will not give them, of the talks which have alrdady been held; I believe, according to the Press reports, they have been so far held only with one side, that is, the people representing the Babri Masjid Action Committee and talks with the other side perhaps are still to be held. We would of course be happy if the Government's efforts, delayed efforts of course, better late than never—can lead to a settlement on the basis of some mutual agreement or compromise between the two sides. it would be better. What I would like to know is whether, in the event of the Government's efforts being unable to bring about an agreed solution or a compromise between the two sides, they would stand by the assurance or commitment which has been publicly made on behalf of the Government in that case the judicial process at the level of the High Court would be expedited or accelerated as the only way of getting a solution. Would they consider that ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : Yes Sir.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Such a laconic reply to a lengthy question.

MR. SPEAKER I can tell you what you want to.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I thought that at least he would shed some light on what is the proposal...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Brovity is not the soul of secrecy.

S. BUTA SINGH : There is complete understanding between you and me on the stipulation that you have made.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I am not going to fight over Babri Masjid. My second question would be this after they have held the talks with both the sides and before they make up their minds as to what to do finally, would the Government consider consulting also the other parties who are represented in the House to try to see whether some political consensus can be arrived at as to how to find a solution ?

S. BUTA SINGH : My answer would have been—Yes, Sir, but now that they want me to say something, I would say, yes, it has to be with the involvement of all those who are interested in bringing about a mutually acceptable solution to both the factions. And, I would like the hon. Member and other leaders of the political parties here or outside this House to spell out their attitude towards this issue clearly. So far certain political parties have not spelled out their attitude *(Interruptions)* Not the one you represent, but many parties. I would not at this moment like to name those parties, but still there are parties having their legs on both the sides. They must come out clearly how they would like this issue to be resolved in the best national interest.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Let us have a discussion in this House; we will spell it out here.

S. BUTA SINGH : That would be at the end when the exercise is completed.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Though in public interest the hon. Minister has decided not to divulge anything here and I would not like to challenge that at this stage. yet many of the details have already come in the press and that is creating a great confusion; it would have been perhaps better to tell us the position officially. In any case, I leave it at that.

I would like to know whether the Minister has been able to come to some conclusion with regard to the projected demonstrations from both sides which were to be held in the near future.

S. BUTA SINGH : I made an appeal to both the sides and the House will be satisfied to know that the response to my appeal has been positive.

Imported Equipments

*435. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the cost of the equipments the Department of Atomic Energy has imported the during the last two years;

(b) whether any of the equipments has since been returned; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and what is the customs duty paid on these equipments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The FOB value of equipment including raw-materials and consumables imported by the Department of Atomic Energy for the period August 1986 to end July 1987 was approximately Rs. 106 52 crores and for the period August 1987 to end July 1988 was Rs. 85.12 crores.

(b) No equipment has been returned as total reject. However, some equipment have been returned to the manufacturers for rectification/modification as required and received back after they have been carried out.

There is no loss of customs duty on such equipment because duty draw back facility is available in the normal course for such re-exports.

[Translation]

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is revealed from the reply given by hon. Minister's that equipments valued at Rs. 200 crores have been imported over the last two years. Though much advance, has been made in the field of science and technology, yet the Government is importing equipments valued at Rs. 100 crores in a year. I would like to know the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to manufacture those equipments in this country.

[English]

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Sir, the major part of the equipment required for our atomic energy programme is actually produced in the country. Though the figures sound high, it is not so. With regard to the atomic reactors, only 10 per cent of the value of these reactors has been imported from outside and 90 per cent worth of the value of equipment has been produced indigenously. And this applies more or less to the various sectors of the atomic energy programme. Therefore, the import element is minimal. We are concentrating on the programme of self-reliance and developing these equipments ourselves because there is no way of importing it even if we want to import. Other countries are not willing to sell some of these equipments. So, what we all actually importing is not the sensitive parts which the other countries would refuse to give.

[Translation]

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to Know from whom the equipment has been imported, what was the quotation system and where this equipment is proposed to be installed ?

[English]

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : We have imported from a variety of countries. There are 4 or 5 countries from which we have imported most of these equipments and these are West Germany, Britain, France and Japan. And may I say that most of these imports are of raw materials and special alloys, castings etc. for which we do not have the technology here or we have not developed it for one reason or the other. These are imported in the normal course without any kind of strings attached because as I said, though they go into the making of the atomic energy equipment and reactors, they are not so sensitive that other countries should refuse to give to us.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Sir, I would like to ask a question about an item which

is not produced and nor do we have any technical knowhow in this subject, so far as the atomic energy is concerned. It is the process called vitrification. The waste material that comes out of the atomic energy plant is vitrified and put into the earth. This is something about which we know nothing. There is no public awareness about this. In the advanced countries there is a lot of public awareness about this and they raise a lot of objections on the way the vitrified thing is put into the earth because you don't know after hundred years from now it may come out and may affect the health of the people. And this is imported. So, may I know whether we have coordinated with the highest technology in the field of vitrification of the neuclear wastes and if so, whether we have plans to evolve our own methodology ?

SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : Sir, I would like to inform the Hon. Member that as a matter of fact a vitrification plant has been put up at Tarapur and it is functioning today. Therefore, we do know the technology of vitrifying these wastes. We don't have to depend on other countries for getting this technology. As regards disposing of these wastes is concerned, we store them for a considerably long period and ultimately we bury it in deep underground formations for which technologies are being developed in our country.

[Translation]

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Rajasthan there is an atomic power plant, whose first and second unit, mainly the first unit which was installed with the help of Canadian technology, often goes out of order. Are you considering to import some sort of equipment from Canada or any other foreign country to improve the unit ? I would also like to know the ratio between foreign and indigenous equipment for the third and fourth units proposed to be installed there.

[English]

SHRI K R. NARAYANAN : Sir, we have no plan to import any equipment from Canada for the Rajasthan Power Plant. Actually, we are able to replace the enshield which is leaking. We are able to manufacture it ourselves in India in order to replace it, but for the moment we have not taken that decision because we have for the time being pluged that crack. The reactor is running at about less than half its capacity at the moment. We would like to experiment with this and see whether this process of plugging of the crack would work. Thereafter only, we will decide whether we should go into the manufacture of enshield in India and replace it.

[Translation]

Central Assistance to hill districts of U.P.

*436. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Special Central Assistance is provided to the hill districts of Uttar Pradesh by treating them as special backward areas ;

(b) if so, the names of the districts which fall under this category and the details of the per capita average income in these districts ;

(c) whether any assessment about economic and social development of these areas has been made separately ; and

(d) if so, the conclusion of this assessment ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN ENGTI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Statement is given below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Eight hill districts of Uttar Pradesh viz., Chamoli, Nainital, Almora, Dehradun, Pithoragarh, Garhwal, Tehri-Garhwal and Uttarkashi are recognised as hill areas. District-wise per capita income figures are not estimated at National level. However, as indicated in the Uttar Pradesh hill sub-plan 1987-88 document prepared by the State Government, the per capita net output from commodity producing sectors (at current prices) for the above mentioned districts as estimated by the Economics and Statistics Division of the State Planning Institute, Uttar Pradesh is reproduced as below :

Per Capita Net output from Community Producing Sectors (At Current Prices)

District	Per capita Net out put (in Rs.)					
	1971-72	1973-74	1979-80	1981-82	1982-83 (p)	1983-84 (p)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Almora	354	654	708	916	990	1080
2. Pithoragarh	392	665	953	1332	1411	1276
3. Dehradun	360	430	552	741	823	894
4. Garhwal	260	473	616	831	948	1031
5. Chamoli	598	1061	1027	1459	1444	1511
6. Nainital	592	1072	1140	1409	1363	1596
7. Tehri-Garhwal	329	561	557	867	834	880
8. Uttarkashi	902	1281	1520	1951	1950	1724
Hill Region	432	730	836	1113	1146	1226
U.P.	335	475	556	739	852	932

(p) =Provisional

Source : Annual Plan 1987-88 Document—Hill Development Department, Govt. of U.P.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I have great regard for the hon. Minister of Planning.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it still intact ?

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : It is still intact. There is still some hope, but I am totally dissatisfied with the reply made through another hon. Minister. 15 years have elapsed since the date the Hill Area Development Sub-Plan was first introduced, but over the period, no assesment has been done by the Planning Commission to find out as to whether there is any increase in per capita income of the people living in these areas or whether there is any change in their socio-economic condition after the scheme was introduced in the area. The question as to how much funds are being provided is not so important. Even after providing funds, the people are discontended and even demanding a separate state and agitating for it. May I know from the hon. Minister that whether any employment oriented and income generating scheme for the Hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh is proposed to be implemented in the remaining left over period of Seventh Plan and in eighth Plan and whether this matter has been discussed with the State Government and whether there is any proposal to provide assistance for this ?

[English]

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI : Sir, the Hill Sub-Plan is an integral part of the State Plan. That being the case, the responsibility for the overall development of the Hill Areas Sub-Plan programmes lies entirely with the State Government.

PROF. N G. RANGA : Are you not monitoring the programmes ?

SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI : I have stated in my statement that the Planning Commission are not monitoring or assessing the progress of the Hill Areas. It is the State Government who really estimate and evaluate the development. On the basis of a State Government's report, we have given details in regard to UP Hill areas. I would suggest that the hon. member may take up this matter with his own State Government. If there is any specific proposal for the development of hill areas, the State Government should come forward with such proposal when they discuss their Annual Plan with the Planning Commission. Also, the State Government have completed their Annual Report which clearly indicates the sectorwise allocations and details of programmes taken up and their implementation and so on. It can be seen fom their report that they are implementing all the schemes and the Hill districts in UP are getting much more money. The total allocation for the Seventh Five Year plan is Rs. 870 crores, out of which Rs. 553.50 crores are allocated for the UP Hill Dirtricts and this proves that much care is being taken by the Planning Commission to develop hill areas.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAV SINH SOLANKI) : MR. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has great concern for the socio-economic development and improvement in the quality of life of the people living in hilly districts. Planning Commission is also equally concerned for overall development of such areas. An Advisory Committee on hill areas has been constituted by the Planning Commission. You have also asked as to whether there is any change in their standard of living as a result of implementation of the scheme. You also asked to get it assessed. The advisory committee on hill areas has constituted 4 sub-committees during a very short period. One of them was constituted under the chairmanship of Sunder Lal Bahuguna. They submitted their report with their recommendations to the Government after due considerations. The Members of Planning Commission and the State Government have also considered the report. Members of Planning Commission have also wrote to the State Government as to what actions could be taken to develop these hill

areas. We hope that various steps will be taken in this connection.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : In this reply, the hon. Minister has confined himself to the work which the State Government is to do. Perhaps I could confine my question to the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh only. That is why he could also confine his answer to the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh only. But I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister not only to the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh, but to the all hill areas in the country. The areas of the Himalayas is very vast. It is a national need that the afforestation and soil conservation programmes are launched in this area. I want to know from the hon. Minister how much fund will be allocated in Eighth Five Year Plan for the afforestation and soil conservation in the hill areas and whether the hon. Minister will consider to start Central schemes for this, so that soil conservation and other problems in the hill areas could be tackled ?

SHRI MADHAV SINH SOLANKI : The hon. Member has rightly said that this problem of soil conservation and afforestation is not related to a particular district, only, but it is the problem of whole of the Himalaya region. Planning Commission pays attention to all these problems. After all, the State Government has to implement the schemes. But the Planning Commission is also trying to help them on behalf of the Centre. From the figures of seventh plan, it could be seen that over the last three years there has been gradual increase in funds for agriculture and afforestation. Evaluation is being done to see as to whether the funds are being utilised properly or not.

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA : There are two types of hill areas in Uttar Pradesh. One is the hill areas of Kumaun and Garwal regions and the other is 14 development blocks out of 20-22 development blocks in Mirzapur area where people belonging to Harijans, Tribals, etc. live We had sent a request to the Planning Commission that the hill areas near Mirzapur should be developed. Will the hon. Minister of Planning consider our request ?

SHRI MADHAV SINH SOLANKI : The points raised by you has been also mentioned in the report of sunder Lal Buhuguna Committee. It is being studied and we hope that decision will be taken aftter some time.

[English]

Locations of Central Food Technological Reserch Institutes

*537. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Central Food Technological Research Institutes in the country together with their locations;

(b) whether Government propose to set up such Institutes in different parts of the country to step up research and testing of food items;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any foreign assistance or technology has been or is being sought; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) There is only one Central Food Technological Research Institute in the country located at Mysore (Karnataka). The institute has six regional centres located at Mangalore, Hyderabad, Bombay, Nagpur, Ludhiana and Lucknow.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Food technology has not received the attention that it deserves. We have not got a separate Minister for Food Processing also. So, what is the use of having that Ministry if you do not strengthen the R&D with regard to food technology ? Every day, we have been hearing about contamination of food. The quality of foodstuffs is very much deteriorating, and packaging of foodstuffs is a problem. Whenever we think of food preservation or any such thing, we think about the urban elite and the urban areas, where facilities like cold storage and fridge are available. But we have not done anything sofar as the rural areas are concerned. We know what kind of food-stuffs the rural people use. Has anything been done by the Food Technological Research Institute about it so far ?

So, my question is this: you have to go so many centres. You have given a list. I know about the working of the Food Technological Research Institute in Mysore. It is in my State It is doing very good work, and has done a lot of innovations– I know it. But what are these centres doing ? Will the Government take steps to strengthen this Food Technological Research Institute, and have more regional centres, or research centres in the country ?

India is a very big country. If you want to test a sample, can you send everything right from Delhi or Agra or some such place a long way to Mysore ? For everything, can you send them to Mysore? So, what steps are you going to strengthen R&D, with regard to food technology ?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : The hon. Member has said that the Central Food Technological Research Institute in Mysore is working well. To its six centres also, we are giving support, so that they can deal with the local problem of food preservation, and develop new R&D methods.

I would like to tell the hon. Member that this is not the only food reserch laboratory available in the country. As the question was about the Central Food Technological Research Institute, I mentioned that there was one at Mysore, with six centres in different parts of India. But there are other institutes which are specializing in different aspects of food technology. The CSIR itself has a Regional Research Laboratory in Trivandrum, which specializes in spices, coconut, palm oil etc. In Jammu, there is a Regional Research Laboratory which specializes in temperate fruits. We have a Regional Research Laboratory in Hyderabad which deals with research in oils and fats. For tea, for example, there is a big experimental centre at Jocklai, near Jorhat. There are also laboratories under Defence, viz. the Defence Food Research Institute in Mysore for making defence oriented food, specially needed for Defence personnel. ICMR has its National Institute of Nutrition in Hyderabad. BARC in Bombay has a Division of food Technology dealing with irradiation and similar problems. Indian Council of Agricultural Research has the National Dairy Research Institute in Karnal. There are others also, under the Ministries of Commerce and Food and Civil Supplies-they, all have research institutes dealing with different aspects of the problem. Therefore, we cannot say that we do not have sufficient knowledge or enough number of institutes. But I will definitely agree with the hon. Member that we have to do much more, in order to utilize the vast resources we have in our own country, and to make them available to our people.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Has the technology transfer been very effective ? Will the Minister be able to tell me, especially with regard to the Central Food Technological Research Institute at Mysore, in how many cases there have been transfer of food technology during the year 1987-88 ? How many industries have been benefited, or how many organisations have been benefited ? Can the Minister give that information ?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : I can give general idea of it. Technologies have been transferred to nearly 450 entrepreneurs for commercial exploitation covering soft drinks, fermented beverages, nutritious

foods, convenience foods, grain processing technologies, and disinfestation procedures for grains, etc. This has been done by the Central Food Technological Research Institute in Mysore. Actually they were transferred for commercial exploitation. Various other technologies have been transferred to other similar entrepreneurs also.

SHRI K. S. RAO : The Krishna—Godavari delta is one producing surplus food commodities and it is producing not only paddy but also pulses, cotton, tobacco, fruits, vegetables and so many other things. What is the point in having these regional centres in Hyderabad, Bangalore, Delhi, Calcutta and all that ? They must be provided nearer to the place where these commodities are being produced. I wish to know from the hon. Minister whether he thinks in terms of opening one regional centre in any area near to the Krishna-Godavari delta.

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : This is the first time the Government is getting such a proposal. Naturally, we will look at it. But I think the State Gavernments also can take some steps in order to provide research and development in these fields.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREEWARA RAO : Some tens of thousands of hectares of new mango plantations are coming up in the upland areas of Krishna and West Godavari districts in particular, apart from the other areas in coastal Andhra. In view of the necessity to increase our exports and earn more foreign exchange I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will consider a proposal to set up a regional centre in any suitable place near the Coastal Andhra to make available this latest technology developments as well as the fruits of research to be passed on to the farmers and other entrepreneurs to make the product more hygienic and suitable for export purposes. Also lot of vegetables are also being exported from our coastal areas to foreign countries. So, how best can the quality be improved to make our exports more viable, should also be examined. From that angle, will the Government consider a proposal to set up a regional centre of the Central Food technological Research Institute, at any suitable place in the coastal Andhra ?

SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN : Whether it is feasible or not, the Government will certainly examine. But I have a feeling that what the hon. Member mentions probably falls within the purview of the Ministry of Food Procesing for export development and all that. As far as technology for setting up of a research centre of the CFTRI is concerned, this will be examined. But I cannot say that it will be feasible to do that.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Yashwantrao Gadakh Patil. Absent. Shri H. B. Patil. Absent. Shri Somnath Rath.

Posting of senior officers in centre

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*440. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :
CH. RAM PRAKASH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any effort is being made to ensure that only such officers as have served as District Collectors be brought to senior position in Centre so that the formulation as well as implementation of policies and programmes have the reflection of people's urges and reactions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Generally, only such Indian Administrative Service Officers are appointed as Deputy Secretary/Director in the Government of India who have had at least three years of experience on field posts as District Collector/District Magistrate; Sub Divisonal Officer, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Secretary of Zilla Parishads and a number of posts in various States specifically identified as similar to the post of District Collector for the purpose of acquiring field experience.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hours is over.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Promotion of Group 'A' officers under Central Civil Services

*430 PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether promotion avenues in Group 'A' services under Central Civil Services are not uniform as result of which there is resentment amongst officers in these services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) The promotion avenues in Group A Services, under the Central Services/Cadres controlled by various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are, by and large, the same The promotion prospects in any Service vary at different points of time depending upon the availability of posts in higher grades.

The system of triennial Cadre Review of Group A Central Services has been made much more regular in recent years, which also takes into account the promotional prospects available to the members of the Service. Further, introduction of Non-functonal Selection Grade at JAG level w. e. f. 1 1.86 on uniform basis in all Services has also substantially increased the promotional opportunities.

[English]

Airbone early warning system for Navy

*431. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Navy is in need of airborne early warning system;

(b) if so, how is this need going to be fulfilled; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c) The modernisation of the Indian Navy is an on-going process and includes the enhancement of its capability for detecting and destroying missiles and their carriers.

Further details cannot be disclosed for reasons of national security.

UN Peace Mission to Gulf

*534. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have agreed te send military officers for the UN Peace Mission to Gulf;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) which other countries are to join the Mission ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) As requested by the UN Secretary General, the Government have provided a contingent of fifteen officers of the Indian Army for the UN Iran-Iraq Military observer Group. The contingent includes a Brigadier, a Colonel and 13 officers of the rank of Major.

(c) Austria, Bangladesh, Canada, Denmark, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Malaysia, Norway, Poland, Senegal, Zambia, Argentina, Australia, Finland, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, New Zealand, Nigeria, Sweden, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

Status of the Electronics Commission

*438 SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently decided to reduce the status of the electronics Commission as reported in the press;

(b) if so, the details of such a decision and the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether the decision will have some adverse impact on the effectiveness of the Commission's functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) (a) There has been no change in the functions and responsibilities of the Electronics Commission as outlined in the Government Resolution dated 25-8-1986.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Conference of Chief Secretaries

*439. SHRI H. B. PATIL :

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether at the Conference of Chief Secretaries of the States held recently in New Delhi it was decided to consider paper on 'Panchayati Raj and District Planning' with a view to making the administration more responsive at the district level: and

(b) if so, the details of various points discussed and decisions taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : a) Yes Sir, The Conference of Chief Secretaries of the States was held on 30th July, 1988 to consider the paper on 'Panchayati Raj and District Planning'.

(b) A statement is given below.

Statement

The Conference of Chief Secretaries discussed the report on Panchayati Raj and District planning, prepared by the Workshop of District Magistrates/Collectors.

Various points were discussed in the Conference The necessity of Panchayati Raj Institutions and local level planning as well as the structure of Panchayati Raj Bodies were discussed. The question of the role of political parties in elections to various Panchayati Raj Bodies also came up for discussion. The role that would be played by elected representatives on the one hand and the officials on the other, as well as the specific role of the Collector in the context of elected bodies were also debated upon. Whether the development and regulatory aspects of administration should be separated or not was also a subject of discussion at the Conference. The Chief Secretaries also spoke of the need for safeguarding the interest of the weaker sections. The overall approach to devolution also came up for discussion.

The conference felt that it was necessary and desirable to revive Panchayati Raj Institutions and stressed this importance of bottom of planning. The three-tier structure of Panchayati Raj with modifications in the case of some States of North-East and Jammu & Kashmir was found to be appropriate. Elections for Block and District Panchayats should be on party lines but elections at the Gram Panchayat level should not be on party lines.

On the role of elected bodies and officials, it was generally felt that while planning decisions and monitoring functions should be left to elected representatives, executive responsibilities should be

with the Collector and other officials. As for the Collector, he could function as the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Administration of Zila Parishad for the purposes executing the various decisions of that body.

The Conference stressed the need to maintain a focal point in the District with both the development and regulatory aspects of administration being closely linked together at this point.

The Conference also recommended a policy of reservation of seats as well as earmarking of certain financial allocations to ensure that the interest of the weaker sections were safeguarded.

The Conference recommended that functions that develoved to local bodies should be matched by financial and organisational resources.

The Chief Secretaries also stressed the need for a political consensus to implement the suggestions that had emerged in the Conference on Panchayati Raj and District Planning. They felt that a Constitutional Amendment could also be pursued provided there was a political consensus on the point.

[Translation]

Recruitment in Army

*441. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item published in Jansatta dated 19 June, 1988 under the caption "Rakam Lekar Sena Mein Bharti Karne Wale Pakade Gaye";

(b) whether the matter has been investigated; and

(c) if so, the out come thereof and the persons arrested in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Three civilians were apprehended inside the BSF Campus Chhawla on 18-6-1988. Preliminary investigation revealed that they were connected with some agents engaged in recruitment rackets. The apprehended persons were handed over to the Police Station, Nazafgarh for further investigation and action under law.

[English]

Food Irradiation

*442 DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Governmet are aware that irradiation of foods leads to formation of organic free radicals reacting with molecular oxygen to produce radiolytic products such as epoxides which, after ingestion, may react with cellular DNA to cause mutational cancer;

(b) whether in view of the mass data available abroad Government propose to review food irradiation policies and programmes; and

(c) whether any indepth studies have undertaken in this country on the subject and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, AND ELECTRONICS SPACES (SHRI K R. NARAYANAN) : (a) There is no evidence to show that ingestion of irradiated food causes mutation or cancer.

(b) While giving clearance for the adoption of irradiation for preservation of food articles, Government have carefully scrutinised all available data on the wholesomeness and safety aspects on irradidated foods.

(c) Indepth studies on radiation doses, wholesomeness and biological safety of irradiated foods, have been carried out. Evidence obtained from studies, using

multigeneration trials and tests for mutagenisity, reproductive efficiendy and other health parameters on irradiated and composite diets, has shown the biological safety of irradiated foods.

Special Central Assistance for Tribal Development

*443. SHRI SAMAR BRAHMA CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether release of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan areas as block grants envisages a precondition of specifying schemes for utilisation of such assistance;

(b) whether the audited statements of accounts of utilisation of grant have been received from all States during the last three years; and

(c) if not, what control is exercised by her Ministry to ensure compliance of their guidelines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) to (c) The Special Central Assistance to the Tribal sub-plan States/Union Territories is given for taking up specific schemes of development in the tribal areas or for supplementing the requirement of funds for schemes for development in those areas financed from out of State Plan funds. These schemes are examined during the meetings with the State Governments/U.T administrations for approval of their Tribal sub-plan.

Statements of accounts of utilisation of special Central assistance have been received from all the T. S P. States/Union Territories. However, audited figures of expenditure have so far not been furnished by any of the State Governments for the last three years.

State Governments have been asked to submit quarterly statements of expenditure and year-wise audited figures of utilisation of grants. The utilisation of grants as per the guidelines is also reviewed during Tribal Sub-Plan discussions.

ICCR Library

*444. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Library of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations was set up by its founder President the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to grant the status of National Library to the Library of the Council in the centenary year of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) (a) No, Sir. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations was set-up in 1950 with the Council's Library as an integral part of it. About 6,000 books were gifted to the Library by the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad

(b) At present there is no such proposal.

Complaints about denial of employment to tribals in Andhra Pradesh

*445 SHRI T BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether complaints have been made to the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of instances where tribals have been denied employment in West Godavari, Andhra Pradesh, because of police cases; and

(b) the steps being taken to send a team to West Godavari to sort out these complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) The office of the Commissioner for SC/ST

has informed in connection with this question that there was no such complaint received by him.

(b) Does not arise.

[Tanslation]

Export of VCR/VCP

*446. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accorded permission to the manufacturers of the video cassette recorder and player for export of these items;

(b) if so, the relevant details of these manufacturing units;

(c) whether these units are facing various difficulties in exporting these items if so, the particulars thereof;

(d) whether Government have looked into complaints of these manufacturing units; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the extent of the foreign exchange likely to be earned by the country from such export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SERIVCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R NARAYANAN) : (a) to (e) During the period 1980 82, 8 units in the organised sector and 60 units in the small scale sector were given approval for manufacture of VCRs/VCPs for an annual capacity of 500 nos each. Production against these approvals have been primarily, based on imported video tape deck mechanisms. Recently, Letters of Intent for indepth manufacture of VCRs/VCPs have been issued to three parties—M/s Bharat Forge Co. Ltd., Shri P.K.N L. Dhoot (M/s Videocon International Limited) and M/s BPL Sanyo Limited. The manufacturers are free to export these items.

The units are in the process of setting up facilities for manufacture of VCRs/VCPs and as such it would take some time before they commence export of these items.

[English]

Private and Public Sector units as model companies

*447. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission is considering to develop in the Eighth Plan 500 private and public sector units as 'model' companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) In the mid-term appraisal document of 7th Plan, the Planning Commission has emphasised the need to maximise production potential of, and output from the existing industrial structure It has been suggested that for maximising the impact, this effort instead of being spread thinly and ineffectively, should be aimed at about 500 industrial enterprises in the country selected in accordance with specific criteria such as value of assets, backward and forward linkages, technological vintage, size of the work force, etc. The concerned administrative ministries have been requested to take necessary follow up action.

Vacancies in Andaman and Nicobar Administration

4454. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts lying vacant in Groups A,B,C and D in Andaman and Nicobar Administration as on 31 July, 1988; and

(b) the number of persons provided employment during last three years in

Groups 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' posts in Andaman and Nicobar Administration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) As on 31st July, 1988, the number of posts lying vacant were as under :—

(i) Group 'A'—51

(ii) Group 'B'—94

(iii) Group 'C'—1204

(iv) Group 'D'—176

(b) Details of the number of persons provided employment during last 3 years are as under :—

(i) Group 'A'—27

(ii) Group 'B'—94

(iii) Group 'C'—1913

(iv) Group 'D'—1795.

Tunnel under Rohtang Pass in Lahaul and Spiti district

4455. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work for the construction of a tunnel under Rohtang Pass in Lahaul and Spiti District of Himachal Pradesh has been sanctioned and taken up for construction;

(b) if so, the estimated expenditure and the likely period for the completion of the project; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the project would be sanctioned and the construction work taken in hand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Cannot be stated at this stage.

Cadre review for Civilian Drawing Staff

4456. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether follow-up action in the matter of Cadre review of Civilian Drawing Staff has been taken;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and when the action will be completed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a)to (c) A restructuring of the cadre of Civilian Drawing Staff was considered but, having regard to Government's policy guidelines and other criteria, the proposal was not found to be adequately justified.

Registered research centres in private sector

4457. SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the companies in the private sector having large R & D Centres in India as registered with the Department of Science and Technology;

(b) the names of three companies in the private sector with the largest R & D Centres in terms of investment, expenditure and number of scientists; and

(c) the areas of research of these leading research centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS ON OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC

ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) There are over 60 companies in the Private sector recognised by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research having relatively large R & D Centres in India and reporting an annual R & D expenditure of more than Rs. 1.0 Crore.

(b) The names of three companies in the private sector with the largest R & D Centres in terms of investment, expenditure and number of scientists respectively are Escorts Limited, Faridabad; Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Bombay; and Premier Automobiles Ltd., Bombay.

(c) Areas of research in these research centres respectively are : *Escorts Limited, Faridabad*—Agricultural and Industrial Tractors, Agricultural Implements, Material Handling Equipment, Engines and New Energy Sources; *Larsen & Toubro Ltd., Bombay*—Mechanical and Electrical Engineering and Electronics; Earth Moving, Agricultural and Industrial Machinery; Switch Gears; Control Panels; Instruments and Cement; *Premier Automobiles Limited, Bombay*—Automobiles.

Central Secretariat Stenographers Service Rules

4458. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN :
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given on 12 August, 1987 to Unstarred Question No. 2597 regarding reframing of Central Secretariat Stenographers Service Rules and state :

(a) whether service rules of the Central Secretariat Stenographers Service have been reframed;

(b) if so, when and brief details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The Service rules will be reframed as and when the Service is restructured.

Sale of Defence land in Bombay

4459. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether land belonging to Ministry of Defence in Bombay has been sold to a builder and contractor of Pune;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the amount for which it was sold as well as the procedure followed for sale; and

(c) whether the State Government had been offered that piece of land for building houses to relieve the difficulties of the slum dwellers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Appointment of IAS officers in States

4460. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted to appoint IAS cadre officers in each State; and

(b) the number of IAS Officers posted in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Direct

recruit I.A.S. officers are allotted to the States each year in consultation with the State Governments Cadre gap, future retirements etc, are taken into consideration before arriving at the State-wise allocation.'

(b) There are 205 officers borne on the I.A.S. Cadre of Orissa.

Changes in population control strategy

4461. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appeared in the 'Hindu' dated 17 May, 1988 under the caption "change in population control strategy";

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has taken any initiatives in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAV SINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A Steering Committee on Population Stabilisation and Family Welfare Programme has been constituted for the Eighth Five Year Plan and its first meeting was held on 27 7 88. The Steering Committee has advised the Constitution of the following four Working Groups :—

(i) Population projection and family planning;

(ii) Child survival programmes;

(iii) Safe motherhood programmes; and

(iv) *Health Education/Information, Education and Communication.*

The recommendations of the above said Working Groups and the Steering Committee will be finalised shortly and accordingly the future strategy will be drawn up.

Financial assistance to encourage inter-caste marriages

4462. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme to grant awards, loans or other type financial assistance to encourage inter-caste marriages; if so, the details thereof;

(b) the names of the States which are implementing the scheme;

(c) the number of couples granted awards, loans or other financial assistance in Goa during the last three years; and

(d) the total amount involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Welfare has no specific scheme to encourage inter-caste marriages. However, assistance is extended to States under the scheme of Implementation of *the protection to Civil Rights Act, 1955,* if specifically approached by States. Loans and other financial assistance can also be extended to inter-caste married couples as part of the other economic support programmes, if they are eligible. As per the information available, some of the State Govts. including Assam, Goa, Orissa, Tripura, West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Haryana are encouraging inter-caste marriages by providing certain incentives. The State Governments of West Bengal, Karnataka, Punjab Orissa and Madhya Pradesh were provided assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of implementation of PCR Act, 1955 during 1987-88.

(c) and (d) No financial assistance was sought by the State Govt. of Goa for encouraging inter-caste marriage

under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Implementation of protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 till last years.

Indian workers held up in Arabian Countries

4463 SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of Indian workers have been held up in certain Arab countries on false allegation;

(b) if so, their number, country-wise; and

(c) the efforts being made to get them released ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Immoral traffic of Nepali Girls

4464. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any information about the immoral traffic of Nepali girls in Delhi by some anti-social elements;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from any quarter in this respect; and

(c) if so, the action Government have taken to stop such immoral traffic and punish the concerned persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PERSONS BND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) One case in 1984 and three cases in 1987 were registered and Police Station Kamla Market under various sections of IPC Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

Ten Nepali girls were rescused in these cases.

(b) A comp aint of one Shri Kishna Bahadur was received. The complaint contained the general observations regarding alleged abduction of Nepali girls for immoral traffic.

(c) Raids are conducted from time to time. Girls are rescude on receipt of information. Besides. plain clothes/uniform policemen are deployed to keep watch over such activities in the area.

Pensionary and gratuity benefits to public sector employees

4465. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide all such pensionary and gratuity benefits to them to the employees of the public sector undertakings also which are being providing to the retiring Government servants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PERSONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Arms licence for absolete arms

4466. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any licence is required to own firearms which have been declared obsolete and out of date by their manufacturers and whose ammunition is no more manufactured or available;

(b) if so, the relevant rules and regulations in this regard; and

(c) if such firearms are kept in museums, do they require any special permit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) According to sub-section (c) of Section 45 of the Arms Act, 1959 any weapon of an obsolete pattern or of antiquarian value or in dirsrepair which is not capable of being used as a firearm either with or without repair is exempt from the provisions of the Arms Act. As such no licences are required for owning or keeping such weapons in a museum,

Tremor in North-Eastern Region

4467. DR B.L. SAILESH :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a severe two minutes tremor rocked the entire North-Eastern region on the morning of 6th August, 1988, causing wide spread damage and triggering off massive landslides and twisting railway lines;

(b) whether moderate to mild tremors were also felt in West Bengal, J&K, parts of Bihar, Calcutta, Bombay and Delhi in the morning and afternoon;

(c) whether any expert studies have been made to find out whether this region particularly in the North-East is highly prone to earthquakes; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the safeguards Government propose to take to protect the lives and property if the people in future from such tremors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. On 6.8 1988 there were two earthquakes in different places. One which occurred in the morning, was felt in North-East India, West Bengal, Calcutta and parts of Bihar. The other earthquake which occurred in the afternoon, was felt in J&K and Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) North-east India lies in a seismically active region which is prone to earthquakes. Since no reliable and precise method for earthquake prediction is available at present, it is not feasible to warn the people in advance in regard to exact time and place of occurrence of the natural disasters. However, Bureau of Indian Standards has framed specification for earthquake resistant structures for the region. Thirty Seismological Stations are being operated in northeast India by India Meteorological Department, National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad and North-East Council to assess earthquake risk in the region.

Schemes for Juang tribe, Orissa

4468. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the implementation of Juang development scheme in Keonjhar district, Orissa;

(b) if so, how many Juang tribe people have been benefited under the scheme so far;

(c) the details of the benefits provided to them;

(d) whether Government have a proposal to include some more villages in

that district under the Juang development project; and

(e) If so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Seven hundred and ninety three Juang families have been provided with benefits under different schemes by Juang Development Agency, Keonjhar.

(c) The Juang families have been provided assistance under schemes like Supply of bullocks, agricultural demonstration, kitchen garden and backyard plantation, fruit trees plantation, tassar and mulberry plantation, Assan and Arjun trees plantation, supply of diesel pumps, land development, small business, tailoring training, supply of goats etc.

Besides, infrastructure development programmes like construction of minor irrigation sources, Hostel buildings roads, provisions of drinking water tube wells, opening of adult literacy centres, measures to prevent shifting cultivation etc. have been taken up.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Unauthorised occupation of army land in Danapur Cantonment

4469. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the land of the Army in Danapur cantonment area has been occupied unauthorisedly by the people of this area on large scale;

(b) whether it is a fact that some persons and many legislators of Danapur Cantonment area have submitted memoranda to Government requesting removal of such encroachments; and

(c) if so, the action taken by the Gavernment in this regard so far and the time by which the unauthorised occupations will be vacated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Only one representation was received about one encroachment.

(c) Steps being taken to remove the encroachment with the help of local civil authorities following the due process of law. No definite time limit for removal of the encroachments can be indicated.

[English]

Utilisation of funds for Post Matric Scholarship

4470. SHRI GANGA RAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the funds utilised and untilised by each State Government/Union Territory during the least three years for the disbursement of the post matric scholarship for the students of the SC/ST, yearwise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THH MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of post Matric Scholarship for SC/ST is basically a re-imbursement scheme. The State Government/U.T. Administrations are required to spent from their Non-Plan/Plan Budgets and thereafter seek re-imbursement of the amounts which are incurred over and above their committed liability. The Central Assistance admissible is re-imbursed to them after adjusting the unspent balance out of Central Assistance released in the previous years, if any. A statement indicatig Central Assistance released to the State Governments/U.T. Administration during the last 3 years is given below.

Statement

Post Matric Scholarship for SC/ST, Statement of amount released to the States/U.T. Administrations during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88

Name of the State/ U.T. Administration	Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
1	2	2	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	—	50.00	530.73
2. Assam	188.40	94.20	—
3. Bihar	95.15	47.50	528.28
4. Goa	0.40	0.10	0.12
5. Gujarat	9.96	4.98	3.69
6. Haryana	1.40	7.31	10.26
7. Himachal Pradesh	—	2.00	—
8. Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	7.16
9. Karnataka	60.10	163.17	68.78
10. Kerala	—	91.15	—
11. Madhya Pradesh	165.17	122.50	155.85
12. Maharashtra	100.00	5.00	451.31
13 Manipur	6.40	3.20	11 85
14. Meghalaya	2.77	29.54	25.09
15. Mizoram	7.50	1.07	—
16. Nangaland	16.00	22.80	38.83
17. Orissa	21.47	42.04	51.09
18 Punjab	30.00	32.59	44.32
19. Rajasthan	31.19	15.60	7.00
20. Tamil Nadu	53.70	26.84	229.22
21. Tripura	—	4.00	—
22. Uttar Pradesh	176.92	175.00	581.12
23. West Bengal	27.37	160.51	227.15

1	2	3	4
24. Dadra & Nagar Havali	4.75	0.19	—
25. Delhi	4.00	6.00	16.20
26 Pondicherry	0.35	0.75	0.95
26. Pilot Project (Guwhati)	1.00	1 00	2.00
TOTAL (Rs. in Lakhs)	1000.00	1155.00	2911.00

Implementation of Fourth Pay Commission's recommendations about upgradation of posts of P.S. to Secretaries

4471. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not implementing the accepted recommendation of the Fourth Pay Commission in regard to the upgradation of the posts of Private Secretaries to the Secretaries and Officers of equivalent rank in the scale of Rs. 3000-4500 in Central Ministries/Departments from 1 Jannuary, 1986 ;

(b) whether Government have finalised the recruitment rules/seniority list on centralised basis ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The posts of Private Secretary to the Secretaries and Officers of equivalent rank have been upgraded w.e.f. 12th October, 1987 in the scale of Rs. 3000-4500 in Central Ministries/Departments and *ad hoc* promotions ordered. Being Functional Grade to be introduced for the first time, requiring promotion as per normal procedure after finalisation of Recruitment Rules, the qualification and the modalities for such promotions, retrospective implementation w.e.f. 1.1.86 is not permissible. The posts have been upgraded prospectively on 12th October '87.

(b) and (c) Draft Recruitment Rules have been sent to the Union Public Service Commission for their concurrence.

Import of industrial robots

4472. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have permitted the Indian Oxygen Ltd., Calcutta to import industrial robots from Japan for marketting in India ;

(b) if so, the considerations which weighed with Government in allowing this import of robots which will result in displacement of workers ;

(c) the estimated cost involved ; and

(d) the Government's policy in allowing such an import when the State of West Bengal is already plagued with unemployment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SICENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

[Translation]

Roster system in C.S.I.R. for promotion of SCs/STs

4473. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is roster system in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for the promotion of the emplomees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes ;

(b) if so, the number of the employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes promoted under the roster system since 1985-86 to date ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and also the reasons for not introducing roster system ; and

(d) the reasons for which employees belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given promotion as per the recommendations of Vellurt Committee and the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir, CSIR follows Government of India instructions on maintenance of rosters for recruitment to various categories of posts.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Promotions of Scientific and Technical staff of CSIR are not vacancy based and therefore, there is no reservation for SC/STs. However keeping in line with the spirit of reservation, the SC/ST candidates are judged by relaxed standards at the time of assessment.

[English]

Uniform for Ladies in Delhi Police

4474. SHRI K.N. PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken by Delhi Police that women constables or officers should wear pants and shirts as uniforms instead of sarees/kameez-salwar and women police employees have already been asked/are being asked to deposit their sarees/ kameez-salwar issued to them as uniforms in the past ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the female employees have represented against the said decision; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider their decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir. The women constables and officers in Delhi Police have the option of wearing Pants/ Shirts or Salwar-Kameez.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Propellant Factory at Sagar

4475. SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether survey to set up a Propellant Factory in Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh has since been completed ;

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken about setting up of this factory ;

(c) if not, the nature and fields of survey get to be completed and the time by which the remaining survey work is likely to be completed ; and

(d) the time by which propellant factory is likely to be set up there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (d) The Site Selection Committee constituted to evaluate the sites offered by various State Governments, including one in Sagar district of of Madhya Pradesh, in accordance with prescribed procedure, has submitted its report to the Government. The recommendations of the Committee are under consideration of the Government.

[English]

Lack of fire fighting equipments in small scale industrial houses in Delhi

4476. SHRI S.S. BHOJE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great insecurity to the life and properity for not fixing fire fighting equipments in the PVC small scale /house hold industries in the capital particularly in Tri Nagar, Uttam Nagar and its adjoining areas ;

(b) whether these industries have not obtained No Objection Certificates from Delhi Fire Service ; and

(c) whether Government propose to inquire into this matter and issue necessary orders for the installation of fire fighting equipments in all such industrial units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Per capita income of Punjab

4477. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether per capita income of Punjab has registered any increase during the last three years ;

(b) if so, details thereof year-wise ;

(c) how does it compare with the national average ;

(d) whether Government propose to increase investment in this State ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Estimates of Per Capita Net State Domestic Produc (NSDP)for the State of Punjab as prepared by the State Government and Per Capita Net Domestic Product (NDP) for all India based on National Accounts Statistics (Old series) brought out by Central Statistical Organisation for the latest 3 years for which comparable data is available are shown below :

(Rupees at current prices)

Year	Per Capita NSDP of Punjab (Provisional)	Per Capita NDP for all India
1983-84	3678	2200
1984-85	4075	2375
1985-86	4479	2715

(d) and (e) An outlay of Rs. 3285 crores has been approved for Punjab for the 7th Plan period (1985-90) which is 67.9 percent higher than the outlay for its 6th Plan. The Annual outlays have also been increasing year to year and expenditure under the 7th Plan of the State is likely to exceed the 7th Plan outlay at least in normal terms.

Inquiry report on blasts in Jabalpur Ordnance Factory

4478.* SHRI KRISHNA SINGH :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the inquiry report relating to the Jabalpur Ordinance Factory blasts of March, 1988, has been submitted to Government ;

(b) if so, what according to the report was the cause of the blasts and in what circumstances it took place ; and

(c) the follow-up action takan in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STAE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) and (b) The inquiry relating to the fire incident in the Central Ordanance Depot, Jabalpur has been completed by the Court of Inquiry but the report is yet to be submitted to the Government.

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

Fake visa racket in Delhi

4479. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem which appeared in 'Indian Express' dated 16 July, 1988 to the effect that fake visa racket has been unearthed in the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On receipt of secret information, the Special Staff of New Delhi Police District arrested one Trilochan Singh. From the search of his bag, six passports bearing forged visa stamps were recovered. A case FIR No. 367 dated 8.7.88 u/s 420/468/471/34 IPC at P.S. Connaught Place has been registered. His accomplice Gian Singh @ Kuchi who was responsible for preparing forged visa stamps is evading arrest. Accused Trilochan Singh is in judicial custody.

Entry of Punjab terrorists into other States

4480. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of extremists have fanned out to other State from Punjab;

(b) if so, whether there is any machinery which maintains a close liaison with all the States about the movement of such extremists; and

(c) the preventive measures taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) There

have been reports of movement of terrorists from Punjab to other States. The information received in this regard is shared with the concerned State Governments. They are advised to maintain strict vigil and to take steps to apprehend such elements and to check their activities.

Vacancies of Assistants Grade-IV General Cadre of IFS(B)

4481. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of External AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of vacancies of Assistants (Grade-IV) General Cadre of IFS(B) reserved for Scheduled Castes during 1982, 1983 and 1984;

(b) how many posts were dereserved/ carried forward out of them; and

(c) the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) . (a) The number of vacancies in Assistants Grade (Grade-IV) of General Cadre of IFS(B) reserved for Scheduled Castes candidates are as follows :—

1982	—	18
1983	—	28
1984	—	33

(b) Details of the vacancies carried forward are as follows :—

1982	—	5
1983	—	17
1984	—	21

In 1987, 5 vacancies of 1983 were dereserved.

(c) The vacancies were carried forward because adequate number of Scheduled Caste candidates were not available, 5 vacancies of 1983 were dereserved in 1987 as these remained unfilled for 3 years.

Plan to improve check posts in West Bengal

4482. DR. GOLAM YAZDANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to improve the Hilly Check Posts in West Dinajpur district of West Bengal;

(b) if so, the progress made so far; and

(c) the causes of non-implementation of the plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIKS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) A proposal received from the Government of West Bengal in this regard is under consideration.

Implementation of recommendations of National Police Commission

4483. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain recommendations made by the National Police Commission have not been implemented so far;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken for expeditious implementation of these recommendations;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued in regard to use of handcuffs and the procedure for assessment of the performance of police officers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) 'Police'

being a State subject it is for the State Governments to implement the recommendations of the National Police Commission. However, from time to time the Central Government have been requesting them to expedite the implementation of the recommendation. Response received from majority of them give an indication that the reports have been studied thoroughly and good measure of action has been taken thereon. As regards the action required to be taken by the Central Government, decisions on most of such recommendations have already been taken.

(c) and (d) The attention of State Governments/UT Administrations has been drawn from time to time, to the basic principles underlying the use of hand-cuffs where there is a reasonable apprehension of violence, escape or rescue.

The confidential report assessing the performance of every member of Indian Police Service is written for each financial year in a prescribed proforma in accordance with All India Sevice (Confidential Rolls) Rules, 1970 and the instructions/orders issued there under. Recent orders were issued in 1988 under All India Service (Confidential Rolls) Rules, 1970.

Manufacture of Chetrak and Cheetah Helicopters

4484. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the manufacturing delays and the avoidable cost escalation in the manufacture of Chetak and Cheetah helicopters have been adversely commented by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his report for the year ended 31 March, 1987;

(b) whether any enquiry in this regard has been held; and

(c) the corrective steps, if any, proposed in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) The Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31.3.1987 (para 44) mentions of manufacturing delays and the avoidable cost escalation in the manufacture of Chetak and Cheetah Helicopters.

(b) and (c) Since this Para has been selected by the PAC for oral evidence, the question of ordering an enquiry/taking corrective steps, does not arise, at this stage.

Murder of four persons by Delhi Police

4485. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether four persons arrested by Delhi Police from a village near Hapur in Uttar Pradesh are reported to have been murdered by Delhi Police;

(b) whether Government have conducted any inquiry in this connection;

(c) if so, the findings of the inquiry; and

(d) the action taken against the police personnel involved in this case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) An enquiry has been conducted in this matter by a senior Police Officer of Delhi Police, According to the Enquiry report the allegations levalled against the Delhi Police Officers could not be substantiated. Hence no action against them has been initiated.

[English]

Theft of weapons from Defence installations

4486. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of thefts of weapons and equipment have been reported between January, 1986 and March, 1988 from defence installations;

(b) if so, whether some of these weapons have landed up in the hands of *terrorists in Punjab and elsewhere*; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent such thefts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) No theft of weapons and equipment from defence installations during the relevant period has so far been reported.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Purchase of machinery from local markets by ordnance factories

4487 SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are instructions to purchase the required materials/machinery available from local market in Tamil Nadu to meet the need of the ordnance factory at Avadi,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar instructions have been given in Andhra Pradesh in respect of the Ordnance factory in Medak District;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (e) There are no specific instructions for purchase of materials/machinery for the ordnance factory at Avadi from the local markets in Tamil Nadu. Similarly, there are no instructions for purchase of material/machinery for the ordnance factory in Medak from local markets only in Andhra Pradesh. The purchases are made by floating tenders/inviting bids as per prescribed procedures.

Craft for replenishment of rations

4488. SHRI N. VENKATARATNAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the delay in the construction of yard-craft by Navy and the hiring of a ferry-craft for the purpose of replenishment of rations to ships have been adversely commented by the Comptroller and Auditor General in his report for the year ended 31 March, 1987;

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

(c) the remedial action proposed in in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Audit Paragraph is being examined in accordance with the procedure laid down for the processing of Audit Paras.

Foreign tours by officers of ICCR

4489. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had imposed a ban on foreign tours of officers in 1987 in the wake of the drought situation in the country; and

(b) if so, the number of officers of I.C.C.R. who went abroad in spite of this ban and the purpose thereof with reasons necessitating their visit ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) No, Sir. The Government had desired that in the interest of overall economy, foreign visits of officials of autonomous organisations should be restricted. Cases, where foreign visits were considered inescapable and necessary were required to be submitted to the administrative Ministry.

(b) Fourteen officials of ICCR visited foreign countries. The details of the visits are given in the Statement below. These visits were unavoidable and restricted to cases where commitments had been made to foreign governments. These had the approval of the Vice-President of India (in his capacity as President of ICCR). the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Human Rosource Development.

Statement

	Name & Designation	Places visited	Duration of tour	Purpose
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Shri Lalit Mansingh Director General	USA, Mexico	30 Jan to 16 Feb 1988	USA :—Meetings of the Indo-US.Sub-Commission on Education & Culture of which the Director General is the Member Secretary. Mexico :—Member of the delegation led by Secretary (Cul) for discussions on the Indo-Mexican Cultural Exchange Programme. Guyana :—Member of the delegation led by Secretary (Cul) for discussion on the Celebration of 150 Years of Indian Immigration to Guyana.
		Mauritius	11-14 March, 1988	Member of the Vice-President of India's delegation for the 20th Independence Anniversary of Mauritius
		Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana & Surinam	30 April-13 May,'88	Member of the Vice-President of India's delegation for the 150th Anniversary

1	2	3	4	5
				Celebrations of Indian Immigration in Guyana and State visits to Trinidad and Tobago and Surinam.
		China	21-30 May, 1988	Member of the delegation led by Secretary (Cul) for the negotiation of a Cultural Agreement with China.
		USSR	2-10 July, 1988	Member of President of India's delegation for the closing events of Festival of India.
		Bhutan	2-5 August, 1988	For discussions with Bhutanese authorities regarding cultural exchanges.
2.	Smt. Nina Sibal Dy. Director General	DPRK	2-12 April, 1988	To attend the Pyong Yang Spring Festival.
		Turky, Tunisia, Cyprus	31 May-12 June 1988	Member of Indian delegation led by Shri Man Mohan Sing Joint Secretary (Cul) to negotiate Cultural Exchange Programmes with these countries.
		Bulgaria	17 June-2 July 1988	Member of official delegation led by Shri. P.V. Narasimha Rao, the then Minister for Human Resource Development at the Inauguration of 'Days of Indian Culture in Bulgaria'.
3.	Sh. T.P. Seetharam Prog. Director Afr)	Mauritius	11-14 March, 1988	Member of the delegation led by the Vice-President of India on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Independence of Mauritius.
4.	Sh. V. Ashok Prog. Director (West)	Guyana	10-18 April, 1988	(a) Member of the advance team to discuss arrange-

1	2	3	4	5
				ments for the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Indian Immigration to Guyana.
		Guyana	30 April-13 May, 1988	(b) Member of Indian Support team for (a) above.
5.	Smt. Usha Malik Prog. Director	USSR	14-24 Nov. 1987	(a) Member of the delegation to Soviet Union for the Festival of India.
		—do—	12-16 March, 1988	(b) Member of the delegation led by the Director General (FOI) for negotiations for the planning of the Joint Indo Soviet Production in Music and Dance at the time of the closing of the Festival of India in USSR.
		—do—	2-11 July, 1988	(c) Coordination of Presentation of concluding concerts and the Indo-Soviet Joint Productions at the time of closing of the Festival of India in USSR.
6.	Sh. S.P. Sharma Prog. Officer (West)	Trinidad & Tobago Guyana & Surinam	17 Oct. 19 Nov., 87	As Liaison Officer for the 40 member contingent of Ramayana Ballet troupe sponsored by ICCR.
7.	Sh. R.P.S. Dhir Exhibition Officer	Guyana	10-18 April, 1988	(a) Member of the advance Indian team for com-

1	2	3	4	5
				memoration of 150 Anniversary of Indian Immigration to Guyana.
		—do—	30 April-13 May, 1988	(b) Member of Indian support team for (a) above.
8.	Smt. S. Sharama Asstt. Prog. Officer	—do—	29 April-16 May, 1988	—do—
9.	Sh. V. Vasudevan Asstt Prog. Officer	—do—	—do—	—do—
10.	Sh. T.J. Geeverghese	Mauritius	11-14 March, 1988	Member of Indian Liaison team of the delegation led by the Vice-President of India on the occasion of the Mauritius Independence Day Celebrations.
11.	Sh. Sunil Mehdiratta Asstt. Prog. Officer	USSR & Mongolia	21 June-22 July, 1988	Liaison Officer with Pt. Ravi Shanker's group in USSR and with Smt. Kumudini Lakhia's group in Mongolia.
12.	Km. Poonam Bhasin Asstt. Prog. Officer	USSR	23 June-11 July, 1988	Liaison Officer with Kadabb group sponsored for the Festival of India.
13.	Shri B. R. K. Singh Asstt. Festival Officer	—do—	21 June-11 July 1988	Liaison Officer with Dr. L. Subramaniam Group sponsored to USSR for Festival of India.
14.	Shri R.S. Bist Sr. Tech. Asstt.	Pakistan	Feb. 1988	To accompany the exhibition of Contemporary Arts sent by road for the First Art Biennale of Pakistan in Lahore.

[English]

Concentrated rural poverty in Maharashtra

4490. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware that Maharashtra faces problems of concentrated rural proverty and regional inequality ;

(b) whether any suggestions have been made by the eminent economists that future plans for Maharashtra must lay emphasis on the growing sectors and regions and at the same time developed the agricultural and rural sectors; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. To remove the rural poverty and regional inequality, Maharashtra State Government appointed a Fact Finding Committee under the chairmanship of Dr. V.M. Dandekar. According to its Report, backlog in certain sectors of development amounted to Rs.3186.78 crores. State Government is seized of the problem and have allocated an outlay of Rs. 1150 crores during the first four years of the Seventh Plan.

While allocating the quantum of Central Assistance, due weightage is given to backwardness by the Central Government.

Debris in space

4491. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen a news published in the "Indian Post", Bombay edition, dated 26 July, 1988 captioned "Debris in space poses threat to man and machine".

(b) if so, the details of such debris that are flying over India and since when;

(c) the extent to which this details has adversely affected Indian climate and spread a number of diseases in the country; and

(d) whether Government are taking up this matter with the developed nations, and if so, the detail thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The debris are in outer space and orbit all around the globe. Man-made debris in space have been existing and increasing since the launch of the first artificial satellite in 1957.

(c) As per available evidence so far, orbiting debris in space are not likely to adversely affect the Indian climate and causes spread of diseases in the country.

(d) The International Scientific Community is seized of the debris problem and is conducting studies on various aspects. The United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, of which India is a Member, is also to consider the subject in its Scientific and Technical Sub-Committee meeting under the agenda "Ways and Means of maintaining Outer Space free of debris and pollution". As a Member of this Committee, India will be participating and contributing along with other Member countries, towards evolution of an international understanding on this issue.

[Translation]

Sales Tax in Delhi

4492. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI RAM DHAN :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether sales tax on many commodities is levied at first point in the Union Territory of Delhi under the existing provision;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to implement any schemes to include some more items in the category of those commodities on which sales tax is levied at first point; and

(c) if so, the complete details in this reggrd?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Certain suggestions to include more items in the first point list have been received. A decision in this regard can be taken after considering their possible effect on the trading activities, industrial activities/developments in the Union Territory of Delhi and also whether it may lead to suppression of sales tax at dealers lavel.

Targets of poverty alleviation

4493. SHRI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether poverty alleviation will continue as primary goal in the Eighth Plan ;

(b) if so, the targets set for the Eighth Plan period;

(c) whether any target has also been fixed for poverty alleviation upto the year 2000 A.D.;

(d) the poverty line at present; and

(e) whether Seventh Plan has achieved the target set for poverty alleviation?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) Poverty alleviation remains the Central concern of Planning in India and will continue to remain to be so in the Eighth Plan. The targets for the Eighth Five Year Plan have not yet been set out and the same will be done at the time of drafting the Eighth Plan after the Approach Paper is approved by the National Development Council.

(c) According to the Seventh Five Year Plan perspective the poverty ratio expected to decline to 5% by 2000 A.D.

(d) Poverty line at present is Rs. 101.80 per capita per month in rural areas, and Rs.177.50 per capita per month in urban areas at 1983-84 prices.

(e) The results will be known after completion of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Restrictions on foreign donations

4494. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the important restrictions in receiving foreign donations by organisations from abroad; and

(b) the number of cases booked for violation of conditions during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Provisions regarding receipt and utilisation of foreign contribution are contained in Chapter II of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976.

(b) For violation of the provisions of the said Act, action has been taken against 23 associations.

Participation of minorities in National Life

4495. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any measures have been taken to facilitate full participation of minorities in all aspects of National life; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) The Prime Minister's 15-Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities is intended to bring about a fuller integration of minorities in all aspects of national life. The progress of the implementation of Programme was reviewed in the Conference of State Ministers-in-Charge of Minorities Welfare held in June, 1987. The important recommendations of the Conference were: (i) Quarterly Review Meetings at Chief Minister's level (ii) Quarterly Review Meetings at Chief Secretary's level (iii) Monthly Review Meetings at Distt Magistrate/Dy Commissioner's level and (iv) adoption of a format to review Quarterly Progress. The implemention of the Programme is a continuous process and is being monitored through quarterly reports from concerned Central Ministries/ Departments and State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations.

De-addiction centres

4496. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :
SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :
SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up de-addiction centres in different parts of the country;

(b) whether the locations have been identified where these centres will be set up; and

(c) the extent to which the drug abuuse in the country will be controlled?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Welfare have already assisted a number of voluntary organisation to set up nine de-additions and thirty-six counselling centres for treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts in different parts of the country. During the current year 10 de-addiction and 50 counselling centres are proposed to be set up in affected areas, through the voluntary organisations.

(c) In order to contain the problem of drug abuses the Government has adopted a multi-dimensional approach involving identification, referral services, treatment, rehabilitation, educative and preventive programmes, training of functionaries, besides enforcement of law. The efforts of the Government on the above lines are continuing.

[Translation]

AIDS in Tihar Jail, Delhi

4497. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a widespread fear of AIDS prevailing in the Tihar jail, Delhi:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Setting up of a bench of Central Administrative Tribunal at Berhampur

4498. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a bench of Central Administrative Tribunal at Berhampur in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

F-7P Fighter planes handed over by China to Pakistan

4499. SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report appearing in the 'Indian Express' dated 29 July, 1988 wherein it has been stated that China has handed over an unspecified number of F-7P fighter planes to Pakistan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being contemplated to meet the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It would, however not be in the public interest reveal futher details in this regard,

(c) Government is cognizant of the threat to our national security posed by the acquisition of these aircraft by Pakistan, and has catered for the same in its defence planning.

Farmers' share in National Income

4500. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the farmers' share in the National Income in 1950-51 as well as in 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : Information regarding farmers' share in National Income is not available. However, the share of agriculture in Gross Domestic Product at factor cost at 1970-71 prices was 57% in 1950-51 and 34.5% in 1985-86.

Low level Radars

4501. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have invested fairly large amounts to design INDRA-I and INDRA-II low level Radars; and

(b) whether any collaboration in the development of this programme with Russia and other countries was sought for ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE(SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) The total cost of successful desing and development of INDRA-I & INDRA-II (Low Level) Radars by Defence Research & Development Organisation is only Rs. 7.59 crores. These radars have been trial evaluated by the users and have been accepted for production and induction into service.

(b) No, Sir.

Safety device in the proposed Soviet Atomic Reactors

4502. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any apprehensions regarding safety aspects of Soviet nuclear power plants proposed to be set up in view of the exposures made by Soviet Academician Legasov to Pravada of May 20, 1988, before his suicide;

(b) if so, steps taken to ensure safety of these proposed nuclear installations; and

(c) whether Indian safety devices will be used in these plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The design of the pressurised light water reacrots (VVERS) which are being considered to be set up in India in cooperation with the Soviet Union is different from the type of reactor (RBMK) which met with an accident at Chernobyl. Academician Legasov of Soviet Union was commenting mostly safety aspects of Chernobyl type reactors.

(b) and (c) So far as the proposal to construct two VVER reactors is concerned, safety review will be carried out by the Indian Atomic Energy Regulatory Board. The Soviet Union will incorporate additional safety divices or features, if considered necessary after such a review.

Orders from British Aerospace for Dorpier Aircrafts

4503. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is all set to launch a German Dornier Aircraft;

(b) whether the HAL is at present engaged in the third phase of the production of Dornier 228 model; and

(c) whether the HAL has also secured order worth £ 90,000 from British Aerospace for the supply of tail planes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) M/s Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd are already engaged in the manufacture, under licence, of Dornier-228 aircraft.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) M/s HAL have secured orders from M/s British Aerospace for the supply of 12 sets of Tail Planes (for BAe's Advanced Turbo Prop aircraft) at a price of £ 33,000 each set

Centre for South and South East Asia set up by ICCR

4504. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council for Cultural Relations has set up a Centre for South and South East Asia; and

(b) if so, its aims, objects and budget allotted to it ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details are given in the statment below.

Statement

Centre for South and South East Asia

An Advisory Panel for the Centre of South and South East Asia has been set up under the Chairmanship of Shri K. R. Narayanan, Minister of State for Science and Technology. The following are members :

1. Smt. Kapila Vatsyayan
2. Dr. Lokesh Chandra
3. Dr. Satya Vrat Shastri
4. Dr. Parimal Kumar Das
5. Shri A. K. Budhiraja
6. Shri K. L. Mehta
7. Shri M. Varadarajan
8. Shri A. B. Gokhale
9. Shri H. Y. Sharada Prasad
10. Smt. Najma Heptullah
11. Shri Lalit Mansingh

Aims & Objectives for the Centre

The Advisory Panel recommended the following objectives for the Centre :

(i) To promote and further intensify India's cultural relations with the countries of South & South East Asia.

(ii) To project India's cultural image in the countries of South & South East Asia.

(iii) To generate and stimulate interaction between India and the countries of South and East Asia in the field of traditional and contemporary arts and culture, economic development, science and technology and other fields of common interest. The Centre will encourage in this regard exchanges of specialists, scholars, officials and artistes, as well as arrange for scholarships, travel grants and exhibitions.

The Panel's proposals for outgoing and incoming visitors have been incorporated in the Plan of Action 1988-89.

Proposed budget of the Centre for 1988-89

S.No.	Item	Expenditure
1.	Proposals for Incoming Visitors from Neighbouring, CEP and other countries	Rs.21,15,000/-
2.	Proposals for Outgoing Visitors from Neighbouring, CEP and other countries.	Rs.5,84,000/-
3.	Proposals for Incoming Delegations from Neighbouring, CEP and other countries.	Rs.13,80,000/-
4.	Proposals for Outgoing Delegations from Neighbouring, CEP and other countries.	Rs.35,70,000/-
5.	Four meetings of Advisory Panel	Rs.40,000/.
6.	Meeting of Heads of Missions of South-East Asian countries	Rs.10,000/-
7.	Miscellaneous	Rs 50,000/-
		Total : Rs.77,49,000/-

Indian Institute of Information Technology

4505. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up an Indian Institute of Information Technology at Bhubaneswar; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Initial ground work towards setting up the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) has been done. Memorandum of Association with Rules and Regulations has been prepared. The courses to be taught in the first instance have been identified. Government of Orissa has identified the land for setting up the IIIT.

In view of the large investments involved and the need to provide well defined directions in the establishment of IIITs, Department of Electronics has invited views from a cross-section of people engaged in the areas of academics, implementation and applications of Informatics and related disciplines regarding the objectives, scope, logistics and administration of these institutions. Their views are presently being examined. In order to develop a conversant perspective of the goals of these institutions, Department of Electronics proposes to shortly hold a workshop where different aspects relating to the setting up of the Institutes will be discussed. Further course of action will be decided after the above workshop, as views have been expressed by some important persons consulted that it would be more economical to introduce the course meant for IIIT's in existing institutions like IITs, Regional Engineering Colleges and Universities rather than starting new institutions from scratch.

15-Point Programme for minorities

4506. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state ;

(a) how far the Prime Minister's 15-Point Programme for welfare of minorities has been implemented and how many people have been benefited by this Programme;

(b) the budgetary provision of the Programme for the year 1987-88 and 1988-89; and

(c) the share of the Assam Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) The emphasis of the 15-Point Programme lies on ensuring that a feeling of security is instilled that there is no discrimination and that the minority get a fair and adequate share in the fruits of development. New programmes exclusively for the minoriries are not envisaged. Measures continue to be taken to ensure that the objectives of 15-Point Programme are fulfilled.

(b) There are no exclusive programmes or budgetary provision for implementation of the 15-Point Programme.

(c) Does not arise.

Cost-benefit survey of atomic energy

4507. SHRI D P. JADEJA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have noted that antiquated atomic power plants are being closed outside India;

(b) whether the life of some of India's Atomic Power Plants is likely to be over; and

(c) whether a fresh cost-benefit survey of atomic energy will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The nuclear power plants outside the country which have completed their operating lives are being taken up for decomissioning.

(b) India's first atomic power station at Tarapur (Units-1&2) would be completing its economic life of 25 years be the year 1994-95. The other units at Rajasthan Atomic power Station and Madras Atomic Power Station have more years to go to reach the completion of their economic lives. The actual operating lives of these plants would be more than their economic life.

(c) As the present unit energy costs of nuclear power plants compare well with the thermal power plants, no fresh cost benefit survey is considered necessary.

Grant in aid to volunary agencies for welfare works

4508. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state ;

(a) the total grant in aid to voluntary agencies for various welfare schemes during the year 1987-88 scheme-wise;

(b) the total financial assistance to various States for implementation of welfare programmes scheme-wise during that year; and

(c) the total expenditure directly incurred by the Ministry of Welfare schemes and projects, scheme-wise during that year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SOMATI ORAON) : (a) The following scheme-wise grants-in-aid were provided to Voluntary Agencies under various welfare programmes during 1987-88:—

Name of Schemes	Grant-in-aid
1	2
Welfare of Scheduled Castes :	
1. Scheme of Aid to Voluntary Organisations engaged in welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	Rs.95.05 lakh
Welfare of Scheduled Tribes :	
2. Scheme Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for welfare of Scheduled Tribes.	Rs.88.52 lakh
3. Scheme of Supporting Projects of all India or Inter-State nature for Scheduled Tribes.	Rs.11.43 lakh
Welfare of the Aged :	
4. General Grant-in-aid Scheme for assistance to Voluntary Organisations in the field of social welfare.	Rs.21.85 lakh
Social Defence, Prohibition, Organisational Assistance, etc.	
5. Scheme of assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Education Work, for prohibition, Counselling and Rehabilitative Work for Alcoholic Drug Addicts and other victims of Social Crimes.	Rs.60.08 lakh
6. Scheme of organisational assistance to Voluntary Social Welfare Organisations.	Rs.32. 0 lakh
7. Grant-in-aid for Care and Protection of children rendered destitutes during 1983 disturbances in Nellie, Assam.	Rs.7.34 lakh
Welfare of the Handicapped :	
8. Scheme of assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the disabled persons.	Rs.340.98 lakh

1		2
9.	Scheme of Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids/appliances.	Rs.301.98 lakh
	(b) The total financial assistance to various States/ Union Territories for implementation of welfare programmes. scheme-wise, during 1987-88 was as under :—	
	Welfare of Scheduled Castes :	
1.	Scheme of post-Matric Scholarships to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.	Rs.29.11 lakh
2.	Scheme of pre-matric Scholarships to children of those engaged in unclean occuptions.	Rs.72.41 lakh
3.	Book Bank Scheme	Rs.44.263 lakh
4.	Hostels for Scheduled Castes girls.	Rs.950.00 lakh
5.	Coching & Allied Scheme	Rs.19.07 lakh
6.	Implementation of PCR Act	Rs.949.74 lakh
7.	Central Government's contribution to the Share capital of State Scheduled Caste Development Corporations.	Rs.1300.00 lakh
8.	Special Central Assistance to the Special Component Plan for Schedtuled Castes.	Rs.17500.00 lakh
	Welfare of Scheduled Tribes :	
9.	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Plan.	Rs.166.50 lakh
10.	Hostels for Scheduled Tribe Girls.	Rs.150.00 lakh
11.	Research & Training.	Rs.58.23 lakh
	Social Defence ;	
12.	Welfare of children in need of care and protection	R.217.88 lakh
13.	Prevention & Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment.	R.144.78 lakh
	Welfare of Handicapped :	
14.	Scheme of Scholarships disabled persons.	Rs.294.50 lakh

1	2
15. Scheme of Special Employment Exchanges and Special Cells in Normal Employment Exchanges.	Rs.10.00 lakh
(c) The total Scheme-wise expenditure incurred directly by the Ministry of Welfare on various welfare schemes during 1987-88 was as under :—	
Welfare of Scheduled Castes :	
1. Coaching & Allied Scheme for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes.	Rs.32 25 lakh
2. Research & Training Scheme for Scheduled Castes.	Rs. 16.33 lakh
Welfare of Handicapped :	
3. District Rehabilitation Centres Scheme.	Rs.67.10 lakh
4. National Institutes for Blind, Deaf, Mentally Retarded and Orthopaedically Handicapped.	Rs 579.98 lakh
5. Institute for Physically Handicapped, New Delhi.	Rs.98.51 lakh
6. Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation, Kanpur	Rs.95.00 lakh

Nuclear Power Capacity

4509. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total installed capacity of power stations established and operative as on 1st June, 1987;

(b) the quantum of power actually generated as on date;

(c) the average cost per kw of power so generated; and

(d) the total quantum of additional nuclear power capacity Government propose to establish hereafter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES(SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The total installed capacity of Atomic Power Stations in operation as on 1st June 1987 is 1030 MWe.

(b) The cumulative gross generation till June 30. 1987 is 49931 Million KWH (NUS).

(c) The cost per unit of electricity generated at Nuclear Power Stations ranges from 37 paise/kwh to 45 paise/kwh.

(d) It is proposed to achieve a total

installed capacity of 10,000 MWe of Nuclear Power by the turn of the century.

[Translation]

Police posts functioning in tents in Delhi

4510. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of Home AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether several police posts in Delhi are still functioning in tents and proper police stations have not been built for them;

(b) If so, the reasons, therefor; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) An outlay of Rs. 4.3 crores has been approved by the Planning Commission under Plan for Police Stations/Police Posts and other buildings during the year 1988-89. The proposal is to construct permanent and semi-permanent type of accommodation for such of the Police Stations/Police Posts which are functioning in tents subject to availability of land.

[English]

Persons challaned for violation of traffic rules in Delhi

4511. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD :
SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJI BHAI MAVANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons challaned for violation of traffic rules in Delhi during the last two years; and

(b) the steps taken to remove encroachments in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The number of challans for violation of traffic rules are as under :—

Year	Challans
1986	5,53,646
1987	6 51,136
1988 (upto 31/7/88)	4,66,679

(b) Removal of encroachment is the responsibility of the local bodies such as MCD, NDMC and DDA and regular action is being taken by them in this regard. The Delhi Traffic Police have also challaned more than ten thousand cases for causing obstruction to traffic by encroachment since 1986.

Application of technology in Institutions for Handicapped

4512. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :
SHRI S. M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether application of technology has significantly aided the four National Institutes for the handicapped in achieving their objectives;

(b) if so, the main measures of the technology that has been introduced in the institutes for handicapped; and

(c) to what extent the handicapped will be able to handle this new technology and to what extent it has benefited them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the National Institutes for the handicapped, modern technology is being predominantly used in following areas :—

(i) Development of various kinds of rehabilitations aids.

(ii) Preparation of curriculum package for handicapped children for application in home, school and community settings;

(iii) Development of modern teaching aids for handicapped children;

(iv) Application of Educational Technology for educating and training handicapped children;

(v) Application of behavioural technology for increasing desirable skills and decreasing maladoptive behaviour of hnndicapped children etc.

(c) The handicapped persons are able to handle these equipments with proper guidance. These will promote self-reliance and integration in society.

Ratification on SAARC Convention on suppression of terrorism

4513. SHRI H. A. DORA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SAARC Convention on Suppression of Terrorism provides for ratification and

(b) if so, how many SAARC members have so far ratified it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All SAARC member countries have ratified the Convention.

Grant for construction of hostel Building in Madhya Pradesh

4514. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to extend any financial help to Madhya Pradesh Government in their plan for constructing hostels for eight model Higher Secondary Schools and one Gurukul Vidyalaya in the tribal Areas of the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to accept the recommendations made by the working group constituted for the Seventh Plan and provide matching grant for construction of buildings for the boys institutions also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) Rs. 100 lakhs were given to the State of Madhya Pradesh during 1987-88 for construction of a model higher secondary school at Sijhora in Mandla district for primitive tribals of the State.

(c) and (d) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing assistance to States for construction of boys hostels has been approved in the current year. A token provision of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made for the scheme during 1988-89.

Report of site selection committee

4515. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report of Site Selection Committee for setting up of an Atomic Power Plant in Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, when Government propose to take decision on this report;

(c) the reasons for delay; and

(d) the likely time to be taken for implementing the recommendations of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The report of the site Selection Committee of the Department of Atomic Energy for the Western Electricity Region of which Madhya Pradesh is a constituent State, is under consideration of the Government of India.

(b) to (d) As acceptance of a Site dependes on several engineering and safety aspects apart from power needs of the region and energy resource options available, there is significant time required for selection. Work on four 235 MWe and six 500 MWe PHWR units is envisaged for commencement during the current Plan period.

Courses held at management Development Institute, Gurgaon

4516. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives of the Management Course held from 1 July, 1988 at Management Development Institute, Gurgaon;

(b) whether the assistance of foreign experts were sought for this course;

(c) if so, the details of assistance sought and reasons for relying on foreign help;

(d) whether any objections have been received against obtaining foreign service for the course, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what was the total expense per head for the training ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The objectives of the National Management Programme as given in the prospectus issued by the Management Development Institute are as follows :

— strengthening decision making capabilities of the participants,

— improving the ability of participants to adapt modes of functioning and operational strategy to suit the structure and goals of the organisation,

— encouraging participants to act as change agents, and

— creating a nucleus of like minded managers in country in terms of attitudes, approach and commitment to the development process in the national interest.

(b) No proposal has been received from Management Development Institute regarding financial support for the assistance of foreign experts. It may, however be mentioned that faculty exchanges are a normal feature in universities. Institutes of Management, and other institutions of higher learning.

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

(e) The course fee is Rs. 50,000/- per participant which covers tuition background material and accommodation on single occupancy basis for the on-campus duration of the programme (12 months).

Allocation to Rajasthan for 20-Point Programme

4517. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the total financial assistance given to Rajasthan during the last three years for implementation of 20-Point Programme, year-wise and point-wise;

(b) the amount utilised for this purpose;

(c) whether any review was conducted by Union Government or by any agency regarding implementation of the Programme at the village level during the period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the performance of Rajasthan Government in comparison to other States during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) The outlays for 20-Point Programme are derived from the relevant plan heads. The outlays and amounts utilised for 20-Point Programme in the State Plan of Rajasthan during the last three years pointwise and yearwise are given in Statements I & II below.

(c) No review was conducted by Union Government or any agency regarding implementation of the programme at the village level.

(d) Does not arise. However, the relative performance of Rajasthan. Government, in the implementation of selected items taken up for ranking of States under 20-Point Programme, in comparison to other States, was first, eighth and seventh during 1985-86, 1986-87, and 1987-88 respectively.

Statement I

Outlays and expenditure under Twenty Point Programme in the State Plan of Rajasthan for 1985-86 and 1986-87.

(Rs. Lakh)

Point No.	Item	1985-86		1986-87	
		Outlay	Expdr.	Out lay	Expdr.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1A	Irrigation	10734	10638	10726	11182
3A	I.R.D.P	794	1121	1244	1243
3B	N.R.E.P.	1000	1000	979	1328
4	Land Reforms	35	35	60	49
7	SC/ST Welfare	140	153	221	215
8	Rural Water Supply	1204	1057	1400	1602
9	Housesites/Construction Assistance	100	100	110	110
10	Slum Improvement	70	55	55	55
11	Power	12269	12569	17950	17950
12A	Afforestation	600	592	851	829
14	Health Care	468	365	500	488
15	Nutrition	108	100	200	138

1	2	3	4	5	6
16	Elementary/Adult Education	1450	1739	1800	2184
17	Public Distribution System	—	—	—	—
18B	Village and Small Industries	622	698	765	739
	Total	29594	30222	36860	38112

Statement II

Out lays and expenditure under Twenty Point Programme in the State Plan of Rajasthan for 1987-88.

(Rs. lakhs)

Point No.	Item	Outlay	Anticipated Expenditure
1	2	3	4
1.	Attack on Rural Poverty		
	IRDP	1670	1314
	NREP	938	1096
	Community Development and Panchayats	400	380
	Village and Small Industries	804	757
2.	Rainfed Agriculture	225	225
3.	Better use of irrigation	14800	13518
4.	Bigger Harvests	2422	2262
5.	Land Reforms	66	56
7.	Safe Drinking Water	2380	2400
8.	Health for all	825	690
9.	Two child-norm-(Nutrition only)	250	250
10.	Education	5170	5133
11.	Justice to SC/ST	255	243
13.	Opportunities for youth	68	67

1	2	3	4
14.	Housing for people (MNP)	125	175
15.	Improvement of slums	70	70
16.	Forestry	950	915
17.	Protection of Environment	40	32
18.	Concern for consumer	5	5
19.	Energy for villages	510	510
	Total	31973	30098

Reservation for SC/ST in Tamil Nadu

4518 SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether each State has separate percentage of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes whereas in Tamil Nadu there is combined reservation of 10 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps contemplated to have separate reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of Tamil Nadu have reported that in Tamil Nadu combined reservation for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes has been followed since 1951. Proposal to make separate reservation for SCs and STs in proportion to their population as per 1981 Census was considered by the State Government, but, no decision has been taken in the matter yet.

Introduction of Science and Technology in planning process

4519. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Science and Technology input at different level of planning;

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

(c) the other details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Plan programmes and schemes to introduce Science and Technology inputs at different levels of planning are under formulation. A Steering Group has been constituted for the formulation of 8th Five Year Plan in the Science and Technology sector. Amongst various items, the Steering Group is concentrating on, to identify

special programmes, mechanisms, schemes for introducing S&T at different levels and in different sectors. For example, Task Forces are working on development of science and technology in the States, in different socio-economic sectors, for rural development, weaker sections; and for popularisation of science in general. The Steering Group is expected to submit its report early next year.

The Steering Group has constituted a large number of Task Forces to deal with aspects of science and technology, education, identification of thrust areas, S&T industry, prioritisation, international collaboration in S&T, S&T component of socio-economic sectors and S&T in the States. This exercise is being carried out by involving a large number of scientists, technologists, planners and social scientists from different parts of the country belonging to Governmental and non-Government organisations.

Assistance to space programme by BEL

4520. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Electronics Limited is assisting in the country's space programme:

(b) if so, the work assigned to BEL in the space programme:

(c) whether BEL has succeeded in achieving the task assigned to it for space programme; and

(d) if so, steps taken to encourage BEL in space programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Among the on-board equipment, BEL makes some of the Electronic and Mechanical packages for ASLV and PSLV and the Satellite Programmes. For the Stretched Rohini series Satellites, BEL has also supplied the solar cells. Among the ground equipment BEL makes the servo systems, PCM monitoring system, time code series and certain other items.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A separate division (Space Electronics Division) has been set up in BEL to cater to the requirements of the space programme. Phased manufacturing programme has been drawn up by ISRO and BEL for the next three years. This is being implemented.

US Orion Maritime Reconnaissance Aircrafts for Pakistan

4521. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan has procured three P-3C Orion Maritime Reconnaissance Aircrafts from the United States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) whether Government have conveyed its concern to U.S. Government; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) On the 10th May, 1988, the U.S. Administration notified the Congress of its intention to sell Pakistan 3 P-3C aircraft, spares, support equipment, ground support facilities and training and technical services together costing $ 240 million.

(c) Government are seriously concerned about the continued supply of sophisticated US arms to Pakistan.

(d) and (e) Government's serious concern about the supply of sophisticated

U.S. arms to Pakistan has been conveyed to the US Government time and again. It has been pointed out that such supplies compel India to divert scarce resources from development to defence and lead to an unnecessary and wasteful arms race in the region.

Evaluation of training undertaken by members of various Services

4522. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any evaluation has been made of the training undertaken by members of the All India Service, Central and Allied Services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) One week refresher courses and 4 week training programmes are organised for the officers of the Indian Administrative Service for which this Ministry is the Cadre Controlling Authority.

In regard to the one week refresher courses, two training experts had independently evaluated them and recommended their continuance subject to certain modifications. These modifications have since been incorporated into course objectives and training methodology.

This Ministry does not maintain details of training relating to other services.

Per capita plan allocation to North-Eastern States

4523. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita plan allocation to different States of North Eastern region during the Sixth and Seventh Plan, State-wise;

(b) whether per capita allocation for Tripura in both the plans was lowest in comparison to the other States of North Eastern region except Assam; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) A statement showing per capita allocation under State Plan for the North Eastern States of the country is given below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Plan allocations are not made on per capita basis. Tripura State is treated as a special category State, i.e. 90% of the Central Assistance is given as grant and 10% on loan basis as against the general category States which receive 30% of the Central Assistance as grant and 70% in the form of loan. Even the non-plan gap in the case of special category States is met from Central Assistance.

Statement

Per Capita Plan allocation under State Plan to the North Easter States during the Sixth Plan and Seventh Plan.

(In Rupees)

	Sixth Plan Per Capita Allocation	Seventh Plan Per Capita Allocation
1	2	3
Assam	533	919

1	2	3
Manipur	1604	2608
Meghalaya	1662	2794
Nagaland	2488	4065
Tripura	1131	1850
Arunachal Pradesh	3169	5355
Mizoram	2421	4180

Base year for population estimates used :
(a) For Sixth Five Year Plan : 1983
(b) For Seventh Five Year Plad : 1987

Crisis in Institute of Mathematical Science

5424. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Institute of Mathematical Science has been facing severe crisis; and

(b) if so, steps taken to resolve the problem in this pioneer institution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. It is not correct to say that the Institute is facing a crisis. However, there were some administrative issues which have been sorted out by the Board of Governors of the Institute at its meeting on 15th July, 1988.

Self-reliance in Electronics

4525. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have constituted a components task force for self reliance by 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken by task force to become self reliant in the field of Electronics; and

(c) the other details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : (a) Yes, Sir. Department of Electronics has constituted an Electronic Component Task Force, especially focussed on large Scale Integrated/Very Large Scale Integrated(LSI/VLSI) devices to achieve self-reliance by 2000 A.D.

(b) and (c) The Task Force in continuing its deliberations and it has yet to submit its final report to the Government for consideration.

Posting of husband and wife at same station

4526. CHAUDHARY RAGHURAJ SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government orders clearly stipulates posting of both husband and wife at the same station;

(b) if so, whether these instructions are being followed in regard to postings at different stations by the Board of Central Excise and Customs, if not, the reasons for non-compliance of Government orders; and

(c) if so, the number of working couples so posted at different stations by the Board of Central Excise and Customs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : (a) and (b) Guidelines issued to all Ministries/Departments envisage postings of spouses at the same station in respect of employees of Central Government and Central Public Sector Undertakings subject to fulfilment administrative requirements. These guidelines are kept in view by the Central Board of Excise and Customs and the various authorities thereunder, while considering requests for positing of husband and wife the same station.

(c) Since requests for positing of husband and wife at the same station are dealt with by the competent authorities at various levels, information in this regard is not centrally available in the Board.

News item Policeman victim of land grab gang

4527. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the news item appeared in the 'Times of India' dated 12 August, 1988 under the caption 'Policeman-victim of land-grab gang' stating that the land grab gang is in operation in the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action Government have taken or propose to take against the guilty;

(c) the details of such cases reported during the last three years in Delhi;

(d) the action taken in such cases; and

(e) the steps taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There was a dispute between Inspector Mohinder Singh of Delhi Police and Shri Jagbir Singh resident of Nanak Pura Market, New Delhi over the possession of a plot of land in Sadh Nagar, in the area of Police Station Dabri, New Delhi. A complaint u/s 145 Cr.P.C. was filed in the court to SDM, New Delhi for sealing off the property and to decide the claim of the parties. In order to avoid any breach of peace, of case u/s 107/ 150 Cr.P C. was also submitted in the court of Special Executive Magistrate, South West District.

(c) No such incident has come to the notice of Delhi Police.

(d) and (e) Police remains vigilant and whenever any complaint is received, action is taken in accordance with law.

Planning of hill areas of Jammu & Kashmir

4528. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether pace of development in hill areas of Jammu and Kashmir is slow as compared to the development of rest of the State;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct a socio-economic survey this region; and

(c) if so, the details of the programmes proposed for the rapid development of this region ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) (a) No comparative study regarding pace of development in Hill areas and non Hilly areas of the State of Jammu and Kashmir has been undertaken in the Planning Commission.

(b) Such proposal to conduct a socio-economic survey in the hill areas of the State is not under consideration in Planning Commission.

(c) Question does not arise.

Settlement of widow pension case in Kanpur ordnance factories

4529. SHRI M V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 4 May, 1988 to the Unstarred Question No. 9592 regarding early settlement of widow pension cases in Ordnance factories, Kanpur and state :

(a) whether further representations have been received from the widows of erstwhile employees of Quality Assurance Establishment (GS), Kanpur and Ordnance Factories in Kanpur regarding non-disbursal of their pension claims by the office of Defence Pension Disbursing Officer, Kanpur;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the immediate action being taken to ensure quick settlement of pension claims; and

(d) how many cases have been forwarded to the CDA (Pensions), Allahabad by aforesaid organisations in Kanpur during last four months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CAINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) and (b) No representation has been received by the Ministry of Defence, the Ordnance Factory Board, the Director General Quality Assurance or the Controller of Defence Accounts (Pensions), Allahabad against the Defence Pension Disbursing Officer, Kanpur, regarding non-disbursal of family pension claims in respect of the widows of erstwhile employees of Quality Assurance Establishment (GS), Kanpur and Ordnance Factories in Kanpur.

(c) Family pension claims received are processed speedily, in accordance with the prescribed procedure, by the Ordnance Factories in Kanpur and by the Quality Assurance Establishment (GS), Kanpur.

(d) During the last 4 months, 50 cases have been forwarded to the Controller of Defence Accounts (Pensions), Allahabad by the aforesaid organisations.

World Bank AID to C.L.R.I. for new complexes

4530. SHRI YASHANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has asked the Central Leather Research Institute for proposals for setting up two modern mechanised leather complexes in the Southern and Eastern regions to be funded by the Bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No, Sir. The World Bank has sought from CSIR (of which Central Leather Research Institute is a constituent laboratory) project proposals for funding, under its Industrial Technology Development Mission However no proposal for setting up modern mechanised leather complexes is being considered by CSIR for World Bank assistance.

(b) Does not arise.

Military stations in Una and Hamirpur

4531. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has decided to acquire land to set up Military Stations at Una and Hamirpur in Himachal Pradesh during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the likely date by which the land would be acquired and the Military Stations set up;

(c) whether any plan for the rehabilitation of likely oustees has also been chalked out for their rehabilitation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) :. (a) and (b) No decision has yet been taken to set up Military Stations at Una and Hamirpur during the current financial year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) rehabilitation plan can be worked out only after the displaced families and the extent of displacement have been identified.

Military Station in Hoshiarpur District of Punjab

4532. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1412 on 5 March, 1986 regarding Military Station in Hoshiarpur District of Punjab and state :

(a) the latest progress in this regard ; and

(b) the likely date by which the station would start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) and (b) A suitable site for the military station at Hoshiarpur is yet to be identified in consultation with the State Government. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate any likely date by which the station would start functioning.

Cadre review committee for civilian workshop officers of EME

4533. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3568 on 20 March, 1987 regarding cadre review for civilian worksnop officers in Crops of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and state :

(a) whether the matter has been considered by a Cadre Review Committee; and

(b) if so, further action proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) . (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being processed in the light of the Committee's recommendations.

Promotions for Drawing Staff

4534. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Drawing Staff of EME are eligible for promotion to the post of Workshop Officer ;

(b) whether Government have received any representations from the Drawing Staff in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the decition taken in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : No, Sir.

(b) The request of the Drawing Staff have been received by Army Headquarters.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

[Translation]

Work undertaken by Delhi Civil Defence Directorate

4535. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of work undertaken by the Delhi Civil Defence Directorate in regard to security of people in Delhi ;

(b) the categories of the officers and employees who are provided with uniforms by the said Directorate and the items included in the uniform being provided ;

(c) the date on which the rehearsal for black-out in Delhi was last conducted by the Civil Defence Directorate to educate the people regarding Civil Defence rules ;

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Civil Defence Directorate for conducting black-out rehearsal to educate people of Delhi about the dangers of aerial attack and the sound of siren ; and

(e) if so, when and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Other than setting up of Mohalla Nigrani Committees under the Delhi Civil Defence Directorate for maintaining communal harmony and keeping a watch on suspicious characters, no other task regarding security of people in Delhi has been assigned to them. The Organisation is designed essentially to life, minimise damages and maintain production during and after hostile attack.

(b) Apart from Deputy Divisional Warden and Divisonal Warden, only Sector/Deputy/Post Wardens are entitled for free issue of uniform items once in a year.

(c) Black-out exercise, with public participation was last held on 28.11.1971.

(d) At present, on such proposal is under consideration.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Complaint cells regarding crime against women

4536. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI AMARSINH RATHWA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether atrocities on women are on the increase year after year in the country and particularly in big cities ;

(b) whether Government have established complaint cells in certain places in the country ;

(c) if so, the names of the cities where such cells have been established ;

(d) the number of complaidts registered in these cells during the year 1987 and of what nature ; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to check atrocities against women ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime including atrocities on women is the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. It is for them to set up Complaint Cells according to their requirements. Statistics regarding number of complaints registered are not compiled by the Central agencies. However, a statement showing the number of cases reported as crime against women in 12 metropolitan cities during the years 1985 to 1987 is given below.

(e) The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, has been amended in 1984 and 1986 to make the law more stringent. The Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have also been amended to deal effectively not only with dowry death cases but also with cases of cruelty to married women.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Cities.	Rape			Molestation			Chain Snatching			Kidnapping of women & girls			Eve-teasing			Dowry deaths.		
		1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1.	Ahemdabad	8	5	12	16	33	23	21	21	32	102	103	109	36	33	37	2	2	6
2.	Bangalore	20	33	46	101	109	120	90	53	35	58	53	45	23	13	19	22	23	27
3.	Bombay	99	102	81	190	184	166	659	543	700	121	142	93	19	42	16	12	27	23
4.	Calcutta	27	31	19	54	70	96	60	56	79	92	106	96	2	4	1	2	6	8
5.	Delhi	83	89	103	90	112	95	99	65	75	734	543	566	52	612	1777	33	64	79
6.	Hydrabad	31	19	23	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	15	NA
7.	Jaipur	19	4	11	27	31	21	4	1	4	97	73	87	4	2	2	7	23	11
8.	Kanpur	47	34	32	78	63	52	5	7	1	119	146	143	399	395	265	20	37	29

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9.	Lucknow	41	49	28	49	71	41	Nil	17	6	123	117	79	205	228	358	Nil	16	18
10.	Madras	NA	10	13	NA	11	13	NA	119	92	NA	7	12	NA	564	807	NA	Nil	5
11.	Nagpur	27	63	45	64	68	47	16	7	11	40	70	62	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	Pune	22	28	34	68	70	74	55	33	76	51	53	37	99	101	92	Nil	1	10
	Total (Cities)	424	467	447	737	822	748	1009	922	1111	1537	1413	1329	839	1994	3375	98	214	216

Note : (1) Figures are based on monthly crime statics and may be treated as provisional.

(2) N.A. stands for not avialable.

Motor vehicle tax charged by Nepal from Indians

4537. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Nepal is charging rupess 100/- per day as motor vehicle tax from Indians entering Nepal ;

(b) whether Government have taken up this matter with the Government of Nepal ; and

(c) if so, the out come thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Government have received reports to this effect.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government of Nepal have confirmed to our Embassy in Kathmandu that instructions have been passed to all the border customs offices not to levy any duty on vehicles which remain in Nepal for less than the prescribed free periods.

Central assistance to Orissa

4538. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government of Orissa has requested for assistance from Union Government to meet the situation created by extremists along its borders with Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet this increasing menace ; and

(c) whether sufficient assistance has been provided to the State Government to meet the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) ; (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Delinquent homes in Goa

4539. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of delinquent children homes in Goa receiving financial assistance from Union Government ;

(b) whether Government have done any monitoring with respect to the delinquent children homes in Goa ; if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether Government propose to give any assistance to Goa Government in this regard ; if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) No delinquent children home in the State of Goa is in receipt of financial assistance from Central Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Ministry of Welfare has released a sum of Rs. 4,60,000/- to the state of Goa for setting up of one Observation Home, during the year 1987-88 under the scheme of prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment.

Delay in issue of passport

4540. SHRI AMARSINH RATHWA: SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is delay in issuing of passport in many Passport Offices in the country

and particularly in Regional Passport Office, New Delhi ;

(b) whether passport applications registered in the year 1987 have not been cleared so far ;

(c) if so, their number and the reasons therefor in each passport office ;

(d) the reasons for the delay in issuing passports ;

(e) the number of applications registered in Regional Passport Office, New Delhi during the months of January to July, 1988, month-wise ; and

(f) the number of passport issued out of them and the number of applications still pending and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI) : (a) Most of the delays in issue of passports in the Passports Offices in the country including RPO, New Delhi are on account of delays in police verification reports or due to in-complete information furnished in the passport application forms.

(b) and (c) 2,820 passport applications for the year 1987 are pending in the Regional Passport Office, Delhi of which 1142 applications are pending due to non-receipt of police reports, 424 applications for want of reply from other authorities and 1,254 applications. Information in respect of other Passport Offices is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) The reasons for delay in issue of passports are non-receipt of police reports, in-complete applications submitted by the applicants and delay reply from various other authorities.

(e) and (f) 60569 applications have been registered in this office during the period from January to July 1988 as per details below :

No. of applications registered		Total No. of passports issued	No. of applications pending	Reasons for pending
1. Jan.	7244	5401	7360	Non-receipt of CID reports, reply from other authorities and information from applications.
2. Feb.	8828	7508		
3. March.	9276	6344		
4. April.	9130	10131		
5. May	9363	8094		
6. June	8738	8131		
7. July	7990	7600		
	60569	53209		

Runway construction work

4541. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appearing in the 'Nav Bharat Times' dated 29 May, 1988 under the capition "Sena ki

engineering seva par gair zimmedari ka aarop" ;

(b) if so, the action so far taken by Government in regard to the irregularities committed in the work of a runway constructed at an airport for defence services ;

(c) whether Government propose to construct that runway .

(d) if so, by what time it will be done;

(e) whether Government have decided to get that runway constructed again by the same contractor who had constructed the runway during the period from July, 1982 to January, 1985 ; and

(f) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f) The defects in the runway were detected within a year of its completion. The contractor was, therefore, directed in terms of the agreement to remove these defects. When he failed to complete this work, the same was entrusted to another contractor at the risk and cost of the original contractor in terms of the contractual agreement. Disciplinary proceedings have been initiated against the defaulting officers.

[Translation]

IPS Officers in Bihar

4542. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of IPS Officers presently posted in Bihar ;

(b) whether there are any cases in which inquiries on corruption charges are pending against IPS Officers ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The number of IPS officers in position in Bihar cadre as on 3-8-1988 was 171.

(b) and (c) The Government of Bihar have reported that inquiry of corruption against the following five IPS officers is presently (as on 10.8.88) pending in the CBI :

(1) Shri Vinod Mani Diwakar is facing charges for purchase of materials when he was posted as Commandant, BMP-8 Begusarai.

(2) Shri Rajendra Sharma is facing inquiry for his involvement for purchase of materials when he was posted as Commandant, BMP-16 Sawaia, Nausa Camp, Patana.

(3) Shri V.K. Joshi, is facing inquiry for his involvement for purchase of materials when he was posted as Senior S.P., Ranchi.

(4) Shri Bishan Singh Jayan is facing charges for purchase of materials when he was posted as S.P. Dumka ;

(5) Shri Ajit Dutt is facing charges for purchase of materials when he was posted as S.P., Nalanda.

[English]

Administration of tribal area in Rajasthan

4543. SHRI SAMAR BRAHMA CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware that administration of tribal areas in Rajasthan has deteriorated ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether any evaluation of the programmes under Tribal Sub-Plan areas has been done during the last one year ; and

(d) if so, the results thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) Report received from the Government of Rajasthan does not indicate deterioration in administration of tribal areas.

(c) and (d) The programmes relating to sheep breeding, poultry, sericulture, horticulture and drinking water wells were evaluated during the last one year. All these programmes export poultry have shown encouraging results in respect of generation of income to the tribal families as also for improving infrastructure facilities in tribal areas.

Concern over Pakistan's help to terrorists

4544. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the recent visit to the United States, Prime Minister expressed serious concern to US authorities over continued Pakistani support to terrorists in Punjab ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The U.S. Government has noted India's concern.

[Translation]

Investment of capital by private Industrialists in Defence Research

4545. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allow private sector to invest more capital in defence research ;

(b) whether any scheme has been developed in this regard ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Radical attacks on Indians living in New Jersey

4546. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of racial attacks that took place on Indians living in New Jersey city in America during the last three years and the number of Indians killed or injured;

(b) whether the affected persons will be compensated by US Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTRNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Though some cases of racial harassment against Indians living in Jersey City had come to light earlier also, the first racial attacks against them occurred in September 1987. Since then, five such attacks have been reported in which two victims have died.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

Features of Sino-Indian cultural agreement

4547. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the salient features of the cultural agreement signed recently between India and China ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : The agreement envisages the development of relations between the two countries in the fields of culture and art, education the social sciences, sports, public health, press and publishing, broadcasting, film and T. V.

Unemployment in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

4549. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by the Official Group set up under the Chairmenship of Union Labour Secretary to examine the various aspects relating to unemployment in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) the action being taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME INPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) Expert Group to look into the aspects relating to unemployment under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Labour, has submitted an interim report. The short-term measures include :

(i) Implementation of 7th Plan schemes to be speeded up;

(ii) two new ITIs to be set up;

(iii) UT Administration to sponsor candidates for apprentice training schemes on the mainland;

(iv) Coaching/guidance scheme be started which will enable the qualified Islanders to compete favourably employment opportunities;

(v) In Port Blair some pre-selection training centres to be set up.

(vi) Efforts to absorb scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes candidates against reserved quota in National Banking Service and other spheres.

UT Administrations are working out the detailed implementation plan for these short-term measures.

Liberalisation of industrial policy

4550 SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a bid to accelerate industrial growth, the Planning Commission is likely to liberalise the industrial policy at the State level;

(b) if so, whether States have been given a period of 3 months to prepare their plans; and

(c) if so, the States which have already communicated to Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) The industrial policy at the State level is decided upon by the respective States. However the Planning Commission has started the process of consultation with the State Governments, for formulating the strategy for industrial growth in the 8th plan.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Sivaraman Committee Report

4551. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the terms of reference of Sivaraman Committee which had submitted its report to Government many years ago ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SRRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (i) To examine the validity of the various concepts of backwardness underlying the definitions in use for present policy purposes and recommend the criteria by which backward areas should be identified.

(ii) To review the working of :—

(a) the existing plans for dealing with the general developmental problems of backward areas like Tribal Sub-Plans, Plans for Hill Areas etc., and

(b) the existing schemes for stimulating industrial development in backward areas such as the schemes for concessional finance, investment subsidy, transport subsidy, sales tax concessions etc. similar schemes in the agricultural and allied fields like DPAP, and general measures for tackling the problems of poverty and unemployment with a view to find out their efficacy in the removal of backwardness; and

(iii) To recommend an appropriate strategy or strategies for effectively tackling the problem of backward areas, classified, if necessary, according to areas, causes of or prescribed remedies.

Attacks on Journalists

4552. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been an increase in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check such attacks on journalists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Statistics in this regard are not compiled by Central agencies on all-India basis. As per Entries No. 1 (Public Order) and 2 (Police) in List-II-State List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, it is for the State Governments to take necessary steps to prevent attacks on journalists.

Increase in age limit for recruitment for Government Jobs

4553. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the age limit prescribed by Union Government and Central Public Undertakings for new recruitment for general category and for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe category;

(b) the age limits prescribed for the some purpose in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether the age limits are different for Union Government and other State Governments and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to increase the age limit for recruitment to Union Government and Central Government undertakings in view of the huge unemployment problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The Recruitment Rules for various posts under the Central Government lay down the age limits for appointment to those posts. For

direct recruitment, the age limits are prescribed normally keeping in view the nature of duties, educational qualifications and experience requirements. The upper age limits which range between 25 and 50 years are relaxable upto 5 years in respect of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes.

The age limits for recruitment to posts under the Central Public Sector Undertakings are laid down by the respective Public Sector Undertakings in the relevant Recruitment Rules. The Undertakings enjoy autonomy in such matters.

(b) and (c) The age limits for the Services/posts under the State Governments are laid down by the respective State Governments. Information in this regard is not available with the Central Government.

(d) No such proposal is under the consideration of the Central Government.

Foreigners in Indian Jails

4554. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are foreign nationals in Indian Jails; and

(b) if so, their number, country-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the basis of the State Governments' reports, a statement indicating their number country-wise is given below.

Statement

List of foreign nationals in Indian Jails (country-wise).

S. No.	Name of the country/ nationally	No. of foreigners in Indian jails
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	Pakistan	179
2.	Nepal	100
3.	U. S. A.	3
4.	Sudan	2
5.	Nigeria	40
6.	Afghanistan	24
7.	U. K.	9
8.	Malaysia	3
9.	Sweden	1
10.	Kenya	1
11.	Sri Lanka	165

1	2	3
12.	Jordan	2
13.	Bangladesh	736
14.	Somalia	1
15.	Tunisia	1
16.	Czechoslovakia	1
17.	Austria	3
18.	Tanzania	1
19.	Italy	11
20.	France	6
21.	Iran	16
22.	Netherlands	1
23.	Thailand	27
24.	German	7
25.	U. A. R.	1
26.	Poland	2
27.	Switzerland	2
28.	Yemen	1
29.	Burma	107
30.	Ghana	7
31.	U. A. E.	4
32.	Muscat	1
33.	Zambia	2
34.	Singapore	4
35.	Portugal	1
36.	Denmark	1
37.	Philippines	4
38.	Australia	2
39.	Oman	1

1	2	3
40.	Maldives	1
41.	Japan	1
42.	Greece	1
43.	Canada	1
	Total :	1484

Deployment of Central forces in States

4555. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times Central forces were deployed by each State Government during the last three years and the purpose thereof; and

(b) how the cost of deployment is borne ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Information about the States/Union Territories in which the Central forces were deployed on a semi-permanent basis as well as on a temporary basis is furnished in the Statement-I given below. From the security point of view it will not to be in the public interest to disclose the strength of the Central forces made available to these States/UTs. A part from the periods mentioned in the Statement-II given below during which the Central forces were deployed for duties during elections in States/UTs, the forces were deployed during other periods generally for law and order duties.

(b) reimbursement cost of battalion deployed in a State plus the actual cost of transportation/movement of the Battalion is recovered from State Governments. But in the pursuance of the recommendations of the Eighth Finance Commission, States of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Nagaland, Sikkim, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura are exempted from making payments towards cost of deployment from 1.4.1985 to 31.3.1990. The newly formed States of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram have also been exempted from making payment towards cost of deployment till 31.3.1990. Further, in respect of States of Assam and Orissa, a concessional rate, plus actual cost of transportation/movement of the Battalion is charged as a special case from 1.4.1985 to 31.3.1990. Recovery is not made from the States for deployment of Central forces during General Elections to Parliament and Legislative Assemblies.

Statement-I

States/UTs in which Central Forces were deployed on a Semi-permanent basis and States/UTs in which Central Forces were deployed on a temporary basis.

Semi-pervanent basis :— Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Utrar Pradesh, West Bengal, A & N Islands, Chandigarh UT., Delhi, Manipur, Pondicherry, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim,

Temporary basis :—

State/U.T.	Year			
	1985	1986	1987	1988
1	2	3	4	5
1. Andhra Pradesh	Jannary, February, March, April	February,, September	December,	January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August
2. Bihar	January Febroary, March	(From February, 1986 on Semi-permanent basis)		

3. Gujarat	January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August	August, September, October, November	March, April May, June, July, August, September	July, August
4. Haryana	January	February, July, August	June	May, June July, August
5. Himachal Pradesh	February, March	May	—	April, May
6. Kerala	January, February, March	—	March	—
7. Madhya Pradesh	February, March	June	—	—
8. Maharashtra	January, February, March	—	—	—
9. Karnataka	January February, March	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
10. Orissa	February, March	April	—	—
11. Tamil Nadu		October	—	February,
12. Goa	—	June, August September	January, February, March, April, May, June	—
13. Lakshadweep	—	—	—	January

Statement II

Information about deployment of Central Forles for General Elections in States/UTs

February, March, 1985	—	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pardesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Pondicherry (For Assembly Elections in March, 1985).
September, 1985	—	Punjab (for Assembly Elections).
Deecmber, 1985	—	Assam (For Assembly and Parliamentary Elections).
February, 1987	—	Mizoram (For Assembly Elections).
March, 1987	—	Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, Kerala and Pondicherry (For Assembly Elcctions).
June, 1987	—	Haryana (For Assembly Elections).
November, 1987	—	Nagaland (For Assembly Elections).
February, 1988	—	Tripura and Meghalaya (For Assembly Elections).

Selection of candidates by P.E.S.B.

4556. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Enterprises Selection Board is unable to find suitable candidates for board level appointments in the Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the factors thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Vaijayantha Nursery School, Adavi

4557. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken to close-down the 'Vaijayantha Nursery School' at Heavy Vehicle Factory, Avadi, Madras and hand over the establishment to a private non-official body; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a)& (b) No decision has been taken to close down the Vaijayantha Nursery School at Avadi. The Central Administrative Tribunal Madras Bench has given a finding that it is a Non-Government school. For many years it was privately run and managed by officers nominated by the General Manager of the Factory. In 1986, the management was handed over to the Women's Welfare Association (WWA), an association consisting of wives of employees of the factory, for the reason that similar schools in other Ordnance Factories, are run only by the WWA.

[Translation]

Ranikhet Cantonment land for Television tower

4558. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allot land in Ranikhet Cantonment area (Uttar Pradesh) for installing a low power television tower;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether the local Cantonment Board has also passed a resolution for giving the land for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the time by which the land is likely to be alllotted for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (c) A request has been received from the Chief Engineer (NZ), All India Radio and Television, New Delhi, by the Director General of Defence Estates for transfer of land measuring 885.05 sq.mtr. in Ranikhet Cantonment for installation of a very low power T.V. Transmitter. The proposal is under examination.

Recruitment to Para Military forces in U.P.

4559. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether recruitment camps are organised by the various para-military forces for recruitment in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether recruitment camps have been organised by various paramilitary forces in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh also during the last three years;

(c) if so, the names of the paramilitary forces which have thus made recruitments in these areas;

(d) whether there has been a fall in the percentage of recruitment in paramilitary forces from these areas; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Indo-Tibetan Border Police, Central Industrial Security Force, Border, Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force and Assam Rifles have made recruitment from the hill areas of of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years.

(d) The recruitment to the paramilitary forces is made on all India basis and no percentage of vacancies has been fixed for recruitment from any particular area.

(e) Does not arise.

Chinese posters in Pithoragarh of U.P.

4560. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in some villages of Tamli region of Pithoragarh district of Uttar Pradesh, some posters etc. in Chinese language have been noticed;

(b) if so, whether earlier also some balloons with something written thereon in Chinese code language were seen in these areas;

(c) if so, whether any investigation has been made in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (d) According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, a balloon with pamphlets in Chinese language was found in village Tamili and Bachkot of tehsil Champawat in District Pithoragarh on 13th June, 1988. A parachute in the shape of a balloon had also been found on the night of 14th August, 1987 in Tokkunj village Dashlekh, Lohaghat district Pithoragarh along with some Chinese literature.

Such type of balloons containing propaganda material have been noticed from to time on a number of occassions in different State of India. These balloons, in fact, contain Taiwanese propaganda material directed against the people's Republic of China and are actually meant for dropping on Chinese territory. Due to monsoon and other weather disturbances, the balloons get misdirected and ultimately land at various places in India. These balloons or the propaganda literature recovered along with them not have any security implications for India.

[English]

Voluntary organisations for mentally retarded pensions

4561. DR. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the work being done in the Capital for mentally retarded through a series of Day Care Centres, Infant Stimulation and Parent Counselling and Vocational Training Centre and Recreation Centres run by Samadhana voluntary, organisation;

(b) whether any similar centre are being run by any other organisation for the mentally retarded all over the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide suitable accommodation and financial support to such centres, if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the Organisations for the Mentally Retarded being supported under the Government of India Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Disabled persons is given in the statement below.

(c) Government of India provides grants to organisations for providing services to the disabled for

(i) Detection, intervention of primary nature, prevention disability.

(ii) Education and/or training.

(iii) Rehabilitation-physical, psychological, social and economic, and also for construction of building for running such programmes. Such assistance is provided under "Scheme of Assistance to Organisations for the Disabled persons" operated by the Ministry of Welfare.

Statement

List of voluntary organisations working for the welfare of mentally retarded who were given grants in 1987-88

Andhra Pradesh

1, The Genl. Secretary,
Andhra Prapesh State Council for
Child Welfare, Raj Bhawan Road,
Hyderabad.

2. Pamencap Centre,
2-E, Vasvi Colony, Picket,
Secunderabad - 500 003.

3. Hyderabad Special School for
Children in need of Social Care,
1-3/20/90, Mahankali Street,
Secunderabad.

4. The Director,
Andhra Mahila Sabha Trust,
Hyderabad.

Assam

1. The President,
Gauhati, Mental Welfare Society,
Ratnagri Lane, Bamunialdam,
Gauhati.

Bihar

1. Home for Mentally Retarded &
Psychological Sufferers, Ashok Path,
Patna.

Gujarat

1. The Administration,
Shishu Kunj, Special School for
M.R. Children, Rupaliba Garden,
M.G. Road, Porbandar, Gujarat.

2. The Managing Trustee,
Shri Sharda Charitable & Education
Trust, Kothari Saden, Kashav Nagar,
Ahmedabad - 27.

Haryana

1. District Red Cross Society, Rohtak.

Jammu & Krshmir

1. The Secetary,
Innerwheel Home for Mentally Retarded
Children, Bharat Chhawani,
P.B. No. 57, Jammu.

Karnataka

1. The Hony. Secretary,
Association for the Mentally Handicapped,
Byra Sandra, Bangalore — 39

2. Director,
Dt. Steniner's Curative Education,
Institute for Mentally Retarded Children,
Vidyagiri, Dharwad — 4.

3. The Hony. Secretary,
Navjyothi Trust, Vasantha Vihar,
14, Spencer Road,
Bangalore — 61.

Kerala

1. The Secretary, Social Welfare
Centre, Trichur — 5.

2. The President,
Bala Vikas Society, Percornada,
Trivandrum.

3. The Secretary,
Young Women's Children Association,
Quilon.

4. The Hony. Secretary, Rotary, Institute
for Children in need of Special Care,
Behind Tagore Theatre, Trivandrum.

5. Society for the Rehabilitation of
Mentally Deficient Children, Cannanore.

Maharashtra

1. The Project Officer, Community Aid & Sponsorship
Programme, A-2, Rasadhara Cooperative Housing
Society Ltd., 385, S.V.P. Road, Bombay — 4.

2. ASTTVA, Plot No. 8,
Bombivili (E) Distt. Thane.

3. The Hony. Director, Society for Care
Treatment, Training of Children in need of
Special Care, Bewri Hills, Sowri Road,
Bombay — 33.

4. Poona Seva Sadan Society, 613—14, Sadarshiv Path, Pune — 30.

5. The Executive.cum- Vice-President, Society, for the Vocational Reh, of Retarded, Kalchichand Mansion, 298, Shamalades Gandhi Marg, Bombay — 2.

6. Probodhini Vidya Mandhir, (A School for the Mentally Retarded Children) Circle Cinema Comp Und., Old Agra Road, Nasik — 32.

Manipur

1. Secretary, *Centre for Mental Hygiene*, Sagar Board, Thiangam Loikai, Imphal.

Orissa

1. Handicapped Welfare Orgn., Balasore.

Tamil Nadu

1. Bala Vihar, Halls Road, Kilpauk Madras — 10,

2. Anbagam Instt. of the Mentally Retarded, Race, Cource Road, Madurai — 2.

3. The Exe. Director, Andhra Mahila Sabha, Iswari Prasad Dattatreya Othopaedic Centre, 10, Dr. Sugabai Deshmuk Road, Madras — 28.

4. The Secretary, Pathway Centre for the Rehabilitation & Education for the Mentally Retarded Children, 15, last Main Road, Adyar, Madras — 20.

Uttar Pradesh

1. The Secretary, Bureau of Child Welfare & Research, I.T, Building, Hasrat Ganj, Lucknow.

2. The Director, Raphael Ryder, Cheshire International Centre, P.O. 157, Dehradun.

3. The Genl. Secretary, Chetna School for the M.R. Children, B-8, Nirala Nagar, Lucknow.

West Bengal

1. The Secretary, Prabartak Institute of M.R. P.O. Chandannagar, Distt. Hoogly.

2. Prabartak Sangha Chandannagar, Distt. Hoogly.

3. The Director, Alakendu, Bodh Niketan, Plot No. CII Scheme, VII.54 V.I.P, Road, Kankurgachi, Calcutta.

4. The Chairman, Society for Remedial Education, Assessment Counselling Handicapped, 73-1/A-Palam Avenue, Calcutta—10.

5. The Secretary, Abinev Bharati, 11, Pretoria Street, Calcutta.

6. The Secretary, Rehabilitation India, P-91, Hellen Keller Sarani, Majorhat, Calcutta.

Delhi

1. The President, Federation of the Welfare of the Mentally Retarded, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, Katwara Sarai, Institutional area, New Delhi – 67.

2. The Manager, Balwantrai Mehta Vidya Bhawan, Lajpat Bhawan, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi—24.

3. The Director, Sanjivini Society for Mental Health, 190, Under Defence Colony Fly over, New Delhi.

4. The Secretary, Delhi Society for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded Children, Okhla.

5. The Director-cum-Hony. Secretary, Samadhan, J-32, South Extension, Part-I, New Delhi.

6. The Genl Secretary, "Tamana" 183, Munirka Enclave, New Delhi.

Goa

1. People's Educational Trust, People's High School, Panaji.

Study of Monetary and Fiscal Policies

4562. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has sponsored any study "Monetary and Fiscal Policies in a Planning Model" through the Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi Centre, if so, the main findings of the study;

(b) whether the study has made any criticism of the public sector price policy ; and

(c) if so, the main criticism made by the Indian Statistical Institute and the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The

ISI has now submitted a preliminary report "Inflation, Growth and Public Sector Price Policy" giving its findings. While attempting to construct the model the Project Director has made a number of assumptions regarding state of economy, financial market, income & wages, demand and supply and administered prices of different commodities. A copy of the main findings of the study is given in the Statement below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Statement

Main findings of the Study "Monetary and Fiscal Policies in a Planning Model" conducted by Indian Statistical Institute, Delhi Centre

When the price of a basic commodity like coal or steel that is supplied by the public sector is increased, there will be a general increase in the costs of production resulting in an upward shift in the supply curve of the user industries. When costs rise, the expenditures will in general increase leading to an increase in nominal income. Due to this change in nominal income and its distribution, and the possible change in the relative price structure, the demand curves will shift. It is difficult to predict, a priori, the total deffects of these shifts on output and prices of different commodities.

In this paper, we examine this problem using a computable non-walrasian general equilibrium model with 17 sectors. Some of the results are :

1. when the price of any public sector product is increased the general price index increases. Since surplus of the public sector increase in general, it helps to mobilise some additional resource. However, in certain cases, like coal, increasing its price by 1 percent results in an increase in the government *deficit* by 0.012 percent,

2. There is a positive relation between inflation and the growth of real income.

3. When the wages are indexed with respect to, say, inflation in food prices, the extent of inflation is much higher ; but the growth rate also increases significantly. It is also worth noting that the rate of growth, inflation and other macrovariables are affected almost uniformly by the increase in the price of any public sector product. This is due to the fact that the indirect effects of wage indexation are much stronger than the direct effects of a price rise.

4. Although there is a positive relation between inflation and growth, the rate of growth varies significantly with the source of inflation. For example, if price of foodgrains increases at a faster rate than nominal income, the demand for non-durables and services decreases. This leads to a decrease in private investment in plant and equipments and construction. At the same time, the demand for goods like consumer durables and synthetic textiles increases. This has two implications :

(i) the overall rate of growth is not very high although it turns out to be positive and (ii) the group of people who consume commodities like consumer durables benefit by the rise in food price while the consumers of mass-based manufactured goods are affected adversely. This suggests that stabilizing food prices will be conducive to growth as well as income distribution.

5. When the government stabilizes the prices of foodgrains by depleting its stocks, growth rate increases considerably. Although inflation is high, the supply of mass-based manufactured goods and private investment also increase. The success of such a

measure, however, will depend upon the volume of buffer stock available with the government. Contrary to the views of some economists and probably the Government, our findings suggest that subsidizing food is not only equitable, but is also essential for growth.

6. When wages are indexed to the food prices, the timing of the government intervention in the form of releasing stocks becomes very crucial. When the price of foodgrains rises, it stimulates a rise in the wages in all sectors. This in turn leads to an increase in the demand for foodgrains and, hence, a further rise in their price and a fresh round of wage revision. For maintaining growth with a tolerable rate of inflation the government must intervene as soon as the rise in the general price level reaches the tolerable limit. Any early intervention will decrease growth while a later intervention cannot control inflation.

7. There is a strong correlation between Gini ratio on one side, and growth and inflation on the other, although for rural areas the correlation is negative and for urban areas it is positive.

Objectives of the proposed National Science and Technology Commission

4563. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a high powered national science and technology commission ; and

(b) if so, the details and objectives thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) The Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister has suggested the establishment of a National Science and Technology Commission, to help in integrating Science and Technology into planning, to identify appropriate technology missions, and to coordinate and whenever necessary to manage collaboration between the different agencies of the Government concerned with technology development, economic planning and financial resources, as well as with private and public sector industries. The Government has yet to take a decision on the suggestion made by the Council.

Recruitment of SCs/STs and handicapped persons for Government departments

4564. SHRI H.B. PATIL :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Staff Selection Commission has launched special programme to attract Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and physically handicapped candidates to fill up the job quotas reserved for them in various departments ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) In order to attract Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and physically handicapped candidates, the Staff Selection Commission have taken the following major steps.

(a) All advertisements relating to recruitment of candidates are got published in the Employment News/Rozgar Samachar besides language newspapers having

wide circulation in the areas having heavy concentration of SC/ST population.

(b) Copies of all such advertisements are also sent to the Employment Exchanges apart from the institutions, agencies connected with the welfare of SC/ST Communities.

(c) Vacancies relating to SC/ST are also broadcast on the All India Radio regularly.

(d) The Commission has opened about 50 additional centres of examination in areas predominantly having SC/ST population.

(e) The SSC have also undertaken to arrange Pre-recruitment Training to the SC/ST candidates who had applied for the Commission's examination. Training was imparted through specialised agencies like Coaching-cum-Guidance Centres of Ministry of Labour and various academic institutions. Training material is also provided by the Commission to such candidates.

(f) SSC had two special examinations for the recruitment of Clerks and Stenographers for Scheduled Tribes candidates only.

(g) Since SC/ST candidates mostly failed in typing test, they were given a second chance to appear in this test in 1987 with the result that many candidates qualified in the second typing test and have been offered jobs.

As regards filling up of vacancies reserved for the physically handicapped persons, a special drive exclusively for recruitment of physically handicapped persons against Group 'C' posts for vacancies in Delhi was launched during 1987, as a result of which 157 candidates were selected and offered appointments.

Advisory committees in Ministry of Welfare

4565. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :
SHRI D.P. JADEJA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the advisory committees in her Ministry have only officials as their members ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the steps contemplated for involving non-officials to bring wider perspective into policies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) No, Sir. There are both non-official as also official members in the advisory committees in the Ministry of Welfare.

(b) Does not arise.

Arts delegations sent abroad by ICCR

4566. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of performing arts delegations sent abroad by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Details are given in the Statement below.

Statement

Outgoing performing delegation from April to August, 1988

S. No.	Particulars of delegations	Country/ Countries	Period	Purpose of visit	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	22-Member Parvatiya Kala Kendra troupe, New Delhi	North Korea, China, Thailand	April, 1988	To give performances at the April Spring Art Festival, Pyonayang	
2.	6-Member Sanjukta Panigrahi troupe, Bhubaneswar	Indonesia	June, 1988	To give performances	
3.	15-Member Kadamb group of Kumudini Lakhia (Kathak), Ahmedabad	Mongolia	13th to 23rd July, 1988	To give performances during the visit of President of India	
4.	4-Member group of Shri Kashinath Bodas (Vocal), Kanpur	Afghanistan	August, 1988	To give performances at the time of Indian Independence Day Celebrations	

1	2	3	4	5	6
	(ii) 3-Member Rajendra Kulkarni troupe (Flute), Belgaum				
5.	5-Member troupe of Ms. Kaushalya (Kuchipudi), New Delhi	Maldives	August, 1988	—do—	
	(ii) 5-Member troupe of Manjushree Chatterjee (Kathak), New Delhi				
6.	5-Member troupe of Ms. Arundhati Roy *(Odissi), Calcutta	Bhutan	August, 1988	—do—	
7.	12-Member Yamini Krishnamurthy (Bharatanatyam)	Poland, Switzerland	12 April to 21 April '88	To give performances	

8.	5-Member Ms. Jayalakshmi Eshwar	Denmark USSR	29 April to 5 May '88	To perform at opening of India, Promotion in Magasin du-Norden way to USSR for participation in the Festival of India in USSR.	Visit to USSR as part of Agency work on behalf of the Festival of India Directorate.
	*(ii) 3-Member troupe of Joydeep Ghosh (Sarod), Calcutta.				
9.	Classical				
	(i) 15-Member Bharata Natyam Group of Guru Adayar Lakshman	Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago	May '88	To perform during the visit of Vice-President of India in connection with the 150th Anniversary of Indian Immigration in Guyana, May 1988	
	(ii) 15-Member Kathak group of Kathak Kendra.	Guyana & Surinam			
	(iii) 8-Member Odissi group of Guru Harekrishna Behera.	Guyana			

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Folk & other groups				
	(i) 8-Member Qawali of Mohd. Nizami	Guyana			
	(ii) 15-Member Folk Dances from Goa				
	(iii) 15-Member from Kashmir				
	(iv) 10-Member Folk Dances from Tamil Nadu	—do—	—do—	—do—	
	(v) 15-Member Folk Dances group from Rajasthan				
	(vi) 15-Member Folk Dances group of UP				
	(vii) 10-Member Folk Dances group from Sikkim				

10.	(i) 5-Member Gita Mahalik Odissi	Canada	May-June '88	To give performances for Indo-Canadian Conference	
	(ii) 3-Member Bimal Mukherji Sitar	—do—	—do—	—do—	
	(iii) 5-Member Malavika Sarkar Kathak	—do—	—do—	—do—	
11.	6-Member Kathak/ Odissi troupe of Ms. Prerna Srimali & Shri Ratl Kanta Mahapatra	UK	June-July '88	To give performances at Sanskritik Festival	
12.	4-Member Dr. L. Subramaniam Violinist	GDR, USSR	May-June '88	To give performances in GDR on way to USSR for participation in Festival of India in USSR	Eight members joined the group in USSR. Visit to USSR as part of Agency work done by ICCR on behalf of the Festival of India Directorate.
13.	5-Member Kathak group of Noelima Azim	USSR Belgium	—do—	To give performances in Belgium after participation in FOI in USSR.	Visit to USSR as part of Agency work done by ICCR on behalf of the Festival of India Directorate.

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	3-Member Sitar group of Smt. Joya Biswas	USSR France	—do—	To give performances for World Music Day in France after participation in FOI in USSR.	Visit to USSR as part of Agency work done by ICCR on behalf of the Festival of India directorate.
15.	Sonal Mansingh	USSR Bulgaria Czechos-lovakia	June-July '88	To give performances at Week of Indian Culture in Bulgaria after participation in FOI. Also gave performances in Czechoslovakia.	Visit to USSR as part of Agency work done by ICCR on behalf of the Festival of India Directorate.
16.	Kanaka Srinivasan Bharata Natyam	USSR & Bulgaria	—do—	To give performances at Week of Indian Culture in Bulgaria after participation in FOI.	—do—
17.	Purulia Chhau group of Jagroo Mahata	Bulgaria Turkey	—do—	—do—	—do—
18.	Rajendra Prasanna (Flute)	Bulgaria	—do—	—do—	—do—

19.	6-Member Shovana Narain group (Kathak)	USSR Finland	—do—	To give performances at JYVASKYLA Arts Festival after participation in FOI.	—do—
20.	5-Member Shobha Naidu group (Kuchipudi)	USSR France	—do—	To give performances for UNESCO and Mandapa after participation in FOI.	—do—
21.	5-Member Leela Samson group (Bharatya Natyam)	USSR Cyprus	—do—	To participate in Limassol Festival after participation in FOI.	—do—
22.	5-Member Padmini Dorairajan group (Bharatanatyam)	UK & USSR	June-July '88	To give performances at invitation of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan after participation in FOI.	—do—
23.	17-Member Kerala Kalamandalam group (Kathakali)	France & Itlay	July '88	To give performances on invitation from KELI Association in France & for Chieri Festival in Itlay.	
24.	15-Member Manipuri Sankirtana & Thangta group	Italy	July '88	To participate in Chieri Festival	

1	2	3	4	5	6
25.	35-Member People's Little Theatre group led by Shri Utpal Dutt	USSR	May-June '88	To participate in Festival of India in USSR	Agency work on behalf of Festival of India Directorate
26.	3-Member Violin group of Sangeeta Rajam	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
27.	3-Member Sarod group of Vasant Kabra	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
28.	20-Member Dance-Drama group of Darpana Academy, Ahmedabad.	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
29.	5-Member Carnatic Vocal group of Mani Krishnaswamy	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
30.	6-Member Manipuri Dance group of Shruti Banerjee & Priti Patel	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
31.	16-Member folk dance group from Arunachal Pradesh	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—

32.	16-Member folk dance group from Maharashtra	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
33.	5-Member Kathak group of Kajal Mishra	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
34.	3-Member Sarod group of Budhadev Das Gupta	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
35.	6-Member Hindustani Vocal group of Rajan & Sajan Mishra	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
36.	16-Member folk dance group from Himachal Pradesh	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
37.	15-Member folk dance group from Nagaland	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
38.	12-Member folk dance group from Tripura	USSR	May-June '88	To participate in Festival of India in USSR	Agency work on behalf of Festival of India Directorate.
39.	5-Member Odissi group of Sujata Mishra	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
40.	7-Member Shahnai group of Jagannath	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—

1	2	2	3	4	5
41.	17-Member folk dance group from Kerala	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
42.	5-Member Vocal group of Jitendra Abhisheki	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do-
43.	20-Member Dance-Drama group of C V Chandrashekhar	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
44.	5-Member Carnatik classical vocal group of T N Seshagopalan	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
45.	9-Member Kuchipudi dance group of Swapna Sundri	—do —	—do—	—do—	—do—
Joint Production					
46.	23-Member group of Pt. Ravi Shankar	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—
47.	43-Member Kathak group of Kumudini Lakhia	—do—	—do—	—do—	—do—

ICCR's grant-in-aid to foreign scholars

4567. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council for Cultural Relations has a scheme for giving grant-in-aid to foreign scholars for doing research in India;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme, the names of scholars, quantum of grant-in-aid and other facilities given to them during the last three years;

(c) whether the scholars have submitted their research work to the Council; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Council for Cultural Relations gives grants-in-aid to Foreign Scholars in the form of Orientation Grant. The Orientation grant is available for a maximum period of three months, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 5000/- per month. This is meant to cover the expenses on board, lodging and research of the scholars during their stay in India.

Details of the scheme in the past 3 years is given in the statement below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Given the limited duration of the grant, foreign scholars cannot be expected to produce complete research works during this period. Hence they have not been required to submit their research works to the Council.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the visitor	Country	Expenditure	Duration of the period in India.
1	2	3	4	5
	1985-86			
1.	Dr. Vania De Gila Kochanewski	France	Rs. 15,000/- (Rs. 5,000/- per month)	20 March to 20 June 1985 (3 months)
2.	Mr. Stephen Cox	UK	Rs. 5,000/-	October 1985 (One month)
3.	Mr. Gabriol Calafora	Cuba	Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. 5,000/- per month)	14 December to 16 Feb., 1986 (two months)
4.	Dr. Vivekanand Sharma	Fiji	Rs. 5,000/-	July 1985 (one month)
5.	Mr. Chris Johnson	Australia	Rs. 7,500/-	November-December, 1985 (one and a half months)
	1986-87			
1.	Miss Laxmi Kallicharan	Guyana	Rs. 15,000/- (Rs. 5,000/- per month)	7 Jan. to 7 April, 1987 (three months)

2.	Mr. Munim Kumar Baral	Bangladesh	Rs. 3,000/-	May, 1986
3.	Miss Sharmila Enayat	Bangladesh	Rs. 3,000/-	May, 1986
	1987-88			
1.	Mr. Gillabert Follet	Belgium	Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. 5,000/- per month)	Dec., 1987 to Jan., 1988 (two months)
2.	Mr. Sveinsson	Norway	Rs. 15,000/- (Rs. 5,000/- per month)	Dec., 1987 to Feb., 1988 (three months)

[Translation]

Implementation of 15-Point Programme for minorities in Uttar Pradesh

4568. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of progress made by Uttar Pradesh Government in implementation of Prime Minister's 15-Point Programme for welfare of minorities; and

(b) the number of persons benefited during the last three years, yearwise as a result of implementation of this programme in the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) and (b) The State Government of Uttar Pradesh have initiated action on all the points of the 15-Point Programme. Amongst the various steps taken, the State Government have accepted the Central guidelines for relief and rehabilitation of victims of communal riots. The State Government have made the selection committees for recruitment to police services representative of minorities. The emphasis of the 15-Point Programme lies inter-alia on ensuring that there is no discrimination and the minority gets a fair and adequate share in the fruits of development. It is not feasible hence to give the number of beneficiaries under this Programme. It is expected that the minorities have received a fair and adequate share of the benefits of all developmental programmes.

Uranium for fast breeder reactors

4569. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to install two fast breeder reactors of 500 megawatt capacity during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, whether Plutonium required for these reactors will be obtained by reprocessing the waste energy rods which are available after using the natural uranium as source of energy in nuclear power units;

(c) if so, the quantity of uranium likely to be produced in this way; and

(d) whether it will meet country's requirements, and if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS & SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Government is planning to start construction of one Fast Breeder Reactor of 500 Megawatt capacity during the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) MAPP Reactors are expected to produce the plutonium required for this reactor.

[English]

India's signing of NPT

4570. SHRI BALASHEB VIKHE PATIL :

SHRI H. A. DORA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether US has urged India to either sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty or enter into bilateral or regional arrangements as a threshold nuclear power along with Pakistan and other countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India's opposition to the Non-Proliferation Treaty is a principled and consistent one. The NPT is discriminatory and iniquitous. India has no intention of charning this Position and will not sign NPT under pressure from any source.

Negotiations for super computer

4571. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any negotiations for the super computer to be used for weather forecasting have been made with any foreign country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what will be the cost of the super computer and when it will reach India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The negotiations for the purchase of supercomputer Cray X-MP/14 were completed and contract signed between the Government of India, Department of Science and Technology and M/s Cray Research Inc., USA on 5.5.1988.

(c) The F. O. B. cost of the Supercomputer is US $ 8.107 million and it is expected to reach India by the end of 1988.

President's assent to Andhra Pradesh Bills

4572. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the particular of bills passed by the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly which are yet to receive the assent of the President;

(b) since when these are pending for assent; and

(c) the reasons for the delay and when these are likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c) A statement giving the information is given below. It is not possible to indicate by what time these Bills would be cleared.

Statement

Particulars of the State Bills, passed by the Andhra Pradesh State Legislature, which are yet to receive President's assent.

(a), (b) & (c) :

Sl. No.	Date of receipt	Nomenclature of the Bill	Reasons for delay.
1.	24/2/1987	The Andhra Pradesh Exhibition of Films on Television Screen through Video Cassette Recorders (Regulation) Bill, 1987	Pending with the State Government since 10/5/88 for certain clarifications,
2.	25/2/1987	The Municipal Corporation Acts (Amendment) Bill, 1987.	The Bill is engaging the attention of the Government of India.

Indian Defence personnel languishing in Pak Jails

4573. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV :
DR. A. K. PATEL :
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the result of Government's efforts during the last 17 years to get released and repatriated the 43 missing Indian Defence personnel who have been languishing in Pakistani Jails all this period;

(b) the next concrete action plan of Government in this regard; and

(c) at what other forums, other than direct talks with Pakistan Government, the Government is trying to solve this human problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) In response to Government's efforts to secure the release and repatriation of Indian missing defence personnel in Pakistan the Government of Pakistan has been taking the position that there are no such persons in their custody.

(b) Government propose to continue to press for the release and repatriation of the missing Indian defence personnel.

(c) Since this is a purely bilateral issue, Government are pursuing efforts to resolve it on a bilateral basis.

Upliftment schemes for tribals in A.P.

4574. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of schemes launched in Andhra Pradesh at the beginning of the Seventh Plan for the upliftment of tribals in the state;

(b) the details of employment generated and infrastructure created in the tribal belts;

(c) the extent to which the targets so fixed, have been achieved; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to achieve the targets ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SARIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) Under the tribal Sub Plan (TSP) approach, which has been in operation in Andhra Pradesh for the duration of the VII Five Year Plan, schemes taken up include those for alleviation of poverty and removal of backwardness through increase in literacy, improvement of general health, rehabilitation of shifting cultivators, provision of minimum needs, supply of subsidised foodgrains and other area development programmes.

(b) and (c) No targets for generation of employment are fixed in respect of schemes under the Tribal Sub Plan generally. However, under the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) The targets and achievements for generation of employment in A. P. and that for STs in A. P. have been as follows :

Employment generated in A. P. from 1985-86 to 1987-88

(In lakh Mandays)

	Target State	Achievement State	Achievement for STs.
NREP	789.26	767.04	133.23
RLEGP	663.20	774.01	128.02

No target of employment generation has been fixed in respect of Scheduled Tribes separately.

The infrastructure created includes soil conservation and land development,

market yards warehouses, veterinary units, irrigation sources village electrification, roads and bridges, educational institutions, drinking water supply, housing and primary health centres/Sub Centres.

(d) Reports furnished by the State Govt. indicate that targets are generally being acheived.

Vacancies for physically handicapped

4575. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of vacancies of physically handicapped lying vacant in the middle and sub-ordinate level offices of Union Govt. for the last one year, category-wise;

(b) whether Government have not filled up the quota reserved for handicapped if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time when all the vacancies against reserved quota for the handicapped will be filled up ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) As per information available, about 186 identified vacancies for visually handicapped 285 for hearing handicapped and 281 for orthopaedically handicapped are lying vacant against Group 'C' and 'D' posts for more than one year in Central Government Offices outside Delhi as on 31.12.1987.

(b) Although instructions have been issued periodically urging various Central Government Ministries/Departments to identify and fill up vacancies reserved for the handicapped, there is a shortfall in filling up posts reserved for them. The reasons for the shortfall include insufficient number of identified posts suitable for these categories and non-availability of suitable candidates for the identified posts.

(c) Efforts are continuously being made to fill up vacancies reserved for the handicapped. During, 1987 a special recruitment drive was undertaken for clearing the backlog of carried forward vacancies for the visually and hearing impaired in Central Government Offices in and around Delhi. A similar exercise is currently being undertaken for Central Government Offices outside Delhi. However, it is not possible to specify a time schedule for filling up all vacancies in Government against reserved quota for the handicapped.

Delicensing policy in electronics

4576. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Electronics Commission has recommended delicensing of all sectors of the electronics industry based on indigenous technology;

(b) if so, the extent to which the delicensing policy will help in achieving the target production of electronics during Seventh Plan; and

(c) the extent to which this new policy will help reduction in prices of electronics goods in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) Various recommendations made by the Electronics Commission regarding 'Electronics Policy & Growth Objectives 1988-91' are under consideration of the Government.

Arms and ammunition recovered by IPKF

4577. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated value of the arms and ammunitions recovered by IPKF from

LTTE and other militant organisations in Sri Lanka so far;

(b) whether the recovered arms and ammunitions are sent to India; and

(c) if not, how they are being disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) It is not possible to estimate the value of arms and ammunition recovered from the LTTE and other militants in view of the varying degree of their serviceability.

(b) and (c) No decision has been taken in this regard.

Atomic power reactor with U-233 as fuel

4578. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up power generating reactors with U-233 as fuel;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India will become the only country in the world to use U-233 fuelled reactors; and

(d) If so, the scientific advantages of this lead ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government are studying the feasibility of setting up nuclear power plants operating on Thorium/U-233 cycle as a long term possibility. U-233 is a fissile material which is produced when Thorium is exposed io neutrons inside a reactor. Initially this transformation will be effected in the blanket regions surrounding the core of the sodium cooled fast breeder reactors being developed at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research at Kalpakkam. Eventually it is expected that power reactors operating entirely on the Thorium/U-233 cycle will be set up in the third stage of India's nuclear power programme.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir, As of today, it does appear that India will be the first in this field, since it is the only country with a clearly defined programme for exploitation of its vast Thorium resurces for generation of electricity. Generation of large quantities of U-233 will give India the option to operate existing heavy water moderated reactors also with Thorium enriched with U-232 fuel, thus relieving pressure on the country's uranium resources.

Technology exported by N.R.D.C,

4580. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NRDC have been exporting Indian technologies abroad;

(b) If so, the details thereof during the last three years uptodate;

(c) the total royality earned by NRDC on technology export;

(d) whether the actual inventors of these technologies have any share in these earnings; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) and (c) National Research Development Corporation has completed projects on Water Filter Candle and Chlorine Tablets in Indonesia and for this had received payments amounting to US $ 41,250. In addition at present NRDC is implementing two more projects relating to Dehydrated Green Pepper and Tricontanol in Indonesia.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. As per existing arrangements, 70% share from know-how fee is debited to CSIR.

Effectiveness of Ayurvedic Drugs

4581. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether CSIR laboratories have investigated effectiveness of many well know Ayurvedic drugs;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to standardise these drugs and manufacture them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The data has been generated on the following five drugs :

1. Sallai Guggal (Boswellia Serrata)-(Arthritis)

2. Pipli (Piper o Longum)-(Bioavailability Enhancer)

3. Adusa-(Adhatoda vasaka)-(Broancho dilator).

4. Isaptent (cervical dilator) - (Made from Isabgol seed Trade name Dilex-'C')

5. Gugulipid from Guggal.

(c) Yes, Sir. National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow a constituent laboratory of CSIR, is engaged in the standardisation of indigenous herbal drugs. It has standardised 92 single drugs. For example Jivanti, Nagkesaria, Palash, Plaksha and Punnag Sapan, etc. Two compound formulations Ashoka rishta and Drakshasava have also been standardized

Total package from collection to manufacture of standardised products (1-3 above) is available with Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu, Dilex—C and Gugulipid developed by Central Drug Research Institue, Lucknow are being marketed by Unichem and Cipla respectively.

(d) Based on Boswellia Serrata, a product named Sallaki is already in the market for treatment of Rheumatic arthritis. Also Vasaka, a well known drug is already being marketed by various Ayurvedic houses.

Linking Bhubaneswar with Dallas in U.S.A. through Satellite

4582. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to link Bhubaneswer and Dallas in USA through Satellite;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish Earth Stations at both the places;

(c) the estimated cost involved;

(d) how far this programme will be benefited to the Union Government and the State Government of Orissa;

(e) who will born the expenditure; and

(f) the steps being taken to clear the projects and by when it is likely to be established ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY AND ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There is a preliminary proposal to link Bhubaneswar and Dallas in USA through Satellite, details of which including the cost are being worked out in consultation with Government of Orissa.

(d) This programme is expected to boost the export of Software from the region and consequent inflow of foreign exchange which will be beneficial both to the Government of India and Government of Orissa.

(e) The expenditure will be jointly borne by Government of India and Government of Orissa.

(f) Discussions are being held with the Consul General of India, Sanfrancisco and the local authorities of City of Dallas for finalising the project proposal. The time and cost details will be known after all the details are worked out.

Programme chalked out by ICCR to celebrate centenary of Maulana Azad

4583 SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the details of programme chalked out by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations for the celebration of contenary of the Late Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO) : The following activities are proposed to be included in the Centenary Celebrations of Maulana Azad by the ICCR :—

(1) Publication of the Maulana Azad Memorial Volumes comprising the following :

Volume I : 'Maulana Azad : The Man and his Philosophy-compilation of invited Articles, Studies and Reminiscences'.

Volume II : 'An Anthropology of Maulana Azad's Speeches and Writings'.

Volume III & IV : Urdu and Devnagari versions of Volume II.

(2) A Book Exhibition on Maulana Azad.

(3) An International Seminar on Maulana Azad in collaboration with the Aligarh Muslim University.

(4) A Maulana Azad Essay Competition.

(5) Any other item to be assigned to ICCR by the National Centenary Committee for Maulana Azad.

Details of these proposals will be discussed in the forthcoming meetings of the Governing Body and General Assembly of the ICCR to be chaired by the Vice-President of India.

Expenditure incurred by ICCR on festivals of India

4584 SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in connection with festival of India in USSR, Switzerland, Sweden, Bulgaria and Mauritius; and

(b) what is the future of employees who have been appointed for the festival work ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Details are given below :

USSR	Rs.	3,15,53,379.85 up to 30.6.88
Switzerland	Rs.	25,29,8[illegible]2.00 up to 30.6.88
Sweden	Rs.	26,17,741.00 up to 30.6.88
Bulgaria	Rs.	11,02,000.00 approx.
Mauritius	Rs.	38,51,321.99

(b) The appointments of persons recruited in ICCR on contractual basis specifically for the festival work shall cease when the contracts with them lapse.

Espionage network in Jammu and Kashmir

4585. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether three persons of a family were arrested for espionage activities in a village in Jammu and Kashmir during the last week of May, 1988 as reported in the Indian Post, Bombay dated 26 May, 1988; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Govt. have seen the news item referred to in Part (a) of the question. Facts are being ascertained.

Navigational system for Air Force

4586. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Air Force had contracted with a foreign firm to instal latest navigational system for Air Force Transport fleet;

(b) the investment in this contract;

(c) whether the installed system is capable of giving adequate security to Air Force Transport fleet;

(d) whether the Government have made any efforts to develop an airborne radar system for the futuristic jet aircraft at its Research and Development Section; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 96.67 lakhs.

(c) The systems acquired meet the operational requirements for navigation of IAF transport aircraft.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Complaint against Indian Embassy in Somalia for lack of Cooperation to Indian in distress

4587. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any complaints have been received by Government regarding lack of assistance and cooperation from the Indian Embassy in Somalia in tackling the problems of Indians in distrses durnig the last three months;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the corrective steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AEFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) An Unsigned latter has been received alleging that the Indian Embassy in Mogadiscio did not arrange for the timely evacuation of Indian nationals from

Hargiesa (North Somalia), extended no help when the evacuees reached Mogadiscio, did not assist in their return to India and delayed issue of duplicate Passports and death certificates.

(c) Our enquiries have revealed that there is no truth in these allegations. The Embassy extended full assistance. The Indian Merchants Community of Hargies has written to express its gratitude and appreciation for the arrangements made by the Embassy to airlift Indian national from Hargeisa, and for rendering all other required assistance.

Public participation in Planning process

4588. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Advisory Committee has been set up in the Planning Commission which are concerned with agriculture, rural development and perssective planning;

(b) whether any non-officials are nominated to such committees; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to increase public participation in the planning process ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Steering Groups have been constituted on Agricultural and Allied Sectors as also on Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Programmes for the formulation of the Eighth Five Year Plan. No Group has been constituted on perspective Planning.

(b) Yes, Sir. Non-officials have been nominated to such Committees.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign fishing trawlers in Indian waters

4589. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether newspaper reports have caught the attention of the Government recently that the Coast Guard has been lax in preventing illegal foreign trawlers from fishing in our waters;

(b) the steps taken to ensure that the Coast Guard is more alert; and

(c) whether instructions have also been given that Indian fishing boats should not be harassed in any way ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) The Government have seen recent newspaper reports of certain charted foreign fishing trawlers having left our waters without completing the necessary formalities and paying the relevant dues to the concerned authorities.

(b) and (c) Comprehensive orders, spplemented by exhaustive instructions, are in existence for all the Coast Guard units/ establishments to maintain constant vigil and to provide necessary assistance to Indian fishing boats which have full freedom to fish anywhere in India's Exclusive Economic Zone, subject to such restrictions as may have been imposed under the law.

MOU between BEL and Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers

4590. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen the report appearing in the 'Economic Times' of 25 July, 1988 to the effect that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Bharat Electronics Ltd, (BEL) and Rashtriya Chemicals and

Fertilizers (RCF) for setting up of a joint venture company for Television tube glass shells project was set aside in favour of M/s SAMTEL ;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry of Defence had earlier advised categorically agai-st any arrangement with private sector companies leading to dropping the proposals of Grasim Industries, Arvind Mills and Zuari Agro for a joint venture; and

(c) if so. reasons for the changed thinking and the amount of compensation payable to RCF for time and money spent by the RCF on the joint venture project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. Government has seen the report appearing in the 'Economic Times' of July 25, 1988

(b) No, Sir. No proposal involving joint venture with the private companies mentioned in part (b) of the question was referred to the Ministry of Defence. An offereras, however, received from Gwalior Rayon silk Mfg. (Wvg) Co. Ltd., for take over the glass shell manufacturing unit at Taloja, Maharashtra.

(c) No final decision on the MOU between BEL & RCF has as yet been taken. As scuh the question of compensating RCF for the time and money spent on the joint venture does not arise.

Shifting of Thorium Plant from Bombay to Orissa

4591. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a great resentment and discontentment among the employees of 'the Indian Rare Earths Limited Thorium Nitrate Plant' because of the move to shift the plant from Trombay (Bombay) to Orissa;

(b) if so, whether repeated representations have been made by the employees of the plant not to shift the plant; and

(c) if so, whether Government would consider the suggestion to send a Committee of the Parliament to inquire into the problems and review and reconsider the question of shifting the plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SERIVCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS & SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) The existing plant at Trombay is 35 years old and beyond economic repair and service. The infrastructure facilities required are available at OSCOM which will make the new plants more economical. It is the policy of the Atomic Energy Commission that plants and laboratories which are not directly related to R & D programmes of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) should be shifted out of the premises of BARC. The employees of the IRE Thorium Nitrate Plant have been agitated as to their future and made representations in this regard. When the existing plant at Trombay is eventually closed down, employees will be given an option to shift to the new site or will be provided alternative employment in other units under Department of Atomic Energy located in Bombay. Due compensation will be paid to those who would like to take retirement. It is, therefore, considered not necessary to set up any Committee of Parliament in this connection.

War injury pension

4592. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether war injury pension is admissible due to disability arising from injuries suffered during war;

(b) if so, whether war injury pension is inadmissible in cases of persons retiring prematurely; and

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to review the position to ensure payment of war injury, pension irrespective of the nature of retirement, voluntary of otherwise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

SSK class submarines

4593. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the four SSK class submarines procured from a foreign concern for the Indian Navy were found defective on arrival in India;

(b) if so, what was the total loss;

(c) whether any steps were taken to recover the loss due to defective supply of SSK submarines from their suppliers;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Two ready-built SSK submarine were acquired from M/s HDW of West Germany in 1986. These vessels were accepted after exhaustive tests and trials and their performance was found satisfactory conforming to the contractual commitments. Two more submarines of the same class are under construction at the Mazagon Dock Ltd., Bombay based on material packages procured from M/s HDW.

(b) No loss, of any kind, has been incurred on account of the acquisition of the two ready-built submarines.

(c) to (e) Do not arise,

Appointment of IAS officers to Public Sector Units

4594. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had issued directions on appointment of IAS Officers to Public Sector Units; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have issued instructions that IAS and other Govt. officers can be appointed in in Central public enterprises only on immediate absorption basis except in some undertakings specifically allowed to take these officers on deputation basis because of functional needs and on account of non-availability of persons with requisite background and professional skills.

Steps to avoid Bhopal type disaster in Ernakulam

4595. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there are chances of Bhopal type disaster in Earnakulam if Indian Rare Earths Ltd., the Thorium Mill of the Atomic Energy, Commission does not remove 4,000 tonnes of Thorium Hydroxide stored near Periyar River;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action Government propose to contemplate to avoid Bhopal type disaster in that city ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) There is no possibility of Bhopal type disaster in Ernakulam due to the Indian Rare Earths Plant located at Alwaye.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Labour Force

4596. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated size of the labour force in the country as on 1 January, 1988.

(b) the percentage of the labour force which is wholly or partially employed;

(c) whether employment has been defined in terms of minimum number of mandays of work and minimum daily earnings; and

(d) if so, the estimated extent of under employment and seasonal employment in the urban and rural areas separately, with reference to the above definition ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) The data of the National Sample Survey (NSS)on Employment-Unemployment carried out in the 43rd Round (July 1987—June 1988) are still at processing stage and therefore, the estimates for the Labour Force as on 1 January,1988 are not as yet available. However, based on NSS 38th Round (January-December, 1983) results, it is estimated that the size of the Labour Force (of age 5+) on 1 July, 1983 was 308.7 million as per usual status including 33.1 million persons employed in subsidiary capacity. The corresponding figures as per current week status was 270.6 million, as per statement given below.

(b) 95.0 per cent of male labour force of age 5 & above, 72.7 per cent of female labour force of age 5 & above in rural areas and 92.5 per cent male labour force of age 5 & above, and 76.0 per cent female labour force of age 5 & above in the urban areas were usually employed in the principal status. The corresponding percentages of usually employed in the subsidiary status were 3.4, 26.7, 2.3 and 19.3 respectively.

(c) In the surveys conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation, 'employment' is not defined in terms of a minimum number of mandays of work and minimum daily earnings. The criteria for determining the employment status of a person is given in the Annex.

(d) In view of the reply to part (c) above, the extent of underemployment and seasonal employment, with reference to the definition specified in the question part (c), cannot be estimated.

Statement

Definitions/Concepts used in Employment-Unemployment Survey

Labour Force :	It is the sum of the number of persons of age 5+ who are either employed or unemployed on the reference date.
Employment/Unemployment :	Employment and unemployment status of a person is decided by adopting three approaches :

(i) Usual status approach with a reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey;

(ii) Current week status approach with a reference period of 7 days preceding the date of survey and

(iii) Current day status approach with each day of the 7 days preceding the date of survey as the reference period.

The usual status approach and current week status approach referred to in reply to the question are amplified below :

Usual Status : A person is considered as working (or employed) in the principal usual status if he/she was engaged relatively for a longer time during the reference period of last 365 days in any one or more of defined gainful activities If he/she were not so engaged but was either seeking or was available for work for relatively longer time of the specified reference period he/she was considered unemployed. The remaining persons engaged in any one or more of the defined non-gainful activities (for a relatively longer time of the specified reference period) are taken as 'not in labour force' Those who are not found to be working in the principal status, but pursued in a subsidiary capacity some gainful activity are considered workers in a subsidiary usual status.

Current week status : A person was considered working (or 'employed') as per current week status if he/she was engaged in any one or more of the defined gainful activities at least for one hour on any one day of the reference week. A person who had not worked for at least one hour on any one day of the reference week but had been seeking work or had been available for work (although not seeking) at any time during the week was considered 'seeking/available for work" (or 'unemployed'). Others were considered 'not available for work' (or not in the labour force).

Prohibition in States/Union Territories

4597. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States and Union Territories which have introduced full or partial prohibition as on 1st April, 1988;

(b) the extent of prohibition in each case; and

(c) the views of Union Government regarding the desirability or introducing prohibition ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected from the State Govts/Union Territory Administrations and same will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Prohibition being a State Subject, necessary measures for introduction of prohibition have to be taken by the State Governments. However, Government of India has been continuously making efforts to educate people about the ill-effects of drinking through mass media as well as by encouraging voluntary organisations through grant-in-aid for educative publicity.

Central assistance to Orissa for tribals

4598. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the Government of Orissa has approached Union Government for some extra financial assistance for the upliftment schemes for tribals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

Central Assistance to Orissa for Tribals

S. No.	Name of the scheme for which extra Special Central Assistance (SCA) has been sought by the Govt. of Orissa	Estimated Cost (Rs. in lakhs)	Present position
1	2	3	4
1.	Installation of 45 Lift Irrigation Points in Koraput District.	115.775	This scheme is expected to be sanctioned shortly and Rs. 70.00 lakhs released in the current financial year.
2.	Construction/Improvement of Educational complexes for primitive tribes.	90.00	A project Report has been called for from State Govt. and it is awaited.
3.	Additions/Improvements to post-matric Hostels for SCs/ STs at Bhubaneswar	39 00	Govt. of Orissa was requested to revise the proposals as per the existing schemes and revised proposals are awaited.
4.	Improvement to Umerkote-Kendei Road	99.23	State Govt. has recently agreed to bear 50% of the cost. This scheme will be considered later subject to availability of funds.

1	2	3	4
5.	Communication facilities (roads) in Micro Project areas inhabited by primitive tribes.	218.34	Rupees 128.80 lakhs of Special Central Assistance was released in 1987-88. As on expenditure has been reported from the funds released in 1987-88, a request received from State Govt. for release of Rs. 89.54 lakhs in 1988-89 for this scheme is not being considered at present.

[Translation]

Difficulties in getting passports from RPO, Delhi

4599. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that people have to face a lot of difficulties in getting their passports from the Regional Passport Office, Delhi; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to improve the functioning of this passport office so that people could get their passports in time ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) No, Sir There is no difficulty in getting Passports from the Regional Passport Office, Delhi. For the convenience of the public, sufficient counters have been opened for scrutiny of applications, submission of forms and depositing of fee. There are separate counters for supply of forms, delivery of passports and enquiries etc. Regional Passport Officer/Assistant Passport Officers/Public Relations Officers are available to the public from 10 A. M. to 1 P. M. without any prior appointment. In the normal course, passports are issued within 7 days of receipt of police verification reports.

[English]

Non-Practising Allowance to Army Medical Corps doctors

4600. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH. Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Non-Paractising Allowance payable to doctors in the Army Medical Corps has all along been higher than that payable to Civilian doctors under the Central Health Scheme ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of the non-practising Allowance payable to AMC and CHS doctors before 1987 and after the 1987 doctors' strike ;

(d) whether the non-practising allowance payable to civilian doctors under CHS has been raised following strike resorted to by them in 1987 ; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to raise the non-practising allowance payable to AMC doctors also proportionately ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K C. PANT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The details of Non-Practising Allowance payable to Army Medical Crops and Central Health Scheme doctors before and after the 1987 doctors' strike is given below :

(i) Before 1987

	AMC	CHS
Captain	250	50% of the basic pay subjects to a maximum of Rs. 600/-
Major	400	
Lt Co and above	600	

(ii) After 1987 doctors' strike

pay range	AMC	CHS
Rs. 3000/-	600	600
Rs. 3000-3700	800	800
Rs. 3700 & above	900	900

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

Kapur Study Group

4601. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Kapur Study Group constituted by the Planning Commission on consumer industry has recommended number of measures for consumer exports;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made by the Study Group ;

(c) to what extent these recommendations have been accepted by Government ; and

(d) the steps being taken to implement them ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) and (b) The Planning Commission have set up an Advisory Group on consumer industry under the Chairmanship of Shri V.G. Rajadhyaksha, Ex-Member, Planning Commission. The Advisory Group has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri D.V. Kapur, former Secretary to the Government of India. This Committee is looking, into issues relating to technology upgradation, licensing, pricing policy etc. of consumer goods industries. The suggestions of this Committee will be utilised for the preparation of the report of the Advisory Group. The Advisory Group has not yet submitted the report to the Planning Commission.

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

Recommendations of the Group set up to look into the management of CSIR

4602. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a group set up to look into the financial management of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research laboratories has suggested a highly market oriented strategy for boosting the internal resource generation of the CSIR ;

(b) if so, whether the group consisting of experts from all walks of life, has opined that the consultancy fee for CSIR technology should be raised ;

(c) if so, the other suggestions made : and

(d) to what extent, they have been examined and the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. A Committee has been set up by CSIR to study the earnings and marketing of CSIR knowledge base. One of its terms of reference is to suggest new methods of enhancing external cash-flow, incentives to laboratories and staff for meeting the target of cash-flow and an appropriate marketing structure.

(d) The Committee is in the process of finalising draft report. The recommendations would then be placed before the CSIR Society for consideration.

Indo-German collaboration in Science and Technology

4603. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether equity investment by private West German companies in India and Indo-German collaboration in Science and Technology has been expanded ;

(b) if so, the areas on which the Federal Republic of Germany has invested ; and

(c) the projects that are at present progressing with the help of Federal Republic of Germany ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Batmen system in Army

4604. SHRI K. RAMAMUTHY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to continue with the system of batmen in the Army by which one or two or three jawans are attached to the residence of each senior officer of the rank of Lt. Colonel and above in Peace Stations to serve as cook, bearer or driver ;

(b) whether such a system is not prevalent in the Navy or Air Force ; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on batmen a year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal at present to discontinue the system of orderlies (Batmen), which is prevalent only in the Army. These orderlies provide essential support to officers (even those below the rank of Lt. Colonel) during operations, training, exercises and peace time. The orderlies are soldiers attached to regular Army units, and are part of the unit strength authorised for normal military duties. Expenditure on them is part of the expenditure for the entire unit.

Suggestions by Chamber of Indian Trade and Industry

4606. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chamber of Indian Trade and Industry have submitted a memorandum to the Planning Commission suggesting the review of the overall economic policy of Government ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : (a) The Chamber of Indian Trade and Industry had sent a copy of their Press Note dated 18th July, 1988 to the Minister of Planning.

(b) The suggestions made in the note are of a general nature covering various aspects of the economy.

Recommendations of Working Group for Tribal Development

4607. SHRI ARVIND NETAM : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the working group constituted in Seventh Five Year Plan for tribal development has recommended that 50 per cent matching grant be provided by Government for development of infrastructure as well as running cost to the States for hostels and ashrams ; and

(b) whether Government have accepted the recommendations and propose to provide financial assistance to States including Madhya Pradesh ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) The Working Group on Development of Scheduled Tribes during Seventh Five Year Plan had recommended that the State plan should earmark adequate funds for expansion of hostel facilities at the primary, middle and high school stages of education in the tribal areas, both for boys and girls and matching contribution should be made available to the States from Centrally Sponsored Schemes operated by the Ministry. Keeping in view the said recommendation, the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for construction and expansion of Tribal Girls Hostels under which financial assistance is given to the States on matching basis, is being continued. Provision has also been made in the budget for the year 1988-89 for giving grants-in-aid to State Govts on matching basis for construction of hostels for tribal boys. Financial assistance is being given to the States including Madhya Pradesh under the said

schemes as and when proposals are received.

Postings of IAS officers in Public Undertakings

4608. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to post IAS officers in the Public Sector Undertakings on deputation basis ;

(b) if so, the facts thereof ; and

(c) which are the public sector undertakings where IAS officers have been posted without enforcement of the option rules for absorption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) According to the existing policy, appointments of Central Government officers, including officers belonging to IAS in public sector undertakings are made only on immediate absorption basis excepting appointments in certain public sector undertakings where the rules regarding "immediate absorption", have been relaxed taking into account the functional needs of public sector enterprises and on account of non-availability of suitable persons with requisite background and professional skills for manning of posts in such undertakings. As per information available, IAS officers have been appointed on deputation basis, to the following Board level posts in public sector enterprises :

1. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Handicrafts & Handlooms Development Corporation.

2. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, National Textile Corporation (Holding Company)

3. Three posts of Chairman-cum-Managing Director, National Textile Corporation (subsidiary companies).

4. Chairman-cum-Managing Director, D.T.C.

5. Managing Director, Central Warehousing Corporation.

6. Chairman, Food Corporation of India.

7. Managing Director, Food Corporation of India.

8. Chairman-cum- Managing Director, Power Finance Corporation.

9. Managing Director, North East Handicraft and Handloom Development Corporation.

Accelerator technology for energy cyclotrone project

4609. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) The future programme so far as accelerator technology is concerned; and

(b) the plans, if any, under the consideration of the Union Government to further expand and strengthen the Variable Energy Cyclotrone Project, Salt Lake, Calcutta ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT) has been set up at Indore in Madhya Pradesh for extensive research in the fields of laser and accelerator technologies. Presently, the Centre is engaged in the design and construction of an electron synchrotron radiation source. Electron accelerators suitable for industrial applications such as

in Cable industry, grain irradiation etc. and for medical applications are also proposed to be developed at the Centre. Research and development programmes in accelerator technology are also being pursued in the Variable Energy Cyclotrone Centre (VECC) at Calcutta and BARC at Trombay.

(b) Plans to expand and strengthen the facility so that it is able to accelerate a veriety of heavy ions, in addition to alpha particles which are currently being accelerated, are under consideration of the Centre. The question of strengthening the facility to increase the energy of the particles is also being looked into.

Site for pressurised heavy water reactors

4610. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in detailed design and engineering of 500 MW Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors ;

(b) whether any site in India has been selected for installing 235 MW Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors after Kaiga and Rajasthan Atomic Power Plants 3 and 4;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether any site/sites are also being actively considered in the Eastern Region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The detailed design and engineering of 500 MWe Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors has made substantial progress. Manufacture of selected critical and long delivery equipment has commenced for the first two units.

(b) to (d) The reports of the Site Selection Committee of the Department of Atomic Energy, relating to Northern, Western, Southern and Eastern Electricity regions of the country are under the consideration of the Government.

Central assistance to Maharashtra for tribals

4611. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has approached Union Government for central assistance for the programmes of education, health are and other schemes for tribals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of Union Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) to (c) The State Government of Maharashtra submitted a scheme for Central Assistance for construction of girls hostels during the current year. The Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 1 60 lakhs for this purpose. The State Government has also submitted a proposal of Compact Area Plan of Gadchiroli District for Central Assistance. Assistance sought under the plan is for road and rural electrification programmes for which a discussion is proposed with the State Govt.

Setting up of a centre of Oceanography Studies in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

4612. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Centre of oceanography studies and research in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN : (a) and (b) An Expert Committee on Marine Aquaria in Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep islands in their interim report has made a suggestion in this regard. A view could be taken only after receipt of the final Report from the Committee.

[Translation]

Recruitment in Rajasthan for Defence Forces

4613. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the persons recruited in the Army, Air Force and Navy in the border areas of Rajasthan during the last three years;

(b) whether there is laxity in the recruitment of jawans from the border and backward districts of Jaisalmer and Barmer which are hit by drought every year and the problem of unemployment is also acute there;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which recruitment would be geared up in those areas and in what manner it will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) It will not be in the public interest to disclose the information.

(b) to (d) There is no laxity in the efforts taken to recruit jawans from any area of the country.

[English]

Freedom fighters pension to widows of ex-INA personnel

4614. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of widows of the freedom fighters including Ex-INA personnel, who had applied for sanction of freedom fighters pension but died before they could be sanctioned have still not succeeded in getting these pensions;

(b) if so, the names of such windows in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana who are still striving to get the pensions but whose cases have still not been finalised; and

(c) whether Government would take a compassionate view of these cases and take an early action in this regard so as to save these widows from further hardship ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) All applications received within the prescribed time limit have been disposed except where acceptable evidence is awaited This does not include cases pertaining to Arya Samaj Movement which was recognised for grant of Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension later.

(b) Only two cases relating to Arya Samaj movement in the former State of Hyderabad for which the last date for submitting applications was 30.6.88 are pending. Details of these two cases are as under :

1 Smt. Chandrawati w/o late Dalip Singh of District Ludhiana, Punjab.

2. Smt. Shanti Devi w/o late Harish Chandra of District Rohtak, Haryana.

(c) These two cases are under consideration for an expeditious decision.

Assets of Azad Hind Goverament

4615. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received

cash and assets amounting to Rs. 114 crores from the Government of Japan and other foreign countries on account of Azad Hind Government set up by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on 21 October, 1943;

(b) if so, whether Covernment propose to utilize the amount for setting up suitable memorials of Netaji in various parts of the country as per resolution passed by the All India Azad Hind Fauj Association, New Delhi as per report published in the 'Times of India' dated 22 October, 1986;

(c) if so, the likely date by which the decision would be implemented, and

(d) if not, whether Government would take up the matter with the concern foreign government for the recovery of these assets ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AEFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (d) The factual accuracy of the report in question and details in this regard are being ascertained.

Bio-genetic control on breeding of insects

4616. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign collaborations have been established to promo e research work for bio-genetic control on the breeding of specific insects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the species or insects so identified ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Stores stolen from Field Gun Factory, Kanpur

4617. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether stores worth a few lakhs of rupees were stolen from the premises of the Field Gun Factory, Kanpur in May, 1988;

(b) whether similar kind of thefts of stores had earlier taken place in the same factory;

(c) if so, the facts thereof, and

(d) the action taken against the officers found responsible in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) 86 items of stores valuing Rs 7 53,223 were found short in a godown af Field Gun Factory, Kanpur in May, 1988

(b) and (c) Similarly shortages were noticed earlier in the same factory in 1983 when tools worth Rs. 61 402 were found missing and in 1985 when shortage of stores worth Rs. 3,966 was discovered.

(d) The Supervisor, in Charge of the Tool Godown was held responsible by a Board of Enquiry and was suspended on 8th June 1988 for negligence leading to shortage of stores discovered in May 1988.

In regard to the case in 1983, the Board of Enquiry did not fix responsibility on anyone.

In regard to the case in 1985, a storekeeper and a Supervisor in chrge of the tool godown were punished for negligence and improper maintenance of records.

Meeting of Chief Ministers to check atrocities on weaker section

4618. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a conference of Chief Minister was held in Delhi recently to consider ways and means to contain atrocities on the weaker section of the population; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the meeting ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) and (b) A meeting of the Chief Ministers/Lt. Governors and Members of Parliament belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on the 10th August, 1988 to review the recommendations and implementation of the 7th Report of the Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other issues regarding the development and welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. During the course of the meeting some matters relating to atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes also came up. It was decided that three Committees of Members of Parliament belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would be constituted to make specific recommendations on the following :—

(i) Reservation for Scheduled Cates and Scheduled Tribes.

(ii) Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(iii) Socio Economic issues in development programmes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Implementation of Juvenile Justice Act

4619. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a delay in the implementation of Juvenile Justice Act by the State Governments;

(b) whether Government have made any review of the progress of this Act;

(c) if so, the performance of different State Governments;

(d) whether a large number of children are still in some jails; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) . (a) to (c) The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 has come into force since 2 October 1987. Since, the approach in implementation of the Act envisages care, protection, development and rehabilitation of juveniles, the States are required to create/strengthen/upgrade the necessary infrastructure for the purpose. The progress of implementation of the Act was reviewed in the meeting with the States on 8 August, 1988. The States are taking steps for creation of the necessary infrastucture and machinery for implementing the law by establishing Juvenile Welfare Boards and Juvenile Courts.

(d) to (e) It is not correct that a large number of children are still in jails. However, State Governments have been advised to ensure that no child is sent to jail as provided under the Juvenile Justice Act. Training and orientation courses, Seminars and Workshops are also being organised for various groups of functionaries to acquaint them with the system and provisions of juvenile justice administration.

Introduction of Women's Co-operative network

4620. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to initiate a Women's Co-operative network at the national level;

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when women's co-opratives be proposed

to be set up for electronics production in all the States:

(c) the number of such co-operatives expected to be set up during 1988-89; and

(d) the other details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES(SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (d) To promote rural employment in the area of electronics. Government have decided to grant exemption from Excise Duty for several items including certain electronics products, such as, Radios, Cassettes Players or Recorder, whether or not fitted with Radios, voltage stabilisers, Electronic clock and electronic Alarm Time Pieces, provided that such goods are manufactured in rural areas by registered cooperative societies, including Women's societies, or by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission or by the State Khadi and Village Industries Board.

Subsequently, a committee has been set up to formulate, implement and monitor the plan of action towards generating more opportunities for rural employment in electronics and to mobilise required assistance to the societies in terms of design production technology, quality control, training etc.

Collaboration with French firm for rocket know-how

4621. SMT. JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has sought collaboration with the French Firm "Societe Europeenne de propulsion (SEP)" to provide rocket know-how; and

(b) the details of the collaboration established or proposed to be established between the two countries in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) The Indian Space Research Organisation has, over the years, based on its R&D efforts, developed its own indigenous rocket technology In the past, ISRO had entered into collaboration with Societe Europeenne de Propulsion (SEP) of France for formal transfer of technology and rights for manufacture of Liquid Engine which is a part of ISRO's rocket system. However, as of present, there is no collaboration with any foreign country for the rocket technology.

Memorandum about Sales Tax in Delhi

4622. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chamber of the Indian Trade and Industry has submitted a Memorandum to Government regarding problems relating to the Sales Tax in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Chamber of Indian Trade & Industry, Vikas Marg, Delhi, in their memorandum had made certain suggestions with regard to enforcement of various provisions of the Delhi Sales Tax Act, 1975, and Rules made thereunder. Most of the problems expressed and suggestions made by them relate to individual dealers. Since, all these matters are examined by the assessing authorities in quasi-judicial proceedings, it is not feasible under provisions of the law to issue any blanket instructions by the Govt. However,

wherever it is felt that a particular condition imposed under the law results in harassment to the dealers at large without any positive affect on the collection of revenue, instructions in general are issued from time to time to change that. Moreover, if a dealer feels aggrieved with the assessment, it is for him to go for an appeal before the Appellate Authorities as provided under provisions of the Delhi Sales Tax Act, 1975.

Inquiry into public complaints by DCP (Vigilance) of Delhi

4624. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public complaints received by the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Vigilance) of Delhi during 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto 31 March, 1988) and nature of complaints.

(b) the steps taken to inquire into the complaints made by the public;

(c) the number of cases in which the complaints proved to be genuine; and

(d) the steps taken against the offenders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The requisite information in given below :

1986	1987	1988 (upto 31st March, 1988)
28383	29556	8314

The complaints mainly related to allegations of harassment, illegal detention, implication in false cases, beating, illegal arrest, misbehaviour, Misuse of power and corruption etc.

(b) Minor complaints are sent to the concerned District for enquiry and the complaints containing serious allegations are enquired into by Vigilance Branch. Stringent punishment is recommended where allegations of high-handedness and corruption are established against police staff.

(c)	1986	1987	1988 (upto March, 1988)
	60	116	26

(d) (1) Delinquent police officers are recommended punishments as laid down in Delhi Police Act, 1978 keeping in view the gravity of the misconduct by the disciplinary authority.

(2) The names of the Police officers/men against whom corruption charges are proved are brought on the lists of doubtful integrity and they are transferred to non-sensitive Units.

(3) Police officers posted on sensitive duties are recommended for transfer to non-sensitive duties when allegations are substantiated.

Appointment in 510 Army Base Workshop, Meerut Cantt.

4625. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE ce pleased to refer to the rep y given on 11 May, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 10585 regarding non-appointment of selected candidates in 510 Army Base Workshop, Meerut Cantt. and to state :

(a) the criteria of merits on which the successful candidates have been rejected; and

(b) the reasons for adopting such criteria of merits particularly when the candidates have qualified the same test/interview/physical standards etc. as were fixed for the other category of candidates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE(SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) and (b)

Wards of deceased Government employees are appointed to GP 'C'or'D' posts in relaxation of the normal recruitment rules, if the family of the deceased employee is in immediate need of assistance, and there is no other earning member in the family. Passing the trade test/interview would not ensure the selection of such candidates, unless the candidate also fulfils the criteria for being provided employment on compassionate grounds.

Development of a computer by National Aeronautical Laboratory

4626 SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Aeronautical Laboratory, Bandgalore has developed some kind of computer;

(b) if so, the cost fixed and its speed, etc; and

(c) the special significance of that computer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL), Bangalore has developed a Parallel-Processing Computer for solving fluid dynamical and acrodynamical problems.

(b) The computer matches the mainframe performance. Its cost factor is estimated to be greater than 50. The speeds are as follows : —

Flosolver MK 1 : 4 Processor system Intel 8086/8087 chips speed is 0.3 M FLOPS

Flosolver MK 2 : 4 Processor system Intel 80386/80387 chips speed is 1.3 M FLOPS

(c) It is a parallel computer. The speed already attained is higher than that of the most mainframe computers availeble in the country. Five application codes in the areas of Fluid mechanics and Aerodynamics are operational on the flosolver.

Patrol vessels for Coast Guards

4627. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to acquire some offshore and inshore Patrol vessels for the Coast Guards; and

(b) if so, the number of offshore and inshore Patrol vessels proposed to be acquired in 1988-89 for the coast guards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) and (b) Acquisition of Offshore and Inshore Patrol Vessels for the Coast Guard is an on-going process in keeping with the Coast Guard Development Plan. A number of such vessels are expected to be inducted into service during 1988-89.

Proposal for Nuclear Free South Asia

4628. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan proposed creation of a Nuclear-Free South Asia at the recently concluded SAARC Meeting held in Kathmandu;

(b) if so, the details of proposals made by Pakistan; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) In his general statement at the 5th

session of the SAARC Council of Ministers in Kathmandu on August 11-12, 1988, the Pakistan Foreign Minister made a suggestion for a regional undertaking never to develop acquire or deploy nuclear weapons in South Asia.

(c) India's position in SAARC is that this is a contentious political issue and therefore according to the SAARC Charter, it cannot figure in SAARC deliberations.

Manufacture of V.C.R. in collaboration with Japan

4629. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to manufacture Video Cassette recorders in the Public Sector in collaboration with some Japanese company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of Japanese companies, location of the units, their employment potentiality etc. ?

THE MINISER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) It has been decided to give a Letter of Intent for manufacture of VCRs/VCPs to one public sector unit. M/s Electronics Trade & Technology Development Corporation (ET&T) has been asked to submit a composite proposal for manufacture of 1 million VCRs/VCPs per annum. ET&T is studying the various alternatives and is yet to submit the proposal.

Allocation to Orissa for Tribal Sub-Plan

4630. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount sanctioned under the Tribal Sub-Plan for Orissa during 1987-88;

(b) the projects which were financed under the Tribal Sub-Plan;

(c) the employment potential and actual employment generated; and

(d) the target of employment generation set under the Seventh Plan and how much of it could be achieved ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SOMATI ORAON) : (a) An amount of Rs 2263 82 lakhs was released as Special Central Assistance under Tribal Sub-Plan for Orissa during 1987-88.

(b) The projects financed under Tribal Sub-Plan fall broadly into four categories namely (1) Infrastructure development programmes, (2) Income generating schemes, (3) Educational development programmes and (4) anti-exploitative measures.

(c) and (d) Under Rural Employment Programmes namely National Rural Employment Programme and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, the targets and achievements are as follows :

Scheme	Seventh Plan target of employment generation for Orissa	1987-88 target for Orissa	In lakh mandays 1987-88 achievement for Orissa	Employment generated for Scheduled Tribes in Orissa-1987-88.
1. National Rural Employment Programme.	Not disaggregated State-wise.	201.75	224.99	83.83

2. Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme,	—do—	143.14	186.41	64.10

Time Bound Promotion

4631. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Government Departments/Public Undertakings have introduced Time Bound Promotions in lieu of vacancy oriented promotions;

(b) if so, whether the said policy extends 22-½ per cent reservation quota to SC/ST as per provisions of the Constitutions; and

(c) if not, how Government propose to fill up 22-½ per cent reserved for SC/ST in promotions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Time Bound Promotions Scheme is not linked with the occurrence of vacancies and therefore, does not attract provisions of reservation for SC/ST

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

Constructions around Air Force Ammunition Depot, Gurgaon

4632. SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of commercial and residential buildings, including a nine storey high complex called 'Dream City' and a Cinema building are under construction in the restricted area on the periphery of Air Force Ammunition Depot at Gurgaon in violation of the Indian Works of Defence Act, 1903;

(b) if so the action taken by Government to enforce law for the safety of civilian population;

(c) whether any inquiry has been held to determine the causes for failure to detect the violations in time and the collusion, if any, between the Air Force and State Government authorities; and

(d) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Several buildings have been constructed or are under construction.

(b) Necessary Gazette Notifications have been issued empowering the District Collector to enforce the provisions of the Indian Works of Defence Act. The Act provides for the civil administration to take approrpriate action against such unauthorised activities.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Storm in Midnapore

4633. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the storm last June brought its trail a new dimension of ravage in Midnapore's coastal areas, including the upcoming industrial town of Haldia, when

the storm had cleared, the tree withered, leaves wilted and plant died;

(b) whether a high acid content in the rain in the aftermath of the storm suspected;

(c) whether any Central agency conducted any examination of this phenomenon; and

(d) if so, their findings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No storm affected Midnapore's coastal areas during June, 1988. However, a weather system of lesser intensity (deep depression) has caused fairly widespread rainfall in these areas during the period 9th to 12th June, 1988 No report of death of plant or withering of leaves in the area during this period has been received.

(b) Routine monitoring of rainfall in the country indicates that Indian rainfall is on the whole free from acidity problem.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

War Memorial in the Capital

4634. DR. B L SHAILESH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any site has been finally decided upon to set up a permanent War Memorial in the Capital;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof;

(c) when the work thereon will be started and completed; and

(d) the estimated cost of the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Manufacture of VCP/VCR by ET&T

4635. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation is likely to manufacture VCRs and VCPs in the near future;

(b) if so, when the first lot is expected; and

(c) the likely cost of each of them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) The Government has asked Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET&T) to submit a composite proposal for manufacture of 1 million VCRs/VCPs per annum. ET&T is studying various alternatives and is yet to submit the proposal.

Amendment to Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952

4636. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) On the recommendation of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha, it is proposed to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 to provide specifically for appointment of assessors and payment of TA and DA to witnesses and assessors. It is also proposed to amend section 10A of the Act with a view to providing thereon that the offences mentioned in Section 10A be tried not by a court of sessions but by the High Court directly. A Bill, viz. The Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill, 1988 has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 29.8.1988 for the above purposes.

White paper on material recovered from Terrorists

4637. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY :
PROF. RAM KRISHNA MORE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to issue any white paper on the basis of ammunition recovered and other information collected from the terrorists who surrendered before the security forces after the 'Operation Black Thunder'; and

(b) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Switching equipment for exchanges in rural areas

4638. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to open certain areas to the private sector to boost investment in communication equipment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States where switching equipment will be set up together with their capacity for the exchanges in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following areas are open to the Private sector :—

Subscribers' terminal equipment; switching equipment with 2,000 lines or less capacity such as rural automatic exchanges; line transmission and multi-channel radio relay system upto a capacity of 120 voice/data channels; paging systems; low power wireless controlled gadgets such as cordless telephones, cordless microphones, remote controlled units for TV, remote controlled alarm systems; remote controlled electronic toys and games.

(c) A list of units licenced to manufacture Rural Exchanges and their capacity and location is given in the statement below.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Party	Annual Licenced Capacity	State
1	2	3	4
1.	Usha HP Electronic Exchanges (P) Ltd.	50000 Lines	Himachal Pradesh

1	2	3	4
2.	Rajasthan Communications Ltd.	50000 Lines	Rajasthan
3.	Uptron India Limited	50000 Lines	Uttar Pradesh
4.	Radiant Electronics Ltd.	50000 Lines	Orissa
5.	Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., Palghat.	50000 Lines	Kerala
6.	Bihar State Electronics Development Corp. Ltd.	50000 Lines	Bihar
7.	Kerala State Electronics Development Corp. Ltd.	50000 Lines	Kerala
8.	Haryana State Electronics Development Corp. Ltd.	50000 Lines	Haryana
9.	Punjab Communications Ltd.	50000 Lines	Punjab
10.	Webel Electronic Communication Systems Ltd.	50000 Lines	West Bengal
11.	Maharashtra Electronics Corp. Ltd.	50000 Lines	Maharashtra
12.	J. K. Telecom Limited	50000 Lines	J & K
13.	Gujarat Communication & Electronics Limited	50000 Lines	Gujarat
14.	Andhra Pradesh Electronics Devp. Corp. Limited	50000 Lines	Andhra Pradesh
15.	Assam Electronics Development Corporation Limited	10000 Lines	Assam
16.	The National Radio & Electronics Company Limited	20000 Lines	Kerala
17.	M.D. The Pradeshiya Industrial & Investment Corp. of U. P. Ltd.	50000 Lines	Uttar Pradesh
18.	Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	20000 Lines	Karnataka
19.	Instrumentation Limited	20000 Lines	Rajasthan

Ex-parte decrees passed against Kendriya Bhandar

4639. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ex-parte decrees passed against the Kendriya Bhandar (Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited) during last one year by various courts of Delhi and the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for which the decrees were passed ex-parte;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the matter;

(d) whether any action has been taken against any officer of the Kendriya Bhandar for lapse in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) During the last one year, five cases were decided ex-parte, details of which are give in the statement below.

(c) to (e) All the cases montioned in annexure at Serial Nos 1-4 were decided ex-parte because the Advocate, to whom we had sent all the case files, could not appear before the Labour Court on the dates fixed. However, another Advocate has now been appointed for conducting the casess betore Lower Courts and he is now taking care of all the cases as also pursuing them in various courts. As regards case No.5, this case was decided for non filing of objections within stipulated period as directed by the Court through its notice received on 24th and 26th May, 1988. The said notice was not delivered to the Legal Adviser. Consequently, he could not file the reply. Pending enquiries, Shri P.S. Verma, Supdt., who was primafacie found to be responsible for non-delivery of the notice to the Legal Adviser, has been placed under suspension.

Statement

S. No.	Name of Employee/ Supplier	Nature of case	Remarks
1	2	3	4
1.	Sh. R.P. Kaushik Employee	Fixation of Pay	As a result of application moved by us the case has been re-opened.
2.	Sh. R.N.S. Rana, Employee	Dismissal from Service.	—do—

1	2	3	4
3.	Sh. V.K. Gupta, Employee	—do—	Application for re-opening the ex-parte award pending before the Labour Court.
4.	Shri C M. Bhasin Employee	—do—	—do—
5.	M/s P.K Gagodia Traders, Supplier.	Payment of amount of Rs. 92,049/-	An appeal filed before the High Court and the same is likely to come up for hearing soon.

Research on germ warfare

4640. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARY Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to statement in Washington given on July 23,1988 by a Noble Prize winning scientist alongwith three other scientists of group called Committee for Responsible Genetics according to which U.S. Defence Department is seeking $ 300 million to carry research in to germ warfare; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is firmly opposed to any action that contravenes the provisions of 1972 Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction and is strongly in favour of the complete elimination of weapons of mass destruction, including biological and chemical weapons.

Institute for training in foreign service

4641. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) whether Government are running an Institute for the training in Foreign service;

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

(c) whether outsiders-non-government employees are admitted for training; and

(d) if so, what are the training charges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The name of the Institute is the Foreign Service Training Institute. It is located in New Delhi and does not have any branches.

The Institute is composed of the following faculty members ;

1. Dean-(1) (of the rank of Secretary)

2. Director (of the rank of Joint) Secretary)—(1)

3. Senior Deputy Director [of the rank of Director (Grade IV of IFS)]—(2)

4. Deputy Director of the rank of Deputy Secy) (Senior scale of IFS)] —(2)

5. Asstt. Director (of the rank of Under Secy.) – (1)

In addition the FSTI has a complement of 20 secretarial staff members.

(c) Outsiders-non-government employees are not admitted for training in the Institute at present

(d) Does not arise.

Cattle lifters from Bangladesh

4642 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether depredations by gangs of cattle lifters particularly from across the Bangladesh borders, have not only caused panic among the villagers but have resulted in considerable depletion of cattle wealth in the border districts; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in consultation with the Government of West Bengal to apprehend these gangs of cattle lifters from across the border ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) No report of depredation by gangs of cattle lifters from across the Bangladesh border has been received. During the period from January to June, 1988, BSF who are guarding the Indo-Bangladesh border, had received complaints that 110 heads of cattle were stolen through West Bengal-Bangladesh border. Out of these 110 cattle heads, 43 had been recovered. The Government are taking necessary measures for strengthening vigilance on Indo-Bangladesh border for prevention of infiltration and trans-border crimes.

Loan to Backward Class Families in A.P.

4643. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has issued certain directives to commercial banks and Cooperative Institutions due to which the plan to disburse loans to backward class families by Andhra Pradesh Backward Class Cooperative Finance Corporation could not be implemented; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to revise those directives ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) No directive in this regard has been issued by the Reserve Bank of India.

(b) Does not arise.

Municipal facilities to Trans-Yamuna colonies

4644. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the grievances of the residents of Trans-Yamuna colonies in the Union Territory of Delhi as reported in the Times of India of 30 May 1988;

(b) the steps taken to provide basic municipal facilities to these colonies during 1987-88 and proposed for the current year; and

(c) the Municipal Budget for 1988-89 in respect of New Delhi Municipal Committee, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the rest of the Union Territory of Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) These facilities are being provided by Delhi Administration through its agencies/local bodies as per Government policy. These include improvement in construction of drains, brick pavement in narrow lanes, water supply, sewage disposal, street lights, community facilities etc. The New Delhi Municipal Committee and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi are responsible for providing these facilities in the area falling under their respective jurisdiction. The Delhi Administration have allocated the following funds to the above agencies during 1988-89 :-

(i) M C.D. ...Rs. 7,750 Lakhs

(ii) N.D.M C. ...Rs 250 Lakhs

Demand for separate U.T. by Bodos of Assam

4645. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY :
DR. B. L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) has demanded the creation of a separate Union Territory as the homeland for the Bodos of Assam;

(b) whether Government of Assam have held negotiations with the Bodo leadership and in particular A B.S U. on this question, if so, the result thereof;

(c) whether the Bodo leadership has approached the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government has held discussions with the Bodo leadership and the representatives of ABSU with regard to the genuine demands of the tribal people and is hopeful that discussions will continue for solving their problems.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) While the Central Government have not been in favour of further reorganisation of Assam, the State Government have been requested to initiate a dialogue with the representative bodies of the pla ns tribals with a view to remove genuine grievances of the tribals and to look into deve opmental needs of the area with a sense of urgency.

Suspension of the workers of the Indian Rare Eaths, Orissa

4646 SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some workers of the Indian Rare Earths Limited, Orissa Sands Complex have been suspended; if so, their number and since when;

(b) whether the Employees' Union has protested against suspension calling it illegal and communicated the same to General Manager, Orissa Sands Complex, Indian Rare Earths Limited for lifting the suspension orders; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) 39 workers have been suspended on different dates during the month of June/July, 1988.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The suspension orders have been withdrawn with effect from 17.8.1988.

Project cost of BEL's CTV Project

4647. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has submitted a proposal to Government to produce six lakhs colour picture tubes annually;

(b) if so, whether BEL's project cost was much higher as compared to the costs of other units licenced to manufacture picture tubes;

(c) whether BEL has agreed to bring down the project cost; and

(d) if so, whether Government have accepted the proposal and by what time the same is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The project cost submitted by BEL was less as compared to the costs projected by the three other units licensed to manufacture picture tubes.

(c) In view of reply to (b), question does not arise.

(d) A view in this regard will have to be taken in the context of the future growth strategies of BEL coupled with the need to concentrate its managerial, financial and technical resources in areas of high technology and professional electronics for defence purposes.

Indigenously manufactured aircrafts

4648. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the various types of aircrafts manufactured indigenously by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited; and

(b) whether manufacture of any new type of aircraft is to be taken up during the year 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI) : (a) Since their inception, HAL are engaged in the manufacture of aircraft both based on indigenous design and development as well as under licence with foreign collaboration. The list of 12 types of aircraft manufactured by HAL as per indigenous design is given in the statement below.

(b) No, Sir.

Statement

Sl. No.	Aircraft Type
1	2
1.	HT-2
2.	Pushpak
3.	Krishak
4.	Marut Mk. I
5.	Marut Trainer
6.	Basant

1	2
7.	Kiran Mk. IA/MK IA
8.	Ajeet
9.	HPT. 32
10.	Kiran Mk. II
11.	Ajeet Trainer
12.	HTT-34

Migration from Bangladesh

4649. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of minority community persons have crossed over to India from Bangladesh following the declaration of Islamisation of Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the estimated number of such persons migrated to India;

(c) whether Government have since taken any initiative to seek an assurance from Bangladesh for protection of minorities as a result of Islamisation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government have seen reports in this regard from several sources.

(c) and (d) The Bangladesh Government have assured our High Commission in Dhaka that the interests of the minorities in that country will be safeguarded

Migration of Sindhis from Pakistan

4650. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a large/number of Sindhis are leaving Pakistan because of atrocities being committed on them and are coming to India for setting down; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Chinese leaflets found in Manipur

4651. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large 'balloon like' object with a basket attached to it landed near Kharasom village in Ukhrul District of Manipur on 4 August, 1988;

(b) if so, whether a powerful transmitter, a large number of Chinese leaflets and several dozens of handkerchief were found in the basket; any

(c) if so, whether the objects were examined by the experts and if so, their findings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) According to information available a balloon containing a large number of pamphlets in Chinese langauge, handkerchiefs and one transistor was found in Soraphung village in Manipur on 4.8.88 in the jungles of Jessami in Ukhrul district of Manipur. A similar balloon was also recovered on 3rd Aug. 88 near a village near Lunjang about 5 kms. from Behiang post by some villagers.

Such type of balloons containing propaganda material have been noticed from time to time on a number of occasions in different States of India. These balloons, in fact, contain Taiwanese propaganda material directed against people's Republic of China and are actually meant for dropping on Chinese territory. Due to monsoon and other weather disturbances, these balloons get misdirected and ultimately land at various place in India. These balloons or the propaganda literature recovered along with them do not have any security implications for India.

Integrated programme for mentally retarded and handicapped persons

4652. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether needs of the mentally retarded of various age groups are fully being catered to by voluntary and Government institutions and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether a joint home intervention programme which looks after the mentally retarded at home as also the handicapped who are not mentally retarded is being done in the special school in Stadthagen in West Germany; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to encourage organisations such as Samadhan to take up such combined programmes ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON) : (a) The primary responsibility for the Welfare and upliftment of the handicapped rests with the State Governments. However, in its coordinating and pace-setting role, the Centre has been assisting the State Govts. as well as the Voluntary Organisations in programmes designed for rehabilitation of the handicapped. In this regard the following programmes to cater to the needs of various age-groups of mentally retarded persons are being implemented.

(i) Grant-in-aid is provided to Voluntary Organisations for implementing projects for education, training and rehabilitation of the mentally retarded persons.

(ii) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped has been set up at Secunderabad as apex level organisation for training, research and manpower development in the field of welfare of Mentally Retarded.

(iii) For Children with mild mental retardation, integrated education is provided.

(iv) About 300 special schools in Government and Voluntary sector provide education, skill training, vocational training to the mentally retarded persons.

(b) Govt. does not have information of the programmes being implemented by STADTHAGEN in West Germany.

(c) Central Government is assisting Samadhan, New Delhi in implementing its programmes. If any other organisation submits proposals for implementing similar programmes, it may be considered by Government for providing financial assistance.

Manufacture of telecommunication equipment in private sector

4653. DR. B.L. SHAILESH :
SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL:
SHRI YASWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in a bid to boost investment in telecommunication equipment, Government have decided to open certain areas to private sector ;

(b) if so, which are these areas and the private sector firms which have come forward in the manufacture of the various items of sophistibated telecommunication equipment and their capacity and the manner in which their participation in the new venture will be determined ; and

(c) the check to be exercised by the Department of Telecommunications over the quality control of the equipment to be manufactured or whether these firms will be allowed to sell some of their items direct to the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISETR OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The following areas are open to the private sector :

Subscribers' terminal equipment ; switching equipment with 2,000 lines or less capacity such as rural automatic exchanges ; line transmission and multichannel radio relay systems upto a capacity of 120 voice/data channels : paging systems ; low power wireless gadgets such as cordless telephones, cordless microphones, remote controlled units for TV, remote controlled alarm systems, remote controlled electronic toys and games.

A unit with a minimum 51% of the equity held by the Central Government or any State Government and the remaining equity by private sector will be eligible for licensing of all items of telecommunication equipment. Other units will be considered as private sector and would be eligible for licensing only in the areas mentioned above.

(c) The Department usually prepares specifications for the item to be used in the Telecom Network. The manufacturers submit these items to the Telecom. Research Centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DOT) for type approval. Once the item has been type approved, the manufacturers can sell them direct to the subscribers if such items are approved for purchase by the subscribers. In case where the items are to be procured by DOT, Quality Assurance unit carries out inspection in the factory to ensure that they conform to the specification.

Report of the Committee on unnatural deaths

4654. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) wherher the High Level Committee set up by the Government to look into the modalities involved in the conduct of inquest proceeding in case of unnatural deaths (dowry case, suicide case etc.) has since submitted its report to Government ;

(b) if so, the recommendation of the committee ;

(c) whether the recommendations have since been examined by Government ; and

(d) the time by which recommendations are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No High Level

Committee has been set up by the Government to look into the modalities involved in the conduct of inquest proceeding in case of unnatural deaths.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Software export zone in Pune

4656. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the PRIME NINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up an exclusive software export zone in Pune in Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, the expenditure involved thereon ; and

(c) how it will be operated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMEMT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Government has decided to set up a Software Technology Park for software export using statellite links in Pune, Maharashtra.

(b) An investment of approximately Rs. 2 crores initially has been projected for setting up of the technology park.

(c) It is proposed to set up an Autonomous Society, which will operate the technology park.

Judgement of Karnataka High Court in Kannada

4657. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the judgements of Karnataka High Court are written in Kannada ;

(b) if not, whether Section 7 of the Official Languages Act provided for writing judgements in the official language of the State ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Under Article 348(2) of the Constitution and Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963, the Governor of a State may, with the previons consent of the President, authorise the use of Hindi or the Official Language of the State, in addition to the English language, in proceedings and for judgements, orders, etc. passed or made by the High Court for that State.

(c) Initiative in this regard is required to be taken by the State Government.

Manufacture of telephone exchanges

4658. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the manufacture of telephone exchanges with capacity up to 2000 lines is proposed to be privatised ;

(b) if so, the private sector undertakings which have shown interest to manufacture such exchanges ; and

(c) whether Union Government have taken up decision in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Manufacture of Switching Equipment with 2000 lines or less capacity such as Rural Automatic Exchanges, is proposed to be allowed for manufacture in the private sector.

(b) and (c) Two parties from private

sector—The National Radio and Electronics Company Limited, Bombay and M/s L' Avenir Business Systems Limited, Hyderabad have shown interest in the manufacture of such exchanges. The former proposal has been approved and the latter is under consideration.

Award for import substitution research

4659. SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have offered any award for research and development leading to import substitution ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the names of companies who have won awards during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (Ministry of Science and Technology) has instituted National awards for R & D efforts in Industry in 1987, to proivde recognition to the Research and Development efforts of industry, which include efforts for import substitution, export promotion, energy conservation, resources utilisation.

(b) Awards for In-house R & D Units for their outstanding achievements in the field of industrial research, in the areas of Chemical and Allied Sector Electrical and Electronics Sector, Mechanical and Automotive Sector, Metallurgical and other process Industries Sector ; In addition awards for best efforts made by the industry for successful commercialisation of publicly funded Research and Development. The awards will be in the form of trophies alongwith citation given to industrial R & D units for a particular year.

(c) The first set of awards is proposed to be given in September 1988.

Broad-banding of telecommunication equipment

4660. DR. B L. SHAILESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a move to bring the manufacture of telecommunication equipment within the ambit of broad-banding ; and

(b) if so, the broad features of equipment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to bring the manufacture of telecommunication equ pment within the ambit of broad-banding.

Setting up of electronics switching system manufacturing units

4661. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic switching systems manufacturing units set up in the country ;

(b) the location of those electronic switching system units ;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to set up some new electronic switching units during the Seventh Plan period ;

(d) if so, the number of such units proposed to be set up during the remaining period of the Seventh Plan ; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Two electronic switching systems manufacturing units have been set up in the country so far. One unit for the manufacture of digital Main Automatic Exchanges is located at Man apur (U.P.) and the other unit for the manufacture of digital trunk automatic exchanges is located at Palghat (Kerala).

(c) to (e) Government have issued a Letter of Intent to M/s Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. for the manufacture of 2 lakh lines of electronic switching systems at Bangalore.

[Translation]

New policy for daily wages

4661-A. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to declare a new policy for daily wage labourers keeping in view the recent judgement of the Supreme Court; and

(b) if so, the steps and the time by which these are likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES & PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) In the light of Supreme Court judgement in Surinder Singh and another Vs Engineer-in-Chief, CPWD and Others (1986 SC 637) Govt. have reviewed the policy relating to the recruitment of casual workers and persons on daily wages in Central Govt. offices and issued orders *vide* O. M. No. 49014/2/86-Estt. (C) dated 7.6 88. These orders provide *inter-alia* that the recruitment of daily wagers may be made only for work which is of casual or seasonal or intermittent nature or for work which is not of full-time nature, for which regular posts cannot be created and that where the nature of work entrusted to the casual workers and regular employees is the same, the casual workers may be paid at the rate of 1/30th of the pay at the minimum of the relevant pay scale plus dearness allowance for work of 8 hours a day.

[English]

Achievements of Central Mining Research station

4661-B. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the important achievements of Central Mining Research Station in the year 1986-87; and

(b) the achievements which related to the coal mining ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS, AND SPACES (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The important achievements of Central Mining Research Station (CMRS) during 1986-87 are as follows :—

1. CMRS investigations and technical advice on tunnel lining have helped National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in substantially reducing the cost of construction on Tunnel at Riband Super Thermal Power Project in U. P. State.

2. Controlled blasting techniques have been suggested for excavation of dam foundation and power house for Hydro-electric Projects (Bhimsagar Dam, Rajasthan).

3. Methods have been developed for

protection of townships in mined areas which are threatened by the probable collapse of underground coal mine workings. This was achieved by developing suitable stowing systems for filling of mined areas.

4. Rock mechanics investigations in Mochia Mines of Hindustan Zinc Ltd. have lead to the recovery of zinc ore from remnant Pillars.

5. Methods have been developed for Extraction of coal under difficult conditions (like water-logged workings and underneath surface structures).

6. Development of roof and road way supports in underground coal mines.

7. Development of methods for extraction of coal from pillars left in underground mine workings.

8. Introduction of Longwall mining in Indian Coal Mines.

9. Mechanisation of Bord and Pillar Method of coal extraction

10. Conservation of timber by replacing steel for supports.

11. Development of high expansion foam for fire extinguishing in coal mines.

12. Development of intrinsically safe microprocessor based auto-manual exchange for mines.

(b) The achievements of CMRS related to the coal mining are as follows :—

1. CMRS investigations have helped in introducing mechanised Depillaring for extraction of coal locked up in pillars at Govinda colliery.

2. A recoverable Roof Bolting System has been designed and developed for supporting the freshly exposed roof which can be easily dismantled and re-used. This system has been successfully experimented at Hinger Rampur colliery.

3. Studies undertaken at Burhar Mines have resulted in higher recovery of coal from underneath surface features without disturbing their safety.

4. On the basis of monitoring of behaviour of roof and support at two mechanised Longwall faces in Eastern coal fields it was possible to increase the production of coal.

5. A technique has been evolved for draining out the Methane gas and storing it at the surface for domestic use. This was demonstrated at sawang colliery.

6. An experiment conducted at Jitpur colliery has proved that infusion of silicic acid gel can be an effective method for reducing spontaneous heating of coal.

7. Development of microprocessor based auto cum manual exchange for mines which is being tried at sodepur colliery of Eastern Coal fields.

8. Development of a High Expansion Fire Extinguishing Foam for coal mines.

Technology for Building Materials

4661-C. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the PIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI), Calcutta has developed an appropriate technology package which will serve as cheap building material for low cost housing;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to popularise it;

(d) whether production of this kind of mareriał has been started, if so, in which unit; and

(e) *if not, steps being taken to start* its production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Central Glass & Ceramic Research Institute, Calcutta has developed a technology package for the production of low cost innovative components such as sanitary wares unglazed flooring and facing tiles, building blocks and roofing planks, utilising low grade plastics and semi-plastic clays, unconventional ceramic raw materials and other ingredients, as materials for low cost housing.

(c) The process know-how for manufacturing above components have been demonstrated and training imparted to participants from many agencies sponsored by the Council for Advancement and People's Action in Rural Technology (CAPART).

(d) Two parties are producing different items demonstrated during the training programme.

Besides this a model Ceramic Centre for Rural Development is being set up at Panchmura in Bankura District of West Bengal in collaboration with West Bengal Government and CAPART to produce the above mentioned components.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Artificial Petrol

4661-D. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Keralite youth has achieved success in making artificial petrol;

(b) whether this product has been tested by the scientists and if so, the conclusions reached by them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACES (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) A Keralite youth has claimed to have achieved success in making synthetic petrol.

(b) The product is yet to be tested by Scientists.

(c) CSIR Scientists have been asked to verify the claim and examine the product.

[English]

Agreements reached with Spain after PM's visit

4661-E. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Spain have agreed to have a joint panel for improving the trade and economic relations with India after the Prime Minister's Visit;

(b) *if so, the main agreements* reached with the Spanish Government; and

(c) the extent to which it has helped in promoting trade and other relations with Spanish Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) An Indo-Spanish Committee on Trade and Economic cooperation established within

the framework of the Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement concluded in 1977 already exists. The last meeting of the Committee was held from 29 to 31 October 1986 at Madrid.

(b) and (c) No agreements were signed with the Spanish Government during the visit. However, as part of efforts by both countries to intensify bilateral economic and commercial relations it was, inter alia, agreed that (a) the pending protocol on tourism will be expedited; (b) possibilities of joint ventures in the field of fisheries and pharmaceuticals will be examined; (c) parucipation in each other's fairs will be encouraged; (d) renewal of direct air links between India and Spain will be facilitated; and (e) a delegation of Spanish industr alists and entrepreneurs will visit India to explore the possibility of enhancing commercial exchanges.

During this visit which was the first by an Indian Prime Minister to Spain both sides expressed the desire to strengthen bilateral commercial and other relations. It is hoped that Prime Minister's address to the Confederation of Spanish Employer's Organisations, the apex body of Spanish industrialists and entrepreneurs, will stimulate greater commercial contacts and exchanges between Spain and India.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Sir, we have given notice of an adjournment motion to discuss the matter of pending projects in Andhra Pradesh. A number of projects which have been referred from Andhra Pradesh during the last five years remain here without clearance. About five hundred people have come from Andhra Pradesh and they are demonstrating...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Sir, I was not allowed to raise the issue of hunger strike by Congress (I) MLAs... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you making noise, why do not you sit down ?

[English]

Why don't you sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Sir, I request you to direct the Minister to make a statement tomorrow on the pending projects...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : If you can give me something, then I can ask.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you interrupting ? Please stop it. What are you doing.

(Interruptions)

[English]

Mr. SPEAKER : Will you listen ? I am ready to accept any question or any information which is based on facts and we can have a discussion at any time you say. There is no problem. We have discussed earlier also. We can have a discussion on these aspects because this concerns all the States. Centre State relations and their correspondence whatever it is, it is confidential But as far as the clearance of the projects is concerned, my mind is open and I think there is no hitch from this side also. Whenever you say, I can get it done...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : They are discriminating against the people of Andara Pradesh...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you making noise ?

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADRESSWARA RAO : Sir, not a single project has been cleared .. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We have also got a resolution, which is coming. It says :

"This House expresses its concern over the non clearance by the Union Government of pending projects..."

This resolution is also there in this respect, which you can discuss thoroughly.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): A woman has been gang-raped in Mongolpuri...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will listen to you Mamataji. No Problem. Do not worry.
(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI (Kalliabor) : Sir, the entire Assam is under water and grave situation has taken place *(Interruptions)*

[Tanslation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have since done it.

[English]

We are getting it discussed tomorrow.
Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI : People are suffering. No relief and help have been sent...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tanti, why do you get agitated when we have got everything under control ?
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Look here, what sort of a person you are. You are creating rumpus unnecessarily without rhyme or reason. We are doing it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI : It is my duty to raise it...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is my duty also. We will do it. No problem.
(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI : Thank you. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Sir, in Mongolpuri, there has been a gang rape on a woman and she has been threatened...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Look here. This is a very serious matter. Listen to me.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Listen to me Mamataji. This is your problem also. I will ask the Home Minister to be very strict. Immediately please take stringent action and give your sincere attention.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : Yes. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, since 1983, not a single project was cleared by the Central Government... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We can discuss it.

[Translation]

I have already called your name.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Government should make a statement tomorrow why the projects are not being cleared... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : We can have a discussion. There is no problem.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I had also submitted that Andhra Pradesh Government is not working according to the provisions of the Constitution..... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you making noise ? I am looking with it. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Please listen to me. You have heard Mr. Madhav Reddy. Our MLAs were also on hunger strike... *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you creating this pandemonium. Please take your seats. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : What is this ?... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER . I have not allowed him... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Buta Singh... *(Interruptions)*

12.04½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Amendment Rules, 1986

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table a Copy of Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Amendment Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 648 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th May, 1988 together with a corrigenda thereto published in Notification No. G. S. R. 852 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 1988 under sub-section(3) of section 28 of the Illegal Migrants(Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6461/88]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It does not matter. I have heard everything.

Mr. Rao, please sit down ... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Rao, do not do like this It does not behove you, Sit down... *(Interruptions)*

Wealth tax (Third Amendment Rules) 1988 and Income Tax (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy of the Wealth-tax (Third Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S O. 761 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 1988, under sub-section (4) of section 46 of the Wealth-tax Act, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 6462/88]

(2) A copy of the Income-tax (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No S.O. 762 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th August, 1988, under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. [Placed in library. See No. LT-6463/18]

Results of the Eighteenth Valuation of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on 31st March, 1988.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : On behalf of Shri Eduardo Faleiro, I beg to lay on the Table a copy

of the Results (Hindi and English Versions) of the Eighteenth Valuation of the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on 31st March, 1988. [Placed in Library See No. LT-6464/88]

One hendred and twenty-second Report of the Law Commission on Forum for National Uniformity in Labour Adjudication.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : On behalf of Shri Hans Raj Bhardwaj, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) : —

(i) One Hundred Twenty-second Report of the Law Commission on Forum for National Uniformity in Labour Adjudication. [Placed in Library. See No LT-6465/88]

(ii) One Hundred Thirtieth Report of the Law Commission on Benami Transaction—a Continum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6466/88]

Indo-Tibetan Border Police (Electronic Data Processing Cadre) Recruitment Rules, 1981 etc.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH) : On behalf of Shri P. Chidambaram, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 18 of the Central Reserve Police Force Act, 1949 :—

(i) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (Electronic Data Processing Cadre) Recruitment Rules, 1981 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 300 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd April, 1988.

(ii) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (Non-Gazetted Telecommunication Cadre) Recruitment Rules, 1983 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 313 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd April, 1988.

(iii) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police(Tailor Cadre (Recruitment Rules, 1984, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 288 in Gazette of India dated the 16th April, 1988.

(iv) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (Cobbler Cadre) Recruitment Rules, 1982 published in Notification No. G. S.R. 306 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd April, 1988.

(v) The Indo-Tibetan Border Police (Carpenter Cadre) Recruitment Rules, 1983 published in Notification No. G-S R. 309 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd April, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6467/88]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Serivces Act, 1951 :—

(i) The Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Seventh Amendment Regulations, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 658 in Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 1988.

(ii) The Indian Administrative Service (Pay) Seventh Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S R. 659 in Gazette of of India dated the 20th August, 1988. [Placed in Library. See. No. LT-6468/88]

(3) A Statement (Hindi and English versions) (i) correcting the reply given on 4 May, 1988 to Unstarred Question No 9530 by Shri Chintamani Jena regarding Dividend to Central Exchequer by Kendriya Bhandar and (ii) giving reasons for delay in correcting the reply. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6469/88]

Delhi Police (Appointment and Recruitment) Amendment Rules, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : I beg to lay on the Table:—

A copy of the Delhi Police (Appointment and Recruitment) (Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. 5/67/83-Home (P) Estt. in Delhi Gazette dated the 15th November, 1985, under section 148 of the Delhi Police Act, 1978. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6470/88]

12.06 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 rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Jamia Millia Islamia Bill, 1988, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th August, 1988."

[English]

JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA BILL

As Passed of Rajya Sabha

SECRETARY GENERAL : Sir, I lay on the Table the Jamia Millia Islamia Bill, 1988, as passed by Rajya Sabha.

12.06½ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

Thirteenth Report

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : I beg to present the Thirteenth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : More than 200 MLAs from Andhra Pradesh have come to Delhi. They are demonstrating and demanding clearance of the pending projects ..*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Does not matter. It makes no difference if they came in thousands. It is not giving to put any major offect. s their own outlook.

[English]

That is their way to do it. Let them do it.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): You have heard Mr. Reddi .. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What else also you want to raise ?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you creating a pandemonium unnecessarily?

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Please listen to me as you have listened to Mr. Reddi...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : There is no problem. I cannot listen to you. Nothing doing.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I am referring to the Constitution ..
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. Everything will be done according to the Constitution

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : In the light of what you have said earlier, I have only one submission to make...

MR. SPEAKER : What is that ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned.

MR. SPEAKER : No, I cannot distinguish between States.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is not the State projects.

The central projects have not been cleared...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkanda) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister should have been here to listen to the voice of 6 crore people of Andhra Pradesh. The people of Andhra Pradesh are sitting on a dharna. All the irrigation projects of Andhra Pradesh viz. the Telugu Ganga, Chchampalli, Shriram Sagar must be given clearance by the centre. Please do something so that the Government may not delay...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : It is O.K. I have seen it. We will consider when everything will be discussed. That is not the way.

12.08 hrs.

INDIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

Concurrence in Rajya Sabha recommendation to appoint Members to Joint committee.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : I beg to move :

> "That this House concurs in the recommendations of Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha do appoint two members to the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1987, in the vacancies caused by the resignations of Sarvashri P. V. Narasimha Rao and Suresh Kurup and resolves that Sarvashri Vijay N. Patil and Hannan Mollah be nominated to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancies."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

> "That this House concurs in the recommendations of Rajya Sabha that Lok Sabha do appoint two members to the Joint Committee of the Houses on the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 1987, in the vacancies caused by the resignations of Sarvashri P. V. Narasimha Rao and Suresh Kurup and resolves that Sarvashri Vijay N. Patil and Hannan Mollah be nominated to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancies."

The motion was adopted.

*(Interruption)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. Only Kumari Saroj Khaparde goes on record.

*(Interruption)**

12.09 hrs.

RAILWAYS BILL

Extension of time for Presentation of report of Joint Committee

[English]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker) : I beg to move :

> 'That this House do further extend upto the last day of the Winter Session, 1988, the time for presentation of the report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Railways"

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

> "That this House do further extend upto the last day of the Winter Session, 1988, the time for presentation of the report of the Joint Committee on the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Railways."
>
> *The motion was adopted.*

12.09½ hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Fifty-Ninth Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K L. BHAGAT) : I beg to move :

> "That this House do agree with the Fifty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 30th August, 1988."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

> "That this House do agree with the Fifty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 30th August, 1988."

The motion was adopted

MR. SPEAKER : Now matters under rule 377. Prof. Kurien.

*(Interruption)**

MR. SPEAKER : Only Prof. Kurien goes on record.

*(Interruption)**

12.10 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

(i) Need for abolition of export duty on papper

PROF P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : The Government deserves compliments for the various steps which it has taken during the past one year for promoting export. The recent decision to abolish the export cess on coffee is a step in the right direction which is certainly going to make India coffee more competitive in the world market. However, when such important steps are being taken to boost our export trade, it is an irony that the export duty on pepper should still continue. This duty was imposed when the price of pepper was Rs. sixty per kg. and it was then said by the Government spokesman that the high price of pepper will absorb this duty. Now, price of pepper has come down to Rs. thirty per kg. or even less, but still the export duty continues. The duty on pepper has been a major contributing factor towards the dacline in prices of pepper as it has a direct impact on the price of pepper. Thus, the imposition of this duty has adversely affected the interests of the growers. The long term

*Not recoded.

consequence of this development is that the production of pepper will decline and the foreign exchange earnings will come down which will be detrimental to the interest of the country in general and the growers in particular.

I would, therefore, request that export duty on pepper may please be abolished.

(ii) Need to initiate action to bring the mortal remians of Maulana Barkatullah, freedom fighters from San Francisco to India.

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Maulana Barkatullah of Bhopal was a valiant freedom fighter who, along with Raja Mahendra Pratap, Lala Hardayal and many others, bravely fought the battle of independence abroad. He was the Prime Minister of the first provisional Indian Government in exile-of which Raja Mahendra Pratap was the President-founded in Afghanistan in 1915. He, Lala Hardayal and others also founded the Ghadr Party in America and started the famous newspaper "Ghadr" which gave clarion call to Indians to overthrow the British Empire. For this purpose, an advertisement to recruit people was issued in their newspaper Ghadr on the following terms :

Salary	—	Death
Award	—	Martyrdom
Pension	—	Freedom
Battle-field	—	India

Maulana Barkatullah died in 1927 in San Fransisco and was buried with the solemn promise that "when your country will attain freedom, your remains would be transferred and consigned to earth in the free India", still an unfulfilled promise.

The Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, Shri Arjun Singh, has renamed the Bhopal University as Maulana Barkatullah University which is being opposed by certain forces. Such opposition by the few must be condemned by all. The Government of India should also initiate action to bring the mortal remains of Maulana Barkatullah from San Fransisco to India and get it buried here with all the honour it deserves.

As N.M. Rashid, the famous rebel Urdu poet has said :

"Apane Darweje khule Rahane Do
yad ki Aag Dahak Uthi Hai Shayad is
Raat Hamare Mashhad Aa Jain

Aaj Darwaje Khule Rahane Do"
(N. M. Rashid)

Keep your doors wide open tonight.

Memory's fire is in full blaze.

Who knows this very night our martyrs may pay us a visit!

Keep your doors wide open tonight.

[Translation]

(iii) Need to lay a new railway line from Azamgarh to Gugainganj via Atraulia-Basavari Tanda

SHRI R.P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, transport facilities are a must for the development of a region and the Indian Railways are playing a very important role in this direction. But there are some parts in the country where the people face a lot of difficulties for want of railway facilities and there are some district headquarters where only narrow gauge lines have been provided where as thousands of people belonging to these areas live in various big cities and they undertake to and fro journeys between these cities and their home towns.

District Azamgarh and some parts of eastern Faizabad in Uttar Pradesh have remained neglected in regard to these railway facilities whereas thousands of people belonging to Azamgarh and eastern tehsil of Faizabad, Tanda live in Delhi, Bombay, Punjab and other big cities of the country and they face a lot of difficulties while undertaking to and fro journey between these places and their home towns.

12. 14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I, therefore, strongly urge upon the Government to provide a new train by laying a new railway from the district headquaters of Azamgarh to Gusainganj via Atraulia-Basavari-Tanda for the development of these neglected area and in the wider public interest so that the people of these areas may have full advantage of the railway facilities and the Department of Railways may also earn profit.

(iv) Need to provide assistance to the people of Bihar, UP and Nepal affected by earthquake and floods

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been reported that the havoc created by the earthquake early in the morning of 21 August in the entire North Bihar and most parts of eastern Nepal claimed thousands of lives and caused a heavy loss of property worth crores of rupees. The irony is that these areas were already reeling under floods in rivers due to heavy rains in these parts. There is no doubt about the fact that the Central as well as the State Government paid immediate attention to this frightening situation and the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi accompanied by the Chief Minister of Bihar Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad visited the site of the incident immediately and took prompt action to provide immediate succour. But till now a real assessement of the loss of lives and property has been made and in view of the seriousness of the situation, there is a need to provide more assistance It may also be pointed out here that the impact of earthquake has been a little less in eastern Utter Pradesh as compared to the impact of earthquake in these affected areas, but the ferocity of floods completed the circle. The Ghaghara, Rapti, Kauni, Taraina, Gouri rivers in Utter Pradesh caused damage to residential units in addition to the loss caused in their respective areas. The entire area right from Sahajanawa to Gorakhpur city in Gorakhpur district is looking like an ocean.

Therefore, while drawing the attention of the Government to this frightening situation, I request them immediately to get the actual loss assessed by the experts and provide appropriate earthquake and flood relief to the affected people. I also want that keeping in view the extensive damage caused by the earthquake in our neighbouring country, Nepal, the Government should take initiative to provide adequate relief to the affected people of Nepal through their Government.

[English]

(v) Need for comprehensive national policy on Indian languages

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : Ever since independence was attained in 1947, the Union Government has not formulated any coherent and comprehensive National Policy on Languages, their promotion and recognition. While the Sahitya Akademi and the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, have been giving some impetus to the growth of Indian languages and their literature, yet the resistance of the Government to include any more languages in the 8th Schedule of the Constitution after Sindhi, has deprived many developing languages, like Manipuri, Konkani, Maithli, etc. which are recognised by Sahitya Akademi and other Pahari of Himachal Pradesh and Khasi in Meghalya as also the seven major tribal languages pressing their claims for recognition by the Sahitya Akademi and inclusion in the 8th Schedule of their due status. The classical languages like Sanskrit, Pali, Persian and a widely spoken languages like Urdu find their future to be uncertain on account of occasional shift on emphasis on language study to other more lucrative subject groups in the educational system. The three language formula has been interpreted in many convenient ways by State Governments. Some resistance to Hindi still continues.

So, it is high time that a well defined coherent and comprehensive National Policy on Indian Languages is formulated by the Union Government in consultation

with State Governments and voluntary Association, championing the cause of regional and classical languages, the State Akademies and taking into confidence the writers and linguists working in these languages well before the launching of the 8th Plan.

I request the Government to take immediate steps for formulating such a policy so as to ensure its implementation during the 8th Plan, keeping in view the stipulation of Article 29 of the constitution of India guaranteeing the preservation and of each distinct languages, script and culture.

(vi) Need for urgent supply of pig iron and hard coke for foundry industry in West Bangal.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluboria) : The oldest Foundry Industry in the District of Howrah, with fifty thousand workers in more than three hundred factories are facing a chronic problem of acute shortage of pig-iron and coke, the principal raw materials, to run the Industry."

This foundry industry is one of the oldest in the country and had world-wide reputation for more than two and a half centuries. But they started facing shortage of raw materials since 1982-83. They use pig iron and coke as their main raw materials. Pig iron is supplied by the Steel Authority of India Ltd. During the last few years, SAIL has reduced the supply. The foundries in West Bengal need about 50,000 Metric tonnes of pig iron per year. But the supply was 39803 MT in 1981-82, 39643 MT in 1982-83, 29450 MT in 1983-84 and 3400 MT in 1984-85, 1720 MT in 1985-86, 1730 MT in 1986-87, 1696 MT in 1987-88 and no supply so far in 1988-89.

The supply of hand coke is also no better. The supply in 1987-88 was only 3000 tonne against the quota of 21,500 tonnes. While there is no supply in the current year.

In spite of repeated appeals, the situation has not improved, West Bengal is on top in the advancement and growth of small scale industries in the country. The problem of foundry industries will have serious adverse impact on further growth in West Bengal.

I urge upon the Government to supply pig iron and hard coke to the foundries at Howrah immediately.

(vii) Need for extensive dredging of Brahmputra to make the river navigable throughout their year.

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat) : While nothing with pleasure the recent enactment of an amendment declaring the Brahmaputra from Sadiya to Dhubri as a national water-way, it is hoped that early effective steps would be taken to make the river navigable throughout the year by extensive dredging all along its course in Assam inasmuch as, during the period from November to March every year, the river becomes too shallow even for plying of small ferryboats. The gradual rising of the river-bed from Sadiya downward due to very heavy siltage occurring annually during the monsoon because of topographical changes in the wake of the Great Earthquake of 1950, is stated to be the root recurring floods and resultant erosion of its banks since then. It is, therefore, felt that extensive and regular dredging all along the main course of the Brahmaputra would result in considerably lessening the magnitude of flood-level. Such a course will also open up regular water transporation of foodstuff, tea and other commodities to and fro the North East, which presently is served mainly by road transport services at comparatively higher costs. Passenger traffic from one end of the region to the other will also be possible to be resumed, along the national water-way.

The Ministry of Surface Transport is, therefore, urged to arrange for early and extensive dredging of the Brahmaputra and undertake comprehensive exploitation of this great national water-way to ensure varied benefits, primerily to the people of North East region.

(viii) Need for providing financial assistance to Orissa for certain projects to remove regional disparities.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Orissa is a backward State and its per capita income, infrastructure and growth is much behind the national average. In the matter of per capita income, Orissa occupies 17th position and it has remained unchanged during the last four decades. Government of India should consider making special investment in Orissa to remove the regional disparity, backwardness and poverty in the State.

I urge upon the Government of India to provide special financial assistance for implementation of following projects in the State so that it can pick up and regional disparity is removed to a great extent :

1. One million tonne sponge iron plant at Daitari in Orissa.
2. Multi-purpose irrigation projects of Rengali Indravati.
3. Suvernarekha project.
4. Kordha-Balangir rail linking with Gopalpur Port.
5. Construction of Konark-Gopalpur Marine Drive.
6. Talcher Sambalpur rail line,
7. Hundai Project which will involve the development of Paradip Port.
8. Talcher Thermal and Ib Valley Power Projects.
9. More funds to be provided for minor irrigation works in the State.

12.25 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DISAPPROVAL OF PREVENTION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ORDINANCE AND PREVENTION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES BILL

Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, we shall take up items 12 and 13 of the Agenda together. Shri Sriballav Panigrahi may speak.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill, 1988.

Sir, as you know, drug as a medicine saves life and as narcotic destroys life. This is a growing menace. Everywhere in the world particularly, in the Western countries also, it is there, India is also not spared. It is slowly raising its ugly head in the country. Our country is used as transit point in the trafficking of narcotics and that has got to be effectively checked. No doubt, a lot of measures have been taken in this direction. Particularly, the Prime Minister has taken the initiative in launching a 14-point programme to check these things. But, Sir, in spite of several legislative measures that we have taken, still that is not sufficient to completely eliminate this evil. Therefore, I congratulate the Government on having come before this House, with this Bill for preventive detention of all the culprits who indulge in this heinous crime. If this thing is let loose, it will spoil the younger generation and in that process, the entire nation, will be in its way of ruination.

What is the intention of the Bill ? There is an ordinance, as you know,

which was promulgated on 4th July, 1988. This Bill seeks to replace the said Ordinance.

I do not understand why they are opposing it. I am pretty sure that none from the other side, from the Opposition has any sympathy with those people who indulge in this heinous crime. Nobody has any sympathy for them. But still I wonder, some of them are opposing this measure. Some of them are allergic to the very word 'preventive detention". Detention for whom ? It is for those people who indulge in such serious crimes. What is the harm in detaining them, in putting them under detention for one year, might be for two years—may not be with the approval of the advisory committee, Those things are not very material. Personal freedom etc., matters to whom ? It is in respect of law abiding citizens, those who are well-behaved citizens, honest citizens. Those who are out to destroy civilisation, human civilisation, our youth force in particular should deserve no sympathy. Why should we have any sympathy for them ? The law has got to be more strict. Even capital punishment should be provided for this. In some other countries there is very stiffer punishment to deal with the moral offences, economic offences. In a democratic country like India, we are very liberal. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to think of very very stiffer punishment, even capital punishment to be provided. The Government is quite sincere. So far as India is concerned the situation has not gone out of control at present. It is time to take very drastic measures and they have sounded a red alert at the appropriate time. As a result of crack down, the trafficking of drug from India has come down considerably. Trafficking from India accounted for 35% of all seizures of heroin to Europe to in 1985. It has come down to 29% in 1986 and quite remarkably to 7% in 1987. Of the total heroin seized in UK in 1986, 80% was stated to have gone from India but last year it also came down to 40%. Heroin seizures in India have gone up from 761 Kg in 1985 to 2,621 Kg in 1986 and further to 2,747 Kg in 1987. Up to 30th June, 1988 the quantity of heroin seized is 1.707 Kg. It is a quite remarkable progress, thanks to the authorities concerned. Since April 15 up to 4th July the date when this Ordance was promulgated, 6.9 tonnes of hashish ganja and 1,238 tonnes of heroin, one tonne of methocolone and 1.28 million tables of this powder have been destroyed. We have law now to stop illicit traffic in drugs and our Government is very sincere in imp ementing the law but, at the same time, what is required is massive propaganda against the ill-effects of this drug addiction and motivation of not only machinery but also the judiciary so that the sincerity of the Government is reflected in implementing the law. We have seen that as a result of some loopholes in the Act, many arrested people are being released on bail and to remedy this situation, preventive detention for a year or two is the right step. As I suggested, Government should give serious thought to this matter and decide whether this punishment should be made stiffer and life imprisonment and even capital punishment should be awarded to stop the evil effects, the sinister designs and the evil consequences of drug trafficking. It is an international phenomenon now and we have to take a lead.

The programme of rehabilitation has got to be given more emphasis and has to be implemented with sincerity so that the addicts also get back to normalcy and behave as normal citizens. In order to prevent misuse of power, a Joint Secretary in the Central Government and an officer of the status of not less than a Secretary in the State Government are empowered to issue orders of preventive detention, At the same time, there should be effective monitoring so that these powers are not misused.

I strongly support this Bill and I also urge upon the Government to provide more teeth to the Act and take stringent action against all those who indulge in such evil activities which result in the ruination of society.

[Translation]

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH (Chatra) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Prevention of

[Shri Yogeshwar Prasad Yogesh]

Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill, 1988 which has been moved by the hon. Minister in the House.

Drug addiction has always been viewed as a very inferior act since the olden days in our country. It has been condemned but this bad habit is capturing the minds of our new generation. It has become a matter of general concern in the future social life of the country. In view of the above, the Bill brought forward by the hon. Minister is a very commendable one and I welcome it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker. Sir, you may perhaps recall that fashion of drugs entered this country after the arrival of hippies in this land. The structure of drug addiction created by these young people at different places in the country has attracted the minds of the youth of your country. It added fuel to the fire. Not only this but the cinema has also contributed to it. The producers of this type of films started depicting the shobby and absurd aspects of this new generation viz. Keeping long beards, smoking hero in and hemp and such other acts of drug addiction as a fashion. You might have heard a song "Dam Maro Dam, Mit Jaya Gum", which created a craze, in the new generation to go in for addiction as a fashion. This has aggravated the situation and deeprooted the tendency. You may see that our youths, particularly the hostelers, and colleges or school going children are deeply engrossed in addiction. It has permeated posion in the veins of our youth, who are the only hope and future of our country and it is a matter of great concern. It needs a multi pronged attack on it from all sides. The hon. Member, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee is totally right to say that there were one lakh drug addicts in 1980 and this number has gone up to ten lakh by 1988. Moreover, it is continuously increasing and the practice is further rising. It had never been a tradition with the people of India and it has been viewed as a very inferior act. Now-a-days the people belonging to new generation are taking drugs in the presence of their parents, whereas in the older days people did not dare to come in their face. Children are seen taking drugs very clandestinely. We have seen the impact of such drugs on the minds of the children. Addiction makes the family life a hell and ruins the entire family. Nobody is ignorant of this phenonenon. In my opinion, a strict watch and vigilance should be kept on its centres is, colleges, hostels and schools. Mostly what happens is that people supplying these drugs are nabbed. They are mostly the poor people who are engaged for this work. This business operates in the desolate places or jhuggis which are away from the eyes of police. They kingpins of this trade are very clever. They engage poor people. Since this trade provides large margins it is but natural that it will give rise to corruption. These people are marring the future of this country by taking the undue advantage of their lust for money. Only those people are being nabbed who are carriers and take these drugs from one place to the other. While awarding punishment to these people, the learned Judges khow that they are not involved to that extent in the crime as the kingpins working behind them except their temptation for money. But as per the existing provisions of law we can punish only these people. No leniency should be shown to the low class people in such cases, because it provides loopholes and gives rise to this trade. A strict watch should be kept on them. Every effort should be made to nab the culprits who are earning profits in crores of rupees. This trade should be checked effectively. It is, the refore, required that you should keep a watch on the jhuggis. I would like to tell one thing to the hon. Minister that the Government agencies meant for apprehending, such people are not well equipped for the job. Their resources are quite meagre. The present law and the provisions made therein are also not so effective.

That is why it is essential to make this law more stringent and as regards the people who are already addicted to drugs, they should be provided with proper medical treatment and the Department of Health should get appropriate research conducted in this regard. I think that no proper medicine has been invented so far

for the proper treatment of drug-addicts. However, it is better to take preventive measures to provide medical treatment and deterrant punishment who commit such offences. Wide publicity is required to be given about the evils of drug-addiction through various publicity media. The media should be used for this purpose. Just now, some of our friends submitted that the way the thing is presented by Doordarshan about drugs menace, it makes an adverse effect on the minds of the people and it helps in increasing such crimes. I do not accept this view point. The way the menace of drug addiction is presented by the Doordarshan creates an everlasting effect specially when it is shown at TV screen as to how they are groaning and whining due to pain. Television is a very effective medium and can influence a vast cross-section of our people. Therefore, I will request the hon. Minister to make maximum use of it. Publicity should be given through AIR also I think in addition to the radio and elevision which are of course very effective means, seminars and debates on this tubject should be held in schools and colleges and the students should throw cight on it and the youth power should be encouraged to participate in such debates and the best debater should be given prizes and all this should receive Press coverage. This will enable the young generation to understand the manace of this evil in its proper perspective. Apart from that, classes should be held in schools and colleges in which attendance of the students is made compulsory and in these classes students are told as to how people fall prey to the drugs and what are its ill-effects.

The suggestions which have been brought forward should be considered. I think that the names of the criminals and the high ups connected with its trafficking should be exposed and they should be apprehended and awarded the most stringent punishment. Apart from this, in order to control drugs trafficking across our borders especially Pakistan border should be put under strict vigilance. Along with it, it is alleged that there are some people in the administration who are involved in the smuggling of narcotic drugs. Such people should be weeded out. These people not only bring disgrace to the entire bureaucracy but they tarnish the image of the Government too. Provision for awarding special punishment to them should be made. The bureauracy which has been entrusted with the special responsibility in this regard, if some of its members are showing negligence, steps should be taken to socially boycott them and award suitable punishment.

With these words, without taking much time, I support this Bill.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Jagannath Pattnaik.

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura) : May I point out, Sir, that there is no quorum in the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The bell is being rung—Now there is quorum, Shri Jagannath Pattnaik to speak.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi) : Sir, I rise to support this Bill because there is a dangerous trend in the under developed and developing countries particularly in our country because the creative genius of the younger generation is being destroyed. The drug menace also affects the labour doing manual work. They lose their physical strength It also has direct effect on the mental capability.

While the seizure of heroin in 1984 was 200 kg in 1986 it has increased to 226 kg. If we go into the statistics of head—count we find 87.6 per cent drug addicts belong to age group of 14-25 years. Now from this we can infer what a dangerous effect it will have on our economy, production and the creative field when our future generations are going to be affected by this drug menace.

The cost of the drugs across the border is double and those who live nearby our borders are tempted to this drug menace. What we find is that 97% of

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the heroin and 50% of charas originates from Pakistan, Afghanistan and border regions of this region which is known as Golden Crescent and 70-80 per cent of Ganja is smuggled from Burma, Laos and and Thailand which is known as Golden Triangle. So we should be more careful in these sensitive zones because it has taken another dimension, namely, the smugglers in these border areas are having links with the terrorists who want to create a sense of disharmony in our country. It is quite clear that forces outside who are interested to see that India's economic progress does not take place they want to destabilise and destroy our younger generation's creative zeal and efficiency. These forces are interested that our young people get addicted to the drugs. So we have to be more careful.

I find in this Bill there is provision to destroy these seized goods immediately so that this may not reach the market. This will have a very good effect. Further the offence has been made non-bailable. This will also have a deterrent effect on the law offenders. We have to make people aware how to reject this temptation from the minds of the younger generation. A slogan should be given "Get rid of brown sugar and save the country". A mass campaign should be launched through TV, Radio, etc. to educate the people and especially the younger generation. There is need to create a nation-wide awareness towards this drug menace which is going to destory our future generations. So this is a Bill which should be welcomed by everybody.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (Shri A.K. PANJA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir,.....

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : My area is not represented.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will see. I have already called the Minister. You could have given your name in the beginning.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I have given right in the beginning.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have not given. What can I do ?

SHRI A.K. PANJA : Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on three main points, it was argued by the Members of the Opposition. Surprisingly, all of them, who argued, are absent now. The main point argued by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee was why ordinance. Why it has not been done in the usual course as it is being done now ? The reason was that there was some urgency. The information that we obtained was that unless we go ahead with the ordinance and get hold of those drug traffickers immediately there is a chance that those drug traffickers would go underground and thereby elude the enforcement agencies. That's why the ordinance was brought in.

This Bill was introduced four or five days ago. If this time-lag had been there since the introduction of the Bill and the passing, these four days—even four hours—would have been enough for these cunning people who are out to destroy the country and its people hide in such a manner—they have lot of money with themselves—that it would have been very difficult to arrest them. The result is from 4th of July 1988, this ordinance was enforced. 'And up to 22nd of August, within the 1½ months, we have been able to issue detention orders in respect of 168 persons, including 19 foreigners. 134 persons have already been detained. Therefore, there was so much urgency. The COFEPOSA Act was there. But, as you know, the COFEPOSA Act deals with the smugglers. The whole pith and substance of that Act was to deal with smugglers, that is, those who are either importing these drugs or exporting them out. But for those who are internally operating between the States or between Union Territories and States or internally operating by selling or manufacturing, the COFEPOSA Act was not sufficient to detain them. Therefore, we had all the details of these persons. But we cannot catch hold of them by using COFEPOSA Act. That's why this Act had to be brought in by an ordinance.

We have already been able to detain 144 persons, as I said. In respect of others also, attempts are being made to get hold

of them. And those who are absconders, we have alerted our information input giving agencies so that we can know where they are and get hold of them.

Mr. Reddi made another point about welfare measures. Various other Members also mentioned from this side as to what are the welfare measures that have been taken so far as the persons who have already been affected by drug addition are concerned. The Government is fully aware of such a danger from those people who have already been affected. A survey was made and also the Government records show that all these drug addicts were being treated in the various psychiatric wards in the various institutions of the country. But in view of the special problems faced by these drug addicts, it has been decided to set up special wards for their treatment in the hospitals and also counselling centres and not to mix them with the psychiatric patients. In fact, in 1986, the Minister of Health had set up an expert committee. Under that Committee three recommendations were given. The first one is that there should be an apex centre for manpower development and training ; the second one is that there should be regional centres in various regions in the country and the third one is to start 30 bedded de-adddiction service units. Pursuant to that, the Planning Commission has already sanctioned and agreed to one 30 bedded hospital for de-addiction centre at Delhi at the cost of Rs. 78 lakhs during 1987-88 and thereafter, Rs. 80 lakhs in 1988-89. This will be under the All-India Medical Institute of Medical Sciences at Deen Dayal Upadhayaya Hospital. The OPD of this hospital so far as the drug addicts are concerned have already been operationalised from 15th June 1988 and the ward will start functioning from 1st December 1988. It was asked by Shri Dinesh Goswami as to where is the OPD available in Delhi. Now he is absent. This is the OPD which is functioning since 15th June 1988 in Deen Dayal Upadhayaya Hospital. It appears that in the Health Department some arrangements have been made. In several hospital in Delhi, 38 beds have been reserved for the drug addicts in 1987-88. In the country, the existing facilities are that there are 642 beds available for treating the drug addicts throughout the country as indoor patients. From the figures obtained from the Health Department, it appears that in 1985, 11489 patients were treated in 1986, 14593 patients were treated and in 1987, 11660 patients were treated. In view of the dangers posed by the drug traffickers, the Prime Minister took three meetings after forming the Cabinet Sub-Committee headed by our Union Minister. The question of co-ordination was also argued by Opposition. It was for this purpose that this Cabinet Sub-Committee has been formed with the Union Minister as the convenor and Chairman of the Committee with the Minister of Revenue, Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Minister of Welfare and Minister of Health. They are the co-ordinating factors and the State Minister, Mr. Chidambaram is also there so that co-ordination takes place for attacking this dreadful menace in the country. It has been decided by the directives of the Prime Minister that the All-Iddia Medical Sciences in New Delhi will have 30 bedded units with Sucheta Kriplani Hospital, New Delhi, Safdar Jang Hospital, New Delhi, Guru Tegh Bahadur Hospital, New Delhi and RML Hospital, New Delhi. Therefore, the total number of beds in Delhi alone will come up to 218 indoor beds which will look after 3000 patients in year. There are two additional units that have been proposed to be opened in the Post Graduate Institute of Chandigarh and JIPMER of Pondicherry. The total cost of seven additional units will be approximately Rs. 295.5 lakhs in 1988-89 and Rs. 337.5 lakhs in 1989-90. While completing the work of Ministry of Health, for 1989-90, we have set up a future plan of action. Under the directives of the Prime Minister specific dates have been given to each Ministry in respect of each of their functions by which date they are going to complete the orders that have been given.

13.00 hrs.

In 1989-90, there is a provision of plan for regional centres in Rajasthan, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Goa. The State Governments have been provided if they provide the basic ward space in the hospital, per unit cost of Rs. 55

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lakhs that would be granted to the State Government by the Central Government and thereafter the recurring expenses have to be borne by the State Government. All the state Governments and UTs have been alerted about the danger and also for looking after the drug addicts within their respective areas. Therefore, they have been asked to made the Budget provision in the next year so far as the States and UTs are concerned They have been asked to make special Budget provision for the purpose of curing the drug addicts and for counselling centre. The major activities of the Action Plan, as I have said, are to set up 30 bedded de-addiction units in various regions in the country. Secondly mobilising State Programme Units for implementation of drug de-addiction programmes and thirdly the collection of quarterly data regarding the number of facilities available in the country, the number of new facilities in the country and the number of new facilities being set up and the types of drug abuse being made Fourthly, five regional workshops are also being organised in order to assess the facilities available in the State and also to impress upon the State to set up not only 30 bedded units but also utilise the existing infrastructure available in the State Government hospitals The five workshops that have been launched to create awareness and also to find out the details of the discussions for which schedules have also been made, i e., 15-17th July at Hyderabad, 29-31st July in Bombay, 9-11th September in Guwahati, 7-9th October in Srinagar and 25-27th November at Madras so far as this year programme is concerned. Therefore, it is not correct, as alleged by some of the Opposition Members, that no steps are taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill, 1985 These are the actions which are already taken and future action plan has been made and actions are being taken for that. It has also been stated by Mr. Reddy that NDPS Act, 1985 has not been extended to the eastern region. Our records show that it is not so. All the State Governments and UTs have been authorised and specific power is given to empower their own police officer under Section 42 of the Act so that they can go ahead with the steps taken. It has also been alleged that the NDPS Act has not been properly enforced. This is contradicted. It has been in the record that the Act has been enforced as far as the available power within that Act. In fact, there has been a spectacular seizure and a number of syndicates have been neutralised. Operation destruction has been carried out to destroy the illegal cultivation of poppy in the Chakrata Taluk of Dehra Dun District and large tracts of ganja cultivation, 803 acres have been destroyed in Idukki District of Kerala. More than 11000 persons have been prosecuted under this Act since its inception by different agencies. There is a large pendency in the courts also. For speedy disposal, special courts have been proposed to be set up. Allegations were made that only prosecutions have been launched, but they are being set free by the courts. We cannot comment on that. We are producing evidence and it is for the law courts to decide, whether he is guilty or not. As to the conviction rate, I would like to tell the House that according to the information received by our Narcotics Control Bureau—all the information has not, of course, been received—, so far the convictions amount to 52 per cent of the prosecutions decided against various drug traffickers.

Then, about the figures of immediate destruction from 15th July to 20th August, 1988, the figures are heroin-2143 kgs, hashish-19077 kgs, ganja-211611 kgs, methaqualone-2511 kgs. These are the actions we have taken.

Yesterday, we got the figures of value of seizure of smuggled good and narcotics drugs. Today, we have crossed the figure of the seizure of the whole of the last year. By 31st August we have done that. The Narcotics Control Bureau and other coordinating agencies are taking steps and action against the drug traffickers.

For supervising all this, we already have a special officer of a high rank to supervise all these actions, and these are giving results to us.

Shri Balkavi Bairagi mentioned about

certain points. He is from the area where a lot of licit cultivation of opium is done. He asked for the licencing policy. That has already been finalised and announced. It appears that the acreage has been restricted to 10 acres per licensee. we are trying to minimise it gradually, because a large number of cultivators depend on opium cultivation. We are taking two steps. We are trying to minimise it to such an extent which is necessary for preparation of medicines only. Secondly, we are finding out through agricu tural department and taking help from the Planning Commission to find out alternative crops for these cultivators in the areas where they grow opium. We have been successful. In fact when I had been to Nepal and Burma, their Governments showed a lot of interest to find out what are the alternative cash crops. The Government of India Agricultural Department, has found out that for the particular type of region, taking into account the nature of the soil, altitude and the weather conditions of that particular area We have been successful in growing cauliflower there; a particular type of seed for cabbage as also cauliflower and they are giving good return to the cultivators. In some other places other seeds like that of tomato are being developed in high altitude areas. We are thus trying to have alternative crops for the cultivators who are engaged in unlawful opium cultivation.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Will it match their earlier income ?

SHRI A. K. PANJA : The opinion of the experts is that it will match. I am thankful to the hon. Member for raising a very relevant point. The price is going up in the international market in such a manner that to always keep that matching it will be difficult, but if we could give them a good matching so as to enable them to have their earning, have a cash crop and then enforce the law, that would be more effective. We have our own agreement with the SAARC countries and this point has been emphasised by all the leaders all over the world and also in the United Nations. That is a good sign. Although, it may not be matching immediately, but it would be sufficient for them to carry on their own agricultural activities, maintain the consumption level and buy goods for their living. Shri Bairagi also mentioned that certain machines are lying at the laboratory in Neemach and Ghazipur and they are not being used. We have checked up. We found that there was some defect in those machines and therefore they were not made operative. They have now been made operative, but not after the speech of the hon. Member, long time before that. Of course, there was a period of time when these machines for processing opium could not be made operative. I understand and I am told that about to be the defects have been rectified and the machines are now commissioned.

So far as this Act is concerned, a challenge has been made by certain hon. Members by saying why there should be preventive detention. Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee emphasised on this; she said she was herself detained under preventive detention. But this has been made clear not only by Article 22 of the Constitution in 1950, but since then during these forty-two years there have been various interpretations by the Supreme Court, the highest apex body of judiciary, that this power has been given to the Union Government as well as the State Government. I would like to ask the hon. Members to realise that in this Act the narcotic drug traffickers are specifically mentioned as the persons who are to be detained. Therefore, the possibility that it will be used for political purposes is totally ruled out. I need full support of the Opposition to this Bill. I would like to allay any suspicion which is there in the minds of the hon. members.

Mr. A. K. Gopalan's case, when he went to the Supreme Court in 1950, was almost the first leading case of this type. Sir, kindly see the distinction, in preventive detention, it is not the punitive measures taken but it is the precautionary measures taken and, therefore, he was being detained. It is not that the moment he was found guilty of certain charge, he was detained and imprisoned. So, that was being done under the Narcotic Substances Act, 1985 and under the Indian Penal Code.

[Shri A. K. Panja]

The reason why it came as an ordinance is that our intelligence reported that some more than 100 people are to be caught immediately as they pose a danger to the nation. So, there was no other way out but to promulgate an ordinance of Preventive Detention.

I have already given the figures of the persons arrested. Within the short period, from 4th July to 22nd August, 134 persons have been put in the prison. Now, the difficulty is that they are not an ordinary people or ordinary smugglers engaged in illegal activities. They are the persons having a lot of money. So, unless the state Governments take full power, with the full confidence of the House, to prevent these people from engaging themselves in the manufacture, transportation or the sale of these narcotic drugs, this evil cannot go from our country. The actual cream, the backbone of the country, i.e. people in the age group of 11 to 25 years are victims to this crime. They are being made unintentionally the potential demanding creatures and from 11 years to 25 years old young men and women are involved in it. The supply of these drugs is made in such a cuning manner that a demand is created among this age group. So, preventive detention is necessary to tackle these enemies of the country.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee mentioned that she once went to jail under the preventive Detention Act and throughout the period of her stay there she was given carminative mixture. I would like to make it clear, through the Opposition leader as she is not present here, that the narcotic drug traffickers even though they are politicians they should not be allowed to take refuge under the political ground. I would like to make it clear to all that so far as the Revenue (Narcotic) Department and the Government of India is concerned, we are not making any distinction. Irrespective of the party to which one belongs, rich or poor, very powerful or not very powerful, we are taking strict action against them. I can assure the Hon. Members that if there is any cogent evidence against a person, whoever he may be, under the four corners of the law we will immediately apprehend him and put him behind the bar without any mercy whatsoever.

One point, regarding the power given to the Government underwhich anybody on the allegation that he is a drug trafficker, could be taken in the prison, was raised and I think I must clarify it. It is not as if there is no remedy. Three clear safety measures are there which are within the four corners of Article 22 of the Constitution.

First is, that immediately on detention, within five days period he shall have to be informed of the cause of the detention

Secondly, the case is referred within 5 weeks (5 weeks time you have to give to bring the cause or the ground of detention) before the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board consists of at least one Judge of the High Court and it is set up as per the conditions laid down under the Constitution. It examines in detail the grounds of detention. There are many instances where we have detained a person and the Advisory Board has released him because according to them sufficient ground is not there to detain a person.

So, the first safety measure is that he is made known the cause of the detention. Then even after the matter has gone to the Advisory Board he can come to the Minister concerned and give representation. So, again this power, to reconsider the grounds on which either the parole could be granted or the detention order could be set aside. He has also got the right to go to the High Court and challenge the detention order. Then the High Court examines the detention order within the four corners of Article 22.

SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad): Is it so that the representation can be made at any time? Is it not that the representation can be made only after the Advisory Board has gone through the case?

SHRI A. K. PANJA : As an Advisory Board is constituted under Article 22, we do not deal with the representations made to us immediately because the functioning Advisory Board is there. Unless the case is of such urgence, like somebody's mother has died or some sister's or daughter's marriage is there, we do grant parole to such persons.

The point that I was making is that this safeguard to make a petition in the High Court is there. The Supreme Court can examine each point minutely. Under the specifications of Article 22, they can say that it is not justiciable. It has been repeatedly held and only recently it has been said that each and every provision has to be followed strictly. The High Court has already allowed many persons to get set-free. The Supreme Court also had many a times set aside many of the orders. Therefore, so far as the detention is concerned, it was quite necessary to tackle the drug traffickers.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee, who moved the Resolution also made a point that there is a narcotic terrorism. It was also mentioned by Mr. Mollah. It is true that the Interpol has found out some connection between the drug traffickers and terrorism. So far as India is concerned, we have not found any nexus between the drug traffickers and the terrorists. There are some instances here and there which show that there can be some possibility of a nexus. These offences are with regard to the gold seized or the narcotic drugs seized from the terrorists. So, there is every possibility of some nexus. The Interpol has found out a direct nexus between the drug trafficking and terror sm in other parts of the world.

So far as the Narcotic Cells are concerned, they are functioning. Mr. Hannan Mollah asked whether the cells have been made operative. Yes, they are made operative. In addition to setting up a Cabinet Sub-Committee and the cells, at the officers level we are coordinating with the Department of Home, Department of Health, Department of Welfare and also the Department of Revenue (Customs and Excise).

So far as the points raised regarding the amendment of NDPS Act, it will be coming before the House very soon. Some of the hon. members made a mistake between Preventive Detention, life imprisonment and capital punishment. So far as capital punishment and other things are concerned, these are now being looked into and I am not going to say anything on that point until it comes before the House. At that time it will be looked into in great detail.

So far as the question of enhancing the punishment, attaching the property of the narcotic dealers, etc. is concerned, we are trying to get more powers with the blessings of this House. Even if the property were to be in some third name, if it could be traced and established that the narcotic dealers' money has gone to build up that property, even that property can also be attached when we get these powers.

A question is put as to when representation could be made. Representation can be made at any time. We seldom interfere with such representation. We consider that it can be made to the detaining authority and also to the Centre. As there is the Advisory Board, he gets the power. But it is not as though he cannot make representation. Any time after detention, he has a right to make a representation and the Government has to decide that representation within a reasonable time.

Shri Balkavi Bairagi and Shri Patel raised the question of insurance to the officers involved. This point is under the active consideration of the Government. We know that these officers have to take a great risk when they have to deal with the narcotic dealers. And they get proper impetus to carry out their work if they are rewarded for their efforts.

Mr. Wadiyar has raised the point about setting up of narcotic cells in the airports. We have set up narcotic cells in Delhi and Bombay and those cells are working. X-ray machines cannot detect opium, etc. if these drugs covered under normal clothing. But if these are kept in

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the body cavity it is possible to detect them. In this connection, I would like to point out that we are having some dogs which are specially trained to detect drugs. These dogs can detect drugs by smelling the luggage when it goes through the conveyor belt. The number available is not sufficient. But these are very good dogs and these are of great use. The dogs can detect the drugs even if they are mixed with strong perfumes or hidden inside the suitcases. But the training and maintainance of these dogs is very costly and it also requires great expertise. We are taking some steps in this regard.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee quotes some names from an article in the 'Times of India' and she wanted to know whether they have been arrested. Most of them have been arrested except one or two who are still absconding. I have pointedly told my Department to bring at least fifteen top narcotic dealers who have been apprehended since the ordinance came into force as also under the previous Act. The names of these people must be made known to all, so that the ordinary citizens can take care of themselves if they happen to come into contact with them. Even though it is going to take some time of this House, I want to read out these names.

If some of them are still at large, they will be apprehended. The kingpin among these narcotic dealers is found to be a resident of both Bombay and Delhi. His name is Gurbux Bhiryani. The following are the other traffickers who are detained :

Jasbir Singh Sandhu, Delhi

Jindo Malhotra, Delhi

Surender Mehta, Delhi

Ravi Kumar Sharma, Delhi

Yudhistar Kumar, Delhi

Dev Singh Chauhal, Delhi

Narendra Visnoi alias Narula Visnoi, Bombay

Vipin Jaggi, Delhi. (His name was mentioned in an Article in *The Times of India.)*

Bhaverlal Somani, Bombay

Rajni Kant Patel, Bombay

Yogesh Pandya, Bombay

Virender Rai, Varanasi

Collector Papachan, Kerala

Nari Khan (A Pakistani citizen who was arrested in Bombay)

I have got a list of more than hundred people. But these are the top 15. If I start reading all the names, it will take a lot of time.

Sir, it was argued that the COFEPOSA is there. It is not giving any help. As I said in the beginning, there is a distinction. COFEPOSA is meant for smuggling and this Act is meant for internal traffickers as well as those who import. In 1984, detention under COFEPOSA was 994. In 1988—up to July—orders issued were 817. The persons detained in 1984 were 719 and persons detained up to 31st July, 1988 were 663. The persons who were released by the Advisory Bord—as was stated that they would not get any justice, if they are detained- in this year alone, i.e. up to 31st July were 112. The court release up to 31st July was 216. Wherever appeal is preferable, we are preferring it and wherever it is not possible to prefer an appeal because of legal opinion, we are not preferring the appeal. But wherever we find that there is a possibility of preferring an appeal by taking opinion either of Attorney General or Panel Counsels, we are doing so.

From 19th December, 1974, till 31st of July, 1988, the number of orders issued under COFEPOSA was 10,535 and persons detained were 8671. Therefore, it is not so that the COFEPOSA had not been used. It was asked here whether we have taken action against the people who are working in the Government and I would say "we have done so". So far as Customs and Central Excise is concerned, in 1985, action against ten officers were taken. In 1986, it was 5 officers and in 1987, the officers so far involved are three and one of them was arrested.

So far as police personnnel are concerned, we haye taken action. In 1985, the number was

2. In 1986, it was 5 and in 1987, four police personnel were arrested.

I would give you figures for Air India and Airlines personnel. They are as follows :

Year	Number of persons
1985	7
1986	8
1987 (uptill now)	3 arrests were made

Other Departments

Year	Number of persons
1985	6
1986	14
1987	5

The total number of goods seized from these Government officers is worth Rs. 91.03 lakhs. The total number of officers involved are as follows :

Year	Number of Government officers apprehended
1985	25
1986	32
1987	15

The total amount as I said recovered from them by seizure of goods either narcotics or otherwise is worth Rs. 91,3,000.

As far as foreign airlines are concerned, we have been able to apprehended seven persons in 1986. In 1987, it was three. The total value of goods realised was Rs. 33,62,000 and three persons were arrested.

In the Shipping Corporation of India 39 persons were identified, and action was taken against them in 1986 ; in 1987—ten persons. The total goods seized were worth Rs. 50,10,000 and one person was arrested. Therefore, it is not correct that no action was being taken against Government's officers who indulged in this. As I said—I do not want to repeat it— whoever he may be, whether in Government or outside Government, of whichever political party, however high-up or low he or she may be, we are not sparing any one.

Some figures might be interesting. It was stated by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee —she has come now ; so, I can say this, she asked : Why ordinance ? Why did you not come like this, i.e with a Bill ? I hope Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee will realize this : this Bill was introduced long ago. We have now spent seven days. During these seven days, all would have gone underground—powerful people with money. Therefore. Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee will realize this. Between 4th July when the Ordinance came into operation till 22nd August, 168 orders were issued. Till 27th August, the number of persons detained is 134 : 120 by Central Government's officers and 14 by Delhi Administration. The break-up of detention orders issued—I do not want to go into details—but the hon. Members might be interested in State-wise break-up Assam 1; Bihar 14; U.P. 30 ; Delhi 49; Tamil Nadu 4; Karnataka 2; Kerala 2; Rajasthan 6; Punjab 20; Haryana 1; West Bengal 5; Madhya Pradesh 8; Gujarat 2 and Maharashtra 5. Besides this total, I find that 19 were foreigners were also involved in this.

Had we not brought this Ordinance—Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee and Mr Hannan Mollah will kindly realize this— they had their passports, and they would just have gone away during this period of debate, out of our hands. There were 19 foreigners; out of them. 14 have

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already been apprenended. That is why I request you kindly to realize this. I hope you will withdraw your objection. That is why it was so much necesary. I can very well realize Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee's personal feeling when she was, as started by her, wrongfully detained under preventive detention. But this is an Act—I do not want to repeat it—specifically made, clearly for drug-traffickers. So, if there is any political colour, it will go before the advisory Board and it will be set at naught by the Board. If they do not do it, the High Court will find it out, call for the file, call for the background; and if there was really a political background, without any smell of any narocotics. he will be made to go scot-free. That is why this ordinance was brought in.

The preventive detention is also there for that purpose. It is not a punitive measure; and I can, at this stage, read from the Judgement of Patanjali Shastri in A K. Gopalan's case in which things had been made clear on that very issue. It is known to all; but I want to read it at this stage. It says:

> "The objective of preventive detention is not to punish a man for having done some thing, but to intercept him before he does it or to prevent him form further doing it. No offence is proved, nor any charge is formulated. The Justification for such detention is suspicion or reasonable probability of the impending commission of the prejudicial act, and not a criminal conviction, which can only be warranted by legal evidence."

In A.K. Gopalan vs the State, Patanjali Shastri had said this, I quote :

> "This is a sinister-looking feature ....." i.e. this preventive detention case.
>
> ".....so strangely out of place in a democratic Constitution..."

—as argued by Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

> "...which invests personal liberty with the sacro-sanctity of the fundamental right, and so incompatible with the promises of its Preamble, is doubtless designed to prevent the abuse of freedom by anti-social and sudversive elements which might imperil the national welfare of the infant Republic."

It was decided in 1950.

Therefore, kindly see the distinction that this is a process of law which the Constitution envisages, that is, the people of India ordain to ourselves, this power given under Article 19, Fundamental Right, Article 21 liberty, and Article 22, it comes in. Therefore, Fundamental Rights of ordinary peaceful citizens are there, Article 19 enshrines it, then Article 21 is there, and then Article 22 envisages only—I want to repeat once more the wording of Mr. Justice Patanjali—"It is not a freedom of anti-social elements or subversive elements" and that is why Preventive Dentention has been upheld by the Supreme Court provided it remains within the four corners of Article 22 of the Constitution.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Let our friend Mr.Panja allow us to agree to differ.

SHRI A.K.PANJA : The point made by another hon. Member is regarding one small point and I might make it clear, that why in Section 3 it is "any person (including a foreigner)" and why it is 'person' in other places, and in other places "any person", appears, specially in Section 5. The point is,if you kindly read. Section 3, Section 3 is the power of detention and, therefor, it is stated—

> "That the Government may, if satisfied, with respect to any person (including a foreigner) that with a view to preventing him from engaging in illicit

> traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, it is necessary so to do, make an order directing that such person be detained."

This is the Section which gets the power of detention and that is why by abundant caution "including foreigner" has been put in it.

Now, Section 5-hon. Member will kindly examine-starts with what is to be done with the persons already detained, and therefore the wording is "Every person in respect of whom". If it is any person, then the word would have been "including foreigner". But now Section 3, it has to be read altogether, and Section 3 says "any persons" and when it comes to Sections 5, the operation portion says "Every person" which means, any person including foreigner. This is the whole genus and it is "any person" drastically. This also makes it clear that so far as Section 10 is concerned.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : Why do you again use this word in Section 10?

SHRI A.K.PANJA : Right. I am coming to that. The hon. Member is right in asking why I am using these words here and I causing then again in Section 10. Kindly see Section 10 is again an independent clause coming in. The non-obstante clause has been used. "Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act". Therefore, the whole Act is taken out. That what is provided is "any person," not every person,—

> "any person (including a foreigner) in respect of whom an order of detention is made under this Act at any time before the 31st day of July, 1990, may be detained without obtaining,"
> etc., etc.

Therefore, kindly see again, Section 10 is a section on its own, without the help of any other section, and starts with "Notwithstanding". Section 3 is an independent section using "any person (including a foreigner)". Section 5 says, "Every person" and not "any person". And Section 10 again says, "Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, any person (including a foreigner)" so that there may not be any doubt whether it applies to foreigners so far as this Act is concerned, or not. And this is why I got it examined after the hon. Member mentioned it and I am satisfied that so far as the wording is concerned, it is not in contradiction to either what is mentioned in Section 3 or Section 5 or Section 1, when we take the Act as a whole.

So far as the last point is concerned as to whether we should go by the preventive detention or whether we should go by ordinary law, the ordinary law could have been brought even by an Ordinance. But we have gone by preventive detention. I need not utter the wording of Mr. Justice Patanjali which he used as far back as 1950. I think those who have seen Mr. Gopalan's case, will agree that it holds good even today and for all times to come. And that is why these things are necessary to prevent mischief-makers who are not doing a mischief as such. But, Sir, hundreds of children are in jeopardy and the major target group being obtained by them is 11 to 25. They are adopting tactics by taking even younger generation, mixing it with ice cream, mixing it with such liquid things which younger people like, children like with sweets and others. Therefore, I say that the power should be given by the entire House, without a single opposition, so that I can go and tell my officers to go ahead—as they have done so already—with full courage and conviction. So, the whole House should unitedly give this power thinking that it is not a question of political thing which came in 1950. Forty two years of our independence have already passed. Various manoeuvrers of drug trafficking are now coming in. The State is aware of the new enemies. When these enemies are enemies of society and when all the Members have agreed that they are enemies, this power under preventive detention has to be obtained by the

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States as well as the Union, and thereafter get hold of them as quickly as possible. There are still many at large and we want to have the blessings of this House and full inspiration from this House so that we can get hold of them and put them behind the bars as far as possible.

With these words, I move that the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I find that Shri Madhav Reddi, the mover of the Statutory Resolution is not present in the House. So, I shall put the Statutory Resolution to the vote of the House. The question is :

> "That this House disapproves of the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Norcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance, 1988 (Ordinance No. 7 of 1988) promulgated by the President on the 4th May, 1988 "

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now I shall put the motion for the consideration of the Bill to the vote of the House. The question is :

> "That the Bill to provide for detention in certain cases for the purpose of preventing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and for matters connected therewith be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill. The question is :

> "That Clauses 2 to 16 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 16 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

> "That Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Long Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the preamble and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, I beg to move :

> "That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

> "That the Bill be passed."

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, I stand here only to make a few comments after the Bill has come to the third stage.

I would have been a little glad, and this suggestion can be considered at a future date also, that if the main Act, nemely, the 1985 Act, had added a chapter incorporating the provisions of the present Bill, then in one legislation itself we could have the substantive law as also the preventive law. Although the nature of both the legislations is different, yet if a separate chapter on preventive law had been added in the 1985 Act itself, I think there would not have been any need for a sprate legislation. The only thing needed is an amendment to 1985 Act. I don't think that there would be any legal hitch about this aspect. In case there is any, the hon. Minister may kindly explain this.

Another aspect I would like to state at this stage is that much depends upon the papers, the charge-sheet and the grounds framed by the officers under this

legislation. As you have stated rightly, the Advisory Boards in many cases have ordered the release of detenus, but it was later on found in some particular cases the grounds were insufficient. I would submit that in most of these cases where Adivsory Boards have released detenus on some ground or other, the officers concerned who prepared the cases or case papers have failed to draft the grounds properly or failed to submit grounds to the detenus in time or they have not prepared papers in time. In most of the cases, they are released on these grounds. Therefore, I would submit that there should not be any scope fore corruption in case corruption enters into any individual aspect, any small mistake or loss, deliberate or otherwise, on behalf of those who prepare case papers can lead to release of the detenus. So, what should be done in such cases ? Such cases where detenus have been released should be examined from this angle whether there was any deliberate attempt to keep loopholes in these cases and detenus were released and action should be taken under service rules against those officers who have allowed them to be released.

Another aspect I would like to state is that as far as Advisory Board is concerned, we are guided by Article 22 Sub-Clause 4 of the Constitution. Sir, in this case, the requirement is that members of the Advisory Board should be high court judges or those who are eligible to be appointed as high court judges. In such cases, why not make an amendment to the Constitution so that person from society may be a lady member or other social figures of public men are also made members of this Board ? In such cases, not much legal formalities are required to be followed and any average person can apply his or her mind. Therefore, this aspect should also be considered.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : So far as the first point is concerned, it could not have been by amending the Act of 1985. First of all, by amending the Act, the main statute, we could not bring in preventive detention, the reason being that this is a special provision even in Article 22 of the Constitution. The courts have repeatedly hold that all the points mentioned in Article 22 shall have to be strictly followed, even in respect of procedure. In other cases, procedure is not being looked into or is being looked into as formalities. But here, Sir, as person's liberty is being touched, therefore the Constitution framers took this care and all laws which have to be made for preventive detention-whether it was of previous preventive detention or the present one-are to be included and we are doing it. This has to be within the four corners of the Article 22 only and the Supreme Court has said that it has to be within the Article 22 and that is why a special Statute is necessary. It cannot be mixed with the general statute which deals with other provisions of the Narcotics.

Secondly regarding the Advisory Board, the hon. Member is correct that some times grounds are couched in such a language that the Advisory Board of the High Court finds it vague or otherwise and then release them. But then, Sir, to err is human; uptill now we have not come across any case where any officer intentionally acted in order to get the release of that person. No such case has come to our notice. But it is true that we have to go by whatever evidence is available. And on that if the Advisory Board of the Court finds that the persons should be set at liberty, they are entitled to do so because that is the law of the land.

Regarding the last one about amending the constitution and bringing in social worker or some others, I do not think that will be proper at this stage because it is so much compliance with the various statutes or laws which is necessary that it is better that the consititutional framework is limited within the Judges, i.e., the members of judiciary, and that is much better at present because the details of the case law have to be examined, the details of the lines used in the grounds, what are the grounds, how it is to be done, what is the background. A judicial man, a man from the judiciary as given in the Constitution is much better equipped to deal with this and hence the present Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We shall now take up items 14 and 15 of the Agenda together.

As Members are aware, the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Bill, 1988, was passed by Lok Sabha on 13th May 1988 and laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on the same day. The Bill could not be passed by Rajya Sabha during the last Session. As the Government felt that any delay in enacting the Bill might defect the very purpose of the legislation, the Ordinance contatining the provisons of the Bill, without any modification, was promulgated by the President on 2nd July 1988. Since the House has already approved the provisions of the Ordinance in the form of a Bill on 13 May 1988, it will not be permissible now to go into the merits of the Bill. The discussion on the Statutory Resolution should, therefore, be confined strictly to the issue of promulgation of the Ordinance.

Now we shall take up the Statutory Resolution. Shri Madhav Reddi—absent. Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty—Absent. Both are not available and therefore, the Statutory Resolution is not moved. Now the Minister may move,

———

13.52 hrs.

BHARAT PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED (DETERMINATION OF CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF EMPLOYEES) BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : Sir, I beg to move:

> "That the following amendment made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to empower the Central Government to determine the conditions of service of the officers and employees of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration:—

Clause 1

1. That at page 1 *for* lines 9-10 the following be *substituted*, namely :—

"1. (1) This Act may be called the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service, of Employees) Act, 1988.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 2nd day of July, 1988."

New Clause 4

2. That at page 3, *after* line 20, the following be *inserted*, namely:—

"4. (1) The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Ordinance 1988, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act."

Sir, only one thing is that these two are of technical nature they have to be done because the Ordinance was issued and letter on it has to be replaced. There is not much in that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to empower the Central Government to determine the conditions of service of the officers and employees of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration :—

Clause 1

1. That at page 1, *for* lines 9-10 the following be *substituted*, namely :

1. (1) This Act may be called the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Act, 1988.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 2nd day of July, 1988."

New Clause 4

2. That at page 3, *after* line 20, the following be *inserted*, namely :-

"4. (1) The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Ordinance, 1988, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act."

Now, Shri R.P Das may speak.

SHRI R.P. DAS (Krishnagar) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Ordinance, 1988, was passed by Rajya Sabha on 2nd July with certain amendments and it has come back to this House as a Bill. The reason for the hurry in the promulgation of this Ordinance was given by the Minister stating that any further delay in enacting the provisions of the Bill in an ordinance might defeat the very purpose of the Bill for which the legislation was contmeplated. It was, therefore, felt desirable not to wait till the next Session of Parliament to get the Bill passed by the Rajya Sabha. Therefor an Ordinance was promulgated on the 2nd July.

13.55 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

But, Sir, we do not understand what was the hurry in promulgating the Ordinance on July 2nd just after 49 days of passing the Bill in the Lok Sabha on 13th May. Even after promulgation of the Ordinance it was brought to Rajya Sabha in 38 days.

In this way, we find that the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Bill passed through three stages within 3½ months. It was first introduced and passed in Lok Sabha. Then, an ordinance was promulgated ; then after it went to the Rajya Sabha and it was passed with certain amendments. In this way, we find that the Government was in a hurry to pass the Bill. On the othe rhand, Sir, you will find that the Government took 12 years to bring this Bill to the House. In between, the case was fought in the court and the workers and employees of Bharat Petroleum Corporation got a court order in favour of them. So, Government was at a loss as to what to do particularly at the verdict of the court which was in favour of the employees. Sir, only to evade the court order, Covernment brought forward this Bill to the House and promulgated ordinance and got it passed in the Rajya Sabha in a hurry.

[Shri R. P. Das]

There is no time for me to go into details at this stage. But I would like to make a few remarks by saying that this Bill is in total violation of section 8(3) of the Industrial Disputes Act, which says the wages of the workers cannot be reduced and it cannot be done even in the name of parity of pay in the public sector. In the prenationalisation stage 413 employees and in the post nationalisation about 1864 emoployees totalling 2200 and odd out of 7737 employees, demanded the continuance of the pay scale of the pre-nationalisation stage. From the very day of nationalisation 1976, the old employees of the pre-nationalisation stage insisted on the continuance of the old scale. Some problems aroses after the nationalisation also, after the new recruitment, about 1866 employees from the new recruitment wanted continuance of the old scale. In that case, certain high pay structure was there. But in the court it was found that the employees, demand was in line with section 8(3) of the Industrial Disputes Act and that the wages of the workers could be reduced. But Government wanted things to happen other wise. So this Bill was brought to the House, with a view to reducing the pay scale of the employees. This was just to bypass the provision of the Industrial Disputes Act and to bypass the concept of natural justice as also of the common industrial practices.

At this stage, I do not agree with the amendment already passed by the Rajya Sabha. Besides this Bill clearly stands out against the practices of the trade unions and goes against the interests of the workers and employees.

14.00 hrs.

It is not even line with the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act. It is in complete violation of Section 8/3 of the Industrial Distputes Act which stipulates that the wages of the workers cannot be reduced. There is no denying the fact that Bill is against the interests of the workers and the employees. Therefore, it is anti-labour Bill. For this reason, I am not ready to support the amendments that have been passed by the Rajya Sabha.

The last point that I would like to make here is that the effect given to the provision of this Bill retrospectively, is contrary to the established industrial practice. This is also contrary to the natural justice. So, to my mind these are the points that go against the interests of the workers and employees For this I oppose the amendments brought to the House as also I also opposed the Bill.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alvar): Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the Bill with the amenements which have been accepted or recommended by the Rajya Sabha At the very outest, I congratulate the hon. Minister and the Bharat Petroleum Corporation that, according to the 34th annual report, 1986-87 which gives a clear picture of the performance of the Corporation ; up to 31st March, 1987 the profit earned by this Corporation is to the tune of Rs. 1,42,72,41,000 and the total sales turn over during the period from 1-4-1986 to 31-3-1987 has been to the tune of Rs. 24,99 67,81,000. It shows that the performance of the Corporation has been commendable and the Corporation has earned the profit which is remarkable. Not only this but the dividend which has been declared goes at rate of 14%. I may quote the report.

> "As regards the point of dividend the Directors recommended dividend at the rate of 14% on the paid up capital of Rs. 2,785.95 lakhs and the Corporation has contributed to the Government exchequer Rs. 461.71 crores last year."

meaning thereby that so far as the finances of the Corporation are concerned, the position is quite bright. The hon. Member who has just spoken has asked what was the hurry to promulgate the Ordinance on 2nd July, 1988. It s justified. The employees and the officers who are working with the Corporation deserve their demand and if the Ordinance mete out the demands by giving the parity in their pay scales comparable to the other

two Corporations, then I think the issuance of the Ordinance is very much justified.

Not only this, In the field of marketing also, the company has done a laudable job and this also found in the Report and I quote :

> "Total sales volume rose by 4.7 per cent from 7 57 million tonnes in the previous year to 7.93 million tonnes during the year under report, and the Corporation's marketing participation for the year was 18.3 per cent".

Thus, the total participation in the marketing of this Corporation alone has risen to the extent of 18.3 per cent during the year 1987-88. I congratulate the Corporation on its functions and performance, particularly on the point that in Bombay and Delhi so far as the LPG distribution is concerned, they have introduced a new system which is very much comfortable and very much convenient to the consumers. It has been stated in the report :

> "As a step towards better consumer service, BPC distributors in Bombay and Delhi have introduced the antomatic telephone recording mauhines for booking of refills by consumers round the clock."

I request the hon. Minister that he may kindly introduce this system in all the district headquaters because this system has proved to be very beneficial for the consumers so far as LPG is concerned. Therefore, automatic telephone recording machines should be installed atleast at every district headquarters so that the consumers may be benefited by this.

Further, the company has taken special precaution on the safety mesures i.e. on the fire-fighting neasures. As far as the fire-fighting measures are concerned, it has been pointed out in the report :—

> "A modern fully-equipped Fire Station was commissioned, replacing the old Fire Station. During March 1987, which was designated as the Fire & Safety month, the campaign through talks, posters and films to prevent fire & safety hazards, received further impetus".

So, as far as Companies are concerned, I think this fire-fighting device is the first device which needs very utmost consideration. One incident has taken place yesterday in the Mathura Refinery also. Therefore, the hon. Minister will take special precautions as regards this i.e. the refineries in various parts of our country.

So far as the refining process is concerned, it has been the highest in the history of this Corporation. On this aspect also, in the Report it has been stated :

> "The highest ever monthly throughout of 6.23 lakh tonnes was acheived in March, 1987. During the year 1986-87, the crude consumption was 5.57 million tonnes which was lower than the previous year because of the scheduled 35 days shutdown of Crude Distillation Unit. The quantity of indigenous crude processed (Bombay High and Ratna Heera crudes) was 5.46 million tonnes which accounted for 97.9 per cent of the total crude processed."

This means that these workers and the officers as well as other employees have done their best to boost the production of this refinery. There, fore in these circumstances, the pay hike demanded by them justified. I wish the hon. Minister make it clear. I feel there is one ambiguity in Clause 3 of the Bill itself. In clause 3, Sub-Clause (4) it has been mentioned :

> "The power to make any scheme under sub-section (1), or sub-section (3) shall include,—

(a) the power to give retrospective effect to any such scheme or any provision thereof ;..."

MR. CHAIRMAN : May I point out to you that you cannot go into the whole merit of the Bill ? Only the ammendments which are suggested by the Rajya Sabha are to be discussed.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, I am not suggesting any amendment. I am only seeking clarification from the hon. Minister as to whether.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The point is that the Bill was already discussed and passed by this House. Only these amendments which have been suggested by Rajya Sabha are to be considered.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : This clarification is in the interest of the employees and the officers who are working in the Corporation. I want to know from the Hon. Minister what does he mean by "with restropective effect"? Is he going to take any step which will give some sort of concession to the employees or is he going to withdraw the concession from the employees ? I do not think he will take any step which will withdraw any concession from the employees by introducing this term because you have given the power to give retrospective effect to any such scheme or any provision thereof. It means you have taken power to make the scheme, to formulate the scheme, to introduce that scheme from a retrospective date. But what will be the retrospective date ? You have not made it clear that no action at your instance or at the instance of the Government will be taken at the time of formulating the service conditions, that no injustice will be done to the employees in matters of pay scales and other amenities. I think, when he replies, he will make it clear.

The other proposal which has been given by the Rajya Sabha is quite justified because they have added one section 4 and they have suggested :

> "The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of employees) ordinance, 1988 is hereby repealed."

This is quite innocent. Another one is :

> "Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act."

Now action which has been taken after the ordinance, that ordinance shall be deemed to be legal and it is an enabling provision which should have come. I think, whetever action has been taken in the interest of the employees or the officers, that shall be validated and it has been validated. Therefore, this House has got no objection about it. With these words, I congratulate the Minister and I support the Bill as ammended by Rajya Sabha.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapor) . Sir, since this House has already debated this Bill, I will only request the Minister to consider a few points. I do not want to go into the performance of this company. It has performed well as stated by my Hon. friend who preceded me.

Actually, the difficulty of the Government is regarding the staff the section of staff who have been working before nationalisation, that is, pre-nationalisation, staff and the other group who have been taken in after nationalisation, that is post-nationalisation staff. Actually, common justice demands that the staff of both categories should get the same salary for doing the same job in the same company, and that can't be questioned. But the trouble arises for the Government and for the company regarding the post-nationalisation staff. There are other concerns like the IOC and others, where employees are working and doing the same job. Since this Bharat Petroleum was in the private sector, same amenities and same service conditions better than the other staff were obtained by them prior to nationalisation. Naturally, the old staff continues to get the same. The question arise whether the new staff also should continue to get the same or not. This is the main question.

Actually, the staff went to court and the court has given order that both types of staff should get the same remuneration. But the Government's contention is that they accept these things, then the pandora's box will be opened in the other nationalised sectors, and naturally they shall go to dogs.

The natural justice demands, as I stated earlier and as my comrade Shri R.P. Das that they should get the same amenities. And there are organised unions and associations, I would urge upon the Government to take them into confidence to explain to them the whole thing. After all, it is not only a question of Bharat Petroleum Corporation but it is a question of the whole nation and other sectors are linked with it. I don't think that the organised labour will be so fool. Why should the Government take upon themselves the whole responsibility of bringing an ordinance and then imposing it ? There should be some logic to do because there are other sectors.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : It is for the betterment of the employees.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : No, no. At least, let us believe that employees also are not fools. They understand what is good for them and what is bad for them. We have not understood their problem. It is they who had been to court. I would like to say that the Government should talk to the employees. I would urge upon the Ministry to call the associations and federations and take them into confidence and explain the whole thing so that some solution can be brought about which should be in the best interest of the company and of the employees and the nation as a whole. If the employees think only of themselves, then the Government and the entire industry may face trouble. One thing is certain. Old employees are gradually retiring. After two or three years, there will be no old employees. At the same time, the other concerns which do the same type of job get much less salary than these people.

I would urge upon the Government to talk to their association to take them into confidence and bring out the solution. This is my humble submission.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH (Chapra, : Sir, this Bill was introduced during the Budget session but it could not be passed because the session was already over. This ordinance was promulgated by the Government one month and 20 days after the session was over, that is on 2nd July. As regards the reasons necessiating promulgation of this ordinance, Government's statement is that.....

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Disapproval of ordinance is not moved by anybody. That motion is not before the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : I am saying that when this Ordinance was brought forward in the House in the form of a Bill, a note stating the reasons for the promulgation of this Ordinance was given to us. If there wasn't any need for debate on this matter, what is the use of enclosing this note with the Bill. I want to submit that attempts were made to make a law through an Ordinance so that it could be enforced. The reason given by the Government in support of promulgating this ordinance is that any delay in enacting the provisions of the Act already made would have caused heavy loss to the Government and it would have created turmoil and unrest among the workers, leading to similar demands from other labour organisations. If it was so urgent, then why was not the session extended to get it passed. If that was not possible then it should have been promulgated within a period of 1 month and 20 days from the day the session was adjourned. It was only after a notification for reassembly of the House was issued on 28th of June, the Government woke up from its slumber and issued an Ordinance in the haste. What was the haste, heaven would not have fallen. Rather, this shows the style of functioning of this Government. Government is in favour of rule of

[Shri Ram Bahadur Singh]

ordinances in this country. Last time a ruling was given that when a notification for the sitting of the House is issued, Government should avoid taking such steps. That ruling represented the collective will of the Members. So we do not approve of your action. We cannot support such action. In other words, if Government promulgates ordinances after a notification for the commencement of the next session is issued, I will not support such type of functioning. It is done only when Government have little respect for the Chair and the House and is insistent upon taking measures arbitrarily. That is why ordinances are promulgated in this way.

Secondly, we have the case of the workers. The privileges which the workers have obtained after years of struggle since the days of the British Rule, are being taken way from them. It was also stated that this law will have a retrospective effect that is, it will be implemented from back date, from 1976 when nationalisation was effected.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Bill is already passed. Only the amendments suggested by Rajya Sabha are before the House today. You cannot discuss the whole Bill now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Sir, I do not understand English and the man interpreting it into Hindi is not capable to do it, that is why I am experiencing difficulty.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Bill is already passed. Only the amendments suggested subsequently by the Rajya Sabha are before the House today.

SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : I want to submit on the amendment only. Even the main thrust of that amendment is to deprive the workers of their rights and to take away those priviledges which they have obtained after years of struggle against the British Rule. Therefore, I want to submit that you are forcibly taking away there right which they got from the Britishers. It will bring a disrepute for you in the country. However, the point made in it that equal wages should be paid for equal work is very welcome one but in order to implement it, you should first frame a law to ensure that the ratio of the highest and the lowest income in the country should be 1:10 but you will not do that. You merely want to seize the rights of the poor workers and you want to do it from back-date.

A person who steals things from our house or commits dacoity in the night, is branded as thief and dacoits and prosecution proceeding are launched against him under section 379 I. P. C. But what one can do when our own Government is committing day light robbery on the rights of the workers through passing this law retrospectively. Moreover, this draconian law is being implemented with retrospective effect Therefore, the opinion which I had about the original Bill when it was passed in this House, has not changed today and I still think that this Bill will adversely affect the interests of the workers. If you think that peace can be maintained in the industrial organisation by framing this law, then what was the need to have fought a case in the court of law and spent a large amount of money for years together against the workers and their Unions. You could have negotiated with them and sorted out the problems across the table as to how to run a organisation and what steps should be taken so that no disputes arise among var ous industrial organisations. You feel disgraceful in sitting with the small people at negotiating table. Therefore, I want to repeat that if you want to ensure that industrial peace is maintained, then you should withdraw it because this is not only going to affect Bharat Petroleum alone but it will have wider repurcussions all over the country and the entire working class will be affected by it. You think that by framing this law and imposing it on the workers of Bharat Petroleum and depriving them of their rights, the matter will be clinched, then you are sadly mistaken. This matter will not end there. Its

will spread like wild fire and you will put to trouble. It will, in fact, go out of your hands.

I would like to submit that if the Government has genuine desire to maintain peace in the industrial sector and dispute free environment, then Government should invite trade union leaders and sort out various issues through negotiations across the table. The problems confronted by the Government, country and the workers should be discussed and solved jointly by both sides through negotiations in such a way that the interests of all concerned are fully safeguarded and the industrial development may also continue in the country.

With these words I may reiterate that Bill, whether in original form or amended, is basically against the interests of workers and I, therefore, oppose it.

[English]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: I rise on a point of order to say that there is no quorum in this House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The bell is being rung ... Now there is quorum. Shri Datta Samant.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) . Sir, regarding the amendment which has come from Rajya Sabha, I would like to state in this House that the hon. Petroleum Minister, Shri Brahma Dutt, is doing a very bad job. which is anti-labour. This is the first time in this country since independence that this Government is taking full powers to decide the wage structure of the workmen. Even the High Court and the Supreme Court in view of their judgement, have said that their existing conditions and dearness allowance cannot be reduced whatever it may be, whether good or bad. Decisions in this regard have been taken. Lakhs of workers were on the road and we fought for it. So far we never allowed any prior employer or even the Government to reduce the existing conditions of workmen. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 was done by the Britishers. As per the Clause 18(3), the existing agreement and settlement of the workmen cannot be changed or reduced in spite of the unit not doing well. That is not the case here. They have made a profit of Rs. 190 crores. Therefore, just bringing this Bill and subsequently this Ordinance is a terrific blow on the labour rights of this country. This is done by the Government. I would like to protest in this House in this regard. I am concerned with the union of the Bharat Petroleum workers. A major section is with me. For the last ten years we have not allowed them to do that. The Industrial Court has delivered the judgement in my favour saying that the existing conditions of service cannot be changed. The Industrial Court has not allowed you to do that. The Bharat Petroleum Corporation had filed a writ in the High Court and the High Court has not given you the stay. My application is pending with the High Court and that is that you cannot change the dearness allowance of the workmen. When the law of this country, the Industrial Disputes Act and the observations of the courts are in favour of the workers, why is the Government committing this sin ? The wording of this Bill is in spite of anything contained in the Industrial Disputes Act, the judgement of the High Court, or the Industrial Court this Government is superseding everything and taking the right to fix the wages etc. This Government is behaving in a dictatorial way against the workers. The only thing is that propaganda is not done. Even at this stage, I make an appeal to the Government. After this Bill came, there is a lot of agitation in Bombay and they have come here also. I appeal to this Government not to act in this way against the workers and even now withdraw the Bill.

There is another point. The profit-making of thus this unit is good. You want to introduce the industrial D. A. which is less than the what the Central Government employees are getting. By introducing this Bill you want to give them the industrial D. A. of 1.65, and thus the yearly raise of Rs. 200 to Rs. 300 to these workers will come down to Rs. 70 or Rs. 80. Why ? What about the employees of Air India and other such

[Dr. Datta Samant]

organizations ? why should not there be a law that for all the employees of public sector, there should be the same D. A. If some people are doing well, let them get more D. A. Whatever Bharat Petro eum Corporation employees are getting, let them get it. Service conditions and dearness allowance of those employees are different from the British time. Whatever the salaries, Bharat Petroleum Corporation workers are getting, you are going to protect that. After 5-10 years, the salary structure of the employees of Bharat Petroleum Corporation will go down miserably and subsequently, it is not going to increase.

The first sin was done by INTUC in Bombay. They made a settlement and reduced the DA. You said many workers have accepted that. This is not so. I have been resenting it since 1 76. The INTUC Union and the Congress Party have a lot of coordination; they came together and committed the sin of reducing the salary of these workers in spite of their getting the huge profit of Rs 190 crores. This concerns Bombay The wage structure in Bombay is definitely higher. My workers in the Premier Company are drawing a thousand rupees more that the workers in the Bharat Petroleum Corporation; so is the case in respect of Buyers Crompton etc. and this is because of the organized labour. It is not that Bharat Petroleum Corporation is paying more salary; it is Rs 2000 or Rs. 3000. Is this more salary in Bombay ? If that is in their mind let them come to Bombay and see for themselves. They are not getting more salary compared to that area. You have a profit of Rs 190, crores. I think, the Government should reconsider this.

As I said, the Supreme Court has said that if the condition of the unit is bad, you cannot reduce the salary; even if the unit is closed, you must pay the salary. That is the judgement of the court.

The Government is going to change the basic service conditions of the workmen. It you do it once, the danger is that Tatas, Birlas, Hindustan Lever and others are waiting for such an opportunity. I am fighting this battle of reduction of D. A. in a number of private sector industries. And now they keep on saying that the Government has made a profit of Rs. 190 crores. If this is so, why should we oppose it ? It is not that by bringing such type of Bill you are opening a pentagon box here for the employers and those who are being exploited in this country. I would like to know what was the need to bring an ordinance. Was it of such an urgent nature that you passed it on 13th May and could not wait till the next Session ? This is not the first time that you have passed the Bill hurriedly. just yesterday the Defamation Bill was passed. What was the urgency I don't know ? It has to be explained. Similar is the case with the Narcotic Drugs Bill.

The working class of the country will never forgive you. I know that you will be able to get this Bill passed because the Opposition is very scanty or minimal. I am sure the Government will manage to pass these Bills. I would like to say that as an amendment has come from the Rajya Sabha, it is better if you still withdraw this Bill. The service conditions of the workmen are governed by the previous settlement. The High Court did not accept to reduce it. So, I would request you that hence forward you kindly do something for the workmen. Whatever arrears the workmen are supposed to get, you kindly made available to them. I do not think any Member of this House will disagree me on this point. For the last 10 years, up to the date of the issue of ordinance, the arrears are pending. In spite of the court's decision to give back the arrears you have not given them. I know you will say just wait and see, we are bringing up some new scheme. Last time also you said that our new scheme will neutralise everything. Every year you are taking away the money by reducing the DA fraction. Your aims and objects of the Bill also accepts that DA is more and service condition is more when compared to other States and by implementinig this scheme you are going to bring them on par with the others. I had given an amendment but it was not accepted. But I would like to tell the Hon.

Minister that once this scheme to bring the DA on par with the other units is brought then the law will be repealed. Once you bring the wage structure and other such things on par with the Bharat Petroleum, as can be seen from the Aims and Objects, the Act will be repealed. Therefore, I request that up to 2nd July whatever arrears are there, as per their entitlement and the High Court's decision, they should be paid, because subsequently the Act will be repealed. I opposed the Bill the moment it was introduced in this House. The Hon. Minister may not be fully aware of the conditions of the labours. So, you may please give them arrears so that some relief can be given to them.

In the end I would say that it is an anti-labour Bill and a blow on the working class of this country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTTA) : Sir, today I moved that the amendments made by the Rajya Sabha are of technical nature and they may be considered here.

This Bill was discussed in this House on 13th May and subsequently was passed. It could not go to the Rajya Sabha in that Session but now the Rajya Sabha has passed it with technical amendments. We had to resort to this ordinance so that no development would take place which would go against the very interests of the public sector itself. Our intention to bring forward this Bill is to lay down the terms so that they are in line with the public sectors norms.

Lot of things have been said here. Therefore, I would like to inform this hon. House about the number and category of employees in this undertaking and about their service conditions. There are 413 employees who are on old terms ; out of these 413, 276 are in the Refinery Section and 173 in the Marketing Section. We are protecting the interests of these 413 workers by paying their personal pay. We know the conditions that they are facing.

In the Refinery we recruited 1864 people whose salary and service conditions are not settled. Litigation has been going on and talks are also going on.

In the Marketing Section there are 521 people who have agreed to work on new terms. 4935 employees in the Marketing Section are working on new terms with whom we have reached a settlement. Out of a total number of 7733 employees, 5593 are in Marketing and 2140 are in the Refinery. People in the Marketing Section have agreed .....

DR. DATTA SAMANT : It was done by the INTUC men.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : That only shows that the INTUC is in majority there.

4935 people have been recuited after the nationalisation and 521 people who joined in the pre-nationalisation period also are working on new terms. Therefore, if you say that it has been done by the INTUC, that only proves that the INTUC is in a majority.

I want to mention another point. What will be the effect of all this on the lowest paid employee ? Under the old scheme which is continuing since the colonial regime, they were being paid Rs. 1310 month and these low wage employees will be getting about Rs. 1625. So, they will get about Rs. 315 more.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : An increase of Rs. 300 is nothing. If you take the DA increase alone over the years, after five years it may be even more than Rs. 1000/-.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : My submission is that I am more concerned about the low paid employees. What can we achieve by creating some islands of prosperity ? Suppose, we agree to it, what will happen next ? Then, everybody in this industry will demand the same and it will spread to other oil sectors and gradually to the whole of the public sector. Ultimately, it will damage the public sector. Therefore, while protecting the interests of the old employees by giving them personal pay, I also assure the House and Dr. Datta Samant in particular that we are going to formulate a scheme and we are going to discuss it with the representatives of the workers. This is in the interest of the public sector itself.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : What about the arrears for 10 years ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTTA : The question of arrears comes later when something is agreed upon. I do not even know what the new scheme is going to be. I can only assure that the new scheme which is being formulated will be as liberal as possible. But we cannot allow an island of prosperity to be created in one industry, so that it spreads to other industries, and the whole public sector goes off its basis, or its basis is eroded. That is the intention of the Bill. Hon. Members need not be afraid that we are anti-labour and all that. What we are trying to do is that we are trying to bring about some sort of uniformity, so that the public sector can survive.

Sometimes we are accused that we are eroding the public sector; and when we try to protect the public sector and in certain areas the public sector is doing well and paying well there also we are accused. That will not help.

With these words, I request that these technical amendments may be considered.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : This is an anti-labour measure, and directed against the workers. Government is taking rights to supersede industrial units. I am staging a walk out.

SHRI BRAHMA DATT : Please don't walk out. You will have to talk to us. Will you walk out when you talk to us ?

DR. DATTA SAMANT : The workers will teach you.

(Dr. Datta Samant then left the House)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to empower the Central Government to determine the conditions of service of the officers and employees of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and for matters connected there-with, be taken into consideration :—

Clause 1

1. That at page 1, *for* lines 9-10 the following be *substituted*, namely :—

Short Title and Commencement.

"1. (1) This Act may be called the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Act, 1988.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 2nd day of July, 1988."

New Clause 4

2. That at page 3, *after* line 20, the following be *inserted*, namely :—

Repeal and Saving.

"4 (1) The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Ordinance, 1988, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act.'

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up the amendments made by the Rajya Sabha. The question is :

"Clause 1

1. That at page 1, *for* lines 9&10 the following be *substituted*, namely :—

Short Title and Commencement. "1. (1) This Act may be called the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Act, 1988.

(2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 2nd day of July, 1988."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"New Clause 4

2. That at page 3, *after* line 20, the following be *inserted*, namely :—

Repeal and Saving. "4. (1) The Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (Determination of Conditions of Service of Employees) Ordinance, 1988, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal, anything done or any action taken under the said Ordinance shall be deemed to have been done or taken under the corresponding provisions of this Act."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the Minister.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I beg to move :

"That the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

'That the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill be agreed to."

The motion was adopted

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS) 1988-89 Contd

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up further discussion and voting on the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1988-89.

Mr. Dora has to continue his speech. He is not present. Now Prof. Ranga may speak.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Sir : May I have your permission to say a few words in support of these Supplementary Demands. We have had a full discussion on the unhappy event that took place not so long ago in Kerala, in which a number of people, scores of them, died suddenly for no fault of theirs. Such railway accidents have taken place in the past, with equally untoward results; and

the present Railway Minister was conscious of his responsibilities so well that he immediately reacted to it by offering his resignation, as a symbolic protest at the mismanagement of the Railways by the railwaymen themselves on the one side, and as an expression of regret on behalf of Government as well as this Parliament. I appreciate the gesture; so did the Prime Minister. Therefore, we have been content that he continues to be our Railway Minister. But what about the actual position in regard to the Railways ? What are the steps that the Railway Minister, with the cooperation of the Planning Commission and the Finance Minister taken ? Have they so far come forward with their proposals in order to ensure that similar tragedies of such magnitude would not take place in our country ? Till now, they have not come forward with any concrete proposals. It is high time that they do apply their minds to this factor and then prepare their plan and assure Parliament as well as the country that all that can be done has come to be done; and what is it that has to be done ?

The most important thing is, to safeguard the Permanent way and nobody knows how, to what an extent, the Permanent Way has been neglected. They have not made any definite survey. We would like that survey to be made. From time to time they have been saying, "Yes, yes. It is very necessary." They should see to it that the bridges are properly safeguarded, that the railway track itself is properly strengthened, the sleepers and girders and all those things that are necessary are being renewed and so on. The renewal process itself has not been completed, has not been fully surveyed and reported upon and they have to protected.

Most unfortunately, we are vey badly in need of the funds for the extensions of Railways. We do not have enough money. We are also in need of converting the metre gauge into broad gauge. We are not able to take up that.

Should we not at least give priority to the safeguarding of the permanent railway track, and for that, set apart sufficient funds and if necessary, by borrowing from international sources ? Now, I would like the hon. Minister to apply his mind specially to this aspects of this Railways.

Then, I come to another, a small point, we have been asking for the conversion of at least the minimum area, or minimum mileage of metre gauge into broad gauge from Katpadi to Tirupati. For years, we have been asking for it. Till now the hon. Minister has not been able to give any kind of an assurance.

There used to be a railway line from Kakinada to Kotipalli. It was dismantled. It has to be restored. All the rest, the needed minimum equipment is available. The spaces, the railway stations and all the rest are there. Only the gauge or the railway has to be restored. It ought to have been restored long time ago. Many friends from our side, and from all sides also have been asking for it. I would like to reiterate that demand once again.

Sir, in my own Consituency, my hon. friend was good enough to assure the House through his own proposal and also a letter to me that the metre gauge between Guntur and Macherla was being converted into broadgauge. I would like to know how soon and when it would be cleared.

Secondly, there was a railway line, which was being built up from Bibinagar to Nadikudi. They say that it would be completed within one year, this year I suppose. I do not know the latest position. I hope that too would be completed soon and opened for traffic. It has to be done not only from Bibinagar upto Krishna river but right upto Nadikudi. I would like the Minister to assure us when it is going to be completed.

Lastly, apart from the ordinary railway track, the bridges have to be repaired,

examined and strengthened. We have to assure the country that so far as the bridges are concerned, accidents similar to what happened or even to any extent should not be allowed to take place.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : If our hon. Member Prof. Rangaji would kindly take the trouble to read my reply on the Quilon Railway accident, then most of his doubts would be set at rest. He also would be able to see it a clear evidence that we are giving maximum priority to rehabilitation and for the permanent way.

Sir, I would also like to clarify that we have recieved a report from the Commissioner of Railways (Safety), in which he has clearly said that in no way the track was to be blamed and the bridge was not involved in that particular accident. However, his valuable views will be certainly taken note of.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, the Minister has come forward with the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways).

During his Budget Speech, he informed that he is going to constitute Railway Freight and Fare Committee to go into all the aspects of freight and fare of the Railways. Earlier there was a committee—Railway Freight Enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of Paranjpe. The Committee submitted its report in the year 1985 and it has made certain recommendations. We were told that as per the recommendations of that Committee, fare and freight was increased. What are those recommendations ? I would like to know whether those recommendations have been implemented.

Sir, he has asked for sanctioning of a project in the Western Railway—i.e. doubling of Bercha, Selavi, Abodia sections.

15.00 hrs.

I want to know when this survey was made and when it was felt that the volume of traffic would increase on this section. If it was surveyed long back and the need of it was felt long back, then why was it not included in the last Budget ? Only a sum of Rs. 1 lakh has been sanctioned for doubling this section. We always object to this sort of approach. Whenever you take up any project, you must finish it within the time schedule. But you sanction first Rs. 1 lakh and then Rs. 1 crore. The total cost is Rs. 22 crores. In this way, this project will remain pending for several years. There are 22 pending projects and to complete all these projects an amount of Rs. 2'00 crores will be required Whenever you take up any project, you should try to complete that within the time schedule. Otherwise, there is cost escalation and the project remains pending for years together.

We have RDSO—R & D organisation of the Railways. It was set up 30 years back. But what is this RDSO doing ? It is not working on any new technology. For the last 30 years it is only working on the adoptation of foreign technology by improting that technology RDSO should work on developing our own technology. They should not merely confine to adopting foreign technology in our conditions.

You want to purchase CT scan for Varanasi Hospital. It is essential. But what is the condition of railway hospitals, particularly divisional hospitals. There essential and life saving drugs are not available There are no specialists in the divisional railway hospitals. Their conditions should be improved.

Since 1950-51 the passenger traffic has increased to 178 per cent but the increase in passenger coaches is 126 per cent only. The number of coaches is gradually reducing. In the year 1984-85, there were 27,825 passenger coaches, which have now been reduced to 27,664 coaches. The volume of of passenger traffic is increasing but the passenger coaches are being reduced and the over-aged coaches, which are to be abandoned, are now being used. Similarly, there is a reduction in the number of wagons also and defective wagons, even over-aged wagons are being used. The Sixth Five-Year Plan was called

[Shri Basudev Acharia]

'Rehabilitation Plan'. Rehabilitation of old and over-aged assets is necessary because one-third of our railway track is sick and is to be replaced. The amount was also increased as per the recommendations of the Railway Reforms Committee. This backlog should be cleared and the over-aged track should be renewed. Track renewal work should be done on war-footing. The over-aged rolling stock should be replaced. Also the bridges which have crossed their life should be reconstructed. Will it be possible to replace all the over-aged track by the end of this century ? The tracks are being renewed. Some kilometres of track have become sick and need replacement.

Then, Sir, I come to the locomotives. We have to phase out some locomotives by the end of this century. The twenty-first century will not be able to see steam locomotives on the railway track. Since 1971-72, their production has been stopped. But the pace of electrification is slow The Sixth Five-Year Plan target was 2,800 kilometres, but only 1,500 kilometres could be electrified. The target for the Seventh Five-Year Plan is 3,400 kilometres. I do not know whether this target can be achieved by the end of the Seventh Five-Year Plan. In the three years of the Seventh Plan on an average about 500 kilometres have been electrified per year. Still we are lagging far behind in the matter of electrification of railway track. Only eleven per cent of our 61,000 kilometres railway track could be electrified.

If we compare ourselves with other countries, we are lagging far behind in the matter of electrification of railway track. In Austria it is 48 per cent, in Belgium it is 32 per cent, in French it is 27 per cent, in Great Britain it is 22 per cent, in Italy it is 48 per cent, in Japan it is 48 per cent, in Sweden it is 62 per cent, in Switzerland it is 99 per cent, in USSR it is 29 percent but in India it is only 11 per cent. We have to phase out some locomotives. On an average 500 kilometres of railway track is being electrified per year in order to electrify these tracks, that is 61,000 Kms. you have to spend your foreign exchange. But at the same time, to save these railway tracks, you have to electrify them. This is the cheapest mode of transport, though initially the cost is more, the recurring expenditure is less. In order to save, in order to conserve, the energy, you will have to electrify 61,000 Kms. of railway track, at least 90% of route kilometres. But with this pace of say 500 Kms. per year, imagine how many years it will take to electrify the targeted route length of railway track. You are phasing out the steam locomotives. Although there is scope for improving the efficiency or haulage capacity of the steam locomotives, we are not doing that We have decided to phase out the steam-locomotives. When all these steam-locomotives will be phased out, when the steam loco-sheds will be closed down, there will be about 22,000 workers—out of job. Though they are called contract workers, they have been doing perennial nature of job. Some have been working for years together, loading of the coal picking up the coal from the pits, doing the coal handling work, etc. They have been doing the work for years together for 20 or 25 years. The Railways are not taking any responsibility for them. Railways, being the principal employer, have their responsibilities. Where will they go after 20 or 25 years of their service ? They belong to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community, most of them. Now, they are being thrown out of their job. They will starve.

15.12 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

Similarly, in regard to casual workers the commitment was given in this very House that they would be absorbed and decasualisation will be done. Till today there are 2,22,000 casual workers in the Railways. How long will they remain as casual workers, although assurance has been given in this very House that they would be regularised ?

Now, Sir, you are demanding from them ITI pass certificate. They have

joined the Railways some 15 or 20 years ago. They were appointed as casual workers and now you are demanding from them pass certificate for their absorption. Where will they get these ITI pass certificate from ? That means, you don't want to absorb them. You don't want to decasualise them although the Government had given assurance in this very House that they would be regularised.

Coming to the passenger amenities, over-aged coaches are being used, the number of coaches has been reduced from use and over-crowding has increased. There is over-crowding in every train. It is natural that when there is an increase in the passenger traffic to the extent of 178% and decrease of passenger coaches to 126%, there will be over-crowding. So, Sir, you have to take care of the passenger amenities. You have increased the fare in the last Budget, but these amenities are being deteriorated day by day ; over-aged coaches are being used, also coaches without any light or fan or proper sanitary arrangement are being used And you are increasing the fare day by day !

Sir, an assurance was given by the Minister that all those trains which were withdrawn for army mobilisation in the year 1987 in the month of January, will be restored. No. 397 and 398—Asansol-Puri passenger was introduced 20 years back. It was a very popular train, poor people used to travel by that train, they used to go to Puri in that train. The train was restored, but it was restored from Asansol to Kharagpur and from last May the train from Asansol to Agra was withdrawn. Now it has been converted into Agra-Kharagpur passenger. Instead of increasing the number of passenger trains you are reducing gradually the number of trains

Varanasi-Tata Express is a Weekly Express. The train was withdrawn in the year 1987, but it was not restored. Connecting Dhanbad with Tatanagar, I do not know how much money is required. There is no direct connection from Dhanbad to Tatanagar though Dhanbad and Tatanagar are important towns—one is a coal town and the other is a steel town. There is even an electrified railway track also. With a little investment a passenger train can be introduced in this route and it will connect Dhanbad with Tatanagar.

Then conversion of Purulia-Kotshila also requires about Rs. 6 crores. We always get the reply that due to constraints of funds this project cannot be taken up. Only Rs. 6 crores are required for the conversion of this narrow guage from Purulia to Kotshila. This will connect Purulia with the Bokaro Steel city which will change the economy of the backward tribal concentrated district of West Bengal.

Sir, as he is the Head of the Railway family, I must tell the hon. Minister that there was an agreement with loco running staff in the year 1973 and this was stated in this very House. This was an agreement for reducing their duty hours to 10 hours from signing on to signing off. But they had to wait for 7 long years. When it was not implemented, they had to go on strike. In the year 1981 then went on strike Hundreds of emyloyees were dismissed and were put behind the bars. Sir, various High Courts and even the Supreme Court have given judgment that inquiry should be made and that they should be allowed to make an appeal. Most of the railway employees have made an appeal but those appeals were not still disposed of. Recently the Calcutta Administrative Tribunal in its judgement quashed both the charge-sheet and the dismissal order imposed against 36 workers of South Eastern Railway and ordered for their reinstatement. But up till now, after 70 days of the judgement which was passed, none of them was reinstated. Railways are now preferring appeal in the Supreme Court. These Administrative Tribunals were constituted for expeditious disposal of cases. In each and every case, if Railways prefer appeal in the Supreme Court, how can those cases be expeditiously disposed of. Already a large number of empleyees are discharged. Although after the judgement of Gauhati Administrative Tribunal, 32 employees were reinstated in Northern Railway, in South Eastern Railway, the railways are not abiding by the judgement of the Administrative Tribunal and they

[Shri Basudev Acharia]

are preferring appeal in the Supreme Court. I request the hon. Minister that he should consider reinstatement of those employees where Administrative Tribunals have passed and given judgement in favour of reinstatement of those dismissed employees. You should consider those cases sympathetically and reinstate those employees who were compelled to go on strike as the agreement reached with them was not implemented.

So, I request the hon. Minister to consider reinstatement of those employees and not to go to the Supreme Court to delay the disposal of the cases.

[Translation]

SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA (Jammu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Supplimentary Demands moved by the hon Minister of Railways. Railway is the biggest, cheapest and most convenient means of transport in our country. I think that the members of opposition find meaning only in opposing and criticizing the Government actions. Whereas I have been traveling by train to various parts of the country and I found that a number of facilities are being provided to the passengers. This improvement urges me to congratulate the hon. Minister. The Government have laid a railway net work and provided adequate facilities to the public. In spite of all this, the State to which I belong viz. Jammu-Kashmir is the most backward State. The residents of this State are deprived of these facilities It is our bad luck that we are deprived of these amenities. Only 70 km. of the total area in our State is covered by railway track No other State faces similar situation.

I would like to bring a couple of things to the notice to the hon. Minister Jammu-Kashmir is called heaven in India. Lakhs of tourists go there. About 20 lakh devotees go to Vaishno Devi every year, a large number of devotees pay visit to Amarnath and many go there for rest and recreation but as compared to this railway facilities are quite inadequate. We have repeatedly urged that more facilities can be provided there. The Railway, should start one more train in the early hours of morning from Delhi which should reach Jammu in the evening and again start from Jammu in the morning and reach Delhi in the evening because at present passengers have to wait for hours and face a lot of inconvenience. I do not understand the difficulties confronting the Railway Department in this regard. I would like to urge the Government to re-consider the matter. It is our long standing demand which would provide great relief to the passengers, if acceded to. The Hon. Prime Minister is anxious to extend the rail facilities to Jammu-Kashmir. The work for laying the railways track upto Udhampur has already started. But the funds allocated to the project are so inadequate that it will not be possible to complete the job even in 15 years. The Government should try to complete it on priority basis. Jammu, which is a winter capital of Jammu and Kashmir, should be given priority and it should become a model station which should serve as an example. Jammu and Kashmir enjoys special importance and the Railway Department is doing good job but I would suggest that there is a need to build a number of fly-overs, rest houses and various other things which require improvement. The Railway Station of Jammu should be improved in order to extend the railway track upto Kashmir. I may suggest that local train should be introduced in Kashmir valley until Jammu is linked with Kashmir through railway line. It is often observed that a large number of people who go there for rest and recreation are stranded for days together because roads are blocked owing to landslides. In the light of these facts I would urge that if the Government extends the railway line through tunnels and if it is done, than it will mitigate the suffering of the people. Local train can easily be run in the plains of Kaji-Kund to Uri. The incidents of land slides cause road blockade. But the train moves smoothly through the tunnel which remains unaffected by landslides. I can assure the hon. Minister in this regard. I hope that the hon. Minister would pay attention towards this matter.

Beautiful paintings of scenic beauty like temples of Maharashtra and other places

are displayed at railway stations as well as coaches. I submit that there are a number of spots of scenic beauty in our State also which can be displayed at railway stations and elsewhere. The display of pictures of holy places like Vaishno Devi, Amarnath and various other tourist spots would help in attracting the maximum tourists to this backward state and local people will be benefited.

The hon. Minister is very good and efficient person. His staff is also dedicated to the work. I personally suggest to give some encouragement to the staff by granting an additional increment etc. so that they may do their job still more efficiently.

I congratulate the hon. Minister and his staff for working efficiently. They are doing their best to improve the working of railways. I congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister also for the same.

With these words, I support these Demands for Grants.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants of Railway Department for the year 1988-89. During the discussion on Railway Budget in the House, I had objected to the increase in the rate a platform ticket to Re. 1.50. I conducted a survey and found that the passengers at the railway stations of Barmer and Jodhpur were against the proposed increase. Its rate should be Re. 1.00 only People get 50 p. back after purchasing a ticket with great difficulty. The Railway Department is also incurring loss in revenue. I would request you to make it Re. 1.00. I am sure Railways would get more revenue if my request is acceded to.

I had asked a question on 29.8.88 and in reply I got the statistics regarding the cancellation of trains in Jodhpur in the months of June and July. The train No. 97 Jodhpur-Barmer remained cancelled for 30 days in June and for 19 days in July, the train running from Balotra to Barmer remained cancelled for 13 days in June and for 8 days in July, Balotra-Pachpatrasalt remained cancelled for 30 days in June and for 31 days in July.

The trains remained cancelled in desert areas like this due to the sand deposits caused by dusty storms. But the situation can be averted if the railway officials and engineers work efficiently. There has never been such an instance in the last 40 years. Officials and engineers work efficiently and the railway track is cleared within hours or max um in one or two days. But this time, neither buldozers were arranged in time nor adequate number of labourers were engaged to remove the sand from the railway tracks. Due to the carelessness of the railway officials thousands of passengers had to face a lot of inconvenience and travel by bus. People have criticised me also for taking inadequate measures in this regard. I would like the Government to conduct an impartial enquiry in the matter and take action against the culprits. I have already made a request to solve the problem of Barmer-Balotra and Jodhpur Jaisalmer routes. Permanently through aforestation programme.

Besides, I want to submit that coaches should be increased from 11 to 14 in train running from Barmer to Agra Fort. At present the train is in the worst condition. But recently when I travelled in this train I found certain improvements in the coaches. I am thankful to you for this

The cause for the damage of coaches is that this train runs as an express train from Barmer to Jaipur and thereafter it is converted into a passenger train, due to which racks though of fine quality, get damaged. I would suggest that this train should be given connection at Jaipur to 'Hawa Mahal' which reaches there at 5.40. 'Hawa Mahal' leaves at 6.00. Being superfast train, it would enable the passengers to reach Agra Fort conveniently and in time. In order to remove the inconvenience to the passengers, the railway authorities should introduce a passenger train between Jaipur and Agra.

I have repeatedly urged the Government for the modernisation of Barmer

[Shri Virdhi Chander Jain]

Balotra and Jaisalmer railway stations. Though some measures have been taken in this regard yet they are not enough. The buildings of railway stations are 50 years old. The platforms are old, sheds and rooms are also old. Since Jaisalmer is an important tourist spot, effective measures should be taken in this regard.

Before concluding, I would like to draw your attention towards one important point. In 'Sonu' area of Jaisalmer district, lime-stone of very fine quality is found, and we supply it to Bokaro and Rourkela steel plants. But due to lack of good transportation facility, a lot of inconvenience is faced in its supply. This job cannot be executed without proper transportation. Line stone is used in the production of steel. The department of Steel have offered to contribute upto 50 per cent of the total cost of the proposed scheme. The Ministry of Defence, Indira Gandhi Canal Department and the Railway Department are likely to contribute their shares. Thus, the Government should take measures to start work on the Bikaner-Jaisalmer and Jaisalmer-Ramgarh scheme formulated by the Department of Steel and Mines with an outlay of Rs. 500 crores. The train running between Pachpadra and Balotra remained suspended for 21 days in the month of July and for all the 30 days during June. It is now more than 7-8 month since the running of this train was suspended. The traders engaged in supplying salt to other parts of the country are facing great inconvenience due to this. This service should be restarted without any further delay. The salt industry has been doing quite well but the material is being transported by trucks. The railway department should arrange for the transportation of salt for the development of salt industry. Besides, the train service between Pachpadra and Balotra should be re-started. With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants.

[English]

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : (Bangalore South) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we expected a lot from this young and dynamic Minister. It seems the Planning Commission has let down the Railway Ministry and in turn the Railway Minister has let down almost all the States. I will confine myself to my State. The hon. Minister knows very well that Karnataka State has been demanding so many things. The first and foremost things is that we should have South-Western railway zone. I am not advocate of the idea that every State should have a zone but unfortunately the State of Karnataka is now being governed by three zones. In practice it is almost five zones. Administratively it is impossible for the South Zone to look after such a vast area including Karnataka. I would request the hon. Minister to favourably look into this because the previous Railway Minister in Shrimati Indira Gandhi's regime had openly declared that South-Western Railway Zone will be established soon at Bangalore. The infrastructure is already there. There is a beautiful building and another two floors have to be added to it.

Another point I would like to request the hon. Minister is that once Railways takes a decision they should as far as possible stick to it. I want to quote only one or two instances. First I come to Hubli-Karwar railway line. Nearly 100 years ago the feasibility report was prepared by the then British company. An investment of Rs. 1.0 crores then would have brought this line. But now some Railway Board officer has announced...it is going to be shelved because it is not economically viable. It is quite surprising. Even common-sense says that it is really more economic. I have no time at my disposal. But I can prove by statistics. The Hubli-Karwar is the shortest route to carry ore from Bellary District. It will save nearly hundred rupees per tonne. This has been proved beyond doubt. While laying the foundation-stone of the Sea Bird project, the Prime Minister assured that Hubli-Karwar line will be taken up. On what authority, the railway officials have now said that it is not economically viable. It has caused resentment in Karnataka. When a survey has been conducted, we should stick to it. Why should you go on conducting the surveys again and again ? The topography remains the same, I am

sure, the hon Minister will bear this in mind.

The thrust of the Seventh Plan is on modernisation and to complete the ongoing projects. I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Railway Minister that in Karnataka there are two-three ongoing projects which have not received adequate attention. I will quote one example. The doubling of the railway line between Kuppam and Whitefield has not been taken up. The line was sanctioned. 75 per cent of the work is over. Now I received a letter from the Railway Ministry saying that it is not remunerative and, hence, they are not in a hurry to complete that. When 75 per cent of the work is already over, how such a reply should come from the Railway Ministry ?

With regard to Chittardurga and Raidurga new line, the work was started. Now I understand that the Railway Ministry feels that it is not economically viable. Some people say that it was taken up only due to political reasons. Is it a *tamasha ?* I am surprised that under the leadership of Mr. Madhavrao Scindia such a thing should happen.

Another thing is about the model stations. Hon. Minister *suo motu* informed me that Bangalore station will be a model station But I learnt from the authorities concerned that it is yet to start. This work should have been started during 1987-88 but still it is a non-starter. I would request the Minister to take up the work early.

Another demand is about the Karnataka Express. You have got Andhra Express, Tamil Nadu Express, etc. But Karnataka Superfast Express is a misnomer. It is not at all a superfast train. The previous Karnataka Express used to take 36 hours but now it takes 43-44 hours-that too, if it arrives according to the scheduled time. Originally, there used to be 22 bogies with double engine. Now there is one engine with 16 bogies. Therefore, there is no speed. I request the Minister to restore the original timings and the number of bogies with double engine.

One more point is in regard to the railway accidents. During the budget speech, the hon. Minister stated that accidents have decreased. The other day when the railway accident took place in Kerala, he also submitted his resignation on moral grounds. That is a different matter. But so far as this Kerala accident is concerned—where 100 people died-the report of the Railway Safety Commissioner says that it was due to human failure. It is a very serious matter. The railways must take a serious note of that point. If it is a fact, then there is something wrong somewhere. The hon. Railway Minister must rectify the situation so that such things do not happen again.

Now I come to the passenger amenities. The hon. Minister was pleased to announce in his budget speech that a directorate for passenger amenities will be set up soon. I do not think that they have constituted the directorate so far. If it is not so, why should there be a delay ? I do not want to go into other details.

The Mysore-Bangalore gauge conversion is an ongoing project. So far, out of Rs. 40 crores, you have spent only Rs. 10 crores. So, I request the hon. Minister to look into the matter and take necessary steps. Everyday Members have been writing to him. He is also replying promptly to the letters. All the Members have imposed confidence on him I request the Minister to see to it that he retains the confidence which the Members have on him and he deserves the same.

[Translation]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would confine myself to a few points only.

I had submitted a memorandum about the damage caused to the railway link due to floods in my constituency last year. As a result, the Hon. Prime Minister and Shri Scindia took action and railway line was repaired immediately. I as well as the people of my constituency are grateful to them for this.

However, I would like to say that we

[Dr.G.S. Rajhans]

are facing a permanent problem. As a result of the action taken by the hon. Minister, the railway tracks on Samastipur-Darbhanga line were being laid. The line upto Bhojpur was laid. But before the work was completed, one of the Ministers went there and ordered uprooting of tracks. He got the railway line laid in his own constituency instead. Can there be a greater injustice than this?

I would like to urge that the hon. Minister has approved a number of projects. But he is not going to hold the portfolio of Railways permanently. Imagine the gross injustice that would be there if his successor gets a railway line shifted to his own constituency. We are very simple people.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Bihari Brahmins are always dangerous.

[Translation]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : We are not able to put forward our demand forcefully. But the fact is that the people of our constituency have suffered a lot. A similar project can be approved for another place, if there is need. But approval of one project at the cost of other is not justified. At least one broad gauge line must be laid there. The need for a railway line can be judged from the fact that the Government as well as big industrialists hesitate to set up industrial units there due to non-availability of proper transportation facility, because raw-material needs to be transported to that place from other parts of the country and finished goods too are required to be supplied to other parts of the country. Transshipment causes great inconvenience.

Moreover, that area was hit by the severest earthquake recently. Earthquake of such intensity was not experienced during the last 50 years. When the voluntary agencies were contacted to be provided relief assistance, they expressed their inability to provide the commodities beyond the Samastipur railway station.

The Government will have to arrange for the transshipment of goods besides making other arrangements. I have studied the whole matter with a cool mind. The only demand of the people of that area is that the industrial development of the area is possible only if a broad guage line is laid there. The labourers migrate to Delhi, Punjab and Haryana only because there is no industry. You provide a railway line there and I take the responsibility of getting industries set up there. Industrialists would also come forward to set up industries. It is not an expensive project. The migrant labourers, then wouldn't create problems for the Government in the States of Haryana, Punjab and Delhi. In the light of these facts, I urge the Government to lay broad-guage line at the earliest.

Secondly, I would submit that justice has never been done to Bihar. Even the prosperous and industrially developed areas of Chota Nagpur and Santhal Pargana, are not linked with a broad gauge line. Railway facilities are not available even at district headquarters there.

The project to construct a railway bridge at Patna has been lingering on since long. Railway bridge must be constructed at Patna or Bhagalpur.

The work relating to the constructing of double line from Bhagalpur to Sahebganj and Bhagalpur to Kiul is running at a very slow speed. It needs to be accelerated. It would enable to solve numerous problems.

In the end, I would like to submit that the hon. Minister had assured in the House that the workers at Jamalpur railway factory would not be retrenched. But I find that new staff is not being recruited to replace those who are retiring. People are terrified due to this. They feel that it may ultimately result in the closure of the factory. In order to provide employment to the people, the Government should take measures to start some new project at Jamalpur Railway factory where the manufacturing of steam locomotives has since been stopped.

In the end, I would submit that as long as I remain the Member of this House and get opportunity to express my views on the railways, I would reiterate that injustice has been done to us. Railway line from Samastipur to Darbhanga must be laid.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I support the supplementary demands of grants of Railways. Besides, I am also obliged to our hon. Prime Minister under whose statesmanship we have got such a perfect Minister of Railways who has shouldered the responsibility of the railway department so well It is due to him that India ranks high on the world railway map. Our hon Minister and his co leagues have a major role in promoting railway technology. We have often seen his colleagues arguing in the P A C. meetings and we have come to know that they have a good knowledge and they deserve to be congratulated for this. Our countrymen are proud of the railwaymen because from the watchmen to the officers, everyone works devotedly

Now, I would like to draw your attention to my own constituency. I hail from an area which is called Shekhawati. You must have seen it in the T.V. serial today. This is the place where Shershah Suri was born. Not only this, the people of this area have shed their blood for defending the honour of their country. But our area is quite backward from the point of view of railways. There are places in this area where people have never even travelled in train There is only one train from Sikar, which is the hon. Speaker's constituency, and from Jhunjhunu to Delhi. This train arrives at night and leaves the next evening.

I had written a letter to the hon. Minister regarding Bikaner Express which starts at 8.30 A.M. and goes to Ratangarh. The way the hon. Minister has replied to my letter it seems that either no one has told him of the real situation or else he has replied in hurry.

16.00 hrs.

He has mentioned in his reply that there is no facility, of shunting at Loharu, whereas at Laharu itself the shuttle attached to Bikaner Express is detached and latter attached to the Shekhawati Express. So when shunting is possible for Shekhawati Express why cannot 8 to 10 coaches be attached to Bikaner Express from Delhi which could be dettached at Loharu. These coaches could be sent from Loharu to Jaipur. The same coaches can be attached to Bikaner Express once again after returning from Jaipur and can run from Loharu to Delhi. My submission is that one more train should be provided for Sekhawati area, which would also cover Sikar and Jhunjhunu. If the railway line from Dabra to Singhana which is meant for Khetri Copper Project is improved a little, then that area, which has been deprived of railway facility so far, can avail of it now. There is some work of improvement on that railway line. Our State Government is prepared to do that work and is ready to contribute its 50 per cent share if the hon. Railway Minister gives approval for improving the Dabra to Singhana railway line. This would enable passenger coaches to run on that line and the people of that area would be benefited.

The entire area of Rajasthan is deprived of the facility of broad gauge line. Due to the absence of broad guage line facility, the capital of Rajasthan, Jaipur is not connected with Delhi. The hon. Minister has provided a broad guage line from Bikaner to Suratgarth but that line goes further on I would request that at least Jaipur should be connected with Delhi on the broad guage line.

In the end, I would appeal that there is a need for further improvement in our railways. There should be communication not only between the engine driver and the guard but also between the driver and the next station so that accidents could be averted Arrangements should be made for the entire train route to be visible on the computer system so that a vigil could be maintained. There are some stations which do not either have sheds or drinking water facility. My subsmission is that in those stations, specially Nua,

[Shri Mohd. Ayub Khan]

Suratgarh, Mukundgarth and Bagar stations, arrangements of sheds and water taps should be made and permission of constructing platform should also be granted. The people of our area would be grateful to you for all these things.

My area Shekhawati falls in the tourists triangle. Tourists visit this place because there are a number of ancient forts and mansions which are architecturally beautiful. But this area is not conveniently connected by trains. Therefore, I would like to request that for the convenience of tourists and the people of that area, one more train should be started besides Shekhawati Express A shuttle should be introduced between Loharu and Jaipur and these coaches can be reattached to Bikaner Express on its way to Delhi at Loharu once again If this facility is provided the people of the entire Shekhawati area, which includes Sikar and Jhunjhunu will be extremely grateful to you.

* SHRI A J V.B MAHESWARA RAO (Amalapuram) : Mr Chairman Sir we are discussing the suplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1988.89. The allocations are made every year and we discuss them in the House. Various suggestions are being made for improving passenger amenities, but there is no improvement. The Railways Department continues to ignore improving the amentities for the passengers who travel by train The train fares have gone up steeply. But the facilities offered to them continue to be poor. The amenities offered to passengers in no way match the enhanced fraes. The train fraes continue to shoot up while the amenities continue to plummet.

Sir I represent Amalapuram. constituency in the House. Amalapuram perhaps may be the only constituency in the country which does not have even a single railway line. Repeatedy I have been requesting the Hon'ble Minister to provide atleast one railway line to this totally neglected constituency. Once again I request the Hon. Minister now to be provide a railway line to this Constituency. Amalapuram can be connected either with Rajamundry or with Narsapuram or Kovvur. Amalapuram, thus can be brought into the map of Railways. I earnestly request the Hon. Minister to take the decision to link Amalapuram either with Rajamundry or with Narsapuram or Kovvur.

During the past 41 years of our independence, no new railway line has been added in Andhra Pradesh except the addition of a more 200 Kms People in Andhra Pradesh are very much worried about the partiality meted out to them Many new lines have been identified in the State. They should be taken up and completed as early as possible This way the fear lurking in the minds of Andhrites can be removed The feeling that they are being neglected in allocation of new lines has to be removed now I hope hon Minister would do justice to the Telugu speaking people.

Sir only the other day, there was a zonal meeting of South Central Railway. I brought several issueses to the notice of the Minister I request the Hon. Minister to take immediate steps to solve them.

The population in the town cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad has increased enoromous y. The transport problem is becoming more and more acute now. In order to ease the traffic congestion, the State government has submitted a memorandum to the Central Government proposing a circular railway system for the twin cities. The State Government have even suggested how the money needed for the circular railway could be raised. This proposal is still pending before the Central Government. The decision to construct circular railway should be taken up immediatelly. Circular railway is the only solution to solve the transport problem in the twin cities and hence the matter should not be delayed any further Kazipet was selected for setting up of a Coach factory long ago. But the factory has not come up so far. The proposal has been gathering dust in the shelves of the Ministry of Railways. It is yet another

*Translation of the speech is originally delivered in Telugu.

instance to show how the Central Government has been neglecting the State. Atleast now, action should be initiated to set up the coach factory at Kazipet. The step-motherly treatment meted out to Andhra Pradesh should come to an end.

Sir, the people of Amalapuram have to go to either Rajamundry or Kakinada which are more than 150 Kms away to catch a train The population is around 10 lakhs in this constituency. A reservation counter was opened at Rajob at request. I thank the Hon Minister for this gesture and request him to open two more such counters at Mummadivaram and Kothapeta. Opening of the reservation counter at these places will help the people a lot.

Rajamundry is an important station Several super fast trains pass through this station every day yet, the reservation quota available at Rajamundry for various trains is very negligible Hence the quota available at this station should be raised for all the super fast trains.

Samarlakota is an important commercial centre. People have to travel all the way from Kakinada to Samarlakota junction for travelling by train Kakinada is fast growing up as an industrial centre. Godavari and Nagarjuna fertilizer factories are fast coming up there Many industries have already come up There is a proposal pending before the Railway Board to connect Kakinada by a railway line with Howarh and Vijayawada main line This is a very important proposal and matter should not be delayed any further. I request the Hon Minister to take the decision atleast now to connect Kakinada with Howarh Vijayawada.

Sir, the Samarlakota station is in a very poor condition now. Though Samarlakota is a junction, the facilities available to the passengers are very poor. There is no waiting room there. The platforms are open and the passengers are exposed to the rain and sun shine. This station needs immediate improvement. Let me hope, the Hon. Minister would take steps for improving Samarlakota junction. Rajamundry is yet another important station which needs immediate improvement. Similarly Tadepalli Gudem. This station also needs lot of improvement. The amenities available at these stations to the passengers are very poor. Steps should be taken immediately to improve the conditions in these stations. Tadepallingudem is an important station from where agriculture produce like rice and cash crops like coconut are sent out. But unfortunately sufficient number of wagons are not available at this Station There is no storage facility either. Both agriculturists and traders are suffering a lot and fact incurring losses also due to non availability of wagons, Hence I appeal to the Hon. Minister to provide more wagons at Tadepalligudem and also at Rajamundry for helping the farmers and traders.

Sir, when I was a member of Estimates Commitee, I had made several suggestions in providing more facilities to the travellers. At present the amenities available to the passengers are almost nil in the trains. The compartments are dim and dark as there are no lights in them. The toilets remain dirty Most of the trains are too dark More money should be allocated for providing amenities to the railway travellers That should be our first task. More amenities can be provided only when more money is allocated.

The East Coast Express between Secunderaoad and Howrah is a prestigious train. But even in this train, all bogies are old and dilapidated This train runs through Andhra area during day time It is too hot in this area and travel in such bogies throughout day is really tortuous. Not even a single A/C coach is attached to this train in spite of several requests. Once again I appeal to the Hon. Minister to provide II-tier A/C coaches to the East Coast Express and also Narsapur Express.

Sir, diesel engines were replaced by steam engines in certain important trains like Tirumala Express and Sarcar Express. The departure of Tirumala Express is being delayed at Kakinada on account of changing the engine. Hence this method of changing engines should not be resorted to. A/C coaches should be attached to

[Shri A.J.V.B. Maheswara Rao]

Tiruma'a Express for the benefit of the pilgrims who travel to Tirupathi.

The maintainance of stations throughout the country is not uniform. The stations in Andhra are being neglected while the stations in the north are being maintained properly. Every station in every part of the country should get equal attention. I hope, the government would take steps to maintain all the stations equally well in future.

Before I conclude, I once again draw the attention of the Ministry to improve the conditions in the trains and providing more amenities to the travellers especially those who travel by super fast trains.

I thank you very much for giving me the opportunity and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways for 1988-89, and oppose all the Cut Motions.

There was a Press report published, based on a Press Release from the South Eastern Railways' a head office, that some miscreants belonging to a political party are assaulting the Railway employees, viz. the Running Guards, Drivers etc. for no fault of the latter, so that they might go on an agitation, as a result of which the railway system might be paralyzed. I would urge upon the Minister to enquire into the matter immediately and take necessary action, so that necessary protection is given to these Railway employees who are constantly and habitually being assaulted with a deliberate intention.

I fully agree with Mr Basudeb Acharia regarding the need for modernization of the Railway track as also electrification, and changing of rolling stock, coaches and wagons which are being used for movement of ore and coal and become unfit for use due to over age But simultaneously I would request this august House to constitute a committee or a delegation of this entire House which should urge upon Planning Commission, so that they would allot more funds to Railways which is the nerve system of a develop ng country like ours. Because of constraints of resources the Railways are unable to go in for development which they would like to undertake. I request that the hon. Members in both the Opposition and the Treasury benches may kindly think about this seriously. Otherwise, we cannot develop our railway system and a developing country like ours cannot be developed, according, to our expectations.

Besides, the Rupsa-Bangriposihi narrow gauge railway line was constructed by the then Maharajah of Mayurbhanj about 90 years back. Now the Railway Reforms Committee after going through all the railway lines of the country have suggested that about 40 such railway lines which are found to be uneconomical should be withdrawn. But I would request the hon Minister that he may kindly rethink, or reconsider this issue because the Railway Reforms Committee would have, from the economy point of view would have given some suggestions. But the Railway is a big public undertaking and ours being a welfare oriented country, the Railways should grow. Being a public undertaking it should look not only for the income but also for the welfare of the railway users. That is why I request that the Rupsa-Bangriposihi line may be converted into a broad gauge railways line. The State Government has already agreed to give the land at a token price. Also the required intrasturctuce is there.

Mayurbhanj district is a tribal district and it has to be developed more and more. More railway lines should be provided in all such tribal and backward areas. We know that the electrification work from Howrah to Kharagpur and also from Madras to Waltair has been completed. But the middle portion from Kharagpur to Waltair has been left out. I request that the hon. Minister may kindly see

to it that the middle portion from Kharagpur to Waltair may be electrified in the the Eighth Plan with top priority.

Due io constraint of resources we are unable to convert the fiirst class coaches into AC two-tier coaches or AC Chair cars, by which we could have earned more money and also we could accommodate more passengers. But this could not be done. On this issue, I request the hon. Minister to kindly see to it that the long distant trains like Train Nos. 915 and 916, 175 and 176 77 and 78, and 141 and 142 and also 45 and 46, may be provided with more AC 2-tier coaches and also AC Chair cars.

Similarly, I fully agree with my hon. friend, Shri Basudeb Acharia, who has already mentioned about train Nos. 397 and 398, the Puri-Asansol passengers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : It is very dangerous to agree with him all the time.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : I am with him one with him on question of revival of 397 and 398 Puri Asanso trains. One more point I want to mention There are some old railway lines which have been there for a long time and the railway is incurring losses or which are uneconomical for commercial purposes. The hon. Minister may kindly look into them.

The Construction Sambhalpur division headquarters has not been provided adequate funds. This should be looked into as a matter of importanee and priority. Also, the Jhonpur-Basuwari and Sambhalpur to Telchar lines should be completed in the seventh Plan period. With these words. I once again support the demands for Railways.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATEL (Erandol) : Sir, every time we talk about the railway budget, for the last few year, we are told that some super-fast trains is started on the one hand, and on the other hand the the speed of Rajdhani and other trains has also been reduced. The time has now come when we have to think how many super-fast trains we are able to start at the cost of the goods traffic and what is the use of that. We cannot go on starting superfast trains only with the speed of 125 or 140 kilometres and we cannot dream of at least in the near future, about the trains which are superfast trains in countries like Japan, England and America which travel at a speed of 250 or 300 kilometres per hour. So, we have reached a saturation point. Now we have to think of raising more capacity and we have to think about the people who want to go in passenger trains for smaller towns to bigger cities. Now, we are reducing these passenger trains. I do not want to comment adversely. For example, Luskar Express between Gwalior and Bombay section has started recently. But our demand starting Bhuswal Manmad passenger trains is not forthcoming. Many college students and officce going people are suffering on account of non-availability of accommodation in Maharashtra Express, Dadar Nagpur Express and other trains. Then, why are you feeling shy of raising Railway Bonds? The Railway Department helps to develop our economy and the traffic. If the people are ready in a particular area for raising the bonds only then on pretext that in future the passengers will have to pay more in that area, and they will be angery about that—this argument is not a good one. I urge upon the hon. Minister and the Government to rethink about this and wherever such proposal has come for converting narrow gauge into broadgauge or for starting a new railway line it should be considered. The Railway Bond may be issued so that early execution and completion of railway lines could take place.

Now we have to think about starting a third line between Bombay and Bhuswal. There is a lot of traffic between Howrah, Bomby and Delhi section. If we start now, I think we would be able to complete it after ten or fifteen years.

I would also like to suggest that one overbridge is required between Jalgaon and Bhuswal. It is an urgent necessity. The Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce

[Shri Vijay N. Patel]

proposed Kokan Railway and Khandesh Railway as early as in 1952. This is between Dhule and Amlanar, and the distance is Just thirty KMs only.

We are glad that our Prime Minister has given green signal for new railway lines in the next Fine Five Year plan. I would request the Minister to consider this amall section so that we can reduce the burden on the Surat Bhuswal line and also the distance between Ahmedabad and Hyderabad and Trivandrum and Hyderabed would also be reduced by sixy kms.

I suggest that a survey may be conducted for starting a new railway line between Manmad Indore, Guna and Gwalior. If we construct section by section, it will take some years to complete it. But surely the distance between Delhi ahd Bombay would become shorter as compared to the Western Railway even.

My friends have mentioned that some State Capitals are still connected with metergauge only. Efforts should be made for converting it into broadgauge. Priority should be given in this regard. For example, if goods come from Calcutta to Jaipur, they have to be unloaded at Delhi and sent by trucks or re-loaded in the metergauge passenger trains. These are the priority lines.

I am confident that under the dynamic youth leaders, i.e. our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the Railway Minister Shri Madhavrao Scindia, with the help of the team of railway board members, things will move speedily We expect that people will get more facilities in the near future.

With these words, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways).

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister because though the acknowledgement of the letters is received within one or two days, their reply is never received. My submission is that the reply should positively be given within 2 or 3 months and the problem should also be solved.

I would like to mention here the Allahabad railway land scandal about which I have been writing to the hon. Minister for the last two years. A third person is selling 500 acres of railway land and I have received and acknowledgement of my letter now. Our term will end in another one and a half years, and therefore, my submission is that the replies to the letters and action should be accelerated. Similarly, I have written many letters about the bungling of Rs. one crore in the electrification work between Vijaywada and Kargajnagar, but no action has been taken though two years have passed since then, nor have I received any reply. I think that even an investigation officer has not been appointed so far. Therefore attention should be paid in this direction. When an account was going to pass a bill,

[English]

she was transferred forcibly. I wrote all these things in that representation, but I have not received any reply so far from the Ministry except an acknowledgement.

[Translation]

I want to draw your attention to these things. Apart from this, there are a few more points to which I want to draw your attention. There is a railway line from Hyderabad to Adilabad, but no one knows about it because no train runs between Hyderabad and Adilabad. This place is near Nagpur. I have been a representative of that area for the last 20 years and even I came to know about this railway line quite late. The passengers have to travel by bus and it is a 14 hour journey. If an Express Train is started here the passengers of three districts, viz., Nizamabad, Karimnagar and Adilabad will be benefited. This point should certainly be considered.

Similarly, there is a train which runs

under the name of Minar Express in Bombay and becomes Konark Express on reaching Bhubaneswar. It becomes Minar Express in Secunderabad and on reaching back Bhubaneswar, it is again Konark Express. The train remains the same, only the name plate is changed. It will be convenient for the passengers if it has only one name Similarly, only 17 bogies are attached to it, whereas there should be 22 bogies. Consequently, the passengers do not get tickets and they face a lot of problem. If there is no platform at Bombay, then 5 bogies should be to it attached in Pune, but the number of bogies should be increased.

Similarly in Kazipet, the waiting room for passengers of first class and A.C. two tier is on the second floor. In case there is a heart patient it becomes a very difficult situation. Therefore, this waiting room should be shifted down stairs I support the demand of my colleague from Calcutta who has asked for electrification of railway line from Vijayawada to Calcutta. The Government is making attempts to get electrification done between Sanatnagar and Kazipet by 1992. It is my humble request that you should try to do this by 1990. The A P. Express used to take 22 hours earlier but now it takes 25 hours, whereas the other trains take much lesser time now. The Tamilnadu and G.T. Expresses leave within one to two hours of each other. Tamilnadu is dominating the Railway Board and therefore, they chart out the railway time-table as per their convenience Such a discrimination should not exist any more. The A P. Express should run at 6 A M. or at 7 P.M. instead of 2 O'clock in the afternoon. It reaches at 3'0 clock the next day. This spoils two working days and therefore, a change should certainly be made in the time table to this effect. Either the G T. or the Tamilnadu Express, could be started in the morning and A.P. Express can be substituted in its place. The rate which is charged for carrying bananas in the goods train or passenger train, should be applicable for mangoes also. The frieght charges of mangoes should be equivalent to that of bananas. I have already written to you in this regard. Mangoes are transported from Kazipet also but wagons are not available there. You should try to provide wagons there. The small businessmen are facing a lot of problem due to only 20 to 30 bogies, that are made available there. Therefore, you should try to fulfil the earlier provision of attaching 2 to 3 wagons at Kazipet. The Godavari Express and the Gautami Express are superfast trains and are meant for the people of Andhra Pradesh. These trains stop only at places with a population of 25 to 30 thousand people. I would request that these trains should stop at the district headquarters like Jangam, Mehboobabad and Mathira also.

After Vijayawada, the Gautami Express stops at the station of a place with a population of 10 thousand. I feel that if a stoppage is given to this trainat Jargam, Mehboobabad and Mathira stations, it would be very beneficial to vegetable traders. Wagons should be made available on an immediate basis to transport vegetable consignments from Vijayawada to Hyderabad and Kazipet so that Vegetables do not rot. The Kazipet-Vijayawada Passenger train has been bifurcated —from Kazipet to Dornakal and from Vijayawada to Dornakal. This has created problems for passengers. Therefore, the Vijayawada-Hyderabad Passenger train and the Kazipet-Vijayawada Passenger train should be restored. I have written to the hon. Minister about the electrification of the Vijayawada-Kagaznagar railway line and the sale of railway land in Allahabad. Both these matters should be investigated and the results intimated to me within six months our term will expire after 1½ years and who knows who will be the victor in the next elections So I request that these works be taken up speedily.

SHRI SHANKAR LAL (Pali) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Railways. The railways should be developed according to the needs of the country. It is a matter of honour that hon. Shri Scindia has been given charge of the Railways. An important department like the Railways is usually put under the charge of a Cabinet Minister that the entire Railway Ministry has been entrusted to hon. Shri Scindia, who is a Minister of State, is ample proof of his capabilities.

[Shri C. Janga Reddy]

Mr. Chairman Sir, not much attention is being paid to railway development in the backward areas of our country. In this context, I shall cite the example of Rajasthan. In our country, on an average, there is 18.81 kilometres of railway line for every 1000 kilometres. However in Rajasthan for every 1000 kilometres there is only 16.41 kilometres of railway line. Rajasthan is much below the national average in this regard. So I request the hon. Minister to pay greater attention to Rajasthan. The Pali district of Rajasthan has been backward for quite a long time. I had written to the hon. Minister about the railway line from Bilara to Bar. In addition I had given a Short-Notice question and a Call-Attention. The reply was that the work was not being done due to paucity of funds Surveys for this railway line have already been conducted Survey has been conducted twice since the time I was a legislation in the Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha. Cost has escalated since then. If laying of a railway line is kept pending even after conducting a survey, the cost is bound to increase in that interim period. The hon. Minister has himself said in his reply that the cost has increased.

[English]

> "For 1988-89, the Railways arrival Plan has been reduced by the Planning Commission by as much as Rs. 450 crores. The total allocation for new lines has been reduced by the Planning Commission to only Rs. 195 crores which is much less than the requirement to satisfactorily progress the approved new line projects."

[Translation]

I am saying this because the Government should sanction more funds for this purpose. Whenever we talk of development of backward areas, the Government gives lack of funds as the excuse. I cannot describe the injustice being meted out to these areas by the Government by doing so. During the Jamine in Rajasthan and while earth-work was in progress, the Rajasthan Government offered funds for the railway line from Bilar to Bar as there was no other means of transport for villages in that area. Now the Government's claim of shortage of funds does not hold good. Pali is an important 'Nagar Parishad' area and has a population of over one lakh. Yet it does not have a direct rail link with Delhi. People wanting to come to Delhi have to entrain either at Marwar Junction or Jodhpur. Another urgent need is the conversion of the Delhi-Ahmedabod metre-gauge line into broad-gauge. But this scheme is also pending What has the Government done ? They have withdrawn the stoppage of Delhi-Ahmedabad Mail at Sendra station. This step had evoked loud protests from the people living in villages nearby. People from Sendra and its neighbourhood serve in the army, but the hon. Minister's reply says that very few passengers entrain from there. Passengers cannot even buy tickets from Sendra. Servicemen have to go upto Beawar to buy tickets. Sendra is an important station on the railway map of India. The Government should restore the stoppage of the Delhi-Ahmedabad Mail at Sendra. If additional facilities cannot be provided, at least the existing facilities should not be withdrawn.

Besides this, the conversion of the Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur and Suratgarh-Jaisalmer railway lines into broad gauge is also very important. The Indira Gandhi Canal project is important not only for Rajasthan but for the whole country. Lack of adequate means of transport affects the supply of cement and other goods in the command and desert areas. The Government must convert the Suratgarh-Jaisalmer railway line into broad gauge by treating it a matter of national policy.

The tribal area Plan from Ratlam to Banswara in Rajasthan is also lying in cold storage. I want to draw the hon. Minister's attention towards the backwardness of Rajasthan in terms of transport facilities.

There is no over-bridge is Pali. The people of Pali have to wait for hours to get the industrial area. The traffic on either side is held up. The situation is akin to the one in Rani Bazaar in Bikaner. There are no bridges over there.

Train services are satisfactory in Jodhpur but not in Marwar junction and other stations. As compored to the past, there is a deterioration in rail services. The hon. Minister may be working to the best of his ability but the reality of the situation is that railways are not being given due attention.

Mr. Chairman Sir, you have rung the bell twice, but when I get another apportunity to speak, I shall say something more on the railways as I have much to say on the subject.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : Mr. Chairman Sir, Shri Daga has spoken so much during this tenure of 7½ years that the representatives from Pali need not say anything for the next 21 years.

AN HON. MEMBER : That period will be cut from the time allotted to them.

SHRI SHANKAR LAL ; You are to do so but I have still got a lot more to say.

[English]

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL (Phulbani) : Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of Railways.

Sir, the scope of the discussion on the Supplementary Demands is very limited. Many hon. Members have spoken on the Supplementary Demands. So, I do not want to repeat those points again. I would only like to make some points with ragard to Orissa, particularly my constituency Phulbani. Phulbani is geographically in the middleof Orissa. But unfortunately there is norailway line there. The population of Phulbani mostly consists of Scheduled Castes ane Scheduled Tribes. They have not seen the railway line or the railway till now. In this connection, I would like to say that we have already passed 41 years of Independence and I do not know why my district Phulbani has been neglected so far. There was a proposal to build a line Khurdha Road to Bolangir via Phulbani. The then hon. Minister of Railways said in his Budget speech to take up the survey of that proposed line. Accordingly, survey of that line was taken up. But I am sorry to say that the need of the line was not properly highlighted by the survey team. They say, the construction of this line is not economically viable. In this connection, I would like to say that economic viability should not be the only criterion. The economical backwardness of the area should also be taken into consideration. There is a place called Tumdibundh in Phulbani district which is 200 kms. away from Phulbani and there lie graphite mines. That area is inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Gochha Poda and Katringia, both the places have full of coal mines. At a place called Dhalpur and by the side of river Mahanadi in Puwani district costly stones are available. Many business people from Bombay and Calcutta are frequently coming to Phulwani and are taking these precious stones and graphites and mines available in the district.

16.46 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair.]*

In this connection, I would like to bring to your kind notice that you may advise the State Government also to make a geographical and mineral survey properly in Phulwani district. In 1984, before the brutal assassination of the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, she visited Phulwani. When the people approached her and brought to her notice this proposed railway line, she assured the people that this Railway line was justified because it is geographically located in the middle of Orissa. There is a link to Gopalpur port and Sambalpur route also. So, I request the hon. Minister that construction of this line Khurda Road-Bolangir

[Shri Radhakanta Digal]

via Phulwani may be taken up expeditiously and steps may be taken to build up this line.

In Delhi-Puri Express and Neelanchal Express, catering system is not so satisfactory. Neelanchal Express is always running late to Delhi and so the people are suffering. You may kindly advise the Railway Board and the railway authorities for observing punctuality in running of this particular train.

Lastly, I would like to bring to your kind notice that don't concentrate all your efforts only in urban areas. Kindly make some efforts and give some time to think about rural areas like Phulwani district.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): At the outset, I would demand that the Ministry of Finance and also the Planning Commission should see that the Railways do not starve of funds and more funds should be allotted so that the railway works can go on. This is my first point.

Second point is, I want to impress upon the Minister and the august House that the number of accidents have increased. He may disagree. But the people have died more in number. I do not know how the concoted figures or what figures he gets.

About the accident in Kerala which took place, the other day the Minister had made a statement that it was a mystery. We were amazed. I do not know in this fag end of the 20th century, whether the Railway Board and the Railway Ministry are depending upon the *Tapas* and *havans* so that railway trains can run properly. Out of my own experience, I can say that in Gorakhpur division, derailment has increased. It is being said that the derailments are taking place due to rains. Do you mean to say that India is a country where rains will not take place? Derailments leading to dislocation of railway traffic have increased to a great extent. As mentioned by Shri Chintamani Jena, railway staff have been assaulted at Kharagpur, Bauria, Ulberia and Bagnar etc. The assaults have been made because the deraliment of railways has caused dislocation and delay. Hence the discontent has gone to that extent. When the railwaymen, the guards, the drivers or the TTs are assaulted, we do not find the railway officers ever going to that site. They should be given due protection and it should be seen that the railways run in time. In my opinion, one of the reasons why the derailments are taking place these days is because of the induction of casual contract system on the repair of railway lines, on the replacement of railway tracks, on re-railing, re-sleeper and deep screening etc. All these jobs so long were being done departmentally by appointing casual labour from time to time.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Shri Narayan Choubey raised this point. Unfortunately he did not have patience of waiting to hear my reply. I have repteed to this. I have made the matter very clear. He always brings this point. He never reads my reply. Every time an opportunity arises, he raises the same point. I know his speech. I know what he is going to say. I need not note the points. I request him to read my reply.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Even after reading his noted speech, which should be read and re-read, accidents are occurring and derailments are occurring. I do not know why. We are interested in reading his speech but we are more interested to stop derailments of trains and avoiding accidents. That thing is not coming up.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: This is where nature's write runs. Accidents will keep occurring.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: If that is so, why does the hon. Member not go to temples and mosques instead of sitting here and participating in a discussion?

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Shri Choubey is a man of his word. His

single-mindedness is evident from his speech.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : And the hon. Minister too has a single reply every time.

[English]

The contract system should be done away with at least in the matter of renewal of tracks, re-railing and deep screening etc. These jobs should be done as were being done previously.

We are importing many new locos from Japan. We are importing coaches. Why cannot we produce our coaches and why cannot we produce our locos ? Even if we require to import say, locos, Japanese locos are definitely much bigger locos than we pro. uce but I am told that two Chittaranjan ocos can work as good as one Japanese loco. But, Chittaranjan locos will cost less than half of one Japanese loco I do not know why this should not be done Suppose we require to import coaches Why don't we import one or two or three prototype and then produce them in our own factory ? Why are we importing 40 locos or 50 coaches ? I do not know. This practice should be stopped and our RDS at Lucknow should be developed further.

We had been demanding for a third line between Kharagpur to Panskura and from Panskura to Santragarhi. Nothing

[Translation]

can be gained by flattering us.

Sir, I renew my demand again although he has told that it would be done after the survey is over. It request that it should be done.

Sir, there is acute shortage of spare parts in factories and depots. The spare parts which are supplied by the Stores Departments are not good spare parts. They are spurious spare parts. So, I would request the Minister to kindly look into this so that original spare parts will be supplied. I agree with Shri Janga Reddy on some aspects. I don't agree with his philosophy. But I do agree with him on many other points. Regarding corruption cases, I would like to suggest that if they are brought to your notice, they should be looked into properly. I do not know why a case which has been given two years back, has not been inquired into and replied. I had given you some cases. You can have them inquired. In this connection, I want to point out one important thing. At present, the person who makes an allegation against somebody is not consulted by the investigating officers when they inquire into the matter. They consult the person against whom we had made allegations. They get a reply from the person against whom allegation has been made and the same reply is sent back to us. In future, we will be expecting from you that whenever you send some inquiring agency, the agency should contact such persons who have made the allegation. For example, I make an allegation against Shri Basudeb Acharia and your agency goes to Shri Acharia and takes his reply and you send the reply back to me saying everything is correct. *(Interruptions)* My suggestion is that the person who made the allegation should be contacted.

Regarding theft of materials, something has been done.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Sir, Shri Choubey is a very dangerous man. He comes and sits near me here; tells me to give him some points to make a speech; takes the points from me and then fires them all against me. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You should be very careful. You are realising that only now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Kharagpur is a notorious place for all these things.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) : That is the place from where you come... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Yes, that is the place from where I come. *(Interruptions)* I have even given the names of the criminals residing in the Railway quarters. I have given the numbers of the Railway quarters also. Even then, nothing has been done. I do not know what the RPF is doing ? What for. are they there ? Atleast let the Minister tell us whether this is true or not.

Regarding model stations, I am glad that you have declared Kharagpur to be a model station. *(Interruptions)*

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER . He wants improvement. Afterwards, let it become model station.

(Interruptions)

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Sir, it is very unfair that the hon. Minister has given him so many things. Even the model station was giyen to him where there are thefts. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Especially where criminals are residing in the Railway quarters. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : He will spoil the whole model. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : I would like to suggest that as has been told by the officers of the Railways there, the entire building may remain in tact. Let us agree that it should remain. But the other things need some changes. Atleast, while you want to make certain things in that area, let the MLAs, MPs, Commissioner, all these people be taken into confidence. I thing that should be noted by the hon. Minister.

The last point I would like to make is about the Railway staff. I would request you to fill the vacancies. I am glad that you are increasing the railway traffic; you are increasing the number of trains; number of platforms. But you are decreasing the number of railway employees. *(Interruptions)* He has not reduced the number of coaches. In the Indian Railways, the second-class coaches and even the first-class coaches are in a very bad shape. Therefore, I would first request him to fill up the vacancies. Do not create a situation unnecessarily. The Railways are the biggest employer in this country. The Railways are not only meant to carry the load. carry the passengers but the Railways must provide good employment Knowingly or unknowingly, willingly or unwillingly, the Railways have been doing a social job. They are the biggest employer in this country. I think 17 lakh people have been working in this organisation. But now it has come down. I do not know the exact figure. Some say it is 14 lakhs; some say it is 18 lakhs. I do not know what the exact number is. But, definitely it has come down.

17.00 hrs.

The number of people are retiring. You are not giving them employment. You are saying that your productivity has increased Please increase your productivity. At least keep a balance and see that vacancies are really filled up. With these words, I say that Railways must get more funds so that it should not starve of funds in serving the nation and it must prosper.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P NAMGYAL): I have a submission to make that after the Half an Hour Discussion is over, we will sit for some more time to conclude the discussion on Supplementary Demands (Railways) and the Hon. Minister will reply tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I think, it has the consensus of the House. We will accept the suggestion that after the Half an Hour discussion is over we will continue the discussion on Railways once again and finish the discussion today itself. That is the proposal. And the reply, I

think, will be tomorrow. When do you want to give reply Mr. Minister ?
(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Let us have a discussion also tomorrow.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : We will cover as much as possible because there are many Members who want to speak.
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are about 45 Members. You have to decide about this because I have to inform others. Otherwise, if we resume the discussion without informing, they may not like that.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : If we can conclude the discussion today, reply can be given tomorrow. That would be better.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Today we will finish the discussion and tomorrow will be reply Is it okay ? I think this has the consensus of the House I think all will accept that. Now we will continue. Shri Chiranji Lal to speak.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal) : Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the discussion on the Supplementary Demands (Railways) is going on. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : If the discussion is going to take place, let me reply to it also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us see afterwards.
(Interruptions)

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : The double track between Delhi and Ambala on the Northern Railway is complete. It was formally inaugurated on the 7th of May this year. After doubling of the railway line, there has been no change in the timings. The same time is being consumed by the train that was being consumed before the doubling of the track was complete. I would respectfully submit that double track should have some advantage. Some time should be fixed while preparing new time-table that is to commence from the First of October. It should be apparent to the eye that double track has a good effect on the running of the train.

Secondly, this Northern Railway from Delhi-Ambala onward is serving four or five States including a foreign country i.e. Pakistan-Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Pakistan. You will very well appreciate the importance that should be given to it. I would request the hon Minister to include electrification of this line in the next financial year. It may be done in phases but let us start doing it. In the next financial year at least from Delhi to Panipat electrification should be completed.

Thirdly, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the condition of platforms at Sonepat, Panipat, Karnal and Kurukshetra During the recent rains I myself had bitter experience at Sonepat railway station. There are pits at the platform where water stagnates. during rainy season. I would request that not only minor repairs at the platform be undertaken but also it may either be cemented or the existing structure replaced by Kota stone.

Fourthly, Kurukshetra is a place of historic importance on this line. There is going to be a solar eclipse on 11th September this Year. During the last one year there have been three solar eclipses and each time the gathering was to the tune of ten to twenty lakhs. There is no shed at Kurukshetra railway station worth the name. On 13th July I travelled from Sonepat to Kurukshetra. It was raining heavily. There is a small shed at Kurukhshetra which is also leaking. Kurukshetra should be made a model station. At least a big shed should be provided on both the platforms there. It is not my constituency but it is a place which attracts people from every nook and corner of the country and if this

[Shri Chiranji Lal Sharma]

facility is provided people will very much appreciate.

Sir, at least sixty trains including goods trains run daily on this line between Delhi-Ambala-Amritsar. If we divide 24 hours by sixty then after every twenty-five minutes a train passes on this track and the railway-crossings at Sonepat, Panipat and Karnal remain practically closed thus paralysing the traffic. The railway authorities have taken a decision in principle to construct over-bridges both at Panipat and Sonepat but the difficulty is that the State Government is not providing funds or are not cooperating. I would request the Railway Minister to seek their cooperation. At Karnal on 15th September, 1985 the foundation-stone of an over-bridge was laid. On the same day at Kurukshetra the foundation stone was laid. Whereas Kurukshetra over-bridge was completed on 23rd September last year the Karnal over-bridge is lying incomplete. Three years have since elapsed. I would request the hon. Minister to look into this and have it expedited.

It was on 7th May that the Deputy Minister of Railways, Shri Mahabir Prasad visited Karnal for the formal inauguration of the double track. At that time also I had brought to his notice that there is a large pond adjoining the railway platform at Karnal. It is a very good mosquito breeding ground. It is stinking. The situation is terrible. On the other side, is the Model Town. Shri Mahabir Prasad, Deputy Minister, gave an assurance to the people in the function that was held on 7th May that this pond will be got filled up. I don't know if any progress has been made. I will request Shri Scindia to look into this matter. This is a genuine request.

I would again lay stress on the improvement of the platforms. I must congratulate Shri Madhavrao Scindia for the good example he has set by having tendered his resignation because of accident in the recent past. It was no mean sacrifice. It is good that the Prime Minister appreciated his work. He has set a good example. The railways have no doubt made a tremendous progress all over the country during the last few years. But still there is plenty of scope for improvement. With these woprds, I conclude.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor) : Sir, after the Independence of our country, Assam has been neglected by the Ministry of Railways like anything. If you go there, you will find that there is no improvement. There is no maintenance of railway stations, railway lines and platforms. The stations are in a dilapidated condition.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : The hon. Member has mentioned after Independence'. Prof. Dandavate will share the blame with me. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : The Railway Ministry is giving very old and rickety bogies, which have been rejected by other States, to the people of Assam. These are unfit for travel. There is neither light nor drinking water in the bogies. The speed of the trains is also very slow. No timings are observed. The distance from Guwahati to Badarpur is hardly 300 kilometres. But it takes more than 24 hours to reach from Guwahati to Badarpur or vice versa.

No doubt I will support the Supplementary Demands for Grants, but the Railway Minister should give some special attention towards Assam. Assam is also a part of this country. It should also be developed on an equal footing alongwith other States.

I requested for two railway crossings at Bilgaon and Chungajan in my constituency. I do not know how much money will be needed for such small things. But there should be no hesitation on the part of the railways to provide the railway crossings at these places.

The Government of India decided that they would create a new division at Rangia. The people have been demanding that. But it has not yet materialised. So, I request the hon. Minister to at least pay some attention regarding the Rangia

division which is the demand of the people. Lumding-Badarpur line is a very dangerous line because it has to cross so many underground tunnels. It is a metre guage line. One cannot travel by it because of its slow speed. People cannot reach on time. I am citing one example to show how slow the trains are running in Assam. A train was moving in such a slow speed that ta man in the train asked a pedestrian o get into the train which he refused to do because he was in a hurry and he went on foot. This is the condition of trains in Assam.

Presently, New Jalpaiguri Division is not in Assam. It is in West Bengal. It controls the entire northern and some part of Southern Assam upto Guwahati. So, the people of Rangia have demanded Rangia Division to be set up at Rangia which has not been done yet. A survey was made in 1931 by the Britishers to take a railway line from Jakhalabandha to Jorhat and it was found feasible to take a line there Till today that has not materialised and we have been demanding that all the towns in Assam should be touched by the Railways. The Kaziranga Express started from Guwahati via Furkating to Jorhat. But for the reasons best known to the Ministry, to the uttar surprise of the people, it has been discontinued. Now, I request the Minister to look into the matter and pay some attention to continue the Kaziranga Express.

I would like to point out that huge areas of land have been occupied by unauthorised persons who are mostly foreigners. We have been demanding that these unauthorised occupants should be evicted. I do not know for what interest, may be for political interest, they are not taking any interest in the eviction of the occupants who are foreign nationals. There is only one superfast train going from New Delhi to Guwahati which is very slow. I request the hon. Minister to look into the matter of NE Express which he has assured during the last Budget. He has geared up the speed of all trains but not in the north-eastern sector. NE Express should be fast than what it is now. I am from Golaghat district. There is only one station in the town. There is no room for the passengers and the entire building is old and rickety. Hence I request the Minister to immediately look into the matter and direct for improvement of the station.

Some employees of railways in Assam participated in the Assam movement for seven years and action has been taken against them. Their demands and cases have not been settled as yet; as per the Assam accord, their cases should have been settled immediately, but the Ministry of Railways is not paying any heed. Their cases should be settled immediately.

Then, the casual workers should be regularised. Those who had been dismissed from service for petty offences should also be reinstated.

Loco running staff were dismissed for participating in the railway strike in 1981. They should be reinstated as per the High Court and Administrative Tribunal's verdict.

In Assam there are a few railway facilities. If you go to a station to purchase a ticket and get it reserved, you cannot get it, but if you get into the train and pay some tips, you will get it. This practice should be stopped immediately. We do not know if there is any authority to look into that. If you are in the good books of someone, you will get the reservation, not otherise.

Once I was humiliated by a railway employee, for no fault of mine, I brought it to the notice of the Railway Minister. He acknowledged my letter immediately, but I do not know what action has been taken. I request the hon. Minister to take appropriate action.

Lastly, I request him to pay special attention to the State of Assam. I request that railway level crossings should be established immediately at Bilgaon and Chongajan for the convenience of the people in the border area.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Railway is the base of country's development. The policy of the Government is that the development works should be undertaken in backward areas. But it is unfortunate that Bihar has been totally ignored from the point of view of railway development. Mr. Scindia is a very active and energetic man. But he is not very active in respect of Bihar. The schemes of Northern Bihar have remained neglected for years. A survey of Sakri-Hasanpur Railway line covering a distance of 55 kilometre was conducted and its earthwork had also started in 1984. Provision for this item of work was made in the budget for 1986-87 but was dropped in the budget for the year 88-89. The scheme which had been provided for in the Budget for the last fifteen years, should be given first priority. Similarly the work of Darbhanga-Samastipur broad gauge line and Bagaha-Chhitoni railway bridge had started but was discontinued. I would urge upon the hon. Minister of Railways to arrange to start this work again under Rolling Stock Programme in view of the resentment amorg the people, the "Rail Roko" movement which has been lunched there and the formation of a sangharsh samiti. Besides this, there are about 16-17 districts in Northern Bihar like the district of Patna, Darbhanga etc. which cover an area 250-300 kilometres and remain neglected as regards the provision of rail facilities in this region. There are about 10 more districts such as Jainagar, Patna and Darbhanga etc where 14 trains serving this area of about 200 kilometre have been cancelled. It is causing widespread resentment among the people. The private bus owners of this area are having their heyday as it is only who are providing transport facilities for to and fro journeys in this area. Railways are losing the revenue worth Rs. 40 lakhs per month. The Railway authorities of this region maintain that the bus service is more confortable than train the train journey. Therefore people prefer buses. But it is not correct. The fact is that the passengers coming to Patna from Southern India, Bombay and Delhi do not easily get trains for Northern Bihar. They have to wait for 8 to ten hours as the train is available only at 5 P.M. I request the Government to provide immediately a Mail or Express train on this section so that the passengers may reach their destination. There is already broadgauge line upto Samastipur but all the trains operating on this section have been cancelled. Even the expreés trains as they are called, actually run like passenger trains. They take a lot of time. Even the train operating between Samastipur and Jainagar has been cancelled. The people of those areas say that Railway officials such as Divisional Managers, Railway Managers etc. of this area have a collusion with the Private Bus owners and they compel the people to travel only by buses. The train from Samastipur has also been cancelled. So here there is no train from morning till evening. A train comes in the evening and then, there is no train upto 12 PM. Due to this wide gap of time the people have to face a lot of difficulty. The Government should bring to book those officials who want to put a blot on the capacity of the Railways. The Government should take care of the people of Bihar and provide rail facilities for the people of this state. Our hon. Minister is a very dynamic person. It is the bad luck of Northern Bihar that the development work and transportation facilities have come to a halt due to the cancellation of trains. Previously there was the provision of wooden chairs at Samastipur railway station but now these have been replaced by the plastic-chairs which are not so comfortable.

Previously the entire furniture provided at the railway station used to be prepared by the Railway Department but now it is obtained through contractors. The people say that the seats which were provided earlier were durable than the present ones. Therefore I request you to stop this practice. In fact, these contractors are the men of the Divisional rail Manager. He had been transferred from Samastipur but he has got his transfer stayed. He is a local man and belongs to Begusarai. Thus a local man has been appointed as the Divisional Superintendent of Railways.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I think you for the reinstatement of Harijan scheduled Castes and scheduled Tribes under Crash Programme, Reservation quota has been implemented in it. But I request the Government to issue instructions for the recruitment of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes under Crash programme against their reserved quota on North-Eastern Railway.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I want to urge upon the hon. Minister to provide a stop for G. L. Guwahati express at Nayanagar in Samastipur division. A retiring room should also be got constructed at Rasera as there is no such room.

Sir, the food which is served is packed in tin-foils which is very unhygienic and its rates are also very high. Thus the quality of the food items being served is deteriorating and price of the tin-foil is also increasing. Even the contracts for packing the food in tin-foils have been given to the relatives of these officers which is making it worse and leading to more corruption. Therefore I request the hon. Minister to pay attention to all these things and streamline the entire system. With these words I conclude.

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17.13 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

[English]

Representation against import policy cash crops and spices.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now take up Half an hour discussion. We will resume the discussion on Railways' Grants after finishing the half an hour discussion.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : What is this Sir ? We were not told about this late sitting.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Well, we have discussed it in the House and the members have accepted to sit late. It was discussed at 5 o' clock.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Then we must be given dinner.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : It is good for people like Shri Thampan Thomas to fast once in a while.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : About dinner, you may ask Shri Namgyal.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : I do not thing that it will go that long. Moreover, many hon. members are attending the PM's dinner.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We can decide about dinner later.

Yes. Mr. Kurup.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Sir, I have a submission. We all have given a notice for this motion. This subject is of great importance to Kerala. We request you to convert it into a discussion under Rule 193, so that we too can participate in it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will pass it on to the hon. Speaker. It can be decided in the Business Advisory Committee and the subject may be discussed once again under Rule 193. At this stage, I cannot do anything else.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : You should allow them to put questions Sir.

The new Import-Export Policy was announced during the last Session. From that time onwards, members from Kerala

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

have been repeatedly demanding for a discussion on this Import-Export Policy because the various provisions contained in this policy adversely affect the economy of Kerala.

Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Speaker for allowing an Half-an-Hour Discussion based on an unstarred question tabled by members from Kerala. Sir, the stand taken by the Government of India as well as the Minister is that nothing is changed in this Import-Export Policy excert that some spices are included in the OGL. Earlier, they were canalized through STC, and now they are included in the OGL On the face of it, this explanation may appear to be correct. But if you go through the import-export policy, you can see that this is badly affecting the farmers of Kerala, and the economy of Kerala.

Take the spices first. Earlier, the import of spices was canalized through STC. What is the reasons for de-canalizing this now ?

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey) : Since when ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP : For the last 3 or 4 years this was canalized through STC. *(Interruptions)* Earlier, it was in the OGL. What prompted Government to include this in the OGL ? The explanation given was this *(Interruption)* Don't spoil the case of Kerala.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : No; I will be with you. But you must tell the truth That is all.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : What prompted the Government to include this in the OGL ? The explanation given by the Government is that there were some problems with the STC regarding the distribution of these spices which were imported. They were not able to rationally distribute these spices. So, the Government has opted for this soft option. So, they have de-canalized it; and they have allowed these spices to be imported through OGL.

Statistics show that bulk quantities of these spices were imported by STC to fill the gap between the demand and the supply. In 1983-84, 2710 metric tonnes of clove were imported by STC; and in the same year, 126 metric tonnes of cinnamon were imported. In the same year, 558 metric tonnes of nutmeg were imported. In 1984-85, 341 metric tonnes of cloves, 2156 metric tonnes of cinnamon and 326 metric tonnes of nutmeg-these bulk quantities were imported by STC during these years, to fill the gap between demand and supply. That means that these bulk quantities were imported. And now you have opend the floodgates of import by including this in OGL. Now everybody is going to import these things for flimsy reason that STC does not have any distribution network, that there were problems with distribution. This is the only explanation they are giving, at the cost of farmers of Kerala.

What are the prices of these spices now ? The price of nutmeg, without, shell, before you announced this import policy, was Rs. 420 per Kg, now it has gone down to Rs. 140. The price of nutmeg with shell was Rs. 160 per Kg. now it has gone down to Rs. 95 per Kg. The Price of cloves was Rs. 300 per Kg; now it has gone down to Rs. 120 or Rs. 123. This is what has happened. Of course pepper is not included in this OGL list. But for the export of pepper, there is a duty of Rs. 5 per Kg, and there is a 3½% export cess; another 0.5% for ICAR is there. And at present pepper is bearing some 18 per cent altogether, export duty and cess. No other agricultural product is levied like that. And this was levied when pepper was getting Rs. 60 per Kg. Now the price is Rs. 30 and the Government is doing nothing.

I come to rubber, copra and cocoanut oil. Ninety-five per cent of the natural rubber is produced in Kerala and the majority of these producers are small farmers. It has been the consistent demand of the people of Kerala that the rubber import should be stopped. Now, the Government is saying, earlier they were importing through the STC, now also it is canalised through the STC. And do

you know, what the STC did four years back ? They released to the market at the peak season of the rubber producion Kerala in their buffer stocks. So, the prices have gone down.

Even the members of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of commerce they visited my district which is the centre of rubber production in Kerala, to have an on the spot study. For three-four months this fluctuation in the price of rubber continued and at last the Government intervened and stopped this mischievous practice of the STC and now the price is fixed at Rs. 17 per Kg. And all through these years, all industrialists and the Government authorities were saying that the international price is much more lower than our market price. Now, what is the price of rubber in the international market ? It has gone up to Rs. 21; now it is fluctuating between Rs. 19, Rs. 20 and Rs. 21. I would like to know whether the STC imported rubber at this price from the international market and the STC has supplied at Rs. 17 to the industrialists. Even at the cost of buying rubber from the international market at a price higher than the price which is prevalent in India, and supplied to the industrialists at a lower price, all this is at the cost of the farmers in Kerala.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Can you give one instance ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Let me complete. I want to know from the Minister whether the STC has bought rubber from the international market, at a price higher than the price of rubber that is prevalent in India. That is all I want to know. Has any quantity of rubber been purchased by the STC ? And now for reducing the price of tyre, what are they doing now ?

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Tyre lobby !

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Let me complete. You accuse me of any tyre lobby. I do not mind, but let me complete.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : He is pleading the case very well.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Now they have included tyre in the OGL and the recent step is they want to bring down the price of tyre in India. It is known that the tyre industry in this consisting of trans-national corporations and domestic collaborators is characterised by a high degree of collusive oligopoly. So, they are fixing the price of tyres according to their whims and fancies. The explanation given by the Government is that, in order to reduce the price of tyres they are importing tyres. Is there no other way to control the prices of tyres, for the Government of India ? Is this the only way the Government can control the prices of tyres ? A very fantastic explanation they are giving. At the moment it is not causing any trouble.

Suppose there is a recession in the international market and all these companies decide to dump their products in our market. Then what will be the situation ? These tyre producers in India, these oligopolistic tyre producers in India, will ultimately pass on this to the farmers in Kerala. That means it will affect the economy of Kerala. What explanation you are going to give for this ?

Copra and coconut oil are also canalised through STC and Hindustan Vegetable Corporation.

They are allowed to import ten per cent of the value of the exports of copra and coconut oil. It is included in this Export policy ..*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Is there any change in the Export Policy in regard to copra and coconut oil ?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : It was not given effect to earlier. Because it was given effect now, it has affected the economy of Kerala. It is a fact...

(Interruptions)

SHRI SURESH KURUP : It has been the demand of all the political parties in Kerala...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Including Mr. Purushothaman went and met the Prime Minister and submitted a memorandum when he came to Tamil Nadu, that the Import & Export Policy should be revised. I do not know what is his stand now...*(Interrputions)*

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Our demand is that imports must be completely prohibited... *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister will reply...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP : The demand of Kerala is that the import of copra and coconut oil in any form should be stopped. That is the demand of the Kerala people.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Yes, agreed.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : The entire economy of Kerala depends on the price of copra and coconut oil. The natural rubber, copra and coconut oil are included in the canalised list of imports. At the same time, there is a provision in the Import and Export Policy that licence for district imports of canalised items may be granted by the Licensing Authority concerned on the basis of no objection certificate issued by the Canalising agency. This facility will be available for items appearing in both Appendix V part 'a' & 'b'. This includes every item which is included in the canalised list. What is the reason for making such a provision ? Why such a provision is kept here ?

The official position of the Government of India is that copra and coconut oil are not imported to our country. Kerala Government submitted a memorandum in this regard. I quote :

> "That in the newsletter monthly journal published by Asian and Pacific Coconut Community, it says that India imported four thousand tonnes of copra in 1985, six thousand tonnes in 1986 and five thousand tonnes in 1987.
>
> India is also reported to have imported three thousand tonnes coconut oil in 1985, eleven thousand tonnes oil 1986 and nine thousand tonnes in 1887....."
> *(Interruptions)*

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduara): All these things should be stopped immediately...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP : So, proper explanation should be given by the Minister ..... *(Interruptions)* Sir, I would like to know whether anybody is given licence for direct import of copra and coconut oil. Coir and coir products are included in the list of restricted items for import. Of all these items, nothing remains in Kerala—rubber, peppers, coconut oil, copra and certain spices like cloves, cinnamon, nutmeg, mace. The entire economy of Kerala is depending on these cash crops. One way or the other you are allowing import of these items. That is why, the people of Kerala, Government of Kerala, the Legislative Assembly of Kerala have unanimously demanded that this import and export policy should be revised. Today Kerala is facing this crisis, tomorrow the whole country is going to face this crisis because they are liberalising these schemes due to the pressure of IMF and World Bank. Please do not penalise the farmers of Kerala. That is what I want to request the hon. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE(SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : I am very thankful to the hon. Member, Mr. Suresh Kurup, for raising this issue in the half-an-hour discussion so that we can get an opportunity to clarify the position once again on the floor of the House.

Soon after the exim policy was announced, there was hue and cry in some parts

of the south especially in Kerala concerning the fate of the growers. Our Congress President there, Mr. Antony, the former Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri Karunakaran, and the Minister of State, Shri Jacob and almost all the Members first drew attention and held serious meetings because they are the first victim of this misunderstanding. Thereafter, the State Government and all the political parties also represented to us.

While trying to explain the position, I also express sympathy and concern for the farmers in Kerala who supposedly, as per the allegation of the hon. Member from the opposite who raised the discussion today, have been badly affected. While we announce the exim policy in any sector in any thing, we take care of basically four things. Firstly, in digenous availability and indigenous angle of the country in ratio to the consumers' demand ; secondly the interest of the growers, manufacturers, farmers as the case may be, case to case ; thirdly, whether enough import substitution we could evolve by giving relaxation to any sector and finally to give overall boost to the economy and overall export of the country. These are the four basic criteria or guidelines on which we operate our exim policy from time to time, amend, change and review from time to time.

Firstly, I would like to say that I do not know why there is still a serious misunderstanding in Kerala. I understand—I have not gone through it because I do not know Malayalam ; gathered from press friends—that possibly Kerala Government came out with a document published by them in which they have raised certain issues saying that the Government did this thing wrong, that thing wrong. First of all, I would like to say that it is not good on the part of any lawfully established government in any part of the country, to distort, to wrongly explain and to misinterpret another government's specific policies and interpretations which are printed in the book, to the people. If the book says, I am to give Rs. 10, let us tell the people that the book says Rs. 10 and let us not say Rs. 9.

Why the distortion has taken place, I will explain. There was, in this sector, a restrictive policy before 1977. Selected importers used to enjoy the quota of import. Whether it was good or bad I do not know. After 1977 when the OGL policy came into being, the floodgate in this sector was opened. *(Interruptions)*. I am not questioning any Government. I am trying to give the reasons. If somebody does good, what is wrong in following it ? We have to run the economy. In 1978, the original policy was announced with regard to this sector, which continued up to 1986. Will the hon. Member remined me of a single case where there was a drop of tear in the name of farmers or growers, from 1978 to 1986 for canalisation ? Was there a single representation, a single protest in the House ? No. I say it with responsibility. At that time it was all open, OGL. Now the question comes why we canalised it..... *Interruptions)*.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : You were not in the House at that time.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI : I may not have been in the House but you have not raised this issue. You can see the record.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We raised it several times.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : At that time the impact was not there on the farmers. The impact has come now only.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI : Sir, the complaint is that the policy has hurt the growers. I say it with responsibility on behalf of the Government that we will not take any steps that remotely hurt the growers. But in the name of growers if the traders start shedding their tears and and if the traders' interest is focussed at the interest of the growers, that is dangerous for the Indian economy.

Mr. Kurup has rightly pointed out about the price. Even though he belongs to Kerala, his record is not up to date. He has quoted the terminal price, he has not quoted what the farmers are getting. Till

[Shri P.R. Munsi]

yesterday, the terminal price of clove was Rs. 125 per kg, which is very low. If Rs. 125 is the terminal price in the market, the farm price must be less than this. So, he is quoting the traders' price, he is not quoting the farmers' price. He should have done his home work properly. Farmers are getting much less than that...

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : How much are they getting ?

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI : I am coming to that. There has been no debate on this point. If growers suffer, do not think that the Prime Minister, the Cabinet and the whole Government will keep quiet. We are for their interests and rights. There is no denying this fact. But we have to pursue our policy and review our policy. In the name of protecting the growers, we cannot sell ourselves in the hands of the traders.....*(Interruptians)*. Now I am coming to his point. Mr. Kurup was asking what is the position. I am giving you the position. I am giving you the figures from 1984 to 1986, in January and December. In 1984 January, the price of clove per quintal was Rs. 19,215 and in December it was brought down to Rs. 16,000 per quintal. From Rs. 19,000 to Rs. 16,000. In 1985 it began from Rs. 15,000 and was brought down to Rs. 14,000 in 1986 it was Rs. 16,000 and was brought down to Rs. 14,000. In 1987 it was Rs. 18,500 and went up to Rs. 25,000 per quintal in December. In 1988 it was Rs. 20,500 in January and in February it went up to more than that. It was almost a loot in the country. How ? You cannot say that the canalisation policy failed. No. That is not the point. When we made the canalisation policy, the policy was absolutely sound. A section of traders went to the court, obtained a stay order not to operate the whole policy and thus held us to ransom for four months and allowed the market price to shoot up like anything. You can just imagine. From Rs. 15,000 it went up to Rs. 25,000, from Rs. 12,000 it went up to Rs. 14,000. This is for cloves! Do you think the common people consume cloves everyday ? These are required for herbal medicines.

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These are required by 'biryani' makers. These are required by the sophisticated house, shop-keepers and others. This is not a mass consumption item. The consumers were at the mercy of these people. Tomorrow if you go and ask them, they will say it costs Rs. 500 per kg. or Rs. 600 per kg. Thereafter we found that the farmers, the growers, did not get this price for their produce. It is the traders who get this terminal price. It is the traders who are getting the price and because of the canalisation they have got this stay order and therefore cloves were sold in huge quantity by smugglers. I can give you the figure. You will be surprised to know that our country produces about 450 tonnes of cloves and the consumption was about 300 to 400 tonnes. But the consumption was shown as 3000 tonnes. I find the figure in one year particularly that instead of import requirement of clove of required quantity, the total consumption showed as per the import record, was a little loss than 3000 tonnes, meaning thereby that additional requirement was met by smuggling and this quantity was brought into the market. This was the mechanism adopted by them. What could the Government do for that ? The Government therefore considered that this item was not a mass consumption item and the duty was high. It is wrong to say that anybody can go and bring cloves from outside. No, it is not so. The traders always want that limited people should bring cloves to the market. In O.G.L. the duty is so high per kg., exorbitantly high, that no one is going to import cloves at any reasonable rate and flood the market. It is the big traders who have accepted it.

Now, coming to growers, I would submit that the interest of the growers should be safeguarded. Unfortunately, neither the Kerala Government, nor the Agriculture Ministry had ever considered what can be the study on the price mechanism and the cost of production of cloves. It is very difficult to get the actual cost of production. Why ? Because there is a selective type of production of wheat and paddy in Kerala. The hon. Member will appreciate that it is a mixed type of production in Kerala.

They grow aro canut, they grow a little of cardamom and they grow something more of some other item and something like that. There is no selective pattern of growing this particular item except in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu where they have very huge area to grow this item. Therefore, this is one of the problems to get actual data in regard to cost of production. However, the area which the Agriculture Ministry thought of was about 1600 hectares or around that figure. But the tonnage of production of this item in the whole country is very meagre.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : The hon. Minister may appreciate that the number of people who owns the land for this purpose is much more because each one will be having one acre or a little more than that.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : There is no denying the fact. Therefore, this statement is not correct that the policy has changed to hit the people there.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Even though it is more than 1600 hectares, it may be correct, the point is that the number of farmers affected are much more. Each farmer will be having two or three acres. That affects the large number of people. That way you have to look into this matter.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : Now, the question is that we have to consider as a responsible Government, in the light of this policy one basic thing whether really the growers have been hit and growers are not getting the remunerative price. If they have really been deprived of the cost of production, the Government has the moral responsibility to protect the growers, come what may. There is no denying the fact. Therefore, Sir, unless we have the data with us it is difficult for us to accept the point raised by him. Now, we have taken a decision that very soon we will have a total study of the cost data for production of these items in Kerala with the help of the Agriculture Ministry and the Kerala Government. And based on the findings, whatever necessary support is required to protect the growers there, it will be done by this Government and that too before the next Session of Parliament.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : That may not help the economy... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : Listen. 'Economy' is a big word. In 'economy, can you bring traders also ?

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : No, no. State's economy. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI P. R DAS MUNSI : Yes, you tell me clearly whether you are interested to defend the growers or the traders. *(Interruptions)*. That is the point. Our Government is clearly concerned to defend the growers and I commit on behalf of the Government that if there is any shortcoming, if there are any difficultier faced by the growers, the Government will see that they are adequately protected and compensated based on the cause which they hold dear. That is the commitment in the House, come what may. But why do you say 'economy' ? It has a very wider perspective. 'Economy' means then, are you thinking in terms of traders? Traders are not our enemy. But what we say is, traders can trade, they cannot loot. That is the policy of the Government. We cannot allow them to take the country to ransom and do whatever they like, it is not possible.

Now I come back to your second question. You talked about rubber. If you could have referred any specific case where STC bought rubber at a higher price and sold it to a particular industry at a lower price—I can say on the floor of this House, if you could refer to any specific case, we will take appropriate steps in that regard and fix the responsibility. So far, the position is... *(Interruptions)*. It is not in my knowledge. If you give a specific case, I say we will fix the responsibility and take steps, we are not feeling shy of it. But one thing is there. The country needs—hon.

[Shri P. R. Das Munsi]

Members on the opposite side will also appreciate—the country is still in shortage of 35,000 to 40,000 tonnes of rubber. Can you deny the fact that we have got shortage of rubber ? We all can say 'stop the import'. If you stop the import, it means the next day a question will be raised : How many rubber factories are closed ? You cannot avoid import till you are self-sufficient. So, you cannot say : What is your achievement and progress in terms of more rubber plantations ?' Yes, we have achieved good results in Tripura cultivation has come up there. We are planning every year some 10,000 to 15,000 hectares, but unfortunately the State Governments are not in a position to give us land. Even I tell you today, in Bengal also I had approached if they can offer us land, we can immediately cultivate rubber. The Orissa Government is sympathetic, they are giving us land.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Now the price in the international market is higher than the domestic price.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : I will answer that. First, I will answer about the import price. The STC's operation is, if the rubber price goes up beyond proportion, release imported rubber into the market. If the rubber price really goes down, withdraw it from the market to protect them. In this mechanism—one year back I had been to Kerala, I agree with you, there are some wrong timings which adversely affected the rubber growers vis-a-vis the small growers. *(Interruptions)*. Let us not blame every one saying that we are the only patriots and outside the hall whoever are there, they are not patriots. That is not the correct approach. Let us have the policy. Then I have checked up and last year you will appreciate, we have been able to remove their difficulties to a great extent and growers are happy and the price they should get at the time when they need it, otherwise it is true, when the rubber production is coming up in the market, if I release the rubber, it will affect the growers. We have established a new system in STC that without the consent of the Rubber Board which is situated in Kottayam, without their market survey report, you should not hurriedly jump and push it.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : 'Concerned' or 'consult' ?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : Consult, of course. They are to guide us. It is a fact and there they do it.

Now, in regard to coconut I do not know how you said that there is a change in policy. There is no change in policy. It was the same in the last EXIM policy if you go through it, the same in the earlier policy. How can you say that we have changed the policy ? You see the provision. We have not changed the policy.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Does it hit the growers ? *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : No, no. The policy is the same.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Supposing he has not changed, whether the policy is hitting the growers, that is the question. *(Interruptions)*.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : I am coming to that.

Before the coconut, I will conclude one point which the hon. Member Shri Suresh Kurup raised—rubber type import. I am sorry to say, this can be only explained by the Industry Minister. But what I say is this. With my competence and capacity, it is not a back-door import policy of rubber tyre. You are all progressive political forces publicly defending that the mass transport system should not be at the mercy of the tyre tycoons, to shoot up the price as they like. To keep them under the pressure, this policy is welcomed by every progressive section. I do not know why Kerala Government is not appreciating this. I do not know whether in this matter you are defending

the tyre tycoons of the country or defending the common poor workers of the country.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: They are for growers, not for tycoons.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : He knows that the country's rubber growers cannot meet the total requirements of the country. His party also knows it. Rubber import is for the industry. But tyre import has been exclusively explained by the Industry Ministry, in which sector and that too in what condition, and that too by permission only it can be imported. It is not that any industry can bring tyre and dump it in the market at the cost of the industry. That is not the policy. Kindly do not propagate it and do not bring wrong impression in the minds of the people.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : In the OGL rubber blankets of all types and the types of rubber threads of above 19 gauges, heat resisting rubber thread are there. The manufacturing of rubber thread is in the small scale industry in my place. But it is included in the OGL. How do you explain it ?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : You must be knowing the purchase policy. For small scale industry and public sector, we give extra price preference than the big sector.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : But there are provisions, to import.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : Here is the provisions. Import of bus and truck tyres of certain specifications have been allowed for import under Open General Licence to the following categories of consumers as per the decision of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. What are those ?

> "Manufacturers of original chasis of vehicles who use the said tyres in the manufacture of such vehicles.
>
> State Road Transport Undertaking referred to in clause (b) of section 68A of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 (4 of 1939).
>
> Association of State Road Transport Undertakings, being a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
>
> Association of owners of vehicles in which the said tyres are used and approved as such by the Department of Industrial Development of the Government of India in accordance with the scheme framed by them in this behalf.
>
> Officer, authority, undertaking, Department of other body under a State Government, authorised by the concerned Government to import the said tyres and approved as such also by the Department of Industrial Development of the Government of India in accordance with the scheme framed by them in this behalf."

When a State Government or the Government of India purchases the tyre and finds that small scale industry and public sector cannot compete with privatewallas, they have a price preference, As a Minister of Department of Supply, I can say, 10% or 15% price preference is given to them to match the prices. But that is not the point. The point is to protect the system against the exploitation and you should support it instead of criticising it.

In regard to coconut, you may recall that in Kerala, there was drought in 1982-83 and there was a crisis of coconut oil faced by the consumers. What will the Government do? Will Government not bring coconut oil ? If there is a crisis in mustard oil, will Government not bring rapeseed oil to the country?How do we do it – through the canalised agency, which is STC. We have only imported once, i.e. in 1982-83 and afterwards we have not imported a drop through the canalising agency because we do not require it. The country has abundance of coconut oil.

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It was restricted and that too, even if you desire to import, even one kg., we have to satisfy the conditions of the Finance Ministry about the availability of market. Then only, foreign exchange will be released. We have not imported last year.

Now you can say about the REP licence ratio.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : About the import substitution, fatty acid, you permitted the soap manufacturing industry to use it. You may not be having the accounts with you But they have imported the oil and the price has gone down.

SHRI P. R DAS MUNSI : A small quantity of coconut oil is permissible for import against REP licences issued to the exporters of fatty acids/amines. Import of coconut oil/copra can be effected up to a maximum of 10% of the value of exports. During 1986-87 the exports of fatty acids were of the order of Rs. 169.7 lakhs, and import of coconut oil copra against licences issued on these exports was Rs. 16 97 lakhs. Is it a figure ? And you want to say it affects and you propagate to the people that it affects

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : If it is so much sold, why cannot we avoid it ?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : Simply because the exporter will export a particular commodity because he needs a certain incentive according to his requirements. If I export plastic and I ask him to bring aluminium or aluminium product at 10%, he feels that by that aluminium, I can give some supply to 'manufacturer and with that incentive I can export. It does not affect the industry If it affects the industry or the grower, we will not take it up. Rs 16.97 lakhs were the amount obtained from imports in the last two years.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS . But that has affected the coconut price. I would like to bring to your notice that it affects the coconut price.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Minister should go on. We cannot go on discussing like this.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : This policy was there and it is now there. Again I repeat, in our Import-Export Office we are cautious in monitoring from this year. Even in respect of REP Licence cases cautious monitoring is done. The item which is even remotely affacted, we are discouraging. I must thank the exporters. Most of the exporters are responding to our will, whenever they feel so. Otherwise, the figure would not have come down so low. Only Rs. 16 lakhs imports for the last two or three years in exchange of about Rs. 2 crores of export. It is not a big thing It is not effective. On the contrary, the coconut production in the country is going up and we have to think of the way in which it is going up It will ultimately reduce the prices and affect the farmer.

I want to conclude by saying that the propaganda which is made in Kerala, the propaganda which is made from public platforms, is not correct. But we appreciate the concern being expressed by the MPs and the political parties. Therefore, we are going to have a cost study of the production, and we will take appropriate steps to protect the growers. If for that reason, we are to review the policy and if we are to take any measures, we will take. I assure this with responsibility. In regard to other commodity prices, I do not like to raise the issue. If I quote the price of nutmeg etc. you will be horrified. How the trader enjoyed the whole empire during the last two years ?

Let us shed the tears for the growers and let the law of the land deal with it and Government will protect the growers and I assure you that the Prime Minister specifically conveyed to us that in any part of India in any commodity, in any mechanism you do, if farmers and growers are hit, even after announcing decision on policy, you are to see that they are rescued, whatever may be the mechanism and we shall do accordingly.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In view of the hon. Minister's reply which is exhaustive, already we have taken 45 minutes. I request other Members to be very brief. According to the Half-an-Hour Discussion, we have only to put the question, Therefore, anyhow we are going to resume our Railway discussion also. Therefore, the Members are to be very brief. Please try to be brief and put the question. Dr. Chandra Shekhar Tripathi will speak now.

[Translation]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) . Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir I will try my best to confine to my question I have seen the main question, Hon Minister has stated in his reply that the representations received on the New Import Policy were not implemented because :

[English]

> "The representations received were based on the apprehension that the new import policy for rubber, spices copra, coconut oil, coir and coir products would lead to a fall in prices which would affect the farmers and the economy of Kerala."

That means if their suggestions had been accepted by the Ministry, the prices would have gone down and that would have definitely affected the growers and the economy of the State of Kerala very much. While replying to the second part of the question the hon. Minister has stated that because of canalisation and because of putting a certain restriction on import, the prices have gone high. If the prices of the products of the growers are higher, they are going to be benefited. On the one hand, you did not accept that the prices will come down. Therefore, the suggestions made by certain institutions were not accepted and on the other hand, canalisation was taken up because the prices have gone up. If you go through your reply, you will come across this contradiction.

Secondly, I would like to confine myself more to the basic question No. (1). The entire intention, in setting up STC or Rubber Board or Spices Board, of the Government has been to make the country self-sufficient in these spheres, in these products. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether, after the inception of these Boards, the STC and other agencies, the quantum of exports has gone up and imports has gone down or whether it is in the reverse i.e. the quantum of exports has gone down and the quantum of imports has gone up. This is my specific question for which I seek clarification from the hon. Minister.

With regard to rubber, coconut, cloves and other spices, very recently it has come in various newspapers that because of the import facilities given under OGL system, the spices have resulted in a sharp drop in producers' price and that has badly affected the agricultural economy. To cite an example, cardamom prices have dropped from Rs. 400 per kg, to Rs. 125 per kg. The prices have come down tremendously The prices of nutmeg have come down from Rs. 150 per kg. to Rs 125; pepper from Rs 5500 per quintal to Rs. 3350 per quintal. This is because of the OGL system and because of the liberal import policy, the prices of these products have come down tremendously Will it not affect the growers' economic condition and the economy of Kerala ? Further, the quantum of import can be reduced. The intention of the Government, since long, has been this That is why these Boards and agencies were opened. I would like to know from the hon. Minister in what way they have increased the production of various products in Kerala by providing assistance, by giving subsidies, by providing new technology, by giving some insecticides and other accessories.

Regarding Rubber, the hon. Minister has just stated that in spite of the repeated requests, the State Government is not giving land to plant rubber. *(Interruptions)* But last year, when the Consultative Committee visited along with learned Prof. Kurien, we were told that plantation of rubber is not giving any benefit to the

[Dr. Chander Shekhar Tripathi]

growers up to ten years. So, how will you compensate those poor farmers ? Once they start planting rubber, they are going to get the produce after ten years. During this season, how they are to be subsidised and how they are to be assisted ? We have been informed that most of the rubber growers are now shifting their products from rubber to other spices etc. May I know from the Government what they are going to do in this matter so that in the near future, we can become self-sufficient, particularly in the field of rubber ?

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Mr. Kurup has extensively dealt with the spices and other cash crops mainly concerning Kerala. And the Minister has given an exhaustive reply also. I would like to confine myself to only one cash crop, namely, import of cotton. Last year, even after the impact of severe drought the revised estimates have shown that the total production will not go up... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : I may tell that in the Half an Hour Discussion, cotton is not at all figured. So, the Hon. Member may take it up later because I will not be competent to reply because cotton is not included in the whole aspect of this Half an Hour.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : In your part 'a', the new import policy is in respect of cash crops I will take only two minutes. At that time, when there was some disturbing news that Government is going to import cotton, when we raised this matter in this House, the Minister said "No, no We will not import cotton. But when some yarn is exported linked up with exports, we will purchase a small percentage of cotton." That is what the Minister has said just a few months back. Now again, we are seeing some report that cotton is going to be imported. Now we had very good monsoon this year throughout the length and breadth of the country. Definitely this year, production will be far in excess of the previous levels. Will the Government take necessary steps to immediately stop any further import of cotton to protect the interest of cotton growers ? The Hon. Minister has repeatedly said that first and foremost talk of this Government is to protect the interest of the growers. I would like to know categorically from the Hon. Minister if it is within his jurisdiction to coordinate with the concerned authorities and take appropriate steps to protect the interest of the cotton growers.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I will pose only one general question which relates to this aspect as also to the general import policy.

Whenever we decide a matter through legislative forms, Government brings out a Bill and discusses that in the House. As far as import policy is concerned, departmentally matters are chalked out and ultimately through the Ministries it goes to the Cabinet and then the policy is formed. As a result of which, sometimes, situation arises as it has arisen now. Therefore, without going into the main aspects in detail which other colleagues have touched. I would like to say that in case the Government, in each and every policy matter of substantive nature, places the draft policy before the House and then it discusses it and adopts either by voting or by consensus, I think, we will be doing much service because at that time several views will be before you as expressed in the House. I would like to know whether this aspect will be considered and placed before an appropriate council not only in respect of this import policy but in respect of future policies also.

Secondly, just now you have made a statement that you are going to consider certain aspects which have been discussed here or otherwise which have come to your notice and in the interest of growers you are going to amend or improve upon the policy which has been enacted. If so, I would like again to know whether a draft amended policy will be placed before this House.

You have mentioned about four criteria. If those four are adopted before the

policy is formed, it will be very nice. I would like to know whether while assessing those four criteria, assessment is done on the basis of field assessment or only figures are taken as per the statistics available in the Ministry. If that is so sometimes errors can be committed but if each aspect of the policy of each criterion is examined at the field level then perhaps the policy that will get evolved will be fool-proof policy. Therefore, I would like to know whether this aspect will be considered by the Government.

Lastly I would like to say that you have rightly said that our party's interest lies in favour of small farmers. we have committed ourselves through the 20-point programme that small farmers will be protected. Therefore, in the light of the 20-point programme I would like to know what steps are being taken in this direction.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after the points made out by Shri Suresh Kurup and the reply given by the hon. Minister I feel that the class character of our Kerala Government has started changing. Now they have started favouring traders more than the growers. But I did not expect from Mr. Suresh Kurup to advocate the cause of traders so much instead of growers. But I would like to draw the attention to the hon. Minister the fact that there are three or four such varieties of spices that have been kept under O.G.L. by the Government with the result that growers are getting less prices for their produce and the prices thereof in the market have come down. Therefore I want to know from the Hon. Minister to what extent the keeping of spices under O.G.L. has affected the interests of the growers and whether the hon. Minister purposes to keep the spices with in purview of the O.G.L.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI : Sir, I think I have almost replied all the questions earlier but anyway two-three points I would like to repeat. The main objective of all our commodity boards including Spices. Board is to increase import substitution by way of self-reliance and increase in production and for that matter we are giving a number of schemes of support, incentives, subsidies, etc. by the Rubber Board, Spices Board, etc. In so far as exports are concerned we do not export rubber but rubber products. In commodities we export tea and coffee. Export of coffee depends on international quota. Export of a tea depends on our surplus but its export has gone up and not gone down. In so far as other spices are concerned it is going up and only in the case of cardamom the price is going down because of stiff competition from Guetamala.

So far as Shri V.S. Rao's question is concerned I am sorry that I am not competent to reply to that aspect. It is handled by the Taxtile Ministry but I will certainly convey his concern. The Government's policy is not at all that at the cost of the growers or the farmers will continue to import in any sector but certainly his concern about cotton in view of the monsoons I shall convey to the Taxtiles Minister.

In so far as the question of Mr. Naik about EXIM policy it is a tradition that we debate it throughout the year in the Chamber of Commerc , Industry, Entrepreneurs, experts and concerned Ministries then the comprehensive approach comes which is tabled in the House. After tabling in the House if the Members demand a discussion then it is upto the Chair to decide but we are only too happy if a discussion takes place in the House. Your point is that this thing should come to Parliament first in a draft from and then to be debated. This is a new suggestion which we will certainly pass on to the concerned authorities as to whether it can be thought of in future. As far as any review or amendment of the policy is concerned we do it by notifications which are tabled in the House and they become property of the House and Members are free to discuss this matter with the permission of the Chair. Therefore, there is

[Shri R.P. Das Munsi]

no hide and seek.

Shri Harish Rawat has said if at all we think of reviewing the whole policy of bringing OGL to canalise or restricted list we should do it now. As I have stated in the beginning we will have to make the cost study of the entire production and see whether this policy is really causing great harm to the growers. If so in what formal measure we will try to protect them. I cannot commit it now at this stage. It will not be in the best interests of the growers also because they should know that the traders also take advantage of all the policies before we announce it.

So, I can only assure you that we shall take all possible interest of the growers. The mechanism will be done possbly by the Agriculture Ministry. In that light, we will take a decision.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Already, the Spices Board has conducted a cost study. Their finding that the price is not remunerative.

SHRI P R DAS MUNSI : I can only tell you that the Spices Board is not to competent agency to make a study of the cost of production. *(Interruptions)* Government will decide about the appropriate agency.

In so far as pepper is concerned, I forgot to answer it. Hon. Members are aware that our season is from October to May. In the lean period now, the pepper price is going down. We have little stocks in our hands. We are not deliberately exporting. This is the season of Malaysia and Indonesia. Malaysia and Indonesia have brought down the price at such a level that you will wonder why should you push our prices at this time when our season will start after a few months. That's why we are doing it after some time.

Secondly, in regard to export duty and cess we have taken a decision that when the next season begins, we shall try to bring in on a long-term perspective. We already in touch with the Revenue Department of the Finance Ministry to discuss the aspect of export duty and cess. I feel, we will bring some tangible results.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : You have already assured the delegation consisting of Mr. Karunakaran, Mr. Antony and some of us that import policy will be reconsidered. *(Interruptions)* You also said that with regard to the spices, you will consider canalising the import. *(Interruptions)* Do you stick to that assurance ?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : I can only inform the House that it is no good my saying what I discussed outside the House It is more appropriate that I should state the official stand of the Government before the hon. Members in Parliament.

It is a fact that Mr. Karunakaran, Mr Antony and many other leaders did discuss with me I explained to them that Government will consider all the aspects very sympathetically What I say is, before the Government comes to a conclusion, it will have to adopt a certain mechanism Without that, we cannot take a decision like that. And that mechanism is the cost study.

In so far as pepper is concerned, I had stated that on the eve of the next season, a study will be made in consultation with the Revenue Ministry. Then, we shall come out with a decision.

I can also inform the hon Members of this House that black-listing of the pepper in the United States was causing a great concern to Kerala's economy. I hope, you would have appreciated that in a document the Government of India did it. We immediately took it up with the United States authority FTFA. We sent our Joint Secretary, Shri Sivaraman. Now a situation has come that on the consignment—which will be further inspected by UIA based on the 20-30 consignments—they will come out with a decision. We are hopeful this whole chapter will be over very shortly.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : You abolish the export duty on pepper.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : Mr. Kurien, I tell you that we have to take a decision always in totality not off and on. We have to take in totality. Can you deny the fact that pepper till last year was fetching such a good price which even our other export commodities could not think of. May be this is a lean period. This does not mean that you have to change your policy every now and then. We cannot play ping-pong with the export policy. We have think of the totality of the economy and the exports. We have to take that with the State.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Half-an-hour discussion is over. Now we are resuming the discussion on railways.

Now Mr. Mahfooz Ali Khan...

PROF. M R HALDER (Mathurapur) : You have heard both the sides May we conclude that ..

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, no. It is over. We cannot allow you to put questions in ha f-an-hour discussion. Your name is not in the list.

18.40 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (RAILWAYS) 1988-89
Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, today this discussion is being held on Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways). As the hon. Minister of Railways is not present in the House, I would expect from the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs present in the House to note the points made out by me and convey them to Mr. Scindia. First of all, I want to read an Urdu couplet. This is my good-luck that in the meanwhile Mr. Scindia has arrived in the House before my reciting the couplet :

"Unke Dekhe Se Aa Jati hai muha par ronak,

Vah Samajhate hain ki bimar ka haal achha hai."

Before speaking on the Railways I would like to pay thanks to Mr. Scindia for providing us with a train i.e. 101 up and down from Kasganj to Bareilly and for giving his approval for its halt at Gangagarh railway station. For it I thank him personally and on behalf of the people Transport-facilities are the most essential factor for the development of a place It is quite evident that more attention is being paid to the big stations and important rail sections. I would urge upon the Government to make a survey in respect of those railway lines which are incurring losses, to identify the reasons thereof. The officers of Railways are present here and they should note as to why these lines are running in losses and how they can be made profit earning. For example, Etah-Barhan line which has remained a limited one, is incurring losses. No attention has been paid to it. I want to make it clear that it can be profitable only in case it is extended. If this line is extended from Etah to Farrukhabad, our district Etah which is a backward district will be able to make progress.

Today all the narrow gauge lines wherever they are in India are running into losses. A survey in respect of all these lines should be got conducted and it should be seen as to how those can be saved from losses. I would once again urge upon the Government to conduct a survey in this regard. Although I feel ashamed of saying one thing again and again but I have to say this repeatedly. Even our hon. Mr Scindia will be thinking that the same question is being raised by me but I am bound to repeat it.

I will be highly obliged to you if Etah station is converted into a model station. It is the demand of the people of this area that two more boggies for Lucknow and Allahabad should be attached to the trains running on Tundla-Etah section via Barhan. Lucknow is the capital of U P. and Allahabad is the seat of the High Court.

[Shri Mohd. Mahfooz Ali Khan]

People go there. If a bogie is attached at Tundla Jn. then it will relieve the difficulty of the people to some extent, but this will not solve the problem fully. Nothing lesser than extension of this line from Etah to Farrukhabad will solve the problem. So I hope you will do it I am reciting a couplet in your favour :

"Humne mana ki tagaful na karoge lekin,

Khak ho jayenge hum, tumko khabar hone tak".

We know that Shri Scindia wants to extend this line, but God knows when it will be done or what will be done. Nobody knows that next time both I and Mr. Scindia or either of us will remain in this House. Of course I pray to God that Scindia Saheb should there ... *(Interruptions)* and that is why I am making arrangements for a place for my seating through Shri Scindia.

Mewat is a very backward area in Haryana. When I visited there, I felt necessity of a Railway line from Gurgaon to Ramgarh via Nooh and Firozpur This will provide much relief to the people So I want that this line should be constructed without any further delay

Secondly, many over-bridges are required to be constructed on the Rewari-Bhatinda section, but no attention has been paid to it since independence So I want that you should get it surveyed Fatehabad is a commercial town I request that a line should be constructed from Elanabad to Fatehabad via Sirsa.

There is yet another request I would like to make. As two M.Ps, one Shri Khurshid Alam Khan and other myself, take trains for Delhi and Lucknow from Kayamganj railway station, but there is no quota of first class berth from this station, as a result of which we have to face difficulty. I, therefore, request that a quota of at least two first class berths provided at this station for the passengers travelling from this station to Lucknow and Delhi, specially when two members of Parliament catch trains for Delhi and Lucknow from this station. I am making this request on behalf of my colleague Shri Hafizji.

In the end, I would like to thank Shri Scindia and make a request that the railway line from Etah to Farrukhabad be constructed. This is my one and the only demand.

I am grateful to you that you have fulfiled almost all my demands in the past.

[English]

DR. GOLAM YAZDANI (Raiganj) : Sir, I shall be very brief in my speech. I support the Supplementary Demands for Railways brought by the hon. Minister.

I have to say you one thing that when crores of rupees are being spent on the staff and other requirements of the railways, can't we expect that the railway staff should be reponsible and dutiful ? I can place before you one instance where the railway staff were very irresponsible and even the GRP did not do their duty. I am referring to an incident which happened on the 24th June in the district of Murshidabad due to the negligence of the railway staff of the station and the GRP which resulted in the killing of scores of Muslims. It is well known that on the 24th June, thousands of Muslims were proceeding to offer prayers to Katra Masjid in Murshidabad, but they were prevented from doing that. They performed *namaz* at some other place namely Karbala Maidan and were returning by 365 Up Sealdah-Lalgula passenger train. At Berhampor station many of them got up and when the train come to Nasipur Road railway station, the train was stopped by some miscreants. They entered the compartment where these Muslims were sitting and they brutally killed many Muslims. The train was detained over there. The railway Station Master did not start the train.

The GRP was present over there. The

train was detained there for three hours. Now, I would like to ask the Hon. Railway Minister whether any investigation has been done about the matter and whether any FIR was lodged with the local police. Has there been any entry in the Log Book regarding the detention of the train for about three hours at Nasipur Road Station ? It had resulted in the killing of so many Muslims We cannot say anything if the railway staff works in this way. I request the Hon. Railway Minister to be serious about this matter and investigate about it because it has resulted in the loss of lives of so many Muslims.

Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Railway Minister to the fact that there is a train from Malda Railway Station to Sealdah, called Gour Express. Now, it has been published in some papers that it is going to be extended to Jalpaiguri. After the publication of this news in the local newspapers, the people of Mald & West Dinajpur district criticised it and they expressed concern over the decision of the Railway Authority. The present position is that I have been requested by all sections of people and I have also received representations from Congress as well as non-Congress organisations in which they have asked me to request the hon. Railway Minister not to accept the request for extending the train up to Jalpaiguri. If this is done then the people of West Dinajpur district will be faced with a problem. After the partition of the country the West D najpur district has been left with no railway connection to Calcutta at all. We are trying for Eklakshi-Balurghat Railway Station and from Buniyadpur to Raiganj. Now, mostly the passengers of West Dinajpur district depend on G ur Express. Hundreds of passengers travel by special tourist buses. Two State buses carry passengers for Gour Express Daily Another special train runs from Kathihar to Malda for the connection of Gour Express. If this Gour Express is extended to Jalpaiguri it will come to Malda full from there and so not many passengers will be able to get up from Malda Station. So, there is no need to extent it to Jalpaiguri because the passengers coming from there can get so many other trains. They have got Darjeeling Express, Kamrup Express Kanchanjanga Express and Trivandrum Express. Recently the Janta Express has been cancelled. Why it has been cancelled, I would like to know. I would say that instead of extending the train up to Jalpaiguri the Railway Authority should start the Janta Express. It is a very good train. So, there are so many trains which come from Jalpaiguri district but the Malda and West Dinajpur district have got only the Gour Express. Where will the passengers of these districts go ? Darjeeling Express and Kamrup Express have got no reservation quota from Malda. If these trains have got enough of reservation from Malda then it is a different thing but it is not so. The newspapers have widely published against this decision. One INTC leader, Vishwanath Guha has said that if this will be implemented then they will launch a mass movement and fierce movement. They say that they will shed their blood to see that this decision is never carried out.

I am even prepared to translate all these Bengali newspaper cuttings into English and give them to the hon. Railway Minister.

I have just one last point. The level crossing at the Dalkola is a great disadvantage to the people there because NH-34 is the only road link from Calcutta to Siliguri. The gate at the level crossing remains closed at least 20 times a day and this results in a huge traffic jam. So, is the case at Kishanganj railway crossing. A proposal to construct an overbridge at Dalkola has been sanctioned and work also has started. But the work has been now stopped and I do not know the reason why they stopped they work. I request the hon. Railway Minister to take note of this and expedite the construction of the overbridge at the Dalkola Station soon.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI (Rajkot) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants of Ministry of Railways. I would also like to make a few points through you for considerations of the hon. Minister.

[Shrimati Patel Rammaben Ramji Bhai Mavani]

First of all, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Railways Shri Madhav Rao Scindia for providing two trains within a short span of four years for my constituency. It is our good luck, but we have still some more demands to make and hope that he will certainly fulfil them. One of the members belonging to our areas has made a request to provide long distance train from Rajkot to Delhi. Sarvodaya Express terminates at Ahmedabad itself. We will be grateful if long distance train is provided upto Delhi. Secondly, we hope that Viraval broad guage project will be completed during Eighth-plan period We have been promised that it would be done, so I will not say it much about. We talk of foreign countries. There trains run at aeroplane speed. But India is lagging behind, though efforts are being mode in this regard, I want to say that Shri Scindia takes pains in doing work entrusted to him. He is providing new facilities tarough new technologies. Wherever there is necessity of a train, he makes every effort to fulfil it. I would again request that a new train should be provided for our area and other small problems regarding trains are always solved.

With there words I conclude.

*SHRI S. THANGARAJU (Parambalur) : Hon. Dy. Speaker, Sir, I wish to speak a few words on the supplementary demands for grants for Railways on behalf of the AIADMK.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Thangaraju. Please come to the mike, you please come to the mike.

[Translation]

*SHRI S THANGARAJU : The Hon. Minister seeks the approval of the House to these supplementary demands amounting to Rs. 1,67 01 000 for the purposes of Miscelleaneous expenditure. Fuel expenses and expenses on assets acquisition, construction and replacement. Sir, I find to my dismay that there is no provision made in this supplementary demands for the State of Tamil Nadu. The State has been completely ignore.

19.00 hrs.

Mr. Dy. Speaker. Sir, on 6th last month, Hon. Prime Minister in the presence of Hon. Railway Minister inaugurated the broad guage project of the Karur-Dindugal line. While I congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister and the Hon. Railway Minister for inaugurating the project, I would like to state my grievance that the line does not connect Tutucorin Further the line covers the Karur and Dindugal Parliamentary constituencies. But with great angulsh I invite the attention of the Hon. Railway Minister to a sad fact that the representative from the Dindugal Parliamentary constituency to this august House has not been invited to the inaugural function with due honour. His name did not appear in the invitation cards. Hon Member Shri KR Natarajan who represents the Dindugal Parliamentary Constituency was not shown the due respect and was not accorded the due honour in such an important function. Hon. Railway Minister must ensure that due respect is paid and honour is accorded to a member of Parliament in such important functions. I hope the Hon. Railway Minister would at least give an assurance to this effect in his reply.

Originally, the Karur—Dindugal line was to connect Karur and Tutucorin But today, as the project stands, it stops at Dindugal. This must be extended upto Tutucorin via Virudunagar, so that the better rail transport contributes to the industrial development of Virudunagar and Tutucorin areas. Late Chief Minister Dr. MGR created three separate districts namely, Kamaraj district with Virudunagar as District headquarters, the V.O. Chidambaram district with Tutucorin as headquarters and Anna district with Dindugal as headquarters. These three district headquarters namely Virudunagar, Tutucorin and Dindugal of the three big districts in Tamil Nadu bearing the names of three Great leaders who did exemplary service

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

to this nation should be connected by this Karur-Dindugal - Virudunagar - Tutucorin line. Hon. Railway Minister should include this in the future plans. This only would boost the industrial development in these areas.

Traffic congestion is increasing day by day in Madras city. The city is facing serious problems because of this increasing traffic congestion. Some thing must be done to regulate this traffic in the city. The Rapid Transport System has been conceived of with a view to solving this growing traffic problem in Madras City. But the implementation of the project is at snail's pace I expected that the Minister would make some provision for this RTS in the supplementary demands. But there is no provision for RTS in the present demands Hon Railway Minister may kindly take steps to expedite the completion of the project.

As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, the metreage of broad guage line is very less Efforts must be made to convert all the metre-guage lines into broad guage lines On an urgent basis the doubling of mines from Madras to Villupuram and Madras to Jolarpet may be taken up. This is a long pending demand of the public I hope Hon. Railway Minister would not refuse to yield to my request.

Sir, my Parliamentary constituency is a rural constituency. Only 70 KMs is the total length of railway line in my constituency. There are sugar and cement factories in my constituency. I made specific demands for the general public good for providing, extending and expanding the rail facilities in my constituency several times to the Minister. A report was caused to be given on my demands and the General Manager concerned gave a report in the usual fashion that, for reasons that were not properly explained, the demands could not be met. Hon. Minister has always regretted his inability to accede to my request in all his replies. But in certain other Parliamentary constituencies in Tamil Nadu and in certain other parts of the country, rail facilities are being provided immediately on asking and this has caused doubts in my mind whether these facilities are being provided with party politics in mind. Hon. Minister may reply to my point so that I could shed my doubts.

Sir, there are three cement factories in Ariyalur. Ariyalur is growing into a big industrial centre. A permanent roof may be provided over the platform in Ariyalur railway station. A retiring room should also be constructed in Ariyalur railway station I hope the Hon. Railway Minister will accede to my requests.

Let me now lastly summarize for the benefit of the Minister my demands. Sir, the Karur-Dindugal broad guage project should be extended upto Tutucorin via Virudunagar. The RTS in Madras city should be completed without any further delay and funds should be periodically allocated without fault. Attention should also be paid to the rail transport needs of Ariyalur falling in my constituency.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI R.S KHIRHAR (Sitamarhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Railways I also join with my colleagues in extending unqualified thanks to the hon. Minister of Railways for his efforts in bringing modernisation and all round improvements in the Railways. I fully appreciate Shri Scindia for his success and progress achieved by him in the last few years.

I want to submit that here we make laws and we update them. But the laws relating to Railways in India was made during the British Government's time. Under that law Railways was declared as a commercial institution. Even after 40-41 years of independence, we have been acting on the same nation. I, therefore, urge upon all our friends that they should prevail upon the Railways to adopt welfare as its motive. It is very necessary If the outmoded law made long-long ago is not amended, Railways will be run on the same pattern as a business man runs his shop keeping only profits in motive. Like

[Shri R.S. Khirhar]

a business establishment, trains will also be run in the areas whereas where they earn profit. If this principle is allowed to be continued, railway will remain a dream for the people of the areas who are yet to see a train. It will take another hundred years to reach a train to such areas.

A survey was done to lay railway line from my constituency to Muzaffarpur during the regime of the then Railway Minister Shri Kedar Pandey and Shri Lalit Babu. A number of time I reiterated this request to the present Railway Minister but every time my request was turned down by him on the ground that railways operation would not be economically viable in the area. If railways facilities and other transportation facilities are not provided in a backward area like ours, how the business and other trade activities will flourish in such areas. In absence of such facilities these areas will remain backward In order to change the commercial attitude of the Railways the MPs of backward areas should impress upon the Planning Commission or other Ministries that the word 'Welfare' be added to the notion with regard to making provision of railways facilities. When word 'Welfare' will be added to the notion with regard to railways, only then the backward areas can be developed I have stated this earlier also that due to the efforts of M.Ps of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, Bagha-Chhitoni rail bridge was sanctioned and its foundation stone was laid by our popular leader and former Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi But that foundational stone has been wiped out and the scheme has more been shelved This bridge if would be made very useful. Does it sound well for the Government of Congress Party stature to abandon this scheme This bridge has been excluded from planned schemes. After a lot of hue and cry made by us, the hon. Minister agreed to revive it. If this scheme is completed the long-lasting demand of providing railway facilities from Sitamarhi to Muzaffarpur, will not be vigorously pursued because its extension from Sitamarhi to Darbhanga will reduce the journey time between Sitamarhi and Delhi by 4 hours. I urge the hon. Minister to take effective step for early construction of Bagha-Chhitoni-bridge by reviving the old scheme, as also attention be paid towards long-awaited demand of construction of a railway-line between Sitamarhi and Muzaffarpur.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, second thing I would like to submit to the hon. Minister is about Bihar. Though Bihar is rich in mineral resources yet it is a backward state. Whom should I blame for it, specially when the Congress Party is in power both at the Centre and the State. North Bihar is very backward because there is no other source of development except agriculture, and this part of Bihar is a flood and drought prone area. In the allocation of funds for railways in the last Budget for Bihar, sufficient funds were not provided In this Supplementary Demands, I want that the Central Government should provide adequate funds to Bihar so that regional disparity could be removed The Government should pay special attention to Bihar.

With these words, I support the Demands and appreciate the measures of development taken by the hon Minister.

[English]

SHRI N TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur) : Mr Deputy-Speaker, I support the Suupplementary Demands on Railways I belong to such area region, whose people are used to waiting and waiting in every respect

We are at the end of the country on the eastern side We are more than two thousand KMs away from the capital and therefore psychologically and physically we are remote from the capital. We are yet to see an inch of a railway line. For many years, we have been promised a very short extension from Silchar to Jiribam. The survey was conducted a number of years back and it took many years. After that, construction work has been started. An assurance was given that it would be commissioned in 1986. Now, we are at the end of 1988. I had been to that place recently Of couse, construction of the track has been started. As we are all know, this is a rainy season. The best

season for construction is winter. We reiterated again and again at the General Manager's level, Ministry's level and at the Railway Board's level. I cannot visualise that this would come in the near future as of today.

If we like to remove the regional imbalances and also reduce the number of island of isolation in any part of the country, then we have to make certain priorities. Priority can be interpreted in many ways. We should give priority to those places where Railways have not yet reached.

I understand that Mizoram is also having some survey for a similar extension from Sirchar. There might be other similar areas also, like Goa, Kashmir Valley, Hill areas of U.P. We do not demand for a moment that Manipur valley should be the railway because that is far from possibility. Jiribam is an area bordering between Assam and Manipur where railway extension can take place easily. Here if we get a railway station, our one relief will be that some of the passengers and freight will be diverted to this route and we shall be able to avoid Dimapur sector. By going to the Dimapur sector, as I have been saying again and again, the Nagaland Police is harassing outsiders. I am not making any complaint against them because they behave suitably to their rules and regulations within their jurisdiction. But this is practically repulsive to people who go through that State particularly outsiders. So I have been and also my predecessors had been demanding in different forums and particularly on the floor of this House that it should be hurried up. I would like to request the hon. Minister to give special attention to this so that it would be ready, as promised by next year. Even so, I have my own doubts that this will be ready by next year. If the Ministry, engineers and connected officials take keen interest, I think, it will be possible to do it.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : It will be ready in the Seventh Plan.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : I do not know whether you have seen the construction work there. I have been there because it concerns me practically and physically. I have my own doubts, I repeat. If it is completed by that time, Let me take a defeat sportingly.

In the existing circumstances, now the Dimapur sector has a certain number of seats reserved for Manipur. Even in my own case, I could not see a railway station as a teenager because I came out for studies at the late stage of my life. Even now, railways are stranger den and blue moon to many of our people. In this sector, when Dimapur is the only railway accessible to the Manipuris, why the number of seats cannot be increased to meet the demand ? We have an out agency in Imphal, the State capital. Here in this out agency, reservations can be made for the few seats. But the demand and supply are not matching. As a result, people have not at all been attracted to railway journeys. As you know, Sir, the Manipur people are Hindus. They save small amounts from their hard-earned income and go out to pilgrim places. You will be surprised that our people are going by bus and while travelling by bus, they have to face the harassment at the hands of the inter-State police and the inter-State transport authorities involving lot of expenditure in the form of bribes and all that. This is something very torturous but they have to do it. When we are attracting the people to the mainstream and when we want to remove the regional imbalance, how are we going to do it ? For instance, if we delay the construction of this line for so many years, then if it is not possible to increase the number of seats, at least for the time being in the existing circumstances, why not Manipur should have a separate coach in every train passing through Dimapur ? Then I think a lot of relief will be given to our passengers. Perhaps the hon. Minister will give a favourable thought to this because I am not making an unreasonable demand, I am making a very reasonable demand. Manipur should have a separate coach both ways in every train passing through Dimapur, particularly in the superfast trains coming from and going to Delhi and other remote places.

[Shri N. Thombi Singh]

Reservation should also be made possible at the out agency in Imphal for the entire quota. Now only a limited number of seats are reserved there. With these words I support the Demands.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will confine myself to the North-Eastern Frontier Railway and I would like to draw the attention of the Minister also.

Sir, I was looking at the amounts which the Railways have demanded. There is no amount mentioned here for the purchase of new lines, restoration of dismantled lines, taking over of line wire from P&T, electrification projects, railway users' amenities, railway research and miscellaneous advances. The Ministry has not demanded any amount for these because they do not need such projects in the North-Eastern Frontier Railway. This is a very important railway zone which is touching the very important and vulnerable area of our country which is economically, politically and from the defence point of view very very important. So, special care should have been taken for the North-Eastern Frontier Railway. This was started only after the independence of our country because when the division of the country was done, this area was totally cut because of the creation of East Pakistan, now Bangladesh. But it is because of the efforts of the Railway Ministry that it has been connected by railway. We feel that railway is the only means to join the eastern zone with the rest of the country. So, a special care must be taken to improve the condition of trains and the running of all the trains which are coming from the eastern zone, right from Dibrugarh and other places. My friend has already spoken about this, but I will also take a little time because it is very important. Dharam Nagar Kumarghat line is 33 kilometres only. About Silchar to Jiriba he has already spoken. That is about 44.16 kilometres only.

A very big project which has been taken up is a rail-cum-road bridge across the mighty Brahmputra at Jogighopa, along with a B.G. railway line from Jogighopa to Guwahati, which is about 143 kilometres. This is a very important project and crores of rupees are needed for this project. But the Railways are releasing very little money which is eaten up by the administration for their working only. The prices of cement and iron ore are increasing. Now the cost is going to be increased by crores of rupees. So, you need to finish this project as early as possible. That will be for the good of the country as a whole because this a very important bridge to bridge the eastern India with the rest of the country. As I have already said, economically, politically and from the security point of view also it is very very important. If it is cut down somewhere, if some enemies come from that side and if it is cut down at Alipurduars or somewhere, then Indian will be nowhere to get into contact with these people.

We cannot compare this North-Eastern Frontier Railway with the other railway zones because it is at a preliminary stage. We cannot think of electrification or anything. You are up so many projects for other zones for electrification. At least you must give some thought to the electrification of NJP to Guwahati line so that electric trains must be run there.

Other things you have already taken up. I am not imputing that you are not considering them. You have taken up so many projects. Our officers, engineers and other people are doing a very difficult job because most of the places are hilly areas. The construction cost is also high. In the plains, the construction of railway lines is a bit easier and economical but in that area.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now wind up please.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : This is very important, Sir. You have not gone there. I welcome you to come there. In the

Kumedpur-New Jalpaiguri Section, between Barsoi and Dalkhola, a distance of 29.05 Kms. is to be linked by railway lines and a distance of 4.9 Kms. only between Dhulabari-Aluabari is also required to be linked by railway line. Again, between New Alipurduar and Chautara, rail link is required for a distance of 24.15 Kms. These are all important places which should be connected with railway network. The Government has already done a big mistake, knowingly or unknowingly, in keeping these places inaccessible.

Another point is that you have got so many steam loco-sheds in the country, particular in the North-Eastern region. In these loco-sheds the people have been working. It is understood that you are going to close down these sheds because of use of other locomotives It is my request that these loco-sheds can be changed into diesel or electric loco-sheds so that the people can continue to work there These steam-loco-sheds were started for the first time when the Railways started working That was the history of our Railways So, you should not close down these sheds. It is my demand and everybody is concerned about it.

Sir, there is a demand for long distance railway from Dibrugarh to Nagpur-Bombay via Katihar-Ranchi-Sambalpur. Now all other trains are running on the different routes. There is no through trains touching all these points. This is my demand and the demand from the people of my region and I would request you to meet our demand *(Interruptions)* You have already accepted Alipurduar station as model station for which the work will start very soon I will be very much thankful to you if you consider my other points which I have submitted in the course of my speech. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways. As such, no special demands have been made in this connection. Some amount has been demanded for meeting the expenses of court decrees and some has been demanded for the Railway Fare and Freight Committee about which the hon. Minister had announced during the Railway Budget Still, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister on this occasion towards my constituency.

The Bombay-Daund-Manmad and Manmad-Daund-Bombay passenger train has been withdrawn which had been running for the last 70 years In my opinion, it should not have been withdrawn because trains are very crowded on this section and this being a passenger train, it was very convenient to the people. It is not possible to get seats in other trains. Therefore, I will request the hon. Minister to consider the restarting of this train.

Daund, Manmad and Bombay are very significant from the point of view of Railways. If an accident occurs somewhere between Manmad and Bombay or between Bombay and Daund the entire traffic comes to a standstill. I had told you earlier also to get an over-bridge constructed at Balwandi village on the Manmad Daund National Highway which is adjacent to Ahmednager. It creates enormous difficulties for the people. When the traffic jams here. It is an industrial area and until both the over-bridges are constructed, these difficulties will continue.

Ahmednagar, Kopargaon Belapur etc. are developing at a very rapid pace from the industrial point of view but the stations are not developing accordingly.

Due to the setting up of the Maharashtra Development Corporation, the traffic at Ahmednagar has increased so much that it became necessary to establish another station. A small station called 'Mulak' has been set up there. The load on the Ahmednagar station is enormous. Therefore, you should pay more attention here.' It is also essential to make the Belapur and Kopargaon stations more beautiful. My demand is that the line should be doubled. As such, a provision

[Shri Balasaheb Vikhe Patil]

of Rs. 22.01 crores have been made in the Supplementary Demands. In fact more funds should have been granted.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Kuvari-Pandarpur-Parlia-Baynath is a metre-gauge line. If it is changed into a broad gauge line, the traffic on this line will increase considerably. Therefore, I want to request that this line should be changed into a broad gauge one.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the proposal of improvement of the hospitals in these Demands is very good. I thank you for it. There is scope for improvement in the hospital at Igatpuri and it should be done.

In the end, I conclude by thanking the hon. Minister for his good performance and also the Hon. Deputy Speaker for providing me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand here to support the Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways).

I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to one thing. Most of the speakers made submissions here. Although they are submitting their respective demands from the States, by and large we must admit that the performance of Railways in the last several years—specially from the time the hon. Minister has taken over, we have to admit, it is no exaggeration and everybody is saying it in his heart of hearts, that the performance of Railways has improved. Now, to what extent the hon. Minister can meet the demands of each of the States or the demands made by the Members here, it has to be seen from the resource point of view. I agree.

As far as Goa is concerned, you have to admit that we did not get the benefits of the first two Five Year Plans because Goa became independent in 1961. Therefore, this aspect you have to consider.

Secondly, we have got our demand of broad guage railway from Miraz to Vasco de Gama. There is also Marmagao port. To supplement the efforts of the port area we have to have this broad guage from Miraz to Vasco de Gama. No doubt, we have had research study on this aspects. But I respectfully submit, Sir, the RIGHTS to whom this study was entrusted, I do not know what criteria they take. If they take only the economics of the routes, then in most of the places we will not be able to have any routes at all, let alone broad guage. Yesterday I heard that the RIGHTS has given a report that the route from Miraz to Vasco de Gama is not viable if it is to be made broad guage. So, my submission here is that this Replot should not be taken into consideration because they have considered basically the economics of it.

Secondly, I would like you to consider this aspect that Goa is a tourist place and today the passenger steamer service which plies from Bombay to Goa is stopped because two of the steamers have been taken to Sri Lanka for IPKF efforts. So, that is totally stopped and in the near future there is no likelihood of the steamer service commencing. Therefore, there is an additional burden on the Railways. Today, if I want to go from Delhi to Goa, I have to change three trains and sleep two nights in the train. You can imagine my plight if I want to avail of the train service. I have to go from here to Bombay, from Bombay to Miraz and from Miraz to Goa; after two-and-a-half days I will reach Goa. So, for me, Sir, the Railway Pass which is given is of no use. I am just giving you this example. Therefore, at this stage, before the broad guage is done, I will request you only one thing. The Jhelum Express which goes up to Poona can be extended up to Miraz. It can be made a super-fast train from Delhi to Miraz and from Miraz a connecting train can be there so that at least some hours can be saved and the people of Goa can get the benefit of your efforts.

Some time back I have reminded you of your relations with Goa and you also said that 'my grandmother hails from Goa and I owe something to Goa.' Your grandmother is from Goa.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has to go Goa to see his grandmother's place by train.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK . Because of his grandmother. at least the hon Minister will do something. But when the Budget was presented, there was headline in Goa : Despite grand-mother love, nothing was given. This should not happen again. I request you humbly to do something for Goa.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, whenever the House passes the Grants for the Railways, I always feel that I am a loser It is so because everyone gets some or the other benefit out of it but as regards our share we at-least had the privilege of appreciating the performance of the hon. Minister earlier, but the way some friends in the opposition are praising the hon Minister and the performance of his Ministry today, it seems, that even this privilege is also being seized from us

We all want that Railways should get maximum allocation but Railways should also see as to how to reduce the interest disparities between the States One hon. Member has raised a very good point just now and I want to join him in drawing the attention of the hon Minister towards the injustice being done with Uttar Pradesh Out of the total investments made by the Railways since Independence, only 6 per cent has been invested for Uttar Pradesh which is the most thickly populated State Last year three and a half percent of the total investment was made for the State, I would urge that at least some more new railway lines should be taken up for gauge conversion and attention should be paid to other construction activities in the State which has a vast population.

I would like to draw your attention towards Lucknow-Pilibhit-Tanakpur railway line in Uttar Pradesh. The traffic is very heavy on this line and there is also the additional load from Nepal. There has been a long standing demand for its conversion but the Railway Ministry is not considering it. Our demand is to enhance the allocation for Rampur-New Haldwani line. We also have demand for a broad gauge line between Bareilly and Tanakpur. If you do not have any intention to do all this and feel that it is not important to do so then you should at least get the approval for a survey of Ramnagar-Bhikyasen Chaubatiya line. If you think that even this is not possible, then we shall wait for another 4 to 6 months It seems from what Shri N. Tombi Singh has stated that this waiting period would soon be over. But if the Government continues in this fashion we may have to wait for ever.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : There has been gauge conversion on Moradabad-Ramnagar section.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I will thank you for that but first let me make my demand.

In regard to the survey of Ramnagar Bhikyasen Chaubatiya new railway line, I want to urge that if there are some difficulties then a Rail-cum-Road office should be opened at Bageshwar. If even this is not possible then a Railway holiday home should be opened in our area which is a hill station I had written to you that holiday homes should be opened at Ranikhet, Almora and Pithoragarh. If you find difficulties here also, then I would appeal to your finer sentiments. As Shri Shantaram Naik was making a claim on you, I would also say that you are similarly related to the Himalayan region as well. You may remember that you have matrimonial relations in Kashmir and we consider Kashmir as a part of the Himalayas In order to make the people of the State happy, freight concessions should be granted on the apples, produced there. At present these apples are in great demand in the gulf countries and can be a source of earning rare foreign exchange. If a little concession is granted on freight as has been given in the case of mangoes the people of the hill areas would be grateful to you.

[Shri Harish Rawat]

With these words, I thank the hon. Minister for having completed the gauge conversion work on the Moradabad-Ramnagar railway line at such a rapid pace. I have demanded for providing several concessions. If you are not able to fulfil the major demand then at least the minor ones should be met and let me get an opportunity to hang on at least somewhere.

[English]

SHRI A CHARLES (Trivandrum) : I support the Supplementary Demands for Grants for Railways. I must at the outset congratulate the performance of the Ministry of Railways during the last few years which has been very encouraging as the hon Minister has been able to infuse his personal charm and dynamism in the working of this Ministry. Let me confine myself to some of the urgent needs of my State.

Doubling of line from Ernakulam to Trivandrum is the most important item of work in Kerala which has to be completed without any further delay. The present broad gauge line from Ernakulam to Trivandrum is fully saturated with a large number of Mail and Express trains. The freight capacity to Kerala for essential commodities like foodgrains, coal and Kerosene is also very limited From 1st April, 1987 four new trains were introduced in Kerala, (1) a bi-weekly superfast train between Bombay and Cochin; (2) a weekly super-fast train between Gauhati and Cochin (3) weekly superfast train between Cochin and Hyderabad; and (4) a weekly super-fast train between Cochin and Ahmedabad. We are thankful to the hon Minister for new trains but quite unfortunately these new trains are not being extended beyond Ernakulam towards Trivandrum for want of spare line capacity on the saturated single line section where the percentage of utilisation is about 117%. Trivandrum is the capital of Kerala and unless these trains are extended to Trivandrum, the benefits from these cannot be full utilised. This position can be improved only if the doubling work from Ernakulam to Trivandrum is completed. In this sector, Ernakulam-Alleppey is 57 KM and from Alleppey to Kayamkulam, it is 43 KM The work in this sector is in progress. However, from Kayamkulam to Trivandrum, only the survey work is over and the work has not been started. Unless this is also completed, the maximum benefit of the long Madras-Trivandrum Central trunk route which is 921 KM cannot be fully utilised. I plead that the doubling work which is a parallel line from Ernakulam to Trivandrum may kindly be completed as expeditiously as possible.

Another important request and long pending demand from Kerala is the Trichur-Guruvayoor line which is 24 KM long Guruvayoor is a very very ancient and important pilgrimage and several thousands of pilgrims are visiting this important place every month. Last month, even our hon. Prime Minister of India paid a pilgrimage visit to this centre. I request the hon. Minister to remember that about a decade ago the then Minister of Railways Shri Kamalapathi Tripati visited Guruvayoor and made a declaration that Trichur-Guruvayoor line will be given immediately. Even today it still remains a promise. This line may by given priority.

The hon. Minister has been kind enough to write to me a letter saying that Trivandrum has been selected as a model station. But after some time there was a news item that it has been cancelled and I got information from the hon Minister that there was no change in the project. In answer to an Unstarred Question in this Session, it was stated that there is no change in the project and that there is no delay in the work also But nothing is coming up. If I understand correctly, some land has to be given by the State Government and the State Government is demanding about Rs. 2 crores and the railway is not willing to pay that amount. I request that the correct position may be clarified so that I may take up the matter with the State Government and difficulties, if any, can be removed. The Gruesome tragedy at Perumon in Quilon about a month back took the lives of more than

100 people. I am thankful to the hon. Minister for the very generous approach he has taken. He was able to reach the spot even at the mid-night by chartering a flight. The compensation was doubled. He has done all that was possible. The hon. Prime Minister was kind enough to allot about Rs. 30 lakhs to give some amount to the weaker sections of the people, the traditional fishermen who risked their lives for saving the lives of hundreds of people. But it is really unfortunate that these funds have been mis-utilised by the State Government by paying to the party workers ? I plead with the hon. Minister that an inquiry may be conducted in this matter and see whether the relief fund sanctioned by the Prime Minister has been properly utilised or given to the party workers.

Finally, I have one request to make. The food supplied in the trains by the Railways that too especially in the K. K. Express is very very bad, below standard and Rs. 7/- is charged for a vegetarian meal, I would request that arrangements may be made for providing proper food in the trains. Due to time lag, I would like to conclude. I would request the hon. Minister that these requirements may kindly be taken care of.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAPHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. Secondly, I congratulate the hon. Railway Minister for the overall good performance of the Railways. I have got only six points to make.

Sir, the Railway is the main mode of transport in our country Development of backward areas depends on the transport system in the region and continues growth and self-reliance of public utility units like the Railways are the base of our economic progress. The performance of the Railways during the Seventh Plan Period has shown significant impovement, both in terms of additional freight traffic, carriage and productivity of assets. Sir, you know the magnitude of the Railway Budget which he has brought. This demand amounts to only Rs. 167 lakhs. It is nothing. I wholheartedy support this demand. I feel that the discussion on this demand is significant. It is significant from the point of view of Members expressing their feelings for the expansion and the qualitative improvments. We are demanding so much because the administration is responsive. The Minister is responsive and that encourages us to put in more demands. But, at the same time, I would emphatically plead with the Planning Commission to realise the importance of Railways particularly and allot more funds even out of the way so that the Minister, who is quite capable and responsive, could be in a position to fulfil the aspirations of the people and the Members in particular.

Now I will come to some of the demands of my area, just-point-wise. There should be some new zones created in the the country. Now, it is time to think of this. There should be a new zone is Orissa comprising some areas of Madhya Pradesh also with Jharsuguda as headquarters. Secondly, Sambalpur Division's jurisdiction should be re-fixed, We have had discussion with Railway Minister. He was kind enough to give us a patient hearing. I have discussed it with him. He should personally intervene to see that in addition to the areas coming under this new division, Orissa portion on the Bombay-Howrah line should be brought under this division. Construction of the Sambalpur-Talcher line should be expedited. Facilities for journey from Western Orissa to New Delhi should be created by the introduction of a Superfast train. This should be introduced.

Allahabed and Banaras both are religious cities. There should be some railway facility for passengers of western Orissa to go to Allahabed and Banaras. I have discussed a specific proposal with the Minister and G.M., S.C. Railways and also with the Railway Board in this regard.

Hirakund Express should be extended up to Jharsuguda. Pantry car and AC sleeper should be attached to Madras Bokaro Express and Pantry Car should be attached to Ahmedabad Express.

[Shri Sriballav Panigraphi]

There should be a level crossing at Sripura near Jharsuguda. We have placed Rs. 1,70,000 with the railways out of the poor people's money. For this, estimate is now revised upward. We are not able to cope up with that.

There should be a manned level crossing at. Sripura with additional expenses borne by the Railways. And passenger halt at Gondpanpali between Dhutra and Bagdihi station near Jharsuguda should be introduced. It is quite reasonable. The distance is 14 kilometre.

Passenger trains should be given priority and preference over the goods train in movement Otherwise, lot of passenger time is wasted. In some places, railway staff is being beaten up. I am not going to illustrate this. There should be proper control. In some cases, what happens is that control does not work properly. They work mechanically without applying their mind. Otherwise, there will be lot of improvment in punctuality in the train movement and also late running of train can also be reduced.

Members of Parliament while travelling make some comp aints in the book. This should be looked into by the Minister personally. Our complaints are being delt with at lower level with replies sent mechanically, as for example, we are looking into it; inconvenience is regretted and something like that. It should be looked into by the Minister personally.

Food should be prepared in the trains itself at least where there is a pantry car and without getting it from the base kitchen.

Cleanliness and punctuality are the motto of the Railways. This should not only be done not in the long distance prestigious trains but all the trains. This should be given more emphasis.

There should be shower bath facility in the bathrooms in all the coaches. Secondly, 1st and AC Class.

Parcel booking facility which has been withdrawn from Sambalpur road station should be restored.

I have all words of praise for the Minister. He is one of the rare Ministers whose work is appreciated from both sides of the House. I wish him all the best. His work is a challenging one and he has to do a lot. Indian Railways is the leader in so many areas. Now it ought to be the leader in the world in the area of technology also which would help us fulfilling the aspirations of the people. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI BHISHMA DEO DUBE (Banda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support the Supplementary Demands of the Railways. Firstly, if I do not express my gratefulness to the hon. Minister of Railways, I will be commiting a major mistake. The extent of work done under him in my area has been unprecedented. However, there are many places in the country where in spite of major work being done, lot needs to be done. My constituency is also one such area. I would request that in the informal Consultative Commitee meeting of the Central Railways held on the 11th of this month, I had submitted a detailed note and therefore, I will not mention these points here because they are already with the hon. Minister for his kind consideration.

Apart from this, I would like to raise a few more points There are some lines where the load or traffic is very heavy and has reached a saturation point. Not much can be done in those places. Along it, there are some parallel lines on which with if some modifications are affected it may reduce the load on those lines which have reached a saturation point. For example, on the Delhi-Howrah railway line the load is very heavy between Kanpur and Allahabad. If this is diverted via Jhansi-Manikpur, it may not only help in reducing the load but also provide an additional link for the people of this area. The pressure of traffic will alio become less. In this way both the areas will develop simultaneously. Keeping this in view I want to request the Government to pay

attention to lay a double line between Jhansi-Manikpur-Allahabad and provide for its electrification. In this way, traffic towards Kanpur can be diverted and the traffic load reduced. If it has to be extended then it should be towards Jhansi-Manikpur side so that even those areas are benefited.

Just now an hon. Member said that development depends on the means of communication. The only reason for the backwardness of any place is the lack of means of communication. The hon. Minister should keep those areas in view where development has not taken place while formulating a Railway expansion policy so that these areas also get railway facilities. An infrastructure should be prepared by providing communication facilities so that other projects are also sut up here and the backwardness of the area removed. As one hon. friend said we shou'd not be see at this stage whether it is profitable or not.

The Railway Ministry should realise that they are not merely to arrange transportation of the people but to provide such facilities which may help in the further development and prosperity of a particular area and also to assist in the removal of backwardness of that area. With all these things in view and in mind, if the entire work is done it is quite possible that Railway Ministry may lay down new railway lines in the backward areas and the old track can be renewed by them. Besides this, passenger trains may be replaced by the express ones.

I will like to submit one thing in this connection that there is a new train named Chitrakoot Express which passes through my area. We are very greateful that you have changed the timings of this train on the demand of the people of that area. You have increased the total running time of this train from 15 to 19 hours. We were expecting that this time will be reduced. It is my submission that the running time of the train which operats between Lucknow and Jabalpur should be reduced and it should be converted into a utility train so that it may be of some use to the people. With the extension of this train up to Gorakhpur, the places of pilgrimage like Ayodhya and Chitrakoot will also be connected with each other. I, therefore, urge upon the hon. Minister to extend Chitrakoot Express upto Gorakhpur. I have mentioned in my note all the hurdles likely to come in this work and request you to be kind enough to remove them by paying attention to it.

I also want to make a submission about Mahakoshal train that there is always a great rush in this train. If one more AC sleeper coach is attached to this train, the people will get the reservation in it. Whenever I intend to travel by this train, I have to seek reservation a week in advance. Otherwise I do no get it. I want to say one thing about Chambal Express. We are greateful that Chambal Express has been made a biweekly train, but if you provide two things more, the train will be very useful. One thing is that the timings of this train should be so fixed that when this train reach Gwalior from Howrah, the passengers of this train should get the connecting link with Taj Express to reach Delhi. At present there is a difference of one hour with the proposed connecting link, the people from Calcutta will be able to make direct journey up to Delhi. Removal of the existing restriction of 480 km. in regard to Chambal Express is also solicited. It will be of great benefit from the area and in turn, may also increase the traffic.

20.00 hrs.

In the end, I would like to say that change in the timings of Chitrakoot Express has caused difficulties for the daily passengers. I urge upon you to extend Kanpur-Banda passenger upto Mankpur to link the entire area between Manakpur and Banda with Kanpur which is the biggest industrial Centre of northern India. Kanpur-Banda passenger train is stranded at Banda for eight to 10 hours. If this time is adjusted slightly, this train can reach Manakpur in time.

With these words, I congratulate you wholeheartedly for the commendable performance of the Ministry of Railways.

SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN (Damoh) : Hon. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the supplementary demands of the Ministry of Railways. Along with this I want to congratulate the Railway Minister for the expeditious handling of goods traffic and for the increase in passenger traffic. The railways while on one hand, fulfil the aspirations of the people and provide facilities for them On the other hand, they add to the national resources by providing additional money for development in the budget.

On this occasion, I want to draw your attention towards my area. Recently on 20th August the Railway Minister has introduced a super fast Express between Indore and Howrah but the train runs only once a week. I want to say through you that the train which has been recently started attracts a great rush and until it is run atleast thrice a week, it will not serve its purpose. This super fast train connects Mahakaleshwar, Allahabad, Mahor, Banaras and Gaya and we fell that perhaps there is no other train so useful as to connect so many places of religious significance. I hope that the Hon. Railway Minister while giving his reply on the debate on the supplementary demands, will make a clear cut announcement in this regard to meet the aspirations of people. Beena-Katni section has always remained neglected for the excessive transportation of coal and goods traffic on this route. Where increase in goods traffic in the country is a desirable proposition, it is also imperative that the passenger traffic is not neglected. It is our quite old demand that Katni-Beena section should be linked with Bombay and Ahmedabad. It should be fulfilled.

Our area of Bundelkhand is very backward and our Hon. Prime Minister had visited Khajuraho, Chattarpur, Manhara, Damoh and Sagar in the area during elections by road. A demand for a railway line was submitted to him at that time. Whenever there is a proposal for establishing an industry in that area, it is stated that there is no means of transportation. When this matter is raised. With the Railways Ministry, we are told that it is not a profitable proposition. In this connection I want to submit that if it is viewed from the service point of view it may not be profit earning in the beginning but it can be that at a later stage.

Another thing I want to say is that Utakal Express which starts from Puri and reaches Delhi at 1 P.M., runs as per its schedule upto Gwalior and starts getting late from Gwalior onwards and thus the people reaching Delhi by this train cannot utilise their full day. Some such measures should be taken so that Utakal Express, reaches Delhi at 10 A.M. Being it so, passengers and Members of Parliament coming to Delhi will be able to utilise their whole day. The time of its departure for the return journey from Delhi is also 1 p.m. It should start either in the morning or in the evening, Anything convenient may be done in this regard.

I want to give one more suggestion. Railways have got their own arrangement for maintenance. Even our first class boggies are in a deplorable condition. They are in a worse shape than the ordinary second class compartments. I have been told that manufacturing of first class boggies has been stopped. But the boggies which are already in use, should be maintained in a proper condition. It is only yesterday that water was not available in the first class compartment in Utakal Express. In spite of repeated requests, it was not supplied. Whereas our Railway Minister and his entire staff are busy with the development of railways, there are still some such employees who pay no attention towards its maintenance. Such things should also be paid immediate attention.

My another suggestion is that meetings of the Advisory Committees, be it station-wise or division-wise or those of the committee of the Board, should be held at least once in three months and their suggestions should be seriously implemented.

I thank you for this opportunity you have given to me.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no two opinions about it

that during the tenure of Hon. Sciendiaji Railways have established a glorious record in all spheres. It is a thing worth appreciation. Efforts being made to modernise the Railways are praise-worthy.

I will like to recall that I had submitted during the last Budget debate and also during this year Budget debate that the Railway Ministry was such an enormous organisation in which several lakhs employees are employed. Good facilities for medical treatment have been provided but the facility of C.T. Scanner has not been provided in railway hospitals. An assurance was given that this facility would also be soon provided in the Railways hospitals and money has been demanded in this Supplementary demand for providing C T. Scanner for the treatment of cancer patients at Varanasi hospital. I want to congratulate for this. Human life cannot be weighed in terms of money. I will remain grateful if the Rythotriptor system is also made available at Railway hospitals, such arrangement should be made.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, with hygienic point of view disposable tumblers were introduced for serving tea, etc, but it has been observed that these tumblers are not thrown away after use, rather it is used again. They are not destroyed and a group of people collect them and put them into use, as a result of which the very purpose of improving hygienic condition is defeated as also thousands of people who earn their live lihood by making earthen pots have been put to loss. It is therefore requested that decision is required to be re-considered so that the people who are engaged in making earthen pots to serve tea are not deprived of their livelihood.

Many irrelevant things are said and all aspects are not taken into account while deliberating the Demands for Grants In democracy, we must respect the public opinion and heed to their problems and difficulties being faced by the people in different parts of the country. That is why I want to draw your attention towards this point so that you may consider it fully and provide facilities to the most needy persons.

I would also like to submit that there is a long standing demand from my area for conversion of Varanasi-Bhatni line and you had given assurance to accord priority to the same, I hope that you will fulfil your commitment very soon for which we will be very greatful to you.

In addition to it, I want to draw your attention to some more points. It is true that when the platforms were first constructed, the trains consisted of 10 boggies only and now they run with 20 boggies but the length of sheds have not been increased proportionately. Sick, old and handicapped persons have to face much difficulty during the rainy season in boarding trains. Sheds should be increased at platform No 1 and 2 at Khali'abad Jn. in my constituency so that the entire train could be covered. Similarly, platforms of lower level also cause difficulty These are petty items but are of much importance. Attention must be paid towards them.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, what he is saying about railway platform is correct in respect of most of the stations. Now the trains are very lengthy but the platforms are the old once still. Passengers have to get down from the train by jumping.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : I am talking about the same thing

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Then I will remove those extra coache's...

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : You should not reduce the number of coaches ; otherwise thousands of innocent pilgrims will be deprived of transporation.

[Translation]

I do not say like this, I will like to make one more submission. There has been a constant demand since 1962 when Shri Jagjivan Ram was, the Railway

[Shri Chandra Shekhar Tripathi]

Minister. There are some areas which have not been developed merely because there are no transport facilities. It is the accepted aim of the Government and the Prime Minister has given assurance in this August House repeatedly that disparity between different areas will be removed. This cannot be removed unless these areas are developed for which facilities of Railway lines are required to be provided in backward areas This is a long standing demand and in spite of repeated survey, it is stated thati t is not viable and introduction of train service is not economically viabler Development of an area cannot be overlooked on this plea. A new rail line should be laid for Bakira, Bansi, Uttarwala *via* Sabjanwa-Dumariyaganj Reservation quota has been provided for Vaishali Express at Khalilabad but this train does not stop at this station. I submit that provision for stoppage for this train at that station should also be made.

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI (Simla) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I extend my heartiest congratulation to the Railway Minister for writting a letter to me regarding renovation of Simla Railway Station and making it an ideal Railway Station. I like to say that Kalka Simla line was laid during the British times and the train runs on the same rails. There has been railway expansion in all parts of the country but there is no railway expansion in Himachal Pradesh. It is my demand that this railway line be extended up to Rampur. There are tall trees along the roads and railway line from Kalka to Simla and Pathankot to Joginderngar. Resin is extracted from these trees illegally and is sold This should stopped. Resin is extracted from the trees along the railway lines and is old, this should not happen. When Pt. Kamlapatiji was the Railway Minister, he had given an assurance to lay a line from Kalka to Parwana, he had also said that a new rail line would be laid from Jagadhari to Pouta Sahib which has now developed as a new industrial area. No work has been done on this and no survey has been carried out. Work is being done on the new line which is being laid between Nagal and Talwara. This project is facing financial crisis. The expenditure incurred on paying compensation for the land has been born by the Himachal Government but the Railways are not making adequate allocations for this. An enquiry should be made about the illegal occupation of land of Railways in the hilly areas and such land should be given to landless people.

If laying of a new railway line is not feasible between Ropar and Nabgarh, at least Dharuval, situated at the border of Himachal Pradesh, be linked by rail with Nathgarh which is the nearest Railway station from Ropar. In our area, apples and potatoes are grown extensively. It is the basis of the economy of that area. If we use trucks for the transportation of these items, they do not reach safely and sometimes trucks also meet with accidents. We have to often suffer heavy losses. Therefore, I want that the apples of Himachal Pradesh should be supplied to other States to the maximum extent possible and in order to do so, necessary railway facilities should be provided so that our app es reach as far as Bombay. The trains to Bombay, Pathankot and Amritsar which have been discontinued should be revived. These trains have been running since the British period. I hope that the Government will pay attention in this direction so that this difficulty is removed. The Pathankot-Joginder Nagar railway line should at least be extended upto Mandi, which is the district headquarter. This will cover the area of Kulu-Manali. A survey should be conducted in this connection and necessary arrangements made for the laying of the railway lines. The Planning Commission should allocate maximum funds to the Railways so that they could complete this task. I think no Member of the Railway Board is a member of the Planning Commission. Therefore, the hon. Minister of Railways should be one of the Members so that n cessary progress could be made and shortcomings, wherever noticed could be removed. Maximum funds should be allocated to the railways. I hope the Government would pay attention to my demands.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Udhampur) : Mr. Deputy speaker, Sir,

first I want to thank you for giving me an opportunity to make my submission. But at the same time, I also want to regret that "vah mehfil uth gai jab ke daure jam mujh tak aya". My first submission is that when we demand a railway line for Jammu and Kashmir, we should understand this issue from its actual perspective. Before 1947, a railway line was there upto Jammu but in 1947 it was cut and limited till S alkot However, we thank the Central Government for having extended the railway line first from Pathankot to Kathua and then upto Jammu But the situation still remains as it was in 1947. The pressure of traffic on the Jammu and Kashmir National Highway is so enormous that it has gone beyond its capacity and you may have also heard that Tourists have to wait for 5 to 7 days on the highway. Therefore, I am of the view that

[English]

From the economic point of view, there are certain historical and political reasons which compel us to expedite the construction of the railway line right from Jammu to Srinagar.

[Translation]

It is because Jammu and Kashmir has a common border not only with Pakistan, Russia and China but also with Afghanistan We should consider our border States in the North and in the East as show windows and should be treated accordingly. In order to bring them into the mainstream, we shou d not look at them from the monetary angle but from the political and strategih point of view. If we ignore these areas by saying of railway lines there would not be economically viable, we will not be able to bring them into the mainstream and develop these areas. Consequently, our efforts for bringing about integration will not be successful. On the contrary, the fissiparous tendencies especially at the borders will get an opportunity to create disturbances. Our unemployed youth will fall into their trap and these forces will take undue advantage of them. If you want to save our youth from this fate, you shall have to do away with financial considerations and at least lay railway lines there to bring them into the mainstream. The Hon Prime Minister also visited this State during the winter when snow was falling. He also felt that railway lines should be laid there in order to bring this state closer to the rest of the country. He also mentioned that a survey should be conducted for this purpose. But it is unfortunate that the said survey has not been comp eted so far Our beloved late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi who had inaugurated the work on the railway line upto Udhampur, had herself stated on the occasion that the railway line wou'd be completed within the next 4 years but the pace at which the construction work is progressing, it seems that it will not be completed even in the next 10 years

According to the current figures, 18 lakhs pilgrims visit Vaishno Devi temple every year. It s estimated that this fugure will increase to 20 lakhs in the coming years As I have suggested earlier also and I hope that you wil definitely accept my suggestion that at least a day time train should be started. You should pay attention to it. If the current figures of pilgrims going from Jammu to Katra is 18 lakhs, it will become 20 lakhs in near future and it may increase to 40 lakhs during the next 10 years. Yet we do not have Proper roads there. My demand is that Government should make some arrangements for providing travel facilities to the pilgrims. I agree with hon. Shri Harish Rawat's view and his appeal for a new relationship with our State. I would also like to request the Government to provide concessions to the fruit growers of our State so that they may also understand that some measures have been taken for their benefit this year. You should pay attention to the completion of the Udhampur railway line at the earlist. I hope that the hon. Minister will pay attention to the points towards which I have drawn his attention.

[English]

SHRI HAROOBAI MEHTA (Ahmedabad) : I welcome the proposals. In many respects the performance of the Railway Ministry especially the leadership given by the Railway Minister is quite

[Shri Haroobai Mehta]

appreciable though the tests of the poor and middle-class constituency which I represent, are a little more strict. I, therefore, reserve my comments and before extending the scope of the appreciation I shall await the performance report of the Railway Minister on the following points :

1. What the Railway Minister has done to increase the participation of labour in the management of railways ?

2 What is the progress of de-casualisation in railways and what the Railway Minister has done to improve the working and living conditions of casual laboures whose plight is pitiable ?

Out of the Railway outlays, what percentage thereof is spent on wastful expenditure like the so-called prestigious Shatabdi Express, or giving of first class air-condition family passes in the name of sports, or construction of bungalows for the members of the Railway Board in Delhi, each costing Rs. 12 lakhs or more. All these expenses could have been better spent by extending the facilities to poor and middle-class passengers,

Lastly, there should be increase in the facilities for the poor and the middle-class passengers and improvement in the service and working conditions of the Railway employees.

You are also ignoring one of the most poor and miserable class which is connected with Railways, that is, the porters. I would suggest that something should be done for them also. When I asked the Minister whether there is any proposal for giving them the retirement benefits, etc. a cryptic reply was given to me that they are not Railway employees and nothing can be done for them Sir, technically they many not be Railway employees but they are toiling in Railways. Therefore, the Railway Ministry should consider providing some security measures for their post-retirement life and also revise their rates of payment which were fixed several years ago. The Railway Minister cannot also have total lack of concern for the poor toiling casual labourers whose living and working conditions are pitable. I would urge upon the Railway Minister to consider this so that the performance of the Railway Ministry may be appreciated not only by the elite class but also by the poor and middle classes of India Priorities should be fixed in the light of all these things.

I may now come to certain aspects about my constituency. We have demanded a direct connection between Ahmedabad and Punjab and between Ahmedabad and Jammu and Kashmir. Among the tourist traffic in Jammu and Kashmir, perhaps the highest percentage is that of Gujaratis. A direct train between Ahmedabad and Jammu and Kashmir, at least during the tourist season, will surely be lucrative.

Similarly, there should be a direct link between Ahmedabad and Poona.

The frequency of Ashram Express, linking Ahmedabad with Bhopal by metre guage line, should be increased by making if a daily train.

The speed of Sabarmati Express, which is linking Ahmedabad with Varanasi, is slowed down during some sections of the journey. This should be speeded up.

Sarvodaya Express, which is running between Ahmedabad and New Delhi, as also the Rajkot-Bhopal Express should not be taken through circuitous route via Baroda, but should be taken from Anand to Godhra direct. This will save the distance by fifty kilometres If this suggestion is accepted, t will be a national saving.

Similarly, some trains like Bhavnagar-Mahuva train should be resumed in my State. So also the Godhra-Nioga'a line should be resumed.

I thank the Railway Minister for having given a very positive consideration to the proposal of converting the Viraval-Rajkot metre guage line into broad guage. I hope some positive approach will be

evinced by the Railway Minister so far as Kapadbanj-Modasa line also is concerned.

While I appreciate the role played by the RITES, not only in our country but also in international field, I have one personal request to make to the Railway Ministry and that is because Ahmedabad is suffering from unemployment. About 25,000 textile workers are unemployed. Same is the case in other fields also. If a railway coach factory or some other establishment which can provide employment to a large number of workers is set up there, that will be a great boom for the people of Ahmedabad.

Lastly, I want to say that the recent directive of the Railways to use only plastic cups for serving tea has resulted in unemployment of so many potters who were producing earthen cups which were used for vending tea at several railway stations Therefore the earthen cups should be allowed to be used. This will take care of the health aspect also. When a plastic cup costs about forty paise or more, the same will ultimately affect the quality of the tea supplied to the passengers. On Railways cheaper meals for poor and middle-class people are not sold with that enthusiasm as the Rs. 7 meal. Therefore, some 'puri' and 'subji' costing Rs 2 or Rs. 3 should be made adequately available to the passengers. with those words, I welcome the proposals of the Government. Certains point which I have made with a view to improving the Railway performance may be considered in proper prospective. With these observation. I thank you, Sir.

[Translation]

CH. LACHCHHI RAM (Jalaun): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for having given me the time to speak. I want to thank the hon. Minister of Railways for manging so efficiently a big Ministry like the railways the network of which is spread all over India and that too in such young age. With his competence he has raised the level of efficiency in the Railways very high.

It is also due to him that important broad gauge lines in the country have been doubled which has benefited both the passenger traffic as well as transportation of goods. For this also, I thank the hon. Minister.

The time is limited but still I feel that it will be proper to mention certain points about my area. Our hon. Minister is familiar with our demands because I have been making these demands for the last 4 years. Hon. Shri Rawat has mentioned about the close relationship which he has with our area. I want to submit that we have an old relationship with the hon. Minister but in spite of it we are so unlucky that we have not received any benefits. Still I think that it is my duty to make my submisston.

I had submitted during the last Budget session that there is an area in my constituency called the Garautha-Gursarai which is surrounded by Betawa river as a result of which it takes the shape of an island. One friend from Assam has submitted that people in his area have not seen a train so far. I want to submit that there are some people even in my area who have not seen the train so far. Sugarcane, Oilseeds, and other agricultural commodities are cultivated here yet people cannot move out of this area for 4 month in a year. There is only one road from Mauranipur. I want to submit that a railway line should be laid between Mauranipur and Urai so that this area could be connected with Kanpur and the goods from that area could be transported to that market in order to fetch remunerative price.

I have also mentioned about a branch line several times but it is said that is not viable. However, if Ete-Conch is linked with Gwalior, it will be connected with Madhya Pradesh and alongwith the facilities of travel for the people of Jalaun district, trade benefits may also result. Therefore, I want to repeat my old demand that this line may kindly be laid.

I had submitted last time that the Panwari-Bilrayan State highway crosses

[Ch. Lachchhi Ram]

the railway line near Urai. This State highway is very long and has a heavy pressure of traffic and due to the absence of an overbridge, accidents occur frequently. My request is that a railway bridge must be constructed there. Uttar Pradesh will will also contribute towards its cost but the Central Government will have to constribute the major share because Uttar Pradesh is not financially capable of doing so. Besides I am highly grateful to you for having constructed another platform in Kalpi Nagar which comes under my constituency. The people of this area have demand that an overbridge should be constructed there so that it may be convenient to reach the other platform.

There is a very old godown in Urai where many big factories have pened. There is great difficulty in storing the goods because the godown is very small. Therefore, my submission is that this goods godown should be extended. Besides, the other platform which has been constructed there should also be cemented.

No person from our district is taken in the consultative Committee of the Central Railway. I had made a submission to you in this regard even earlier but you did not pay any attention to it. I would like to request that some person should certainly be taken from Jalaun in that consultative Committee.

There is a train from Chapra to Gwalior which passes through my constituency. This train stops here throughout the night. I had demanded that this train should be extended upto Delhi so that the people of that area could travel to and fro from Delhi conveniently. I was told that there is no rail engine available and there is also a problem of non-availability of coaches. But on the other hand, I see that new trains are being introduced regularly. I request you that this Chapra train should be extended upto Delhi.

Two superfast trains passthrough my constituency. Many factories have been set in my constituency and many businessmen have started travelling frequently to that place. My submission is that you should get those superfast trains stop in Urai.

With these words I conculude.

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise to support the supplementary demands for grants moved by the Hon'ble Railway Minister. I thank him for the sense of dedication and duty that he displayed in supervising the relief operations after the gruesome train accident which took place in Kerala on 8th July, 1986. I would thank the Prime Minister to releasing Rs. 30 lakhs for providing relief to the victims of this tragedy. In this context raise an important point. There are serious complaints that the left front government in Kerala is distributing the money given by the Prime Minister among their party workers. This money was given by the Prime Minister for providing quick releif to the victims of the train accidents. But the Kerala government is giving relief to their own party people. I want the Hon'ble Minister to make an inquiry into these complaints. I would also like the Minister to ensure that the money given by the Prime Minister reaches the real victims of the accident. Another serious matter I want to bring to the notice of the House is the collection of money being done by the Chief Minister of Kerala from Kuwait and other gulf countries. Sir, advertisements have been put out in newspapers in the gulf countries asking for money to provide releif to the accident victims. This is a very unfortunate thing This act of the Chief Minister of Kerala amounts to denigration of the country. They are pulling down the prestige of the country by being in a foreign country. I would request the Hon'ble Minister to take all steps necessary to stop this most sameful act of the government of Kerala.

While I am on the supplementary demands I can't help pointing out that there is a justified criticism that Kerala has been neglected by the Railways.

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malayalam.

Whether it is about the question of new coaches, construction of new lines or sitting above Railway Undertakings Kerala has always been ignored. When Shri Kamlapati Tripathi was Railway Minister he sanctioned a survey for constructing a line between Kuttipuram and Guruvayur. As you know Guruvayur is a very important pilgrim centre in Kerala and lakhs of people visit this temple every month. So the need was felt to construct the railway line their. But I am sorry to say that so far nothing much have been done to construct these line except making as token provision in the budget which is quite inadequate. In view of the importance of this line I would request the Minister to make adequate provision in the budget to complete the construction of this line.

Many trains are cancelled in Kerala every year causing terrible inconvenience to the passengers. Whenever there is a problem of shortage of coal or other things it is the passangers train in Kerala which are cancelled first. Whenever there is an accident in the Southern sector it is a the Kerala Express which is cancelled first. I am pointing out these things to show what amount of neglect Kerala is suffering from.

Sir, a lot of work with regard to railway development in Kerala is pending. The doubling of track between Ernakulam and Trivendrum has not been taken up. This is very essential in view of the high rate of congestion on that route. Than there is a long standing demand for setting up a coach factory in Kerala. This should also be considered and atleast in the Eight Plan necessary provisions should be made for this purpose.

There is a general complaint in Kerala that most of the trains runing in that state have very old and dilapidated coaches. People say that there is a possibility of the passengers getting tetanus if they get a scratch on their body from any part of the coaches. I would take this opportunity to request the Minister to provide good coaches to Kerala so that the travel becomes a little more comfortable. Than there are complaints about the bad quality of food been served in the Kerala Express. The charges are high but the quality is very poor. This has to improve.

I thank the Hon'ble Minister for deciding to set up a concrete sleeper unit in Palghat I would request him to take speedy action so that this unit comes up at the earliest. Kerala has terrible unemployment problem. Railways have a major responsibility towards providing employment opportunities to our people, I hope the Hon'ble Minister will pay serious attention to the problems of railway development in Kerala in the years to come and set up a major railway unit in that State. Once again I support the supplementary demands for grants.

SHRI TILAKDHARI SINGH (Kodarma) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I heartily welcome and support the demands for grants presented by the hon. Railway Minister.

Besides, his department comes in close contact with the public and I think him for making good arrangements and doing creditable work in this field. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to my area, through you, in the little time that has been made available to me.

I have drawn the attention of the hon. Minister many times by meeting him personally and by means of correspondence for providing a rail link between Hazaribagh district of Chota Nagpur and Kodarma via Girdih. All the ex-Railway Ministers have assured at different levels that Hazaribagh would certainly be linked to Kodarma via Girdih. Even our hon. Prime Minister had visited Hazaribagh in the capacity of A.I.C.C. General Secretary and he gave an assurance at a public meeting that Hazaribagh district will be linked with a railway line. I wrote letters to the hon. Minister in this regard and he replied that it was not possible on the grounds of economic viability. In this connection, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that Hazaribagh is a district divisional headquarter. You

[Shri Tilakdhari Singh]

should formulate a policy about the development works to be undertaken by the Railways. You should try to locate as to how many divisional headquarters are there in the country which have not been linked with railway line. After identifying these divisional headquarters a list should be made to decide which one is to be linked first and which one later. We hope that it will be beneficial to join Hazaribagh division of Chota Nagpur which is predominantly inhabited by backward classes, tribals and harijans with a railway line. I hope you will surely pay attention to this.

So far as economic viability is concerned, it is universally known that 80 per cent mica is produced in Kodarma-Girdih belt in Bihar besides many other mines which harness other natural resources. Therefore, if a railway line is laid there it will certainly prove to be economically viable. I would request the hon. Minister not to say immediately that this is not possible. You should at least give an assurance and try and see as to what can be done in this regard.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to make one more point about my area. Choubey station which lies between Kodarma and Dhanbad is situated in the interior and there is no facility of transportation available there. The unimportant trains stop there. I have been requesting the hon. Minister to kindly make arrangements for stopping one Express train at Choubey station. I hope that the hon. Minister will consider this. Besides, there is a station Madhupur on the main line. Steam engines ply between Madhupur and Girdih and they fail on the way at times. Due to this the passengers have to face a lot of inconvenience. If you arrange for diesel engine from Madhupur to Girdih, it will be very kind of you because Girdih is also a district headquarter.

*SHRI K. KUNJAMBU (Adoor):

Mr. Deputy Speaker I support these demands. I take this opportunity to thank the Hon. Railway Minister for the help he extended to the victims of the train accident which took place in Kerala on 8th July, 1988. I also thank the Hon. Prime Minister for releasing Rs. 30 lakhs for providing relief to the victims. On this occasion I would like to bring one thing to the notice of the Hon. Minister. There are serious irregularities in the distribution of the amount of compensation among the victims. There are complaints that many undeserved persons have got compensation whereas many deserving persons have been left out. The Government of Kerala is paying this amount to there own favourates and they have adopted a partisan approach in this issue. I would like the Minister to conduct an inquiry into this.

It is a fact that Kerala has always been neglected in respect of railway development. The Coastal railway in Kerala remains in complete. No new survey has been conducted. There is a long standing for demand for constructing a railway line from Chengannur to Trivendrum via Adoor Kottarakara etc. But not even a survey has been sanctioned so far. This line is very important. There is another demand for a line from Kottayam to Mudurai. No Survey has been sanctioned for this line either.

On this occasion I want to raise a very important demand. There must be railway line constructed from Quilon to Sabarimala. As you are aware Sabarimala is one of the major pigrim centres in the south. Lakhs of people visit this shrine every year and a line to this place will be of immense helps to the pilgrims. I would earnestly request the Hon. Minister to provide for a survey of this line in a eight plan.

Another important matter I want to bring to the attention of the Minister is that the coaches which are used in the trains in Kerala are very old and useless. Infact the people of Kerala have not seen a new coach so far. Whether it is super

* Translation of the speech originally delivered in Malyalam.

fastexpress or passenger trainc the story is the same. Therefore my demand is that new coaches should be provided for atleast the Express trains running in Kerala.

Kerala is the only State in South which does not have a coach factory. There was a proposal to set up one but that has gone some where else. Since unemployment problem is very seaioue in that State I request the Minister to sanction a coach factory atleast in eight five year plan. The Kerala Express running between New Delhi and Trivendrum often runs late and reserve compartments are often over crowded. Food served in this train is of inferior quality. This has to be attended to on a priority. basis.

Finally I want to say one thing about the land that lies on both sides of the railway track in various parts of the state. At present it lying fallow. This land can be brought under cultivation. In this connection my request is that such land should be leased out to the Harijans & Adivasis for cultivation. This will bring some revenue to the railway as well as employment to the poorer sections of our society. I hope the Minister will consider it. I once again support the supplementary demands.

SHRI RAMDEO R [illegible] nastipur) : MR. Deputy Speaker, [illegible] supporting the supplemetary [illegible] of grants of Railways, I would like to congratulate the hon Minister. All his demands are accepted both inside as well as outside the House and he also commands the respect of all because he works very well. I congratulate him because he has a progressive out look and would like to make a few submissions to him.

While drafting the Budget your officials should bear in mind that there are many backward States in our country where facilities of development need to be provided. In this connection, I would like to draw your attention to Bihar, especially to North Bihar where the condition is quite bad from the point of view of transportation. You know that agriculture is the major occupation in this area and the number of people living below poverty line is more; therefore, they need facilities of transportation for linking it with the rest of the country. I, therefore, want to request you that you should make special provision for Northern Bihar in the Budget. This alone is the reason why Sakri and Hasanpur lines are lying incomplete. Similarly, the broad gauge line between Darbhanga and Samastipur is also lying incomplete. I have requested the hon. Minister several times in this House to provide a direct rail link between Barauni and Hasanpur, so that the people of Hasanpur Sakri and Utranchal are benefited and they could travel directly from Barauni to Uttranchal and further to Tarai region of Nepal. But no survey has been conducted of that region till date. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to pay attention to this matter immediately.

My other submission is regarding my constituency Samastipur, I have requested him in this regard several times. There was a divisional office which has now been shifted to Sonpur. Now only a small office is there. That too is of no use. The station adjacent to Samastipur railway station is also controlled by Sonpur. This is very unfortunate. I want to tell the hon. Minister that the people of my constituency look up to him and have great expectations from him. I would request him that the divisional office should be removed from Sonpur and re-established in Samastipur.

Thirdly, funds have been provided to convert Samastipur into a model station. But it should be investigated as to how that money is being spent and utilised ? I would request him that at the time of investigation he should certainly include me in the committee, so that I may tell the officials the facts. Here I would like to add that between Samastipur and Barauni there are stations like Bachwara, Dalsingh Sarai and Utlyarpur where no express train stops. I had said in the informal meeting of the consultative committee of the North-Eastern Railway that

[Shri Ram Deo Rai]

the Vaishali Express and other express trains should stop at Dalsingh Sarai and Bachwara junction and all the express trains should stop at Ajyapur also so that the people there may get the railway facility. Earlier the train used to stop at Dhulyana but now it does not stop there. Therefore, people are facing a lot of problems. I had demanded for a direct train from Samastipur to Patna. Buses ply in that area but there is no facility of trains, due to which the railways is also suffering loss.

21.00 hrs.

The people of Samastipur have built a college in honour of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi in the Railway complex. I would urge the hon. Minister to grant it recognition because the girl students there are facing lot of difficulties.

With these words, I once again thank the hon. Minister and would request him to ensure punctuality of trains and proper arrangement for cleanliness, water and light so that the faith of people in the Railways survives. I hail from a poor region which needs your special attention. You are the *'Raja'* (ruler) and we are poor subjects. *"Raju dhare to kaan donon son, aur baniya dhare to chatank bhar non"*. Our region is poor. If you pay attention to it, then it will prosper and your glory will also increase.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I cannot adequately express my sentiments of gratitude to the Members of Parliament who have had the patience to compliment the railways' working in this last half an hour or 45 minutes. Throughout this discussion, in spite of the fact that we may not have been able to implement and expedite certain projects up to the expectations of the representatives of the people due to tremendous limitation of resources, I found ample evidence of general understanding and support for the Railway Ministry from all sections of the House.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can continue tomorrow. The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

21.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, September 1, 1988/Bhadra 10, 1910 (Saka)

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