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Friday, August 19, 1988

Sravana 28, 1910 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Eleventh Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XLI contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

*Friday, August 19, 1988/Sravana
28, 1910 (Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is my sad duty to inform the House of the demise of Shri Rananjaya Singh who was a member of the Central Legislative Assembly representing the then Faizabad Division of the erstwhile United Provinces during December 1926—May 1930. Later, he served as a member of the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council of Uttar Pradesh during 1952-57 and 1958-62 respectively. He was elected to the Third Lok Sabha (1962-67) from Musafirkhana constituency of Uttar Pradesh.

An agriculturist by profession, he took keen interest in the spread of education and social reforms and was associated with a large number of social and educational institutions including the Banaras and Lucknow Universities, the Kashi Vidyapeeth and the the All India Hindi Sahitya Sammelan in various capacities.

A social worker, he worked untiringly for prohibition, prevention of child marriage and social uplift.

2

An able parliamentarian, he had been member of the then Empire Parliamentary Association during 1927-47. As member of Lok Sabha, he made valuable contribution to the proceedings of the House.

Shri Rananjaya Singh passed away at Amethi on 4 August, 1988, at the age of 87 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend. I hope the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while in memory of the deceased.

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Tasar production in Orissa

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

(a) whether the tasar production has been declining in Orissa in the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the year since when the production has been showing declining trend;

(d) the steps taken by Union Government to increase tasar production in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) to (c). Tasar production in Orissa has been showing a declining trend since 1985-86. This trend is attributed to depletion of nature grown tasar food plants near tribal dwellings.

(d) In order to supplement the efforts of the State Government; the Central Silk Board has set up the following units for development of tasar industry in the State :

- (i) 5 Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centres one each at Sundergarh, Newrangpur, Pallahara, Baripada and Lahunipara.
- (ii) 1 Regional Tasar Research Station at Baripada.
- (iii) 1 Research Extension Centre at Bangriposi.
- (iv) 1 Reeling/Spinning Demonstration-Cum-Training Centre at Fakirpur.
- (v) A Raw Material Bank (Sub-Depot) at Rourkela.

Besides under the Indo-Swiss Technical Co-operation Programme, an Inter-State Tasar Project is being implemented in Orissa to increase the area under Tasar Food Plants and to provide supportive infrastructure.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I have asked a very colourful question.

MR. SPEAKER : You are a very colourful person. It automatically proves.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : This question pertains to the production of tasar. As you know very well, in India ladies and gents wear tasar and silk on all auspicious occasions. Unfortunately, the answer is very dry and without any information.

MR. SPEAKER : I hear that Rajasthani people are colourful. How can he be colourless ?

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Sir, being an Indian, I am also a Rajasthani. Sir, the development of sericulture is a very-very important thing for our country because by promoting its export, we can earn a lot of foreign exchange. But unfortunately, the Government which should take cognisance of the sericulture industry or sericulture in our country, is depending only on the World Bank, IRDP and others. The State exchequer is not spending for the tribal people who grow many varieties of this plant. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what is the present position. He is telling that in 1985 and 1986 its production has declined, but as far as my information goes, in 1985-86, more than 46,000 tonnes of this silk was collected and marketed in Orissa. But at present it is only 12,000 tonnes. What is the reason behind this? The reason attributed in his answer is not satisfactory. The reasons attributed throughout the whole country are the same. The flora and fauna and the geological formation are the same as in the North-Eastern States and other States.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, Orissa is one of the important tasar silk producing States in the country. After Bihar, it comes second and it gives employment to about 50,000 tribals. Tasar is produced from a variety of tree called *Arjuna* which grows in the forest. There are number of schemes of the State Government, of the Planning Commission as also of the Central Silk Board to promote production of tasar in Orissa and all other States. It is not true that we are depending wholly on the World Bank for our projects, the State Government itself is also spending. Just to give one example, the Planning Commission allocated Rs. 76 lacs in 1987-88, against which the State Government booked expenditure of Rs 83 lakhs. There is a project called Inter-State Tasar Development Project, of which Orissa also is a part, and lot of progress has been made under that project. When I said that the tasar production is falling, it fell in the year 1985-86 and 1986-87. Because of the drought condition, the trees could not be sustained and, therefore, the production fell. But in 1987-88, it has again started picking up and the various schemes that I have mentioned in my answer, would, I

hope, further increase the production of tasar in Orissa.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Sir, I would like to mention that his Ministry has given much more importance to the North-Eastern region and they are going to spend Rs. 600 crores in a phased manner. Like that, they are getting World Bank assistance for seven States. Though West Bengal and Orissa and North Eastern States are planting these trees, why is his Ministry adopting stepmotherly attitude towards Orissa where the geological formation for plantation of all the four varieties of silk tasar has been neglected, and why under the various schemes that he has mentioned, a very meagre amount is going to be spent? Orissa is very famous for tasar. Mr. Kritartha Acharya got Padma Bhushan from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru for this. The cloth is very costly and hand-woven. So, why not give more importance to it and include it under the World Bank assistance scheme? The Government of India can also allocate separate funds for this.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, we have allocated funds, the State Government has allocated funds and the Central Silk Board has also allocated funds. We have established a number of institutions, but mere injection of money would not help the matters. It takes a long time for the afforestation of these trees. First the nurseries have to be raised then they have to be sown in blocks. So, whatever the State Government is prepared to absorb, so far as production of tasar is concerned, I think we would be able to help them in this respect. The figure of Rs. 600 crores which the Hon. Member mentioned, is not for North-East or for any particular States; it is for a number of States for which the project has been drawn.

The World Bank is in consultation with us. No final decision has yet been taken. But one general observation I can certainly make that in Orissa as far as Tasar development is concerned, we will be able to help as much as the State Government and the local infrastructure can absorb.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, many times this issue has

been raised in the House that the Central Silk Board is doing injustice to North India. It has only one office and that is in Bangalore. The high officials are guilty because the areas like north-east Orissa and Dehradun in Uttar Pradesh are at a wide distance and the Central Silk Board Office in Bangalore cannot do justice to them. Keeping this fact in view, will the Hon. Minister make arrangements to open an office of the same level as in Bangalore at such a place in north India or form an organisation to have proper monitoring at places in north-east Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. I regret to say that the funds granted by the World Bank are invested in Bangalore where the State Government itself has been keen in its further development. It hardly matters if the Central Government makes any or less development there. Keeping this fact in view, will the Hon. Minister give an assurance to the effect that an office of the Central Silk Board will also be opened in north India?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the headquarter of the Central Silk Board is located in Bangalore because most of the mulberry silk is produced in the states of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and other southern states.

SHRI MADAN PANDEY : I am not asking for its closure.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is for this reason that the headquarter of the Central Silk Board is situated there. But that does not mean that other States are being neglected. Wherever the headquarter may be, its offices and research institutes have been opened in every state and all the schemes are formulated by themselves. For instance, Uttar Pradesh is a large State but it produces just 22-25 tonnes of mulberry silk. The Central Government have been urging the State Government to pay attention to this matter. The total consumption in Varanasi per year is 2000 tonnes. So Uttar Pradesh and other states have to make a major contribution in this regard and in regard to the state of Orissa, the Central Government is ready to assist the State Governments which attempt to formulate schemes for its further development.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : I am to state that it is a fact that a lot of potential is available in Jammu and Kashmir for the development of silk and tasar. I would like to know what measures have exclusively been taken by the Central Government and the Silk Board for development of silk industry there ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the production of silk in the State of Jammu and Kashmir has declined to a great extent, for which there are many reasons which I do not want to discuss in detail at present. Firstly, the State Government has developed a monopoly in this regard and thus the growers are not given any incentives. The State Government used to pay just Rs. 25 per kg. which was increased to Rs. 50 per kg. in response to our request. Now they have made some changes in the policy. The State of Jammu and Kashmir has been included in the list of the states for which world Bank's assistance has been sought and the Central Government wants that the production there should rather further increase. I hope that the State Governments are fully cooperating in the implementation of the schemes so far formulated and as a result thereof we will achieve considerable success in this field.

Increase in Prices of raw material used in textile mills

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*327. **SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :**

SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the price of the raw material used in textile mills have increased during the last six months ;

(b) if so, the names of the raw material, prices of which have increased and the extent of increase in the prices thereof ;

(c) the measures taken by Government so far to check increase in the prices ; and

(d) the details of the results achieved ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

Comparison of prices of different raw materials for the textile industry in February, 1988 and July 1988.

Items	Wt. average prices (Rs. per kg)		
	February, 88 (6-2-88)	July, 88 (23-7-88)	% variation July, 88 over February, 88
1	2	3	4
Raw cotton	23.90	22.20	(—) 7.11
Cotton yarn	50.59	46.21	(—) 8.65
Poly/Viscose Blended yarn	88.54	79.08	(—) 10.68
Poly/Cotton Blended yarn	80.83	85.00	(+) 5.15
Viscose Staple Fibre (Pure Staple)	27.17	30.15	(+) 10.96
Polyester Staple Fibre	70.92	66.29	(—) 6.52
Acrylic Staple Fibre	67.75	68.00	(+) 0.36
Viscose Filament Yarn	82.72	95.80	(+) 15.81

1	2	3	4
Nylon Filament Yarn	183.53	161.66	(—) 11.91
Polyester Filament Yarn	168.00	149.50	(—) 11;01
P.O.Y.	149.25	132.25	(—) 11.39
Texturised Yarn (84-D)	174.81	156.47	(—) 10.49
Imported Merino wool (Australia)	114.75	110.67	(—) 3.55
Indian Raw Wool (Bikaner white)	44.00	44.00	(—) 9.09

It will be seen that the prices of most of the major raw materials used by the textile industry have evinced a declining trend between February and July, 1988.

The above is mainly as a result of the following measures taken by Government to check the rise in raw material prices :—

- (i) Exports of the staple cotton have been suspended since July, 1987.
- (ii) Import of cotton on Advance Licensing Basis against exports of cotton yarn, cotton fabrics and made-ups has been permitted.
- (iii) Duty free import of one lakh bales of medium/long staple cotton has been permitted.
- (iv) During the current financial year, large number of fiscal concessions in respect of various man-made fibres/yarn have been announced.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Sir, while replying to the question the Hon. Minister has said :

“It will be seen that the prices of most of the major raw materials used by the textile industry have evinced a declining trend between February and July, 1988.”

He has also stated :

“The above is mainly as a result of the following measures taken by Government to check the rise in raw material prices.”

From among the measures, the third is :

“Duty free import of one lakh bales of medium/long staple cotton has been permitted.”

It means, to keep the prices of raw materials down, the Government of India allowed the import of cotton. It will certainly affect the indigenous growers, indigenous producers of cotton. We may not allow this type of situation to continue for a long time. What steps are being taken to give incentives to our own farmers to go for long staple cotton etc. and to avoid stopping this import of long staple cotton ?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is the policy of Government to produce more and more cotton in the country and to ensure remunerative prices to the growers. If you look at the record of the previous year, you would find that the prices of cotton had increased so much that in regard to the yarn, Handlooms and Powerlooms had to suffer a lot of hardship. So the provision has been made under which the co-operative mills and the mills under the State Government have been permitted to import one lakh bales of cotton, so that they can further supply yarn to the weavers' societies. No private trade or general mills have been permitted. Only authorised co-operatives or corporation mills have been permitted to import so that they can supply yarn to the weavers. We do not want that cotton should be imported. Fortunately, there has been adequate rainfall this year and there will be enough production also. We hope that we will not have to import this year.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister had attempted to provide raw material at cheap rate so that the prices of cloth may not increase. But the hon. Minister himself admitted.

[English]

Mr. Mirdha told :

"...synthetic manufacturers generally have not passed on the benefits of duty concessions to the consumer despite assurances that they would do so."

[Translation]

At an other place he said :

[English]

"...Textile Policy 1985 to create the availability of cloth at affordable prices has been defeated as a cartel of 12 to 13 man-made filament yarn producers have failed to pass on the Rs. 640-crore worth of benefits granted to them in the budget for 1988-89..."

[Translation]

We provide cheap raw material for production of cloth. But some manufacturers indulge in bungling and do not pass on the benefits to the public. May I know the measures which have been taken in this regard ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, adequate concessions were given to the weavers last year and it was hoped that these concessions will further be increased for further passing on the benefit to the consumers. But it has not happened to the desired extent. A committee under the chairmanship of the Textile Commissioner was set up for monitoring. Its meeting is held every month which is attended by all the people concerned. We want that the concessions provided by the Government should be passed on to the consumers and these should not be pocketed by middlemen.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM DHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Recently Hon. Minister has told us that a provision has been made to import one lakh bales of cotton to make available raw material on cheaper rates to Handloom and Powerloom workers. Last year, the cotton production was very less due to drought and weavers could not be provided with raw material on cheaper rate. In view of this, weavers are on the verge of starvation in different parts of the country. Whenever weavers delegation wants to have an appointment with Hon. Minister and wants to put their problems before him, he is not available. In such a situation when weavers are making every efforts to attract the attention of Government by way of demonstrations and other means, I may ask the Hon. Minister as to whether an enquiry committee will be set up to look into the condition of weavers all over the country so that their condition could be improved ? Will some policy be framed by means of which the poor weavers may not have to face starvation ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, the Government has to take care of the interests of cotton growers as well as weavers. The intention of the textile policy of the Government is that there should be co-ordination between the interests of weavers and cotton growers and consumers should also be benefited.

Last year prices had increased manifold. The cotton growers got huge profit that is why they have cultivated cotton in a big way this year. Even then we have taken many steps to protect their interests. We are also examining as to how to check the rise in prices. First of all, in July, 1985 the Government imposed a ban on cotton export because of continuous increase in its prices. Besides, this, the Government asked the cotton exporters to import cotton from foreign countries under the policy of Advanced Licensing and export its yarn or cloth to the foreign countries so that our export may not be affected. We also want that there should not be any more increase in prices of yarn for handloom weavers. As far as the question of duty-free is concerned, the Hon. Members raised objections

as to why one lakh bales of cotton were imported duty free? They imported duty free because the Government wanted to help particularly the weavers i.e. handloom weavers. The policy of the Government is to take care of the interests of both the cotton growers and the weavers working all over the country.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the whole question hour of every Friday is devoted to the discussion on Textile Industry. It proves that unemployment is increasing in Textile Industry which shows that our textile policy has been failed. I would like to know—

[English]

Export of surplus cotton has been suspended since July, 1977.

[Translation]

Our policy of cotton export is not a long-term policy and therefore we may not get any buyer even if we wish to export. Last year you had promised to frame a long term policy for the export of long and medium staple. What are you doing for it? Why did you not honour your promise? Because of this, prices of farmers' produce will come down and the increase in the prices of present crop is also necessary otherwise the farmer will incur loss. The lot of our country and its people cannot be improved until a long term policy in respect of prices and export is formulated.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Textile Department has not only one division. Cotton growing and handloom weaving are also parts of textile

[English]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : All are facing crisis.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is a balanced policy.

[Translation]

There are a number of sectors with conflicting interests. We have to take care of all of them. Just now Hon. Member has given a contradictory statement. We have to see as to how things can be co-ordinated. Whenever such a situation arises now you see when we imposed a restriction on export, Hon. Member wants to know as to why this restriction has been imposed? Therefore, it would not be proper to formulate a policy keeping in mind only one sector and it is not possible also. We want to implement a policy which takes care of the interests of all the sectors and we are following the same policy.

[English]

DR DATTA SAMANT : For the cotton garments and cotton yarn and cotton cloth, there is a terrific potential. Even it has crossed the Government target of Rs. 2,500 crores. We are exporting and for the cotton garments, a shirt which is exported—I am dealing with many of the unions—costs more than Rs. 100/-. The cost is not even Rs. 30/-. This export business is done by all the millowners, Mafatlal, Hindustan Levers etc. who are getting the whole advantage of these exports and further you are giving them concession because they are exporting. But, for the Rs. 100 - or Rs. 150/- for which one shirt of cloth is exported, you can very well give good rate to the cotton growers and to the mill workers and to those who are stitching the cloth. The whole potential and the whole advantage is going to the big houses, those who have closed the mills and who are exploiting the workers. I would like to know whether Government is going to study this and monitor all these rates for the cotton growers and the workers. I raised this issue many times. You can do lot of good things. All the money is being earned by the big houses because of this policy.

MR. SPEAKER : As we have said, prices must be maintained and we shall do it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : We have done a lot of good things and one of them is that this year they have increased

the minimum support price for cotton to a quite considerable extent. The increase is much higher than last year and we want that the cotton grower has to get more than his due and he should get remunerative price. That is the policy of the Government and we are implementing this policy. As regards the price of exported shirt etc., if an importer wants an expensive shirt, what is the harm in sending it to him ?

Review of Narmada Sagar Project

*329-A. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the latest thinking on the storage planning of Narmada Sagar dam, lowering the dam height by 56' would greatly reduce the submergence of forest area and the number of affected villages and people without affecting consumptive use of water for irrigation, drinking and industrial use;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to review the project in order to avoid environmental disaster ?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) There is no such proposal now under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Narmada Sagar Project has been cleared from environmental angle subject to certain stipulations to be complied *pari passu* with the progress of the project. These conditions are regularly monitored by the Narmada Control Authority.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I am rather surprised at the casual manner in which the Hon. Minister has replied. This is the problem on which the national debate

amongst environmentalists, ecologists and also the action groups representing interests of displaced persons is going on. The reply to the question is, 'Does not arise' and 'There is no such proposal'. I would not like to quote the source. But I would like to ask the specific question (*Interruptions*) I would like to ask the supplementary question. (*Interruptions*) I have attended the zero hour and I am aware of the zero hour.

MR. SPEAKER : There are other papers also.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I would like to quote the documents because she has said that there is no proposal. I would not like to quote the source of the secret documents. I would like to ask a specific question as to whether it is not a fact that an upto date data in respect of hydrology and environmental impact indicated through the broad study as mentioned in the question that if you reduce the height of the dam by 56'...

MR. SPEAKER : Is it 56 inches ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is 56 feet. (*Interruptions*) I was saying that if it is reduced by 56', is it not proposed, through concrete data made available to you that while on the one side the water for irrigation, drinking and industrial purpose, supply from Narmada Sagar etc. will remain in tact and at the same time is it not a fact that on the basis of the papers and suggestions made to you, the gross submergence under Narmada Sagar will be reduced from 91300 hectares to 35,600 hectares ? Is it not a fact that if you reduce the height, the forest area that is likely to be submerged will be reduced from 41,000 hectares to 8075 hectares ? Is it not a fact that if you reduce the height, the number of affected villages will be reduced from 254 to 77 ? And, is it not a fact that the population affected will get reduced from 90,000 to 20,000 ? So, if these benefits are going to be accrued, will you kindly read the papers that are already presented to you, study them and

apply your mind...** and come forward with concrete solutions ?

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all I seek your protection as the Hon Member has asked many questions.

MR. SPEAKER : He has asked several questions in one question.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Hon. Member is a very experienced and learned man. I agree that he knows many things. But I want to tell one thing that he is a bit weak in arithmetic. I am saying this because of his statement "I have made a study and I also know as to how this recommendation was made." First of all, I want to correct his arithmetic. He has mentioned 56 feet but 56 feet has no where been mentioned. The matter of 46 feet came up before the Ministry of Environment before according its approval as to what would be the effect of reducing level of full reservoir from 860 feet to 814 feet This was in the form of their suggestion. This aspect was examined not once but several times. The technical experts looked into this aspect several times and Central Water Commission has also investigated. I want to tell the Hon. Member that every scheme has both good and bad points. When we are modernising and taking up a very big project viz. 'Narmada Sagar Project', I want to tell you its advantages also. If F.R.L. is reduced by 46 feet from 860 feet, the life storage, capacity of reservoir will be reduced from 9750 million cubic metre to 1420 million cubic metre which means that only 15 per cent of usable water will remain. What is the need to start such a big project only for 15 per cent. The total irrigation capacity of the three related projects viz. Narmada Sagar, Onkareshwar and Sardar Sarovar of Narmada Basin will reduce to 5.3 lakh hectare from 20.1 lakh hectare. It means

that irrigation capacity will also be reduced in hectares and a crop worth Rs. 250 crore per year will not be produced and power generation will be reduced to 2,600 million unit from 5,700 million unit, which means that only 55 per cent will remain. Flood control capacity will also be reduced. As regards submergence, I want to tell you that the water level has increased up to 853 feet in monsoon. So, only that much area will be covered. The level of water in flood on F.R.L. is 860 feet which will increase only upto 861 feet. Therefore, it can also control flood. The submerged area referred to by you was 35,700 hectare in 254 villages which will be reduced to 91,000 hectares in 77 villages. Only 20,000 persons will be flood affected instead of 1 lakh and 29 thousand persons. I have explained everything in detail.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : First, I do not accept these figures because concrete data has been submitted to them and I would like to furnish further documents .

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Please get it checked for upper level contains more water.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : My second supplementary is still more devastating. As far as this project is concerned, if the project is implemented, there will be certain ecological and environmental losses on the one side and if the project is to be constructed, there will be a certain construction cost. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the documents made available by the Department of Environment, Valley Development Authority, reveal that, whereas the entire cost of construction of this project, the entire Narmada Valley Development project, will be of the order of Rs. 25,000 crores, the environmental and ecological losses will be Rs. 30,923 crores, that is, Rs. 5000 crores more. In view of this, will you ensure that the cost-benefit ratio is properly assessed ? Since about one million

* * Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

people are likely to be displaced from the entire valley project, also proper steps must be taken to ensure that there is no displacement and destruction of the livelihood of one million people in the area concerning this particular project. In that direction I want to know what are the concrete steps that are suggested before you try to implement this project.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir. earlier the cost of this project was Rs. 1393 crore but the revised cost comes to about Rs. 2400 crore now, as per information received by us.

MR. SPEAKER : There is a great difference between 2400 crore and 25,000 crore.

[*English*]

It must be Rs. 2,500 crores...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It has been printed also Rs. 25,000 crores.

MR. SPEAKER : It cannot be.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is for the entire Narmada Valley Development Project.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : It is a matter of arithmetic. When 46 can become 56 then there can be difference in it also. It is an estimated cost, we have not received full details as yet. Therefore the figures quoted by Hon. Member in this regard cannot be accepted. His second supplementary is regarding environment. The Ministry of Environment and Forests sanctioned this project in June 1987 only after studying all the aspects.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Please let us know whether the environment cost is 30,923 crore or not ?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : As I have earlier told you that we have not yet

received details of the total cost. I do not know from where he got these details but I want to tell this much that a meeting was held on 13 April, 1987 which was convened under the Chairmanship of Hon. Prime Minister and attended by the Chief Ministers of all the concerned States, Ministers of Water Resources and senior officials of Centre and states and the Forest and Environment Department has cleared it only after looking into all aspects. Now if Hon. Member wants to know the details about the decisions taken there, for that I want at least 15-20 minutes, then I will be able to read out all the details.

[*English*]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Half an Hour discussion may be allowed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : He is always after Half-an-hour discussion... (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : You can sit and discuss it. Why do you want Half an-Hour discussion ?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : I will think about discussion later on. First of all you withdraw your remarks.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : So, you have withdrawn your remarks...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri V. S. Rao.. ...

[*English*]

**Export Processing Zone at
Visakhapatnam**

*330. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) the latest stage of establishment of the Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam;

(b) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has agreed to place at the disposal of Union Government the land identified by the team of the officials of Union Government; and

(c) if so, the likely date by which the Export Processing Zone will come into being ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Government have agreed, in principle, to the location of a possible Export Processing Zone at Visakhapatnam. The modalities of implementing the possibility are related to an indepth study of the relevant techno-economic feasibility and the experience gained in the working of the existing Zones.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It is not possible to indicate a time limit in this regard, at this stage.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is not a fact that a team of officials from Government of India had gone to Visakhapatnam and identified an area of about 570 acres suitable for locating the Export Processing Zone and the State Government has agreed to place this land at the disposal of the Government of India at a nominal price and whether the State Government also communicated its willingness to agree for actual payment to go by the arrangements entered into by the Government of India with several other State Governments as happened in the establishment of Export Processing Zone. If so may I know the reactions of the Union Government to these proposals from the State Governments?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : It is a fact that the Central Government officials did visit Andhra Pradesh to find out various

sites with the help of the State Government and the State Government did offer certain sites. One of the sites, as I mentioned earlier named Jaggarajupeta in Narava was selected by the State Government and our officials liked that area very much.

Regarding the price modalities, I may inform the House that the State Government did suggest Rs. 40,000 per acre the cost of the land on a term of 40 per cent cash down and rest in 99 years by our side, while the price of the land in West Bengal zone was Rs. 25,000 per acre; in Madras it was Rs. 66,000 per acre. However, this is correct that we had visited and we got offer of the land and we have received the report. But without examining the entire feasibility of the techno-economic aspect of the entire zone, keeping in view the new four zones, it is difficult to arrive at a conclusion at this stage.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : The Hon. Minister has told that in principle the Government has agreed for setting up the Export Processing Zone and the Union Minister of Commerce had made this announcement on the very Floor of this House and it is more than a year. This is a centrally located place between Calcutta and Madras Processing Zones. And Andhra Pradesh produces large quantities of Mangoes and other fruit, vegetables, marine products and there is already a huge facility built up for cold storage. In view of all this, to promote exports, because our targets are also quite high, to encourage these exports from Andhra Pradesh and other adjoining States, will the Government take a positive decision before the end of this financial year? I would like to know categorically from the Hon. Minister.

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : Sir, it is a fact that in Andhra Pradesh, there is lot of export potential in various fields like other States. And we have a deep concern for it. It is also a fact that in so far as East Coast site location in Visakhapatnam is concerned, it is a wonderful site. There is no doubt about it. But our experience in other four new zones, where we have invested heavily is that, unfortunately, it is not yet getting us as hopeful returns as was expected at the moment. There are various reasons. We

do not like to propose any project elsewhere just in the name of a project but we would like to have a very sound footing for its economic viability, return and the export potential. Taking all these factors into account, the Government will come to a decision at an appropriate stage. It is difficult for me to comment at this stage that it will be done at a particular point of time; in that case I will be misleading the House. The Hon. Member will appreciate the problem.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : The Hon Minister has replied that for deciding about the location of the Export Processing Zone at Vishakapatnam, the performance of the other five Export Processing Zones will be kept in view. He also said that their performance is not very happy. I would like to know whether the Government has second thoughts about the whole question of Export Processing Zones. If so, what would be the repercussion on the export front because of the abolition of the Export Processing Zones, as it seems the Government is thinking now ?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : While I have said that the new zones are not doing that well I did not mean that we have abandoned the idea. We are trying to find the loopholes where we can give more infrastructural support and more incentives to strengthen them. The Hon. Member would be aware that in our new policy we have extended for further five years the income tax facilities in the free trade zones as we give hundred percent in the export oriented zones. It is not that we will abandon the idea or have second thought about it. Precisely the fact is that the experience that we are gaining in the four new zones will lead us to decide the further course of action in proposing a new zone. In that case we will be so solid in our ground that no such loopholes would occur in the proposed zone. That is exactly the experiment of the other zones. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : The Minister pointed out two aspects; one is the techno-economic feasibility. As far as that is concerned, let me make it very clear that after establishing the economic feasibility alone the question of establishing

free trade zones was accepted in principle. Therefore, where is the question of re-examination of the matter at all ?

The other aspect is the question of obtaining the experience of the other free trade zones. As far as that aspect is concerned, it is very well established that the Government themselves have fully been satisfied with the working of the other free trade zones. They have also in principle decided to develop the second phase of the free trade zones as well. In view of that, why not the Government take a decision in this regard as soon as possible ?

SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI : I have already replied the whole question. Location of sites is a different aspect and the techno-economic feasibility is a different aspect, though it is a part of the whole exercise. In so far as the location of site is concerned, Vizag was very much there. In so far as other aspect is concerned, we need to gain more experience from the other zones; that I have already informed the House.

SHRI K. S. RAO : Now there is a revelation that the State Government has agreed to give 500 acres at Rs. 40,000. It is not known. Everyone of us are under the impression that the State Government has agreed. So far as the Government of India's position is concerned, as the Minister just now told, Vizag is a wonderful place for the location. We all know very well that the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh survives only on finding fault with the Government of India every day... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : How is it related to the question Sir ? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Is it a supplementary question ? It is highly objectionable. (*Interruptions*)...

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Let them say, what difference does it make ? (*Interruptions*)

[English]

SHRI K.S. RAO : I wish to know from the Hon. Minister, two years have passed (*Interruptions*) after the Cabinet Minister of Government of India announced that Vizag is selected, then why should there be a delay further more on the part of the Government of India on the plea that there are some loopholes in the functioning of other processing zones. As it takes some more time for the Vizag zone to come into functioning by which time the loopholes of the earlier zones can be plugged and the vizag zone can function well. Keeping in view that I wish the Hon. Minister must not give an opportunity for the people of Andhra Pradesh to feel that they are let down on the ground that there is disparity or partiality.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : I would not wish a wrong impression to be conveyed to the House that we are not satisfied with export zones.

What my colleague has said is very correct that the new zones that have come up have not yet given the kind of performance that the earlier zones have given. Therefore, we are trying to see whether more facilities are necessary so that new zones also catch up as quickly as possible.

So far as Vizag is concerned we have agreed to set-up a zone there. There is no doubt about it. I would not like the House to carry this impression. It is only a question of timing and creating suitable facilities so that this takes off without any difficulty. That is being considered. We hope this will be set-up soon.

Sickness Insurance Scheme

*331. **SHRI ANIL BASU :** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India is planning to introduce a sickness insurance scheme for small scale units and financial institutions; and

(b) if so, the details of the said scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF

FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI ANIL BASU : Sir, I seek your indulgence because the problem of sick industries in the small scale sector is so serious and enormous and the answer given by the Hon. Minister is very indifferent. In the year 1980 the number of sick industrial units in the country was around 20,000 whereas by July 1988—that is after 8 years—the number of sick industrial units has gone up to about 2 lakh. There has been ten times increase during the last 8 years, that is, from 1980 to 1988. Further, Sir, this problem is not only affecting the workmen working in the sick industrial units but also the middle class people or the owners of these industrial units I would say it is affecting the whole economy of the country. It is a very serious problem but the Government is taking indifferent attitude towards this problem. I understand that Government has set up National Equity Fund in the year 1987 and the RBI also had issued guidelines to the commercial banks but I want to know what is the number of potentially viable sick industrial units identified so far and what is the amount involved to revitalise these potentially viable sick industrial units in the small scale sector? How much amount has been released by the banks to these sick industrial units?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : I am with the member when he says that the question of sickness in industries is a matter of great concern but the member is not right in saying that Government is indifferent to this. Government is very much concerned. The Finance Minister has taken stock of the situation. The Prime Minister himself has issued the instructions in this matter.

Now, let me first give the figures to the Hon. Member as of December 1986. These figures are provisional and are the latest ones. There were 1,45,776 sick industrial units in the small scale the industries sector. The outstanding amounts were Rs. 1,306 crores. It was 14.4 per cent of the total amount advanced.

Sir, the question of sickness cannot be solved by the insurance package that is propo-

sed in the question. This has to be solved by different methods. Different strategies are contemplated. Nursing of sick industries programme is there. This programme is being monitored continuously by the banks, by the financial institutions and by the Reserve Bank. They are taking different steps in this direction.

SHRI ANIL BASU : My question has not at all been replied. I consider that you are kind-hearted as well as a lion-hearted person.

I asked about the number of potentially viable sick SSI units.

MR SPEAKER : Is it about me ?

SHRI ANIL BASU : Yes, Sir, kind-hearted and lion-hearted. The problem is a very serious one. If you are not kind-hearted and lion-hearted, you will not appreciate the problem of this sector.

Sir, I asked about the number of potentially viable units in the small scale industries sector which have been identified so far. What is the amount of funds released so far by the SIGF and the National Equity Fund to rehabilitate the potentially viable sick units ? But you have not replied. You simply quoted some figures for the year 1936.

Will you please inform the House, how much amount you have released from the SIGF ? How much amount you have released from the National Equity Fund ? what is the number of potentially viable sick units ? This is my first supplementary but that has not been replied.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : The question relates to some sickness insurance scheme. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ANIL BASU : That is about the insurance coverage to the sick units.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : He is planning to introduce sickness insurance scheme for the small scale industries. That's all the question concerned itself with. He wants some further information. I will be

glad to give it to him and also lay it on the Table of the House.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : Sir, according to the latest data available from RBI as at the end of June 1987, there were 1,58,226 sick small scale industrial units in the country with outstanding amounts of Rs. 1,542.25 crores. Out of this, 12,062 units with outstanding bank credit of Rs. 342.74 crores were considered by banks as potentially viable and 1,39,346 units with outstandings of Rs. 1,059.91 crores as non-viable. Banks have yet to decide about the viability of the remaining 6,181 units with outstanding bank credit of Rs. 139.60 crores. (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Sir, when Shri S. S. Ray was the Chief Minister in 1977, the number of sick industrial units was 6,000. But now it has increased to 28,900. The Chief Minister himself is sick ... (*Interruptions*)

So, what steps have been taken by the Government to verify it from the West Bengal Government and also to revive the sick industrial units ?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : As far as the financial institutions are concerned, the financial institution like banks do prepare some packages, rehabilitation packages, we do monitoring of the sick industries, potentially sick industries; we do monitoring from the beginning when industries are set up. However, there are responsibilities of the State Government for providing linkages so that the infrastructure and industries fructify. These responsibilities must be discharged by the State Government.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Cracks in dams of Gujarat

*326. **SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether almost all the dams in Gujarat particularly in Saurashtra and Kutch

are flowing above the danger marks and many of them have developed cracks; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to protect the village and people from the flood in Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b): Out of 86 reservoirs of ungated dams, only 63 have flown over the spilling crests i. e. Full Reservoir Level (F. R. L.), others have not filled up to full reservoir level. In the case of 47 gated dams, the reservoir levels of 27 have been regulated so as to keep a cushion even below the full reservoir level.

However, in July, 1988 flood water of the Mitti Dam in Kachchh District overtopped the earthen dam due to heavy downpour, resulting in the breach. The State Government is keeping a watch on the situation.

Abolition of export duty on Coffee

***328. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :**
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representations regarding the abolition of export duty on coffee;

(b) if so, whether the small farmers and coffee cultivators have been mainly affected due to export duty on coffee; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) to (c). Government have

received representations seeking abolition of export duty on coffee, inter alia, on the ground that the duty has adversely affected small farmers and coffee cultivators. The representations have been examined. Taking into account various relevant factors such as the trend in international prices, cost of production, export prospects etc., Government have reduced the export duty on coffee, from Rs. 1700/- to Rs. 1000/- per tonne with effect from 18th August, 1988.

[Translation]

Silk Production in Madhya Pradesh

***329 (H). DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are taking any special steps in the field of textile industry to promote production of silk particularly in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the new programmes taken up in Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). In order to supplement the efforts of State Government, the Central Silk Board has set up the following units in Madhya Pradesh to promote production of Silk in the State :

- (1) Regional Tasar Research Station at Jagadalpur.
- (2) Tropical Research Extension Centre at Katghora.
- (3) Central Tasar Silkworm Seed Station at Lakha.
- (4) 6 Basic Seed Multiplication and Training Centres one each at Pali, Bastar, Beirdadar, Ambikapur, Balagat, Bilaspur.
- (5) Tasar Reeling/Spinning Demonstration Cum Training Centre at Champa.

(6) Raw Material Bank, Sub-Depot at Raigarh.

(7) Mulberry Research Extension Centre at Hoshangabad attached with 4 Chawki Rearing Centres and 100 Demonstration Centres.

**Notification of licensing conditions
for import of fertilizers
from Japan**

[English]

*332. SHRI K RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have notified licensing conditions for import of fertilizers from Japan under the grant-in-aid of 600 million Yen for 1987-88; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient feature of the licensing conditions are as follows :

- (1) The grant aid is intended to be used for financing payments to Japanese suppliers for import of fertilizer (DAP) from Japan and services necessary for transportation thereof to ports in India.
- (2) The contract should provide for payment on cash basis i.e. on presentation of shipping documents by the Japanese suppliers to the Bank of India, Tokyo.
- (3) The contract value (C and F basis) should be expressed in Yen currency.
- (4) The contract should be entered into only with the Japanese nationals or Japanese juridical persons controlled by Japanese physical persons.
- (5) The contracts should be arranged in accordance with the agreement

dated 21.4.88 between the Governments of India and Japan concerning the grant-in-aid of Yen 600 million for 1987-88 and will be subject to the approval of both the Governments.

- (6) Payments to the suppliers shall be made through an Authorization to Pay to be issued by the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, in favour of the Bank of India, Tokyo.
- (7) The Japanese suppliers would furnish such information and documents as may be required by the Government of India on the one hand and the Government of Japan on the other.
- (8) The Japanese supplier would make shipping arrangements in consultation with the Embassy of India in Tokyo
- (9) The importer is required to deposit the rupee equivalent of Yen payments made to Japanese supplier from the grant amount into the Government of India's account alongwith interest charges at the rate of 12 per cent for the first 30 days and at 18 per cent for the period in excess thereof reckoned from the date of payment by the Bank of India, Tokyo to the date of actual rupee deposit.
- (10) The importer is to send a monthly report after the Authorization to pay has been issued regarding shipments and payments made there against and the balance left, to the Controller of Aid Accounts and Audit, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs.
- (11) The Government of India will not undertake any responsibility for dispute, if any, that may arise between the importer and the suppliers. The provision dealing with a settlement of disputes is to be included in the conditions of the contract.

Crop loans by Nationalised Banks

***333. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the nationalised banks propose to offer crop loans to certain districts during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have placed certain districts in the category of thrust districts;

(d) if so, the details thereof with the criteria thereof; and

(e) the reasons for forming the category of 'thrust districts' ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (e) The public sector banks have been providing agricultural credit, including crop loans, through their branches located in various districts of the country as a part of their normal activity. However from the current year an action plan for food grain production is being implemented in 169 thrust districts spread over 14 States, with a view to achieve a certain production level of food grains by the terminal year of Seventh Five Year Plan. The principal strategy in the frame work action plan is to capitalise on identified sources of immediate agricultural growth and therefore the areas having such growth potential which can be tapped quickly have been preferred.

Investment of surplus funds by public sector units

***334. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to take action against those public sector units which have failed to invest their surplus funds in Government treasury bills as also in public sector bonds; and

(b) the names of those public sector units which have failed to strictly adhere to the guidelines issued by his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b). No instance of non-adherence to the guidelines has been reported to this Ministry.

[Translation]

Delay in completion of irrigation schemes in U P.

***335 SHRI HARISH RAWAT :** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether many irrigation schemes in Uttar Pradesh are not being completed within the scheduled period;

(b) if so, the names of those schemes and the period by which these schemes are behind their schedule;

(c) whether Government propose to provide special financial assistance to the State Government for expeditious completion of these projects; and

(d) if so, the amount of expenditure proposed to be incurred on these projects during 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). Almost all the on-going projects which spilled over to the Seventh Plan are generally behind schedule. A statement giving information of major schemes which have spilled over to the Seventh Plan and have yet to be completed is given below.

(c) and (d). Irrigation projects are funded and implemented by the State Governments, and Central assistance is given in the form of block grants and loans. To expedite certain irrigation projects in drought-prone areas, an amount of Rs. 24.

crores has been sanctioned by the Planning Commission for major and medium projects during 1987-88, half of which is in the form of drought-relief assistance and the balance as additionality. Further, under the Action Plan for Foodgrain Production, an additional outlay of Rs. 21.55 crores has been sanctioned as advance plan assistance during 1988-89.

Statement

Major projects which have spilled over into the Seventh Plan and have yet to be completed

S. No.	Name of the Project	Year/Plan in which started
1.	Tehri Dam	1960-71
2.	Lakhwar Vyasi Dam	1976-77
3.	Gandak Phase-I	1960-61
4.	Sarda Sahayak	1968-69
5.	Saryu Nahar Pariyojana	1976-76
6.	Madhya Ganga Canal	1976-77
7.	Okhala Barrage	1975-77
8.	Tajewala Barrage	V Plan
9.	Suheli	1977-78
10.	Eastern Ganga Canal	1977-78
11.	Bewar Feeder	1978-79
12.	Madho Tanda Irrigation	1980
13.	Remodelling of Bhimgoda	1972-73
14.	Raising Meja Dam	1975-76
15.	Rajghat Dam & Canals	1977-78
16.	Shahzad Dam	1975-76
17.	Jamrani Dam	1975-76
18.	Kanhar Irrigation	1974-75
19.	Maudha Dam	1975-76
20.	Bansagar	1977-78 (dam)
21.	Urmil Dam	1977-78
22.	Increasing capacity of Narainpur Pumped Canal	1973-74

23.	Sona Pump Canal	1973-74
24.	Zamania Pump Canal	1976-77
25.	Increasing capacity of Deokali Pump	1973-74
26.	Gyanpur Pump Canal	1976-77
27.	Chambal Lift Scheme	1978-79
28.	Providing Paddy Channels in Hindon Krishbi Doab	1978-79

Note : Information regarding dates of completion indicated in the project reports received for Central clearance is only tentative and is subject to priority assigned by the State Government in the implementation stage. Consequently, it is not possible to indicate the exact period by which the schemes are behind schedule.

[English]

Smuggling of Cigarettes

*336. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the smuggling of foreign cigarettes into the country has been on the increase much to the disadvantage of the domestic industry;

(b) if so, to what extent the duty structure on indigenously produced cigarettes is responsible for the increase in smuggling of foreign cigarettes into the country;

(c) whether Government propose to rationalise the excise duty on Indian cigarettes to minimise smuggling; and

(d) if so, the steps contemplated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). Available reports do not indicate any large scale smuggling of foreign cigarettes into the country. Since, smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not feasible to estimate the extent of adverse

impact of smuggling on the domestic cigarette industry.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal under consideration to alter the existing excise duty structure on cigarettes.

Recovery of Bank credit from sick units

***337. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to recover mounting bank credits with sick units; and

(b) the amounts recovered during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that in respect of potentially viable sick units, rehabilitation packages are drawn wherein reliefs/concessions are incorporated to enable sick units to return to health. Under the package, the dues of banks/financial institutions are recovered in a phased manner with suitable reschedulement. In respect of non-viable sick units, banks undertake action as appropriate for the recovery of dues, which include, inter-alia, sale of goods hypothecated, enforcement of security available against the borrowers/guarantors, filing of suit for recovery, compromise settlement, etc.

(b) As per Data Collection System of RBI the amount of recoveries from sick units as such is not available.

Prices of Gold and Silver

***338. SHRI MANIK REDDY :**
SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of gold and silver have again gone high in the country;

(b) the estimated demand and production of gold and silver in the country at present;

(c) whether Government propose to import gold and silver to meet the demand of these metals; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) any other measures Government propose to take to bring down the prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The domestic price of gold showed a rising trend during 1987 and it reached peak levels in November, 1987. Thereafter the prices have generally shown a declining trend. Similarly for silver as against the rising trend noticed during 1987 and upto February, 1988, the prices have fallen moderately in the recent months.

(b) Government has not made any estimate of the total demand of gold and silver in the country. According to available information, however, the domestic production of gold and silver during 1987-88 has been 1873 kgs. and 38,833 kgs. respectively.

(c) and (d). Gold and silver are not essential commodities and they are possessed by a small minority in society and their possession does not contribute to the economic development of the country. Government therefore has not found it necessary to import gold and silver, committing scarce foreign exchange, to meet the domestic demand or to take any other special steps to regulate the prices of these metals.

Assignment of rice import to MMTC

***339. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :**
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have assigned import of rice to the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC); and

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b). Import of cereals, including rice, are made by Food Corporation of India (FCI) on the basis of foreign exchange released by Government in its favour.

MMTC was, however, permitted recently to contract for import of 200,000 tonnes of rice, on behalf of Department of Food, from North Korea in view of MMTC's considerable expertise in counter trade deal.

Robberies/Frauds in Nationalised Banks

***340. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of loss suffered by each nationalised bank so far on account of loot, theft and cheating, State-wise, during last three years;

(b) whether in some cases the bank staff were also found involved in these offences;

(c) if so, the particulars thereof in respect of each nationalised bank, year-wise, during the last three years; and

(d) the action taken against the erring staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India has intimated that the reporting system for bank frauds does not generate State-wise information. However, bank frauds reported from all over the country to RBI by public sector banks during the last 3 years are as indicated below :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Bank Frauds</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in crores)</i>
1985	2157	53.48
1986	1823	44.42
1987	1902	40.84

(Data Provisional)

According to Reserve Bank of India, during the same period the number of bank robberies/dacoities reported by public sector banks from all over the country and the amounts involved therein are as indicated below :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of Banks robberies/dacoities</i>	<i>Amount involved (Rs. in crores)</i>
1985	76	1.65
1986	106	3.91
1987	91	7.40

(Data Provisional)

Details of bank frauds reported by each bank and the amounts involved are given in Statement-I below, whilst Statewise break-up of bank robberies/dacoities is given Statement-II below :

The amounts involved in cases of frauds and bank robberies/dacoities do not necessarily represent the actual loss which the banks may ultimately have to suffer, since banks generally have some securities to cover advances made by them and they also take insurance cover for certain contingencies.

Reserve bank of India has further reported that in connection with bank frauds during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987, criminal action and departmental action have been taken against the concerned bank employees. The number of bank employees on whom penalties have been inflicted is indicated yearwise below :

<i>Item</i>	<i>1985</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>1987</i>
(i) No. of bank employees convicted in criminal cases.	73	51	88
(ii) No. of bank employees awarded major/minor penalties.	720	683	910
(iii) No. of bank employees out of (ii) above who have been dismissed/discharged/removed from service.	269	291	351

Statement — I

Bankwise information in respect of No. of Frauds and Amount involved therein for the year 1985, 1986 and 1987 reported to Reserve Bank of India by Public Sector Banks

S. No.	Name of the Bank	1985		1986		1987	
		No. of frauds	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of frauds	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of frauds	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	State Bank of India	501	986.12	527	438.08	590	393.82
2.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	24	95.01	23	250.44	28	72.92
3.	State Bank of Hyderabad	15	42.79	26	96.68	25	87.34
4.	State Bank of Indore	13	672.60	17	37.35	44	231.96
5.	State Bank of Mysore	20	145.26	27	50.36	35	51.99
6.	State Bank of Patiala	34	28.35	15	15.09	19	423.48
7.	State Bank of Saurashtra	8	25.34	14	46.06	8	41.62
8.	State Bank of Travancore	20	91.87	15	105.09	25	44.37
9.	Allahabad Bank	95	46.13	60	386.84	33	13.82
10.	Andhra Bank	34	196.90	14	12.14	22	20.30
11.	Bank of Baroda	82	42.11	80	361.64	97	165.22
12.	Bank of India	110	117.35	104	76.70	100	161.53
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	36	13.86	18	318.62	33	16.26
14.	Canara Bank	157	214.82	132	162.31	141	164.37
15.	Central Bank of India	107	116.68	90	346.64	91	704.57
16.	Corporation Bank	50	87.63	16	54.59	11	6.97

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Dena Bank	59	79.27	44	74.88	28	307.50
18.	Indian Bank	60	100.51	37	47.10	23	62.88
19.	Indian Overseas Bank	77	47.52	83	32-30	44	181.24
20.	New Bank of India	16	17.42	25	133.42	13	24.01
21.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	14	421.43	14	11.08	12	17.32
22.	Punjab National Bank	292	1400.63	108	360.74	51	123.55
23.	Punjab & Sind Bank	14	15.82	11	203.49	15	385.05
24.	Syndicate Bank	103	164.83	84	260.71	231	132.24
25.	Union Bank of India	83	66.76	88	196.44.	82	153.11
26.	United Bank of India	28	12.31	59	298.71	50	55.78
27.	UCO Bank	58	73.17	59	50.27	37	25.93
28.	Vijaya Bank	47	25.53	33	14.50	14	15.19

(Data Provisional)

(RBI has reported that the present data reporting system does not give Statewise generation of data).

Statement-II

Available information as reported by Public Sector Banks in respect of the number of Bank robberies/dacoities which took place in various States/Union Territories in the country during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 and Amount involved therein

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	1985		1986		1987	
		No. of robberies/dacoities	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of robberies/dacoities	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of robberies/dacoities	Amount involved (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	12.75	1	0.19	2	14.78
2.	Assam	3	1.55	4	43.08	3	47.24
3.	Bihar	19	21.50	7	23.87	26	46.35
4.	Chandigarh	2	0.44	1	1.34	1	0.25
5.	Delhi	6	14.73	2	*9.64+	1	0.22
6.	Gujarat	1	8.42	9	14.67	6	7.57
7.	Haryana	1	2.40+	2	8.06	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	1.21	—	—	1	0.05
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	0.37	1	—	1	—
10.	Karnataka	2	0.26	—	—	—	—

Foreign Currency valued at Rs. 0.52 lakh and jewellery worth Rs. 0.82 lakh.

Gold weighing 369 gms.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Kerala	1	0.64	—	—	2	5.46
12.	Madhya Pradesh	5	21.18	4	7.64	3	0.08
13.	Maharashtra	3	5.41	11	24.65	1	0.15
14.	Manipur	1	Less than 0.01	1	—	1	0.01
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	2	2.81	—	—
16.	Nagaland	4	34.02	4	181.82	1	2.25
17.	Orissa	—	—	—	—	1	0.32
18.	Punjab	10	5.89	43	63.89+	26	591.44
				Travellers cheques valued at U. S. \$ 45690 and 13040 Pounds			
19.	Rajasthan	2	1.40	—	—	1	1.88
20.	Tamil Nadu	—	—	1	—	3	4.34
21.	Uttar Pradesh	9	26.39	8	7.13	7	4.22
22.	West Bengal	3	6.65+	5	2.59+	4	13.87
			Gold weighing 633 gms.		Gold weighing 626 gms.		
		76	165.22+	106	391.38+	91	740.48
			Gold weighing 1002 gms.		Foreign Currency valued at Rs. 0.52 lakh and jewellery of Rs. 0.82 lakh+ Travellers Cheques valued at U.S. \$ 45690 and £ 13040+ Gold weighing 626 gms.		

* There was one case of burglary accompanied with murder at the State Bank of Mysore, Connaught Place Branch, New Delhi on the night of 27th/28th May 1986. An amount of Rs. 1.64 lakhs, foreign currency worth Rs. 0.52 lakh and Jewellery worth Rs. 0.82 lakh was stolen.

(Data provisional)

Clerk-officer ratio in Nationalised Banks

***342. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the clerk-officer ratio in the nationalised banks as per the Reserve Bank of India norms;

(b) whether all the banks are following it; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) Reserve Bank of India has not prescribed any norms regarding clerk-officer ratio in nationalised banks.

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

Recommendations of Ojha Committee

***343. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :**
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any instructions, based on the recommendations of Ojha Committee which went into the problems relating to cotton growers, have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India to the nationalised banks for providing relief to the cotton grower ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including their implementation by the commercial banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued instructions to banks for providing relief to cotton growers in the Prnkasam and

Guntur Districts of Andhra Pradesh. Relief inter-alia include :—

(i) The Banks as a special case, should defer recovery of principal as well as interest from the affected farmers for a period of two years or till the next normal year whichever is earlier. This relief is to be extended on merits of each case.

(ii) Banks should not charge penal interest on dues postponed.

(iii) Banks should stop auctioning of gold ornaments pledged with them. Such action be taken only as a last resort and that too after obtaining clearance from higher levels.

(iv) Banks may extend consumption loan facilities upto Rs 500/- per family.

According to the reports available with RBI, banks have initiated action in accordance with the guidelines of RBI.

Cut in refinance support by NABARD

***344. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :**
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) have decided to cut its refinance support to the commercial banks;

(b) if so, the details of the decision and the reaction of the commercial banks;

(c) the reasons for this decision ; and

(d) the extent to which this has affected the rural development programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) to (d). Effective from 1st July, 1988, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reduced the

rate of refinance for term loans given by commercial banks. However, the refinance rates for farm mechanisation, forest nursery, wasteland development and non farm sector activities (outside the IRDP) have not been changed. The reduction in rate of refinance would inter alia be applicable to IRDP, Minor Irrigation where the revised rate of refinance would be 70% as against the earlier rate of 90%.

NABARD has reported that the rates have been amended keeping in view the availability of resources and demand for refinance. The actual lending by commercial banks for rural development programmes is not likely to be affected since the commercial banks would continue to meet their commitments as per the Annual Action Plans (AAPs) for various districts.

Payments due to Contractors

3288. **SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA :**
SHRI N. V. CHANDRA-SEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NTC (WBABO) Limited, Calcutta has since released the payments due to certain contractors ; and

(b) if so, when and if not, since when the dues are outstanding, the amount involved and the reasons for non-payment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). It is not possible at this stage to give information regarding the payments due to certain contractors as the accounts have not been reconciled mainly on account of the non-cooperation of the concerned contractors.

Impact of uptrends in world commodity prices on Import Bill

3289. **DR. B.L. SHAILESH :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the uptrends in world commodity prices are likely to push up India's import bill especially of foodgrains, vegetable oils, rubber and non-ferrous metals in 1988-89 ;

(b) whether wheat prices have surged 23 per cent in the wake of drought in the United States of America ;

(c) the quantity of wheat and rice imports so far contracted by India ; and

(d) the estimated rise in the Import Bill as a result of the commodity price uptrend thus anticipated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) International wheat prices depend on a variety of factors, such as available supplies, anticipated crop prospects, extent of purchases by deficit countries, terms of international trade etc. There has been some increase in international prices of foodgrains after the failure of rains in some parts of United States.

(c) The Government have finalised proposals for import of two million tonnes of wheat and seven lakh tonnes of rice during the current year.

(d) As the world commodity prices are subject to frequent fluctuations, it is not possible to precisely estimate the rice in import bill as a result of the commodity price uptrends.

Reported ban on import of Indian Garments by Australia

3291. **SHRI V. TULSIRAM :** Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Australia has put a ban on import of Indian garments as reported in the 'Economic Times' dated 26 July, 1988 ;

(b) if so, the details of the loss likely to be suffered by India ;

(c) whether negotiations have been started for the upliftment of ban and if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the details of garments exported to quota and non-quota countries, country-wise during the last six months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c). Australian Government has sought consultations with India for imposing quantitative restrictions on some of the garment items at present being exported by India. Consultations are likely to be held shortly.

(d) A statement is given below.

Statement

Export of garments to quota countries and major non-quota countries during January-June, 1988

<i>Country</i> <i>Quota countries</i>	<i>Export (Provisional)</i> <i>(Rs. in crores)</i>
EEC	556
USA	393
Canada	29
Sweden	12
Austria	8
Norway	3
Finland	3
Non-Quota countries	
USSR	95
Japan	40
Switzerland	31
Australia	10

Source : Apparel Export Promotion Council.

Plan to double exports by Delhi Exporters Association

3292. SHRI NARSING SURYA-VANSI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Exporters Association (DEA) has submitted a plan to Government to double the exports and reducing the imports sharply during the next three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The memorandum included inter-alia, suggestions for simplification of export documents, modification in the eligibility criteria for small Export Houses, extension of the facilities available to 100 per cent EOUs and FTZs to all registered exporters, and representations of the Small Scale Units on Government Panels.

(c) The Import Policy and procedures are kept constantly under review and all suggestions received in this regard are taken into account.

[Translation]

Dharna by textile workers

3293 (H) SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT ;

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than three hundred representatives of textile workers had staged a dharna on 2 June, 1988 in front of Udyog Bhawn, New Delhi in support of their demands;

(b) if so, the demands made in the memorandum submitted by these representatives to Government; and

(c) the time by which these demands are likely to be accepted by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c). The facts are being verified and the requisite information will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Installation of pump sets for irrigation

3294. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Union Government have given any aid to the States for installation of the pump sets for irrigation during 1988-89; and

(b) if so, the number of pump sets likely to be installed during 1988-89; State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Central Government gives aid to States under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for construction of minor irrigation works which includes installation of pump sets on ground water structures like wells, tube wells, filter points etc. and surface water sources like pond, river, canals etc. For the year 1988-89, the Ministry of Agriculture under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of assistance to small and marginal farmers for increasing agriculture production has proposed to allocate a sum of Rs. 8892.49 lakhs as Central grants-in-aid for construction of shallow tubewells/dugwells in the selected districts of following States :

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of shallow tubewells/dugwells proposed
1.	Assam	8148
2.	Andhra Pradesh	41,392
3.	Bihar	1,06,576
4.	Madhya Pradesh	30,000
5.	Maharashtra	26,073
6.	Orissa	40,236
7.	Uttar Pradesh	2,12,175
8.	West Bengal	61,274

The districts covered in the above States are those which have been identified for Special Foodgrains Production Programme. For the remaining districts of these States and other States, a sum of Rs. 3907.49 lakhs as Central share has been proposed out of which 70 per cent is meant for Minor Irrigation Works. As there are no separate allocations for pumpsets, the Statewise figures for pumpsets to be installed are not maintained at the Centre.

Tea Board directives for welfare of Tea Garden Workers

3295. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tea Board has sent directives to every tea garden unit to establish and run Labour's Club Community Hall, Play Grounds, Adult Education Centre, etc.; and

(b) the action taken by Tea Board against tea gardens not complying with its directives ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Self Employment Scheme

3296. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to ensure that the unemployed youth are covered by the Self-employment Guarantee Scheme throughout the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan especially during the last three years including the current financial year;

(b) if so, the number of unemployed educated youth (Matriculate and Graduate, separately) who have actually been benefited from this scheme, during this period, State-wise, for each year; and

(c) the targets for each State during the remaining years of the Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The scheme for providing self-employment to educated unemployed youth (SEEUY) introduced during the year 1983-84 has been extended till the end of 1989-90.

(b) and (c). The data reporting system under the scheme does not generate information separately for matriculate and graduate beneficiaries. However, State-wise position of the cases sanctioned under SEEUY Scheme for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 and targets for 1988-89 is given in the statement below. The targets for the year 1989-90 have not yet been fixed.

Statement

State-wise position of the cases sanctioned for the year 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 and targets for 1988-89 under the Scheme for Self Employment for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY).

Sr. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	No. of cases sanctioned			Targets for
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1987-88
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	16518	14919	7421	17300
2.	Assam	4629	5837	3191	6200
3.	Bihar	26376	22560	4663	29600
4.	Gujarat	6522	4924	5133	10700
5.	Goa	84	220	132	300
6.	Haryana	4782	4808	2448	4600
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1591	1406	786	1600
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1095	708	571	1400
9.	Karnataka	12837	12100	6175	12400
10.	Kerala	13033	19015	9068	19950
11.	Madhya Pradesh	17224	16679	8732	17600
12.	Maharashtra	13848	13466	8894	15500
13.	Manipur	1491	1493	649	1500
14.	Meghalaya	111	80	141	300
15.	Nagaland	166	129	—	200
16.	Orissa	8757	8620	4585	9300
17.	Punjab	11677	15037	7583	15000
18.	Rajasthan	10986	10736	5579	10300
19.	Sikkim	49	33	—	100
20.	Tamil Nadu	18722	18362	9278	18100
21.	Tripura	912	909	—	900

1	2	3	4	5	6
22.	Uttar Pradesh	26264	23197	13842	31300
23.	West Bengal	21885	20468	1140	24300
24.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	101	80	30	100
25.	Arunchal Pradesh	81	22	24	100
26.	Chandigarh	394	416	179	500
27.	Mizoram	104	233	32	200
28.	Pondicherry	465	480	240	410
29.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	40	19	6	100
30.	Lakshadweep	—Not available—			50
31.	Daman and Diu	—do—			50

Malfunctioning of Regional CCI & E Offices

3297. CHAUDHARY RAM PARKASH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints of malfunctioning of various Regional Offices of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports (CCI & E);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to improve the functioning of the Regional Offices of CCI & E ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c). The complaints of delay in the disposal of import-export licence applications and other claims in Regional Offices are received from time to time. These are examined in consultation with the concerned Regional Offices and disposal expedited. The operations of the major regional offices are being computerised to improve efficiency and increase speed of disposal of applications.

Smuggling of Synthetic Fabrics and other articles from Bangladesh

3298. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the seizures of synthetic fabrics and other articles smuggled from Bangladesh during the period January to June, 1988;

(b) whether the smuggling thereof through the border with Bangladesh has increased as compared with the corresponding period last year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and measures taken to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) to (c). Available reports indicate that the Indo-Banladesh border continues to be sensitive to smuggling. However, since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not feasible to estimate the extent of such smuggling across the Indo-Bangladesh border. The value of seizure of contraband goods smuggled through the Indo-Bangladesh border during the period from January to June, 1988 and January to June, 1987 are given below :

Year	Value of seizure (Rs. in lakhs)
1987-January to June	289
1988-January to June	175

The anti-smuggling drive throughout the country has been intensified. The anti-smuggling machinery including that at the vulnerable points of the Indo-Bangladesh

border has been geared up. Close co-ordination is maintained with all the agencies concerned in the prevention and detection of smuggling.

Deregulation of Interest Rate Structure

3299. SHRI H.B. PATIL :
SHRI SWAMI PRASAD
SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to deregulate the interest rate structure of the public financial Institutions and commercial banks charged on loans to the non-priority sectors;

(b) the likely effects of these proposals on non-priority sectors;

(c) whether any committee had been appointed to go into these proposals in depth and submit its recommendations in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details regarding its key recommendations for rationalisation package: both long term and short term ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). The lending rate structure of banks is regulated and administered by Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Reserve Bank of India has reported that they have no proposal to deregulate the interest rates on loans to non-priority sectors

(c) and (d). The Committee headed by Dr. Sukhamay Chakrabarty to review the working of the monetary system had inter alia

recommended the restructuring of interest rates and the need to reduce the multiplicity of rates. The committee, however, recognised the need to continue with the system of administered interest rates.

LIC Loans for Purchase of House Flat

3300. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of applications and the total amount sanctioned during the last three years by the Life Insurance Corporation to enable individuals to buy or own a flat or house;

(b) the target in this regard for the year 1988-89; and

(c) whether the rules for these loans are being sought to be modified to help the applicants, and if so, the modifications being contemplated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) As per the Statement given below.

(b) The target for year 1988-89 is 10,000 loans under the Own Your Home Scheme.

(c) The rules for the grant of loans under the Own Your House Scheme were liberalised in October, 1987 resulting in sanction of more loans in 1987-88 i.e. 4525 loans as against 2114 loans in 1986-87. Further a scheme for grant of loans for the purchase of flats would be put into operation by the Life Insurance Corporation of India soon.

*Number of applications received and the amount Sanctioned by LIC to Individuals
under Housing Loan Schemes*

	1985-86		1986-87		1987-88	
	No. of applica- tions.	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of applica- tions	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of applica- tions	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs).
OYH Scheme	1754	1027.94	2114	1372.63	4525	3310.36
OYA Scheme	2	1.92	2	2.16	8	8.91
M-I Scheme	820	838.06	1089	1207.45	271	1553.19
IEH Scheme	708	550.12	820	1047.79	967	1102.01
IEH (Flat) Scheme	54	40.69	204	221.83	174	197.11
Agents (Club Members) Scheme	26	27.66	33	36.00	29	36.76
	3364	2486.39	4362	3887.86	6974	6208.34

Ceiling on NRI Investment

3301. SHRI AMARSINH

RATH AWA :

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present ceiling on the non-resident Indians (NRI) Investment in the equity capital of the Indian companies;

(b) whether the Working Group on the development of the capital market is considering to boost NRI investors in the growth of the capital market in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of Government's policy to allow the NRI investors to invest more money in the equity capital of the Indian companies;

(e) the recommendations made by the Committee set up by the Reserve Bank of India to look into the procedural problem being faced by non-resident Indians to invest their money in the country; and

(f) the action taken by Government to implement them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : (a) and (d) . Under the Direct Investment Scheme, Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) can invest upto 100 per cent, 74 per cent or 40 per cent of the issued capital of an Indian Company under different schemes, Portfolio investments by the NRIs are permitted upto 5 per cent of the equity capital of a company.

(b) and (c). The Working Group has not yet submitted its final report.

(e) and (f). The Committee set up by the RBI had recommended grant of simultaneous permission for purchase and sales of shares under Portfolio Investment scheme, simultaneous permission under the Capital Issues (Control) Act and securities Contract (Regulation) Act, capitalisation of pre-operative expenses, release of foreign exchange for canvassing NRI investment, withholding of tax on capital gains by the Authorised dealers at the prescribed rates and refund of the balance amount to the NRIs without a reference to Income Tax Department introduction of Special Series of NRI Cheques, etc. These recommendations were accepted by the Government and they have since been implemented.

Foreign Debt

3302. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total outstanding foreign debt of India as at the end of March, 1988;

(b) the share of private debt (loans secured from private sources like foreign banks and other) in per cent and in rupees in the total;

(c) the share of Government debts (loans taken from foreign Government in this total debt);

(d) the debt service charges as per cent of exports as in 1980-81, 1984-85, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (estimated); and

(e) what will be the proportion of debt service at the end of Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The total outstanding Foreign Debt of India on Government Account, Non-Government Account, IMF Borrowings and External Commercial Borrowings at the end of March 1988 is estimated to be Rs.54817 crores.

(b) The Share of external commercial borrowings including private debt is estimated to be Rs. 12951 crores which is 23.63 per cent of the total debt.

(c) The share of debt outstanding on Government Account is 66.90 per cent of total debt.

(d) and (e). Debt services ratios are calculated in terms of exports of goods and invisible earnings. This ratio in 1980-81, 1984-85 and 1987-88 works out to 9.33, 12.26 and 23.44 respectively. It is difficult to estimate accurately the debt service ratio in 1988-89 and at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan because of exchange rate variations, exports, future loans to be contracted and serviced, invisible earnings etc.

FIEO suggestions for promoting Exports

3303. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the main suggestions put forth by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) for promoting the country's exports; and

(b) the specific steps taken by Government to discourage avoidable exports of raw material by the public sector units, so that the same could be used by export oriented units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Some more suggestions of the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) put forward in their recent Approach Paper on Promoting Exports from India, inter alia, include ?

- (1) Deemed exports should qualify for being counted as export performance for grant of Export/Trading House Certificate.
- (2) Once the exporter has utilised duty paid material in exports and has fully discharged the export obligation, he should be allowed to dispose off the duty free material in the market.
- (3) Concept of one window clearance may be introduced.
- (4) Movement of export goods by road, rail or air should be given priority and concessional treatment.
- (5) 100 per cent fiscal relief under Section 80 HHC of the income tax Act should be given to the suppliers of intermediate products.
- (6) Benefit of Section 80 HHC should also be extended to deemed exporters and consultancy services.
- (7) Foreign exchange released for travel for export promotion should be exempted from tax on foreign travel.

(b) Government have put a ceiling on the export, by public sector units, of those raw materials which are required for conservation and internal use. Only those raw materials are being exported freely which have large reserves.

**Trips made to Delhi by Officials of
State Bank of Indore**

3304. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of trips made to Delhi by the Managing Director, General Managers, Asstt. General Managers, Personnel Managers and Regional Managers of the State Bank of Indore during the last three years and the reasons for making these trips;

(b) out of them how many trips were official and how many were unofficial;

(c) the details with particulars of each category; and

(d) the amount spent by the Bank on these trips by the officials and how these trips proved to be beneficial to the bank ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) to (d). Information is being collected and to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

Decline in trade with Syria

3305. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Indo-Syrian trade in the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether trade with Syria has shrunk to zero from some 125 million rupees in 1981;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Syria has offered to supply rock phosphate in exchange of tea from India;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Indo-Syrian trade during the past three years has been as under :-

Year	Value in Rs. Crores		Total
	Export	Imports	
	from India	from Syria	
1985-86	4.13	—	4.13
1986-87	3.29	—	3.29
(Provisional)			
1987-88	5.65	0.02	5.67
(Provisional)			

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). Do not arise.

**Study group on Finances of
Co-operative Banks**

3306. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study group was set up by the Reserve Bank of India to suggest ways in which surplus finances available with Central and State Co-operative Banks can be adequately deployed;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of this study group; and

(c) whether it has submitted its report and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that they had set up an internal group on deployment of resources of cooperative banks with the following terms of reference :

- (i) To identify specific consortia of commercial/co-operative banks wherein the shares of the co-operative banks could be increased or where co-operative banks could be inducted as members.
- (ii) To set out the modalities for the operation of co-operative banks in such consortia.
- (iii) To identify other specific areas where the co-operatives could be provided avenues for investing their surplus funds.
- (iv) Any other issue having a bearing on the deployment of surplus funds by co-operative banks.

(c) The Internal Group has since submitted its report to RBI for taking suitable decisions in the matter. However, deployment of surplus resources of co-operative banks is constantly kept under watch by NABARD.

Report on evaluation of post Command Area Development Authority

3307. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made in the draft report submitted to Union Government on the evaluation of post Command Area Development Authority in Maharashtra; and

(b) when the final report is likely to be submitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). The main recommendations made in the final report submitted in March, 1988 on Post Command Area Development Authority evaluation study of Ghod and Itiadh Projects (Maharashtra) include :

- (i) improvements in the conveyance system, adequate controls for regulation, proper maintenance and modernisation of distribution system, conjunctive use of surface and ground water and adequate attention to drainage;
- (ii) farmers' participation for diversification of crops and low water-consuming crops to be encouraged; and
- (iii) a Water Management Division of inter-disciplinary nature to be constituted in the Irrigation Department as a post-CADA organisation for carrying out activities for the optimum utilisation of water and to coordinate activities for development of agricultural practices, credit facilities and effective extension.

IDBI loan to IDICOL and Phulbani Cooperative Synthetic Spinning Mills Ltd.

3308. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Letters of Intent have been issued to IDICOL and Phulbani Co-operative Synthetic Spinning Mills Ltd. to be set up at Phulbani and a poly-viscose yarn spinning mill to be established at Balangir in Orissa under programme of establishing industries in 'No Industry District;

(b) whether these spinning mills have approached Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) for providing necessary financial assistance;

(c) if so, the reaction of the Industrial Development Bank of India; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken by Government for release of the necessary financial assistance to these units in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Letters of Intent were issued to IDICOL to set up a polyester/viscose Filament yarn manufacturing unit at Balangit and a polyester/viscose yarn manufacturing unit at Phulbani. Phulbani Cooperative Synthatic Spinning Mills Ltd. had been issued a Letter of Intent to set up a synthetic yarn unit at Phulbani.

(b) IDICOL/Government of Orissa had written to Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) seeking in principle clearance for the financing of the two synthetic spinning mills.

(c) Industrial Development Bank of India has communicated to IDICOL/Government of Orissa its inability to support these projects in the light of Industrial policy of not supporting grass root spinning units.

(d) The financing of spinning mills is undertaken by the financial institutions, etc. and not by the Central Government.

Effect of price rise on planned investment

3309. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of price rise during the Sixth Plan and the annual increase in the prices during each year of the Seventh Plan;

(b) how has this affected the annual deficit projected in each budget;

(c) whether any efforts are being made to save the plan investment from the effects of price rise; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The requisite information is given in the Table below:

	Percentage increase in the PI
<i>Sixth Plan</i>	
(1980-85)	50.6
<i>Seventh Plan</i>	
1985-86	3.8
1986-87	5.3
1987-88	10.6
1988-89	3.7*

*Latest available upto 30th July, 1988.

(b) to (d). The increase in prices do not necessarily affect the budgetary deficits as the impact of price rise on expenditure can be offset by increase in receipts and other measures. As far as feasible, increase in Plan outlays are being provided to take account of price rise also. Thus in the first three years of the Plan 63 per cent of Plan outlay in *real terms* were met.

Recruitment of Inspectors in Central Excise Department

[Translation]

3310. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a written test was held in Allahabad on 27 February, 1986 for recruitment to the posts of Inspectors in the Central Excise Department under the sports-men quota;

(b) if so, the number of candidates selected after interview;

(c) whether the appointment was made according to merit list;

(d) if so, the number of such candidates who have not been appointed so far; and

(e) the reasons for which they have not been appointed and the time by which the remaining candidates will be appointed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir, a written test was held by Collector of Central Excise, Allahabad on 17.2.1986 (not 27.2.1986) for recruitment to the posts of Inspectors of Central Excise under sportsmen quota.

(b) to (e). Three candidates were selected and appointed in Allahabad Collectorate according to merit list and keeping in view the requirements of the sports teams of the Collectorate. The remaining candidates could not be appointed for want of vacancies. However, one of the candidates was subsequently appointed in Jaipur Collectorate.

[English]

Closed textile mills in Coimbatore

3311. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Textile Mills closed in Coimbatore; and

(b) the steps being taken by Union Government to reopen those closed mills ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) As on 31st May, 1988, 19 cotton/man-made fibre textile mills were lying closed in Coimbatore.

(b) The Nodal Agency set up by the Government (to examine cases of sick/closed textile mills and to prepare and manage rehabilitation packages for viable mills) has examined 4 closed mills out of which 3 have been found non-viable. It has been advised to examine cases of remaining closed mills also. A Textile Modernisation Fund has been created to meet the moderni-

sation needs of weak but viable textile mills. A board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has also been established to consider the cases of textile mills which are referred to it under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985. Non-viable Mills may have to close down permanently.

Collection of excise duty on synthetic detergents

3312. SHRI K. N. PRADHAN :
SHRI GANGA RAM :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of synthetic detergents in the country and the rate of excise duty levied thereon;

(b) the total excise duty collected in 1987-88 on synthetic detergents; and

(c) the names of the companies which have evaded excise duty on synthetic detergents during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) The current production level of synthetic detergents is estimated to be 6 to 7 lakhs metric tonnes per annum. The Tariff rate of duty on synthetic detergent is 25 per cent ad valorem BASIC plus special excise duty @ 5 per cent of BASIC.

(b) As per the information available, the total excise revenue collected from synthetic detergents is provisionally estimated at Rs. 85.04 crores during 1987-88.

(c) As per the information received from 24 Central Excise Collectrates, the companies against whom cases have been booked for alleged excise duty evasion during the period 1987-88 are as under :

1. M/s Nagpur Detergents, Nagpur.

2. M/s Vasant Soap Industries, Ahmedabad.

3. M/s Gandhi Soap Industries, Ahmedabad.
4. M/s Carona Cosmetics, Kanpur.
5. M/s Meenakshi Soap Works, Pondicherry.
6. M/s Prakash Detergents and Chemicals, Kashipur, U.P.

The information in respect of the remaining 8 (eight) Central Excise Collectors is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Credit deposit ratio in Rajasthan

3313. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the credit deposit ratio of nationalised banks, State-wise and bank-wise ;

(b) the credit deposit ratio bank-wise and district-wise, in Rajasthan ; and

(c) the steps taken or contemplated by Government to improve the credit deposit ratio in the backward districts of Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :
(a) According to the information available from Reserve Bank of India the State-wise and Bank-wise credit : deposit ratio of the Public Sector Banks as on the last Friday of December 1987 are set out in the Statement.

(b) Data reporting system does not provide Bank-wise and District-wise information. However, the District-wise credit : deposit ratio of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in Rajasthan as on the last Friday of December 1987 are given below :

<i>District</i>	<i>Credit - Deposit Ratio</i>
1. Ajmer	50.93
2. Alwar	67.61

3. Banswara	50.79
4. Barmer	54.08
5. Bharatpur	79.14
6. Bhilwara	130.36
7. Bikaner	55.54
8. Hundi	89.40
9. Chittorgarh	48.95
10. Churu	39.51
11. Dholpur	58.03
12. Dungarpur	31.23
13. Ganganagar	85.75
14. Jaipur	58.17
15. Jaisalmer	32.12
16. Jalore	88.02
17. Jhalawar	68.72
18. Jhunjhunu	36.89
19. Jodhpur	47.78
20. Kotah	94.34
21. Nagaur	52.65
22. Pali	90.69
23. Swai Madhopur	45.49
24. Sikar	34.11
25. Sirohi	46.52
26. Tonk	57.68
27. Udaipur	50.87

(c) Bank have been advised to take effective steps to increase the flow of credit to all productive and identified viable proposals in deficient areas. Banks have also been advised to maintain minimum credit : deposit ratio of 60 percent in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately.

Statement

State-wise and Bank-wise credit : deposit ratio of Public Sector Banks-as on the last Friday of December, 1987

States/UTs	C : D Ratio (%)	Name of the Bank	C : D Ratio (%)
Haryana	61.9	State Bank of India	66.1
Himachal Pradesh	37.1	S.B. of Bikaner & Jaipur	66.0
Jammu & Kashmir	30.2	State Bank of Hyderabad	69.1
Punjab	43.1	State Bank of Indor	77.2
Rajasthan	60.5	State Bank of Mysore	74.3
Chandigarh	99.2	State Bank of Patiala	55.3
Delhi	46.0	State Bank of Saurashtra	65.1
Assam	50.8	State Bank of Travancore	71.8
Manipur	64.8	Allahabad Bank	44.0
Meghalaya	22.6	Andhra Bank	60.0
Nagaland	43.9	Bank of Baroda	64.6
Tripura	51.3	Bank of India	57.4
Arunachal Pradesh	20.9	Bank of Maharashtra	55.3
Mizoram	22.7	Canara Bank	69.3
Sikkim	28.3	Central Bank of India	50.3
Bihar	34.8	Corporation Bank	59.3
Orissa	78.2	Dena Bank	60.4
West Bengal	47.0	Indian Bank	54.2
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	34.4	Indian Overseas Bank	53.3
Madhya Pradesh	59.1	New Bank of India	56.4
Uttar Pradesh	41.2	Orientl Bank of Commerce	51.8
Gujarat	54.8	Punjab & Sindh Bank	52.2
Maharashtra	72.8	Punjab National Bank	50.3
Goa	30.8	Syndicate Bank	65.0
Daman & Diu	23.3	Union Bank of India	50.5
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	71.4	United Bank of India	51.6
Andhra Pradesh	79.2	UCO Bank	49.7
Karnataka	91.9	Vijaya Bank	59.9
Kerala	61.9	TOTAL	
Tamil Nadu	93.1	Public Sector Bank	59.2
Pondicherry	51.9		
Lakshadweep	25.0		
All-India	59.2		

Note: Data are provisional

**Assistance under self employment
Scheme in Orissa**

3314. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted by Government to know the implementation of self employment scheme ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the number of youth in Orissa who have received loan under the self employment schemes till date ,

(d) the number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes among them ; and

(e) the number of units assisted under the self employment schemes now working in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :
(a) and (b). The evaluation of the Self-employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) carried out in one selected district in each State/Union Territory had revealed that 76% of the beneficiaries given loans in the year 1983-84 had set up their own ventures. Further, evaluation of the scheme has been conducted in selected districts of Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh by two reputed institutes viz. Giri Institute, Lucknow and Sardar Patel Institute, Ahmedabad. Giri Institute in its report had indicated that 81% of the beneficiaries were unemployed and 84% of the beneficiaries were repaying their loans in time. The household income increased by 63% during the first year in respect of the selected districts in Uttar Pradesh and Orissa.

(c) to (e). While no separate information relating to the number of units actually working is maintained, the number of beneficiaries assisted under SEEUY Scheme in Orissa and the number of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes out of them, is as under :

Year	No. of beneficiaries sanctioned loans by banks under SEEUY	No. of SC/ST beneficiaries*
1983-84	6823	—
1984-85	7599	—
1985-86	8757	—
1986-87	8620	1015
1987-88	4585	737

*Reservation for SC/ST under the Scheme commenced from the year 1986-87 only.

Bank Branches in Purnea District, Bihar

3315. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 29th July, 1988 to Started Question No. 58 regarding RBI guidelines to banks regarding rural lending and state :

(a) the names of bank branches, located at rural and semi-urban centres in Purnea District, Bihar, with the names of Gram Panchayats included in the service area of each branch ; and

(b) whether the lead bank or the district administration has been authorised to scrutinise the service area of the bank branches in a district to ensure that no Gram Panchayat, wholly or partially, is left out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :
(a) and (b). As per information available from Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the names of bank branches located at rural and semi-urban centres in Purnea District, Bihar as on 1st June, 1988 are set out in the Statement below. In terms of guidelines issued by RBI for allocation of villages to bank branches, all villages are required to

be allotted to rural/semi-urban branches of commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks. The service area indicates the names of villages covered and not the Gram Panchyats. However, when all villages are attached to bank branches, no Gram Panchayat can be left out.

Statement

Name of banks/branches located at rural and semi-urban centres in Purnea District, Bihar as on 1st June, 1988

RURAL CENTRES

(1) State Bank of India

1. Anchra
2. Baisi
3. Balutola
4. Barhar
5. Bhangi
6. Bhirbeni
7. Bishunpur
8. Chopra Bazar
9. Churlihat
10. Damaili
11. Damgara
12. Fakirtoli
13. Galgalia
14. Haruadaoga
15. Kadogaon
16. Kankhudia
17. Khagra
18. Machhatta
19. Maina
20. Nathpur
21. Pothia
22. Sandeep
23. Sarsi
24. Sirsia

25. Tarabari Chowk

26. Ufrail Chowk

27. Urlaha

(2) Allahabad Bank

1. Barhara
2. Belwa
3. Lagouli
4. Mahengaon
5. Raniganj
6. Sisauna

(3) Bank of Baroda

1. Basaitthi
2. Bhargama
3. Bistoria

(4) Canara Bank

Nil

(5) Central Bank of India

1. Baisa
2. Bhargama
3. Chanamana
4. Dhighalbank
5. Harda
6. Jalalgarh
7. Kathalbari
8. Mahadeodighi
9. Palasi
10. Rupauli
11. Sikti

(6) Punjab National Bank

1. Gokulpur
2. Krityanandnagar

(7) UCO Bank

1. Bathanaha
2. Gaigari
3. Goasi
4. Kochedamin
5. Manharia
6. Manikpur
7. Mohani
8. Rampur

(8) United Bank of India

1. Bardela
2. Bihunpur
3. Dharhara
4. Jangarj
5. Mirchaibari

(9) Kosi Kshetriya Gramin Bank

1. Ajhokopa
2. Amour
3. Anbadhat
4. Baghmara
5. Aurahi
6. Bagnagar
7. Bahdura
8. Balua Kaliyaganj (Palasi)
9. Bara Idgah
10. Bardaha
11. Barbahara
12. Belgachhi
13. Bhatabari
14. Birnagar
15. Boaldah
16. Budhia
17. Chakardaha

18. Champanagar

19. Champavati
20. Chanderdei
21. Chhatrgachh
22. Dangraba
23. Dholbajja
24. Ekamba
25. Gangi
26. Garhbandanga
27. Garbhanaili
28. Ghurna
29. Gidhbas
30. Jankinagar
31. Jantabat
32. Jhala
33. Jokihat
34. Kachari Balua
35. Kajha
36. Kalabalua
37. Kanharia
38. Khajurihat
39. Kharhia
40. Kharudah
41. Khawaspur
42. Krityanandnagar
43. Kuari
44. Kursakanta
45. Kusiargaw
46. Lobagarahat
47. Madanpur
48. Mahathwa
49. Mirganj
50. Mirjapur
51. Mohanpur

52. Parora
53. Parsahat
54. Parwaha
55. Pategana
56. Phulkaha
57. Pothia
58. Powarhali
59. Ranipatra
60. Sarsi
61. Satkawa
62. Simarhani
63. Simraha
64. Sahandarhat
65. Sonapur
66. Sontha
67. Srinagar
68. Taiyabpur
69. Tamghatti
70. Tappu
71. Terhagachh
72. Tikapatti
73. Tulsiya
74. Vishanpur Hat

SEMI-URBAN CENTRES

(1) State Bank of India

1. Agaria (4 branches including Agricultural Development branch)
2. Banmankhi
3. Bhawanipur
4. Dhamdaha (Agricultural Development branch)
5. Forbeganj (2 branches)
6. Jogbani
7. Kasba

8. Kishanganj (2 branches)

9. Purnea (4 branches including Agriculture Development branch)

10. Thakurganj

4) Allahabad Bank

1. Kishanganj

2. Purnea

(3) Bank of Baroda

1. Forbesganj

2. Purnea

3. Rampur

(a) Canara Bank

1. Purnea

(5) Central Bank of India

1. Araria

2. Bahadurganj

3. Banmankhi

4. Dhamdaha

5. Forbesganj

6. Jogbani

7. Kishanganj

8. Narpatganj

9. Purnea (2 branches)

(6) Punjab National Bank

1. Purnea

(7) UCO Bank

1. Jogbani

2. Kasba

3. Kishanganj

4. Purnea

(8) United Bank of India

1. Kishanganj
2. Purnea

(9) Kosi Kshetriya Gramin Bank

1. Purnea

Netherlands help to check drug peddling and smuggling question

3316. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken in collaboration with the Netherlands in curbing drug peddling and smuggling activities ;

(b) if so, what specific steps have been taken by both the countries in that regard ;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed by both the countries thereon ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) to (d). There are no formal arrangements with Netherlands to combat drug trafficking and smuggling activities. However, the International Treaties on Drug Control provide for necessary co-operation in the fight against drug trafficking. Whenever necessary, INTERPOL channels are also utilised.

Export of betel leaves

3317. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of exports of betel leaves during 1987-88 ; and

(b) the steps taken to increase the export of betel leaves ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The provisional estimates for the figures of export of betel leaves during the year 1987-88 are as under :

Quantity : 13 tonnes.

Value : Rs. 2 lakhs.

(Source : APEDA)

(b) The export potential of betel leaves is limited. Exports are, primarily, being made to the Middle East countries, which have sizeable ethnic communities which consume this item. The consumption of betel leaves being limited, no specific proposals for increasing its export is envisaged.

Bank money locked up in sick units

3318. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of bank money locked up in sick units in the large, medium and small industry sectors;

(b) the ratio of recovery; and

(c) the steps contemplated by Government to deal with this continuing poor recovery of advances ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as at the end of June, 1987, banks advances locked up sick units in the large, medium and small industries sectors amounted to Rs. 4,222.69 crores.

(b) As per Data Collection System of RBI, the amount recovered as such from sick units is not available.

(c) RBI has reported that in respect of potentially viable sick units, rehabilitation packages are drawn wherein reliefs/concessions are incorporated to enable sick units

to return to health. Under the package, the dues of banks/financial institutions are recovered in a phased manner with suitable reschedulement. In respect of non-viable sick units, banks undertake action as appropriate for the recovery of dues, which include, inter-alia, sale of goods hypothecated, enforcement of security available against the borrowers/guarantors, filing of suit for recovery, etc.

Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Central Bank of India

3319. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the selection area-wise backlog of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes vacancies from clerical to Junior Management Grade Scale-I under State Service in mainstream and Cash Department respectively as on 31st July, 1988 in the Central Bank of India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : The selection area-wise backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in promotions from clerical to Junior Management Grade Scale-I under State Service in main stream and Cash Department as on 31.12.1987, (latest available), as reported by Central Bank of India, was as under :

(Data Provisional)

Selection Area	Mainstream		Cash Department	
	SC	ST	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5
Agra	—	—	3	1
Meerut	—	1	2	—
Ahmedabad	—	1	2	1
Baroda	1	—	1	1
Jamnagar	—	1	2	2
Surat	1	—	1	—

Bombay	—	12	1	2
Panaji	4	2	1	1
Bhopal	1	2	1	2
Gwalior	—	1	—	—
Indore	—	2	1	2
Calcutta	2	4	—	3
Durgapur	—	—	—	1
Siliguri	—	3	1	1
Gauhati	—	—	—	1
Bhubaneswar	1	—	1	—
Chandigarh	2	3	2	2
Amritsar	1	2	1	—
Ambala	—	3	1	1
Hyderabad	—	4	3	1
Bangalore	1	—	2	1
Lucknow	—	4	2	1
Kanpur	—	2	1	1
Madras	—	2	2	1
Madurai	—	1	1	1
Coimbatore	1	2	—	1
Cochin	—	3	3	1
New Delhi	—	6	2	1
Jaipur	3	2	2	2
Patna	1	4	1	1
Ranchi	1	—	2	—
Muzaffarpur	13	6	3	6
Pune	—	1	1	1
Nagpur	—	1	—	1
Raipur	—	3	—	2

Excise duty on Nirma brand toilet soap

3320. SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of excise duty levied on Nirma brand toilet soap;

(b) whether toilet soaps using alfa olefin sulphonate (AOF) and active detergent (AD) in addition to total fatty matter (TFM) attract same rate of excise duty as fixed for synthetic detergents;

(c) the names of toilet soaps using AOS and the rate of duty being paid by them; and

(d) whether Nirma toilet soap uses AOS ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) 15% ad valorem Basic plus 5% of Basic Excise duty as special excise duty.

(b) Classification of toilet soaps would depend on percentage of various materials used, synthetic or natural. It is therefore, not possible to give a general clarification. Each case will have to be decided on its own merits.

(c) As per the information available from 22 Central Excise Collectorates the names of toilet soap using the A.O.S. and the rate of duty being paid by them are as under :

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| (i) Happy toilet soap | assessed to duty @ 15% Basic plus 5% Special Excise duty of Basic Excise. |
| (ii) Lucky brand toilet soap | Small Scale exemption is being availed of. |
| (iii) Nirma | 15% Basic Excise plus 5% Special Excise Duty of Basic. |

The information in respect of remaining 10 Collectorates, not being readily available, is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

Pun Pun Dardha Project of Bihar

3321. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to the reply given on 18 March, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 3743 regarding Pun Pun Dardha Project of Bihar and state :

(a) whether Union Government have received any further information from the Government of Bihar in regard to the observations made by the Central Water Commission in connection with the above mentioned project; and

(b) if so, the time by which this project will be approved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Officers of State Bank of Indore Staying in Hotels

3322. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high ranking officers of the State Bank of Indore stay in top hotels instead of Asiad village Guest House, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether steps are being taken by Government to ensure that in future these officers stay in the guest houses;

(d) if so, the date by which such measures would be implemented; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (e) State Bank of Indore has reported that the bank has since decided to use the flat, situated in Asiad Games Village which was initially intended to be used as Guest House, for residential purposes. The bank has also clarified that the Senior Officers on tour to Delhi stay in Hotels according to the tariff approved by Government.

[English]

Gold haul in Chandigarh

3323. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a biggest gold haul has been made in Chandigarh in the third week of July, 1988; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of persons arrested in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). The Hon'ble Member of Parliament is presumably referring to the seizure made by Officers of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence at Matheri and Kurukshetra in Haryana. In these cases, 772 gold biscuits weighing 10 tolas each worth Rs. 1.79 crores approximately were seized. 10 persons found to be involved in the cases were arrested and also detained under the provisions of Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974.

Mobile polling booths for remote areas

3324. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the people in remote

villages are finding it difficult to exercise their franchise for elections; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal before Government to arrange for mobile polling booths to help the people to exercise their franchise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). Being conscious of the difficulties of the people in remote villages, it has been the policy of the Election Commission to locate polling stations within the easy reach of the electors. In some cases, polling stations have been located inside those areas where vulnerable section of the population is congregated. The Election Commission has also already instructed the Chief Electoral Officers to set up mobile polling stations in all those areas where the voters experience difficulties in freely exercising their votes. The matter is also kept under constant review by the Election Commission and appropriate instructions are conveyed to the Chief Electoral Officers as and when necessary.

[Translation]

D.A. instalment due to Central Government employees

3325. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether one more instalment of dearness allowance to the Central Government employees has become due from 1st July 1988; and

(b) if so, the time by which this instalment will be paid by Government and the rate thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration and a decision will be taken shortly.

[English]

Creation of supernumerary posts

3326. SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the circumstances that warrant creation of supernumerary posts in Central Government Ministries/Departments; and

(b) the details of norms and procedures which govern such creation of supernumerary posts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b). Ministry of Finance have issued instructions for creation of Supernumerary posts, in circumstances such as to accommodate Permanent Government servants who are substantively reduced to a lower post on account of inefficiency or misbehaviour and for whom permanent posts in the lower service/grade/time-scale etc. are not available; permanent Government servants who vacate their posts as a result of dismissal, removal or compulsory retirement but are later reinstated after the expiry of a period of more than one year, etc.

Since it is not possible to give an exhaustive list of circumstances in which supernumerary posts may be created, Ministry of Finance have given broad principles governing the creation of such posts as indicated below :

(i) A supernumerary post is normally created to accommodate the lien of an officer, who, in the opinion of

the authority competent to create such a post, is entitled to hold a lien against a regular permanent post but who, due to non-availability of a regular permanent post, cannot have his lien against such a post.

(ii) It is a shadow post, i.e., no duties are attached to such a post. The officer, whose lien is maintained against such a post, generally performs duties in some other vacant temporary or permanent post.

(iii) It should not be created in circumstances which, at the time of the creation of the post or thereafter, would lead to an excess of the working strength.

(iv) It is always a permanent post. Since, however, it is a post created for accommodating a permanent officer till he is absorbed in a regular permanent post, it should not be created for an indefinite period as other permanent posts are, but should normally be created for a definite and fixed period sufficient for the purpose in view.

(v) It is personal to the officer for whom it is created and no other officer can be appointed against such a post. It stands abolished as soon as the officer for whom it was created vacates it on account of retirement or confirmation in another regular permanent post or for any other reason. Since a supernumerary post is not a working post, the number of working posts in a cadre will continue to be regulated in a manner that if a permanent incumbent of one of the regular posts returns to the cadre and all the posts are manned, one of the officers of the cadre will have to make room for him. He should not be shown against a supernumerary post.

(vi) No extra financial commitment is involved in the creation of such

posts in the shape of increased pay and allowances, pensionary benefits, etc.

2. Supernumerary posts may be created by the administrative authorities under their own powers to the same extent to which they are competent to create regular permanent posts. Cases where deviations from the general criteria mentioned above are involved, they may be dealt with in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

3. Administrative authorities should maintain a record of the supernumerary posts, the particulars of the individuals who hold liens against them and the progressive abolition of such posts as and when the holder of the posts retire or are absorbed in regular permanent posts, for the purpose of verification of service for pension.

Legislation on Securities and Exchange Board of India

3327. SHRIMATI BASAVA-
RAJESWARI :
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a comprehensive legislation to arm the securities and Exchange Board of India with adequate powers to discharge its functions is under consideration;

(b) if so, the main objectives of the legislation; and

(c) by what time the new legislation is likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of the proposed legislation will, inter-alia, be the regulation and orderly development of the securities market and investor protection.

(c) The new legislation is expected to be introduced in Parliament within a few months.

[Translation]

Textile mills in Bombay

3328(H). SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills being run in Bombay at present and the number thereof three years ago;

(b) the number of textile mills which became sick or were closed down during the last three years, year-wise, and the number of workers affected by it;

(c) whether Government are aware that there has been considerable increase in the price of land in Bombay over the last few years as a result of which the textile mill owners are selling the land after closing the mill; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to check this tendency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The number of cotton/man made fibre textile mills (composite and spinning) running in Bombay as on May 31, 1985 and May 31, 1988 was 50 and 49 respectively.

(b) The number of cotton/man made fibre textile mills (spinning and composite) which closed down during the last three years in Bombay and remain closed was 2 with a total labour strength of 3701. These mills were closed in March 1987.

(c) and (d). The subject matter relating to prices/sale of land and granting of permission for disposal of land of textile mills in Bombay comes within the purview of the State Government.

[English]

**Foreign exchange earnings from
Tourism**

3329. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are giving top priority to increase earnings from tourism as an alternative source of foreign exchange in view of the falling rate of remittances from the Non-Resident Indians; and

(b) the concessions proposed to be made to attract foreign tourists.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). The available Balance of Payment data do not indicate any fall in invisible earnings, including remittances. Government have taken a number of measures to promote earnings from tourism also. Some of these measures are as follows :

- (i) Introduction by Indian Airlines/ Vayudoot package tours at concessional rates for different categories of foreign tourists.
- (ii) Streamlining of air and rail booking facilities at major centres.
- (iii) Simplification of entry formalities for foreigners in the restricted areas in India.
- (iv) Introduction of 'Indrail Pass' to foreign tourists and Non-Resident Indians against payment in foreign exchange.
- (v) Suitable fiscal incentives to travel agents and hotels for attracting foreign tourists.

Export obligations on business houses

3330. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to impose export obligations on all business houses as reported in the 'Economic Times' of July 17, 1988;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore;

(c) whether such obligations are workable as there is no way of shutting down an enterprise in case it fails to meet export obligations; and

(d) whether export obligations could be met if there were no domestic surpluses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No, Sir.

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

**Competition in Fishing and Marine
Products Export**

3331. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian marine products exports are lagging behind due to cheap shrimp from Taiwan and other countries;

(b) if so, the consequences thereof; and

(c) the measures taken by the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) to reduce operational costs for making marine and fishing products more competitive ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c). Indian Marine products are not lagging behind in the Japanese market due to cheap shrimp from Taiwan and other countries. According to available statistics, during the period from January to June 1988, Indian shrimp fetched Yen 947/- per kg. in Japanese market, compared to the price of Yen 948/- per kg. for Chinese shrimp, yen 1281/- per kg. for Indonesian shrimp, yen 1176 per kg. for the Taiwanese shrimp and yen 1493 per kg. for the Philippines shrimp.

The MPEDA is encouraging the production of valued added items like IQF shrimps to enhance the marketability of our Marine products.

Impact of exchange rate variation on Imports and Exports

3332 SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM: DR. D.N. REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the effect of Changes in exchange rates of rupee in relation to Dollar, Pound, Yen and Deutsche Mark on Indian exports and imports during last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the additional quantity of goods India had to export during that period to America, England, Japan and West Germany as a result of changes in exchange rates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). The exchange value of the rupees is fixed with reference to the exchange rate movements of a weighted basket of currencies mainly of countries which are India's major trading partners. In a regime of floating exchange rates it is not possible to make any assessment of the impact of the movements of any one currency on India's imports and exports.

Case of outstation cheques

3333. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether any study has been made by the Indian Banks' Association or the Reserve Bank of India to find out the average time needed for cashing of outstation cheques;

(b) if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether cashing of outstation cheques in the country is still a time consuming job; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to reduce this time gap ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India and Indian Banks' Association have reported that they have not carried out any survey as such to find out the average time needed for cashing outstation cheques.

(c) and (d). It is the endeavour of the public sector banks to effect clearance of outstation cheques as speedily as possible. Introduction of Magnetic Ink Character Recognition (MICR) technology, computerisation of Clearing Houses, establishment of National Clearing and increased use of courier service are measures which have been taken for quickening the process of collection of outstation cheques. As a result, a perceptible improvement in clearance of cheques has been reported by the banks.

Excise and customs duty paid by M/s. ITC Limited and M/s. NTC Limited

3334. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of excise and customs duty paid by M/s. ITC Limited and M/s. NTC Limited during 1988;

(b) the total excise and customs duty pending realisation from these companies; and

(c) the measures taken/proposed to be taken to realise the outstanding dues ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) M/s ITC Limited and M/s NTC Limited have paid a total amount of Rs. 378.88 crores approximately on account of Excise and Customs duty during 1988 (upto 31st July, 1988).

(b) A total amount of Rs. 1751 crores approximately in confirmed and unconfirmed demands is considered as due from these Companies on account of Excise and Customs duty.

(c) Administrative, legal and other steps, as considered necessary, continue to be taken from time to time to recover the dues. In important court cases, eminent lawyers have been engaged to defend the Government's stand effectively. The courts have been approached for early hearing. The Adjudicating authorities have also been advised to complete the adjudication process expeditiously in the Show Cause Notices issued to these Companies.

Suggestions by Election Commission regarding booth capturing

3335. SHRI H.M. PATEL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Statement made by the Chief Election Commissioner that 'unless

the reported suggestions made by the Election Commission are carried out it is not possible to tackle to silence booth capturing during elections under the existing law"; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Government have seen reports in the Press to such an effect.

(b) Various remedial measures for the purpose have been proposed by the Election Commission as part of the package of electoral reforms. A decision is yet to be taken on them.

SC/ST Employees in Nationalised Banks

3336. SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESHWARA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the recruitment position of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees in the nationalised banks; and

(b) the percentage of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees among total number of employees of the nationalised banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). Information available in respect of 19 of 20 nationalised banks indicate the following figures with regard to the total strength of employees in all cadres as at the end of 1987 and the percentages of Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes amongst them :

Sl. No.	Cadre	Total Strength	Percentage of SC ST	
1.	Officers	138118	8.586	2.248
2.	Clerks	275305	14.088	3.274
3.	Sub-staff (Excluding Sweepers)	97876	21.910	4.914
4.	Sweepers	19502	44.815	3.625
TOTAL :		530801	15.227	3.32

Special aid to Kerala

3337. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given by Union Government to Kerala as special aid in the year 1987; and

(b) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) No special Central assistance was given to Kerala in 1987-88.

(b) Does not arise.

Formation of Regional Directorates under CGWB

3338. SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) how many Regional Directorates for Water Resources are formed under Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) in the country; and

(b) in view of the peculiar situation in Kerala, what steps have been taken by the Central Ground Water Board to help to tie over the drinking water problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The Central Ground Water Board has 11 regional directorates for carrying out national surveys, exploration, monitoring and assessment of ground water resources.

(b) In Kerala the Central Ground Water Board has already covered the entire State under systematic surveys, drilled 200 boreholes and, with Swedish assistance conducted a Special Project on Ground Water Resource Evaluation.

The Board has also completed scientific source finding work in 261 problem villages in Kerala as a part of the technology mission on drinking water.

Impact of low quality of Pepper on Export

3339. SHRI S.M. GURADDI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether export of papper to the United States is affected due to low quality;

(b) if so, the details of measures proposed by high level delegation to the United States in this regard;

(c) whether a five year plan to modernise the procedure for clearing facilities, processing and packaging of black pepper is being considered to

meet the threat to pre-eminent position of Indian pepper in the world market; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The delegation recommended that consignments for export of pepper to USA should be inspected and certified by the Export Inspection Agency which would strictly enforce quality conforming to those stipulated by the F.D.A. authorities in U.S.A.

(c) and (d). The Spices Board and the Export Inspection Agency have drawn up a number of programmes to educate the farmers, Intermediary traders and exporters in scientific post harvest handling of pepper to avoid contamination. This include conducting of seminars at the producers level, training programmes and workshop at the exporter level to make them aware of the importance of quality. The Indian Institute of Packaging is undertaking a project for ascertaining suitable packaging material for packing and export of black pepper in consumer packs.

Loan from IMF to meet deficit

3340. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India will be tapping for the first time the international monetary market to meet the deficit in the balance of current account;

(b) if so, whether the crisis was foreseen by the Planning Commission as well as by the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council;

(c) if so, whether the crisis is due to the failure of IMF adjustment loan of five billion SDR to serve its objective as well as the IMF/World Bank recommended liberalization in the import policy of the past few years; and

(d) the steps taken to meet the crisis situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The need for careful management of balance of payments during the second half of the 1980s had been clearly foreseen. For example, the Seventh Plan document as well as annual Economic Surveys of the Ministry of Finance for the past few years had pointed out that during the Plan period external payment obligations would rise more sharply because of harder average terms of external debt, repayment of the IMF loan, substantial fall in concessional aid flows and other adverse international factors.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Steps here already been initiated to increase exports and other earnings, reduce imports of bulk commodities through efficient import substitution and increase the flow of funds from non-residents. Government is keeping a close watch on the emerging situation and necessary action will continue to be taken, as required, to keep the balance of payments situation under control.

Export of Cardamom

3341. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the export earnings from cardamom for the past three years;

(b) whether there is a decline in quantity and value of exports; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to reverse this situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The export of cardamom during the past 3 years have been as follows :

Year	Qty. (M.T.)	Value (Rs. in Crores)
1985-86	3270	53.45
1986-87	1450	88.49
1987-88	270	3.40

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In addition to the CCS and import replenishment licences, the Spices Board has launched a market promotion programme in West Asia and North Africa Region. The programme includes participation in fairs and publicity campaign etc.

Collection of loans from fishing companies

3342. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether many fishing companies had approached the Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited to grant moratorium or collection of loans due to bad fishing season and general depression in the fishing industry in recent past;

(b) the particulars companies which had approached the SCICI during 1987 and 1988, requesting for re-schedulement of loans and other financial concessions;

(c) the particulars of companies which have been considered favourably by the SCICI for relaxation of period of loan collection or any other relaxation in any form in the year 1987 and 1988 (till date); and

(d) the particulars of companies whose request is pending for such sympathetic consideration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d). The Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Ltd. has reported that it had received applications from 18 fishing companies

assisted by earthwile SDFC for considering grant of moratorium on collection of loans. As requisite information for considering the applications for moratorium was not initially furnished by the companies, SCICI had sought additional information. 11 companies have so far furnished the information. SCICI has completed assessment in respect of two companies.

Extension of period of Maharashtra Raw Cotton Act, 1971

3343. SHRI BANWARI LAL

PUROHIT :

PROF. RAMAKRISHNA

MORE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has urged Union Government to extend the duration of the Maharashtra Raw Cotton (Procurement Processing and Marketing Act, 1971 for a further period of 10 years;

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government in this regard; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Act is valid upto 30.6.1989. A decision will be taken before it expires.

Selling of Bharat Mata Cinema in Bombay by NTC

3344. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has given tender for selling Bharat Mata Cinemas in Bombay which is exclusively showing Marathi films;

(b) if so, whether Urban Development Department of State Government of Maharashtra has accorded its constant; and

(c) the sale price of this deal being received by NTC and how the amount is going to be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) According to legal advice, NTC does not require permission of the Maharashtra Govt. for selling this property on 'as is where is' basis.

(c) Only tender bids have been received. The decision to sell the property has not been taken.

Bank Frauds

3345. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the internal security inspection and audit arrangements in banks have proved woefully inadequate with amounting to Rs. 221.69 crores in five years ending 1986;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to identify the contributory factors that led to failure in noticing the frauds in time by auditing and inspecting staff for fixing responsibility;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d). RBI has reported that banks have their own internal inspection/audit departments which inspect/audit the bank branches periodically, generally at intervals of 12 to 18 months. In the bigger branches, most of the public sector banks also have a system of con-

current audit, Banks also appoint external Auditors for undertaking miscellaneous audit such as Revenue Audit etc. In addition, the accounts of banks' bigger branches/controlling offices/Head offices are audited annually by the statutory auditors appointed by RBI. The main focus of the internal inspection/audit is to ensure that various prescribed procedures and systems are followed meticulously.

Internal audit and inspections have led to detections of bank frauds in many cases. Timely reconciliation of inter-branch accounts and balancing of books has also led to detection of bank frauds. Wherever there are lapses on the part of the internal audit staff, suitable action is taken by the banks.

[Translation]

Realisation of Bank loans

3346. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had issued directives to the commercial banks in the country to fix the target to realise the amount of loans advanced by them;

(b) if so, the amount of loan which was to be realised by the commercial banks during last year, bank-wise;

(c) whether banks are experiencing many difficulties in achieving the target of realising loans during this year; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India has reported that while no target as such has been fixed for recovery of agricultural advances but the banks are expected to take necessary steps for recovering their dues. The demand for recovery of agricultural advances of public sector banks for the year ended June, 1987 was Rs. 4415.44 crores and bank-wise details are given in the Statement below.

In order to improve the recovery of direct agricultural advances bank have been advised to take effective measures like strengthening of the organisational structure, adopting of schematic appraisal systems, past lending supervision and launching of recovery drives with the help of State Governments. Banks have also been advised to create separate 'Recovery Cell' for a cluster of nearby branches for continuous and effective supervision.

Statement

Demand for recovery of Direct Agricultural Advances of Public Sector Banks—at the end of June, 1987.

Name of the Bank	Amount (Rs. crores)
1. State Bank of India	1080.18
2. State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	577.52
3. State Bank of Hyderabad	77.77
4. State Bank of Indore	25.19
5. State Bank of Mysore	48.43
6. State Bank of Patiala	42.77
7. State Bank of Saurashtra	25.68
8. State Bank of Travancore	22.99
9. Allahabad Bank	52.14
10. Andhra Bank	153.87
11. Bank of Baroda	221.73
12. Bank of India	273.07
13. Bank of Maharashtra	72.00
14. Canara Bank	365.84
15. Central Bank of India	240.02
16. Corporation Bank	45.12
17. Dena Bank	62.61
18. Indian Bank	159.63

19. Indian Overseas Bank	217.72
20. New Bank of India	37.38
21. Oriental Bank of Commerce	43.93
22. Punjab National Bank	287.30
23. Punjab & Sind Bank	56.51
24. Syndicate Bank	258.14
25. Union Bank of India	210.03
26. United Bank of India	80.71
27. UCO Bank	141.95
28. Vijaya Bank	49.01

Total Public Sector Banks 4415.44

Note : Data are provisional.

Export of Textiles

3347(H). SHRI MADAN PANDEY ; Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been unprecedented increase in the export of textiles during 1987-88;

(b) If so, the percentage of the increase in the export of textiles as compared to past three years, year-wise;

(c) whether Government have taken to take any concrete steps to increase it further; and

(d) if so, the outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). Export of textiles have been showing a rising trend for the last three years as is evident from the Table given below :

	(Rs. in crores)		
	1985	1986	1987
Cotton Textiles	649	656	1160
Readymade Garments	1068	1323	1857

Source : Apparel Export Promotion Council and Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council.

(c) and (d). Steps taken by the Govt. to increase exports to textiles are indicated in the statement below :

Statement

The following steps have been taken to boost the export of textile goods.

- (i) Sophisticated garment manufacturing machines not manufactured indigenously are allowed to be imported on OGL. As many as 118 machines for garment and hosiery manufacture have been placed under OGL 104 of them injoying concessional import duty.
- (ii) The Government permits import of 4 types of sophisticated textile machines at a concessional rate of import duty of 25 per cent provided the importer exports 5 times the value of machinery over and above the average exports of the exporter during the preceding 3 years. In addition to the existing scheme, the modified export obligation scheme permits imports with an export obligation for exporting 75 per cent of the production for 5 years. The importer is allowed to choose any one of the two export obligations.
- (iii) A textile modernisation fund of Rs. 750 crores has been created for facilitation of modernisation of Textile Industry.
- (iv) A long term policy for the export of cotton yarn with liberal ceilings has been announced. The ceiling for the year 1987 has recently been increased from 40 million kgs. to 75 million kgs. for cotton yarn of counts upto 60s. There is no restriction on the export of cotton yarn above counts 60s.
- (v) In order to encourage improvement in the quality of cotton yarn, excise

duty on auto-coners manufactured domestically has been reduced from 15 per cent 5 per cent w.e.f. 11.5.1987.

- (vi) Revised rates of CCS have been announced effective from 1st July, 1986. These rates have been announced for a period of 3 years and are generally higher than before. Slow moving items of garments on which CCS was not admissible when exported to quota countries have been made eligible for CCS. CCS on export of cotton yarn of all counts has been allowed @ 8 per cent from 29th August, 1986. CCS on export of grey fabrics has been raised to 10 per cent w e. f. 13. 2. 1987.
- (vii) Cotton garments and textiles have been brought under the scheme of contract Registration with a view to providing an element of certainty to exporters in the matter of CCS.
- (viii) The Fashion Technology Institute in Delhi for education, research and training in the areas of fashion design for garment manufacture has been set up.
- (ix) The duty drawback rates for cotton garments have been increased to 10 per cent.
- (x) The number of days of pre-shipment credit has been increased from 90 days to 180 days. The rate of interest has also been reduced by 2.5 per cent.
- (xi) Many items of raw material/fabrics are permitted to be imported under Duty Free REP Scheme and the Import-Export Pass Book Scheme.
- (xii) The scope of Advance Licensing and pass Book Schemes has been widened and procedures simplified.
- (xiii) under 100 per cent Export Oriented Units and Free Trade Zones Scheme facilities for liberal import of

capital goods and raw materials alongwith many other concessions are given.

- (xvi) Government has been giving liberal assistance for sponsoring and funding promotional activities such as market studies, buyer-seller meets, participation in international fairs and exhibitions.
- (xv) Permission for use of foreign brand names for domestic sales has been approved in the case of readymade garments with the stipulation that only indigenous fabrics are used; at least 75 per cent of the production is exported and no royalties are allowed on domestic sales.
- (xvi) The agency commission has been increase and rules for blanket permission for foreign exchange have been substantially liberalised.

[English]

Textile Policy (1985)

3348. SHRI N. SUNDARARAJ : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the textile policy of June, 1985 the textile industry is being asked to compete in the international market ;

(b) if so, whether it envisages modernisation of existing textile mills; and

(c) if so, the efforts made by Government to reduce the labour force while textile units are being modernised and uneconomical mills closed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The textile policy of June 1985 envisages measures to make exports of textile goods more competitive in the international markets.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The textile policy also envisages that interests of labour shall be protected in the process of modernisation and closure of non-viable mills.

Expenditure on Non-Productive Projects

3349. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to review expenditure in hard currency on non-productive projects such as oilseeds, dairying and other soft projects by stopping such imports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration. Foreign exchange for import of various items is released on the basis of domestic availability, prices, foreign exchange availability and other related factors.

(b) Does not arise.

Nexus between Narcotics Smuggling and Terrorism

3350. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :
SHRI AMAL DATTA :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing nexus between narcotics smuggling and terrorism;

(b) whether Government are also aware that Delhi has become a major transit point for heroin originating in the Golden Crescent destined for the West;

(c) whether the situation has been anyal-

sed by the concerned agencies of Government; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the remedial steps taken or contemplated to contain the growing threat to the economy as well as integrity of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) No specific case indicating nexus between terrorists and drug traffickers has come to the notice of the Government. However, possibility of money generated out of drug trafficking getting ploughed back into financing terrorist activity cannot be ruled out.

(b) Reports indicate that Delhi and Bombay have become major exit points for transit traffic in heroin originating in the Near and Middle East, commonly known as the Golden Crescent region.

(c) and (d). The drug situation in the country is being kept under constant review for appropriate action. A Cabinet Sub-Committee headed by the Home Minister has also been constituted to oversee and co-ordinate the steps taken to intensify the fight against drug abuse and trafficking.

As most of the quantities of drug originated from across Indo-Pak. border, arrangements for mutual co-operation between India and Pakistan have been established. In the recent Secretary-level talks held in New Delhi, it has been decided to mutually exchange operational intelligence to curb drug trafficking across the borders. Both sides further agreed to extend mutual assistance in criminal investigations, *inter alia*, relating to drug smuggling.

Under the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance, 1988, promulgated on 4.7.1988, 157 detention orders have been issued so far in which 130 persons had been detained.

Banking facilities in Kerala

3351. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are areas in Kerala which are not having banking facilities available within easy reach;

(b) if so, the names of such areas; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide banking facilities in such areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that in terms of the current branch licensing policy for opening branches in rural and semi-urban centres, it has issued 5 licences for opening branches at rural and semi-urban centres. RBI has further reported that 12 more bank offices will have to be opened on population norm in deficit blocks in Kerala to achieve the objective of the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 which is to have one branch for every 17,000 population in rural and semi-urban areas. The details given below :-

<i>Name of District</i>	<i>Name of Block</i>	<i>No. of bank offices required</i>
Quilon	Chadayamangalam	1
..	Vettikavala	1
Malappuram	Vengara	2
Wynad	Sultan	
	Battery	6
..	Manathody	2
	Total :-	12

RBI has instructed the Lead Banks to identify sufficient number of additional centres in these blocks and forward such lists to RBI through the State Government of Kerala for consideration of further allotments. With the allotment of centres and opening bank branches at the centres to be identified in the above deficit blocks, there will be adequate banking coverage in the State of Kerala on the basis of population coverage norm. Under the Service Area Approach to rural lending, RBI has instructed banks to open their branches at the allotted centres expeditiously to facilitate allocation of villages to such branches under this scheme.

**Coffee cultivation in tribal areas
of Orissa**

3352. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government have intensified coffee cultivation in the tribal populated Phulbani and Kalahandi districts of Orissa; and

(b) if so, the total hectares of land in these two districts of Orissa brought under coffee cultivation so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The area brought under coffee cultivation so far in these two districts is as under :-

Phulbani	200 Hectares.
Kalahandi	308 Hectares.

Handloom sector in Orissa

3353. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the handloom sector operating in Orissa is adequately fed with necessary

raw material and also has the marketing facilities for the sale of their products;

(b) whether any special survey has been made to assess how the handloom weavers have been able to improve their production and also gained net profit during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details of the findings;

(d) whether the gains were not adequate; and

(e) if so, the factors which hindered the growth and the remedial steps being taken by Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) As reported by the State Government, the Handloom Sector operating in Orissa is not facing any raw material problem. Cotton yarn of 60s count is produced by the Cooperative Spinning Mills and Mills under the I.D.C. Sector in sufficient quantity, Finer counts of yarn, twisted and mercerised yarn, silk yarn etc. are procured from outside States.

Regarding marketing facilities, it has been reported that in addition to marketing facilities provided by the 750 primary weavers cooperative societies, the Apex Handloom Coop. Society provides marketing support through its 130 retail outlets. For the weavers outside the cooperative fold, the Orissa State Handloom Development Corporation provides marketing facilities through its 64 outlets.

(b) No such Survey has been conducted.

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

Loss in NTC Bombay

3354. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation (NTC) mills located at Bombay city are running into losses to the tune of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the total estimated loss of NTC mills in Bombay city in 1987-88; and

(c) the factors responsible for losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. 24 out of the 25 textile mills under NTC in Bombay incurred losses during the year 1987-88. The provisional net loss suffered by these mills during 1987-88 was about Rs. 70 crores.

(c) The main factors responsible for losses of these mills are given below :

- (i) Old and obsolete machinery;
- (ii) Excess labour force;
- (iii) Steep rise in the price of cotton and other input costs;
- (iv) Lack of extensive modernisation;
- (v) Heavy burden of increase in wages/salaries including interim relief, etc.

Loans advanced by commercial banks

3355. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount advanced by the commercial banks as term lending and short term credit respectively during the last twelve months;

(b) the break-up between the industrial and agricultural sectors; and

(c) the guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank of India to the commercial banks for short term credits and when the same were issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India has reported that during the year ending June, 1987 the direct finance to agriculture provided by all scheduled commercial banks was Rs. 2744 crores including Rs. 1482 crores as short term loans. The Reserve Bank of India has further reported that the data in respect of loans given by commercial banks during a particular period is available only for direct finance to agriculture, since in the Industrial Sector the working capital requirement of units are met on the basis of limits sanctioned to them.

(c) Reserve Bank of India had issued a set of guidelines to all Banks in March, 1984. These guidelines relate to application forms, loan procedure, margin money, security norms, rate of interest and other charges to be levied and cover all categories of priority sector lendings.

Assistance to poor farmers in Bihar under IRDP

3356. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the loans sanctioned during the last three years, year-wise, to poor farmers under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in Bihar;

(b) whether there have been complaints against the bank's officials regarding corrupt practices being adopted by them in sanctioning/payment of loans; and

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has since been conducted against the persons found guilty and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The amount disbursed by all the commercial banks (including co-operative banks) under Integrated Rural Development Programme

(IRDP) in Bihar during the last three years have been as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1985-86	97.30
1986-87	142.09
1987-88	180.35

(b) and (c). The representations regarding corruption, non-sanction of loans, delay in disbursement of loans, write off or remission of dues, rescheduling of repayment schedule, etc. received are referred to the concerned authorities for necessary action. Corrective measures are taken by banks in respect of complaints, with a view to provide redressal to the complainant.

[Translation]

Tilaiya-Thathar and Auranga Reservoir scheme of Bihar

3357. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tilaiya-Thathar and Auranga Reservoir schemes of Bihar have been included in the Five Year Plan; and

(b) the time when these schemes were drawn up and the total estimated expenditure to be incurred on these schemes and the present position thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Tilaiya Dhadhar and Auranga Reservoir Projects estimated to cost Rs. 65.15 crores and Rs. 188.92 crores respectively are included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. An expenditure of Rs. 6.22 crores and Rs. 7.58 crores respectively was anticipated up to March, 1988.

Concession in interest on outstanding Income Tax

3358. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether income tax payers have started depositing the outstanding income tax after the announcement of the Income tax concession scheme by Government; and

(b) if so, the extent of income tax which was outstanding this year and how many people out of them have deposited the income tax ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The latest figures of arrears of Income Tax are available as on 31.12.87. They are as under :

	(In Crores of rupees)
Tax-in-arrears	1908.93
Demand raised which had not fallen due	1270.41
Total	3179.34

The concessions have been made effective from 1.7.1988 for a period of three months. The result of the concession in terms of amount collected and number of tax payers depositing tax under the scheme is not yet known. Informal enquiries from Commissioners of Income-tax show that tax payers are taking advantage of the scheme and are depositing tax.

[English]

Kerala project for Net making machines from Japan

3359. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala submitted a project report to Union Government for obtaining 15 net-making machines and accessories free of cost from Japan;

(b) if so, whether the project has been approved by Union Government and orders have been placed for obtaining the machines;

(c) if so, whether these machines will be given to the State Government as 100 per cent grant; and

(d) if not, terms on which these machines will be given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The project proposal submitted by the State Government of Kerala for procurement of 15 net-making machines and accessories with grant assistance from Japan has already posed to the Government of Japan for grant assistance for the 1988-89.

(c) and (d). External assistance will be shared with the State Government according to the standard formula under which 70 per cent of the net aid will accrue to the State Government as additional central assistance for externally aided projects.

Working capital assistance by Banks to Small Scale Industries in Orissa

3360. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Reserve Bank of India and Union Government that commercial banks in Orissa are not coming forward to sanction loans for working capital to small scale industries which have been sanctioned term loan by the Orissa State Financial Corporation;

(b) whether Government are aware that in a large number of such cases working

capital has not been sanctioned by commercial banks despite disbursement of term loan by the State Financial Corporation on the strength of commitment letters by concerned bank;

(c) the number of such cases where banks have refused or delayed sanctioning of working capital; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that commercial banks sanction working capital within a reasonable period of sanctioning of term loan by the State Financial Institutions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that there were 289 cases pending with commercial banks for sanction of working capital limits in respect of which Orissa State Financial Corporation (OSFC) had sanctioned the term loans. The request for working capital loans had been rejected/returned in 122 cases by the banks.

(d) Reserve Bank of India has further reported that steps taken to sanction working capital expeditiously in such cases include, convening of joint meetings by OSFC and concerned banks for sanctioning cases; formulation by banks effective monitoring system for ensuring that the projects approved by State Level Financial Institutions are sanctioned the needed working capital finance well in time; establishment of rapport with the State Level financial institutions; to include as a regular item on the agenda the particulars of cases where SFC assisted units are not able to get working capital finance from commercial banks.

Export of fruits and vegetables to USSR

3361. SHRI GOPALA KRISHNA THOTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and the USSR have entered into a contract to increase the export of vegetables and fruits;

(b) if so, whether Government are giving any financial assistance to the farmers to grow more vegetables and fruits to boost export; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Service conditions of Bank officers

3362. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by Pillai Committee set up by Government for looking into the service conditions and other benefits of bank officers;

(b) whether Government have accepted the recommendations of the Committee;

(c) whether the recommendations made therein as regards the inter-bank transfer of officers beyond the rank of scale V has been effected by the Government; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The recommendations made by the Pillai Committee broadly were for a standardised structure of grades dearness allowance, other allowances and perquisites etc.

(b) The recommendations of the Committee were accepted with certain modifications suggested by the Group of Bankers and as deemed appropriate by Government.

(c) and (d). The recommendations of the Committee regarding inter-bank transfer of officers in scale-V and above has been reviewed. Government has come to the conclusion that it would be better to con-

sider transfer of willing officers to willing banks on terms and conditions acceptable to both and to Government. It was felt that providing for transfer of such officers on a regular basis may not be desirable.

Foreign investment

3363. DR. D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the outstanding investment made by USA, Germany, Japan and U.K. in Indian companies; and

(b) the names of such foreign companies and Indian companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The Reserve Bank of India conducts periodical Surveys of outstanding foreign private investment in India. The latest survey relates to the period ended 31-3-1980. According to this survey the investments in India of USA, West Germany, Japan and U.K. as on 31-3-1980 were as under :

	(Rs. Crores)
USA	591.8
West Germany	245.2
Japan	31.9
U.K.	659.8

(b) Such company-wise information is not available with Government.

Export of sea foods

3364. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sea foods exported during the last three years;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(c) the trend of the export of sea food; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). The quantity of sea food exported and foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years were :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity of export (Tonnes)</i>	<i>Foreign exchange earned (Rs. crores)</i>
1985-86	83651	398.00
1986-87	85843	460.67
1987-88	97179	531.20

(Source : MPEDA, Cochin)

(c) As may be seen from the above statement, exports of marine products are increasing.

(d) The steps taken to increase the export of marine products include promotion of prawn farming for augmenting production of cultured prawns, encouragement of production of value added items like IQF (Individually Quick Frozen) shrimps, setting up of prawn hatcheries and measures for exploitation of deep sea fishery resources.

Revival of sick units by financial institution

3365. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to seek cooperation of the public financial institutions to shoulder the responsibility of reviving sick units which can function satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the number of such units till date which have started functioning in Assam, Maharashtra and West Bengal as

a result of the efforts made by the financial institutions; and

(c) the details of the role played by financial institutions for the revival of sick units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (c). All India term lending financial institutions, namely, IDBI, IFCI, ICICI and IRBI and Public sector banks undertake viability study of sick units and evolution and implementation of rehabilitation packages for potentially viable sick units which are financed by them. Rehabilitation packages drawn may envisage sacrifices from banks/institutions in the form reliefs/concessions as also extension of further finance for modernisation/expansion/working capital, etc. on concessional terms.

(b) Based on the provisional data received from banks, RBI has reported the following data as at the end of June, 1987 :

<i>State</i>	<i>Non SSI sick units found viable</i>	<i>Non SSI sick viable units put under nursing programme</i>
Assam	3	2
Maharashtra	84	62
West Bengal	32	16

Note : The definition of non SSI sick units adopted by RBI is as per the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies Act, 1985.

Maintenance of SLR and CRR by Syndicate Bank

3366. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Syndicate Bank paid a huge fine to the Reserve Bank of India for

non-maintenance of Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) and Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) during 1987;

(b) if so, the total amount thus paid as fine; and

(c) the amount of fine paid by the bank during the current year so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India has reported that some of the nationalised banks were not able to maintain the Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) and Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) as prescribed by Reserve Bank of India from time to time during the year 1987. Reserve Bank of India has further indicate that it would not be desirable to disclose the details of the workings of an individual bank, which failed to maintain the Statutory Liquidity Ratio or Cash Reserve Ratio.

Recommendations for simultaneous Elections to State Assemblies and Lok Sabha

3367. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received recommendations from the Election Commission and/or others that elections to all the State Assemblies and Lok Sabha be held simultaneously to reduce consumption of time and money in election campaigns from time to time;

(b) if so, whether Government have agreed to the recommendations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) such a proposal was received from the Election Commission in 1982.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The necessity for having General Elections to the Lok Sabha and the Legislative Assemblies at different times has arisen due to dissolution of the earlier Lok Sabhas/Assemblies before the expiration of their normal term and the consequential holding of midterm elections. Such dissolutions and midterm elections are part of the processes of parliamentary democracy. Synchronized elections to the Lok Sabha and to the Legislative Assemblies whose terms are due to expire at different times would require extension of the term in respect of some cases, which is not feasible as per the present constitutional provisions and curtailment of the term in some other cases which would be possible only if the concerned Chief Ministers agree. It is for these reasons mainly that the proposal for simultaneous elections was not accepted.

Jute Purchase Centre in Assam

3368. SHRI ABDUL HAMID : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware that Assam has secured the second position regarding the jute production in the country but due to the lack of sufficient number of jute purchasing centre in Assam, the jute growers are going to be deprived day by day by the middle class of businessmen;

(b) if so, the total growth of jute in Assam during last three years, year-wise details;

(c) the exact quantity of jute purchased by the Jute Corporation of India during last three years, year-wise details; and

(d) the steps taken for the remaining portion of the jute which is being sold in the open market through the middlemen with a lesser price than Government price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (d) Assam along with Bihar stood second in the country during 1987-88 in production of raw jute

according to the estimate of Jute Corporation of India. The details of production of raw jute and procurement of raw jute by JCI and its cooperative agencies in Assam during 1985-86 and 1986-87 are given in the statement below.

There is an open-ended commitment on the part of the Government to ensure mini-

mum support price to the growers through the Jute Corporation of India and JCI has been instructed to buy at minimum support level all the jute that is offered to them. For this purpose, JCI has been provided with men, material and finance adequately. During the current jute season (1988-89), prices of raw jute in upcountry markets in Assam are ruling well above the minimum support level.

Statement

Details of Procurement of Raw Jute in Assam

Year	Production of jute ('000 bales)	% of total production of raw jute in India	Procurement by JCI and cooperatives	% of total procurement by JCI & co-operatives in India	No. of JCI Centres	% of total Centres
1985-86	1232	9.7	334.1	11.9	26	13.2
1986-87	995	11.6	292.2	13.2	26	13.2

Bench of Andhra Pradesh High Court

3369. SHRI C. SAMBU :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

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

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposal either from the Andhra Pradesh Government or the people of the State to open a High Court Bench in any of the towns in the State;

(b) if so, the details of such proposal; and

(c) the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c). Representations have been received from time to time demanding establishment of Benches of the Andhra Pradesh High Court

at Vijaywada and Guntur. However, no proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard. No action is taken by Central Government in the matter unless a proposal is received from the concerned State Government.

Polavaram Project of Andhra Pradesh

3370. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the multi-purpose project in Andhra Pradesh across the Godavari river has been cleared by Union Government;

(b) whether in view of the long delay for want of clearance, the estimated cost of the Polavaram Project has gone up from Rs. 1200 crores in 1980-81 to 2665 crores now;

(c) whether the Polavaram Project provides irrigation facilities to seven to nineteen

lakh acres in east and west Godavari districts besides Visakhapatnam district;

(d) whether Government insisted on payment of alternative land to the owners of the entire 7000 hectares that would come under the submersion instead of compensation; and

(e) if so, the other various projects in the country where alternative land of equivalent extent was provided to the land losers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c) Andhra Pradesh has been requested to submit a modified project report keeping in view the observations made by the Central appraising agencies.

(d) and (e). The communication sent to Government of Andhra Pradesh requested detailed information and action plans on catchment area treatment, command area development, rehabilitation and compensatory

afforestation. Projects recently cleared where land is being provided for the oustees include the Sardar Sarovar Project and the Narmada Sagar Project.

Export of Cotton Made-ups Group-II to USA

3371. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of exports of Cotton Made-ups-Group-II to USA during the last three years, item-wise;

(b) the details with the value realizations per square metre for each item; and

(c) how do the value figures compare with similar figures of export of cotton yarn;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) —Qty. in Million Sq. Yds.
 (b) —Value in Million Rs.
 (c) —Value realisation per Sq. Yds.

I T E M	1985			1986			1987		
	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)	(a)	(b)	(c)
I. Group-II Made Ups									
(1) Cotton Pillow Cases	0.42	3.035	7.23	0.158	1.519	9.61	0.052	0.796	15.3
(2) Cotton Sheets	0.024	0.24	10.00	0.004	0.032	8.00	Neg.	Neg.	—
(3) Cotton bed-spread and quilts	0.643	8.555	13.3	0.438	9.141	20.87	0.415	10.585	25.50
(4) Other Cotton Manufactures	20.436	134.21	6.56	25.298	150.687	5.96	21.76	123.177	5.66
II. Cotton Yarn	Nil	Nil	—	Neg.	Neg.	—	32.745	108.265	3.31

Source : The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay.

**Collection of Administrative Charges
by SCICI from Fishing Industry**

3372. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of administrative charges collected by the Shipping Credit and Investment Company (SCICI) of India from the fishing industry in 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987;

(b) whether the over-head of the SCICI is being fully levied on the fishing industry; and

(c) the steps being taken to reduce overhead charges on fishing industry through oppressive clauses during financing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). The Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Ltd., has reported that since commencement of its operations in December 1986, it has not collected any administrative charges from the fishing industry. SCICI has, however, indicated that 'expenses' strictly attributable to individual companies and financing charges stipulated for extending financial assistance have been collected from both shipping and fishing companies and that these charges are reasonable and in line with the practice followed by banks.

Law Commissions in States

3374. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to states :

(a) whether Union Government are aware that certain States have set up or propose to set up Law Commission in their respective States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government were consulted by these States in the matter; if so,

the advice given by Union Government to these States; and

(d) what are the objectives to set up Law Commissions at State Level.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The States of Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir requested the Law Commission of India to send detailed information regarding constitution of the Law Commission, its terms of reference and the infrastructure provided for the Commission. The Law Commission of India has sent the requisite information to these two States. The objectives to set up Law Commissions at State Level are not known.

**Irrigation Projects with cost-escalation in
Gujarat**

3373. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the ongoing major and medium irrigation projects of Gujarat, estimated cost and actual amount spent thereon ;

(b) the date of completion for each projects as fixed at the time of its sanction and the actual date on which the project is likely to be completed ; and

(c) the reasons for delay and how it affected in cost escalation as well as delayed benefit of irrigation potential ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) There are 11 major and 82 medium ongoing irrigation projects with latest total estimated cost of Rs. 60,46 crores. The anticipated expenditure on these projects upto March, 1988 was Rs. 1455.72 crores.

(b) The dates of completion indicated in the project reports sent for Central

clearance are tentative and are subject to priority assigned by State Governments in the implementation stages. As per present indications, 6 major and 76 medium projects are likely to be completed during the 7th Plan period.

(c) The main reasons for delay include financial constraints, cost escalation, inadequate investigations at project formulation stage, difficulties in land acquisition and non-availability of forest land and building materials at times. These have been resulting in overall cost escalation of projects as also delay in achieving the irrigation potential.

Tea Gardens in Assam

3375. PROF. PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the name of companies owning two or more tea gardens in Assam, with place of registration and location ; and

(b) the total number of Managers and/or Asstt. Managers in all these tea gardens?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) There are 113 companies which have two or more gardens in Assam. The total number of estates owned by these companies is 39. Out of 113 companies, 64 have their Head Office in Assam while the rest are based outside Assam. Details regarding names and location of these gardens are being collected.

(b) Tea Board does not keep information regarding Managers/Asstt. Managers employed by Tea Estates.

Payment of rewards to officers in various Revenue Departments

3376. SHRI NAVINCHANDRA RAVANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have introduced a scheme for payment of rewards to officers

working in various Revenue Departments i.e. Income Tax, FERA, Gold Control, Excise and Customs ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) when this scheme was introduced ;

(d) the number of officers in each category of the above mentioned departments who have so far been rewarded during the last three years ; and

(e) how far the reward scheme has proved to be effective in realisation of taxes/duties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reward Scheme provides for payment of reward for detecting evasion of duties/taxes to the Officers/Staff of the various enforcement agencies of the Revenue Department.

(c) The present reward Scheme has been in force since 1985.

(d) The Department of Revenue paid Rs. 2.93, 7.19 and 5.35 crores in 1985, 1986 and 1987 respectively to its Officers/Staff of its various enforcement agencies under this Scheme.

(e) The impact of the present reward policy has been felt in considerable increase in seizures made during the last three years.

Expenditure incurred on welfare of tea Garden Labourers

3477. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the amount spent by Tea Board for welfare of the tea garden workers during last three years ; and

(b) the percentage and ratio of expenditure incurred year-wise and category-wise for management staff, commercial staff, medical staff, garden development and the labourers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). Primary responsibility/obligation for welfare of the tea garden workers rests with the owners/management of the Tea estates in accordance with the Plantation Labour Act.

Tea Board undertakes supplementary welfare measures and schemes for benefit of tea plantation workers which the owners/management of the Tea estates are not statutorily required to provide under the Plantation Labour Act.

During the last three years, the amounts spent by Tea Board for such welfare measures are as under :

1987-88	Rs. 16,74,283/-
1986-87	Rs. 19,07,304/-
1985-86	Rs. 7,66,508/-

Release of Funds to West Bengal

3378. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state : the amount released to Government of West Bengal for construction of buildings for the Revenue offices during 1988-89 on the basis of recommendation made by Eighth Finance Commission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : The Government of West Bengal have not sent any progress report in respect of the scheme for construction of buildings for revenue offices under upgradation grants recommended by the Eighth Finance Commission, so far. Therefore, no release of funds has been made to the State Government so far during 1988-89.

Rehabilitation of workers of Mohini Mills

3379. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to State :

(a) whether Union Government have a proposal to explore the avenues of rehabilitation of workers being affected by the decision of denotification of Mohini Mills, Belgaria ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). The workers of Mohini Mills, Belgaria, the management of which has been relinquished by the Government, are entitled to the admissible relief under the Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme.

Fraud in Ghansore Branch of State Bank of India

3380. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Bank of India, Ghansore Branch of Madhya Pradesh has been defrauded by its own manager recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the modus operandi;

(c) the number of such cases which took place in the last three years and details of steps taken to curb the recurrence of such cases in future;

(d) the reasons for such defrauding taking place inspite of past experience and also for not taking sufficient precautions and safeguards; and

(e) the details of precautions and safeguards now instituted to check further defrauding of public money by public servants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). State Bank of India has reported that the Accountant of Ghansore Branch, who was custodian of draft forms and also the authorised signatory of drafts, has defrauded the branch of Rs. 1.58 crores by encashing 17 drafts which had been removed surreptitiously by him from the branch stock.

(c) and (d). State Bank of India has further intimated that there is no previous instance of fraudulent encashment through surreptitious removal of draft forms by the custodian himself during the past three years.

(e) RBI has reported that banks have books of instructions, including precautions/checks which their staff should observe to prevent occurrence recurrence of frauds. Banks are also taking steps to strengthen the control mechanism including the internal audit/inspection machinery, and to make them effective so as to eliminate scope for frauds and malpractices. State Bank of India has further intimated that they have cautioned all their branches of the possible misuse of missing draft forms.

Dharna by handloom and powerlooms weavers

3381. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the handloom weavers staged dharna in Delhi on 29 February, 1988 to protest against the unprecedented hike in yarn prices and also against the Central Government's textile policy;

(b) whether a charter of demands was also submitted by them to Union Government; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

1. The main demands made in the charter are :

- (i) Scrapping of the new Textile Policy.
- (ii) Bringing down the prices of cotton, silk and staple and polyester yarn, dyes and chemicals and ban on export of cotton yarn.
- (iii) Increasing the Central subsidy.
- (iv) Implementation of the recommendations of Si-varaman Commission.
- (v) Purchasing of all cloth for Government/Semi-Government and Public Enterprises from decentralised sector.
- (vi) Restructuring of all handloom development schemes within and outside the cooperative fold.

2. Action taken by Government in the foregoing is as under :

- (i) The Textile Policy 1985 is aimed at harmonious development of all the three sectors of the Textile industry, viz. handloom powerloom and mill sector. However, Government have recently constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Abid Hussain, Member, Planning Commission to review the Textile Policy, 1985.
- (ii) (A) In order to check the rise in prices of cotton yarn, Government have taken the following corrective measures :

- (a) The export of staple cotton has been suspended,

- (b) Import of cotton has been permitted against export of cotton yarn/cotton fabrics and made ups on advance license basis.
- (c) Export of hank yarn up to 60s and has been stopped.
- (d) Import of 1 lakh bale of cotton, duty-free has been permitted for production of hank yarn for supply to handloom sector.
- (B) In order to check the rise in prices of silk yarn, Government have permitted the import of 100 tonnes of raw silk through the Central Silk Board for indigenous consumption. 36 tonnes of raw silk has already arrived and have been allocated to identified weavers organisations for supply to actual users.
- (C) In order to encourage production of polyester fabrics woven using polyester filament yarn and to increase the productivity of the handloom weavers the following concessions have been made available :
- (a) Concessional rate of excise duty @ Rs. 10.44 per kg. on polyester filament yarn used in the production of fabrics under a programme approved by DC (Handlooms).
- (b) Complete exemption from excise duty on certain types of polyester blended yarn when purchased by State Handloom Development Corporations and Handloom Co-operative Societies.
- (c) Complete exemption from excise duty on polyester fibre used in blended yarn for the production of blended fabrics on handlooms under a programme approved by DCH.
- (iii) The rate of Central subsidy on production of Janata Cloth is increased from Rs. 2.00 to Rs. 2.75 per sq. metre w. e. f. 01.03, 1988.
- (iv) In compliance with the recommendations of the Sivaramen Committee, Government is implementing a package of schemes for the development of handloom sector.
- (v) It has been decided that hence forth the Offices of the Central Government will get their supplies of handloom cloth on the basis of a Single Tender System. The modalities of securing the supplies have also been worked out.
- (vi) The Institute of Rural Management, Anand has been commissioned to study the efficacy and effectiveness of the development schemes in the handloom sector and recommend appropriate restructuring.
3. The charter of demands includes certain sundry items such as :
- (i) Long term interest free loan to handloom and powerloom weavers.
- (ii) Writing off of all weavers debts.
- (iii) Provision for the production of spare-parts of powerlooms and handlooms.
- (iv) Exempting powerloom in the decentralised sector from Excise duty etc.
- Government has examined these demands and has found that these cannot be implemented due to policy/jurisdictional constraints and other practical difficulties.

Proposal to Amend Cooperative Societies Act

3382. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received proposals from certain States and Union Territories to amend Co-operative Societies Act to check bogus membership in handloom weavers' co-operatives;

(b) if so, the names of such States and Union Territories;

(c) whether Union Government propose to ask the remaining States and Union Territories to take up such measures;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (e). The Union Government has not received any proposal from the States or Union Territories to amend the Cooperative Societies Act. As this is a State subject, amendments to the Act are within the purview of the State Governments.

Proposal for utilisation of Krishna River water by Maharashtra

3383. SHRI D. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has submitted some proposals to Union Government for the utilisation of Krishna River water upto 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in clearance to such proposals, and

(c) the time by which these will be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c). Of the 5 major and 5 medium irrigation projects received from the Government of Maharashtra, 2 major and 5 medium projects have been appraised by the Central Water Commission. Comments on the remaining 3 major projects have been sent to the State Government.

Cloth at affordable price

3384. SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item dated 7 July, 1988 appearing in Indian Post under the caption 'Cloth at affordable price scuttled by Cartel'; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to make the cloth available at cheaper rates to common man ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been re-emphasised to industry that benefits of duty reduction have to be passed on down the line. Government have constituted a Committee to monitor the selling prices of polyester staple fibre, polyester filament yarn and nylon filament yarn. The Committee keeps a watch over the price trends of these items and advises the Government regarding the remedial measures in the event of unreasonable hike in the prices.

Fulfilment of Export obligations

3385. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL ;
SHRI AMARSINH
RATHAWA ;
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether export obligation can be assured in one specific item as a means of payment for collaboration in another item;

(b) whether Government are aware that export obligations may be fulfilled by mere shifting of the exporting agency to fulfil export obligations; and

(c) if so, how the net export earnings are calculated in such projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Foreign Exchange Cover System

3386. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has studied the recent published paper by the International Monetary Fund on the "policies for developing forward foreign exchange market"; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). The thrust of the IMF occasional paper No. 60 on the "policies for developing forward foreign exchange markets" is that in the absence of sufficiently developed domestic foreign exchange market to cover the risks or because of reserve constraints, the Central Banks in developing countries are unable to close that positions by simultaneously buying spot or forward foreign exchange and in such situations foreign exchange losses have been common in the case of a Central Bank which sells forward foreign exchange to an importer or debtor.

This is not applicable in the case of India, as under current regulations, RBI does not sell any international currency on forward basis.

Inter-Bank transfer of officers in Nationalised Banks

3387. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 21 February, 1986 to Unstarred Question No. 12 regarding inter-bank transfers of officers of nationalised banks and state :

(a) whether the final decision regarding the finalisation of a panel of willing officers in senior management and top executive grades has been taken and implemented;

(b) if so, the date of implementation of the decision; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the likely date by which a decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Inter bank transfers are allowed on a limited basis depending on the willingness of the Officer concerned and the concurrence of the banks involved.

Branch offices and divisions of Life Insurance Corporation

3388. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 2 May, 1986 to Unstarred Question No. 8608 regarding opening of new branch offices and divisions of LIC and state :-

(a) whether all 76 new branches and the 15 new divisions of the Life Insurance Corporation have since been opened;

(b) whether any more branches and divisions of the Life Insurance Corporation are also planned for opening during the remaining period of Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE ((SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir. 76 new Branch Offices and 15 new Divisions of LIC mentioned in Annexure to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 8608 dated 2 May, 1986 have been opened.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The LIC has sanctioned opening of 73 new Branches during the current financial year (1988-89) as under :-

<i>Zone</i>	<i>No. of branches</i>
Northern	10
Central	13
Eastern	14
Southern	19
Western	17
Total	73

No decision has been taken on the number of new branches to be opened during the year 1989-90. The setting up of new Divisional Offices involves large scale planning and preparation and it is not possible to lay down time-bound programme for Divisional Offices. During the current financial year, the LIC proposes to open four Divisional Offices and it also proposes to open 3 more Divisional Offices during 1989-90.

**Payment of legal dues to
NTC workers**

3389. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the jobless workers of the closed National Textile Corporation (NTC) mills had not yet got their legal dues; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Union Government in this regard :

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). No nationalised mill of NTC has been closed.

Tea auction in Calcutta

3390. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the tea auction in Calcutta recently there was weak support for tea from overseas;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of buyers who participated in the auction and the names of the countries to which they belonged;

(d) the details of total deals made;

(e) the steps being taken to attract more countries to purchase Indian Tea in the coming years; and

(f) the steps being taken to popularise tea products abroad through propaganda ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A large number of buyers from Russia, Poland, ARE, UAE, etc., participated in the auction.

(d) Out of the total action sale from 1st August, 1988 to 10th August, 1988 it is estimated that approximately 70 per cent was for exports.

(e) and (f). A number of steps have been initiated for enhancing exports of Indian teas and value added teas which include the following :

- (1) Tea Board have been undertaking generic and uninational promotional campaign in different countries for promotion of export of tea.
- (2) Excise duty rebate on export of tea.
- (3) Provision of 10 per cent of FOB realisation for advertising and promotion by individual companies abroad.
- (4) A special incentive scheme to promote exports of South Indian Tea has been introduced for 1988-89.
- (5) Sanction of Scheme under the Brand Promotion Fund and under warehousing Subsidy Scheme,
- (6) Leading Tea Exporters have been asked to draw up their export plan as a part of their corporated plan for the next years.
- (7) Increase in the rate of REP license for packet tea, tea bags and instant tea with effect from 1.4.88.
- (8) REP at the rate of 4 per cent of the FOB value of bulk tea exported with effect from 1.4.88.
- (9) A special campaign has been launched to promote Darjeeling tea in the UK market.

Revision of Electoral Rolls

3391. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) when the electoral rolls were prepared last in the country including Union Territories; and

(b) whether Government propose to pursue the Election Commission to revise the electoral rolls before the next general elections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The electoral rolls of all the States and Union territories except the State of Punjab and Assam were got revised by the Election Commission last year with 1.1.87. as the qualifying date.

(b) In order to keep the electoral rolls up-to-date and in as perfect a condition as possible, the Election Commission undertakes an annual revision of rolls. Currently the Election Commission has ordered a summary revision of rolls with 1.1.1988 as the qualifying date in respect of the States of Haryana, Kerala, Meghalaya, Tripura, Nagaland and the Union Territory of Delhi. An intensive revision with the same qualifying date has been ordered in respect of the remaining States and Union territories except Assam. In respect of Assam also the Commission has taken preliminary action for undertaking the process of intensive revision. The question of Government pursuing the Election Commission does not arise.

Additional facilities to Export Houses

3392. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide some additional facilities to export houses;

(b) if, so the details thereof with reasons for such additional facilities;

(c) the context in which these additional facilities are proposed to be given;

(d) whether these additional facilities will in any way affect domestic market;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (f). The Import Export policy is kept constantly under review and the amendments thereto are made as and when considered necessary.

Export of Pepper

3393. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :
SHRI SHRIBALLAV
PANIGRAHI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of pepper exported during last three years, year-wise;

(b) what percentage of the nations' export of pepper is produced in the State of Kerala; and

(c) the names of countries which are the main buyers of Indian pepper ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The export of black pepper during the last 3 years has been as follows :

Year	Qty. (M.T)	Value (Rs. lakhs)
1985-86	37620	17248
1986-87	38083	20033
1987-88*	41011	24058

*These figures are still provisional.

(b) About 97%.

(c) The main buyers of Indian Pepper are USA, USSR, FRG, Netherlands, Italy, Yugoslavia and GDR.

Sources for Irrigation in Kerala

3394. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the main sources of irrigation in Kerala;

(b) what percentage of the total area of the State is under irrigation; and

(c) whether any Centrally sponsored scheme for irrigation projects in Kerala is under consideration and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The main sources of irrigation in Kerala include canals, tanks and wells.

(b) the net irrigated area in Kerala constitutes nearly 7 per cent of its geographical area.

(c) Irrigation projects are ordinarily planned, funded and implemented by State Governments. There is no Centrally sponsored scheme under consideration for irrigation projects as such in Kerala.

Import of cotton for spinning mills

3395. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allowed the import of cotton by the spinning mills direct;

(b) if so, the names of the spinning mills which have imported cotton direct during the year 1987-88 and 1988-89 (so far), from which country and the quantity of cotton imported by each mill and the foreign exchange spent;

(c) whether most of cotton weaving and spinning mills are facing great difficulty to get raw material due to short production of cotton in the country owing to drought; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government to ensure fair distribution of imported cotton amongst the mills so that production of cloth does not suffer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b). Since October 1987 import of cotton by textile mills on Advance Licencing basis against the export of cotton yarn, cotton fabrics and made-ups has been permitted. Under the scheme 3.31 lakh bales of cotton valued at Rs. 135.25 crores have been registered for import. These imports are mainly from Sudan, Pakistan, Australia, West Africa, U.K., China and South Korea. Statement I is given below indicating the names of the mills licensed to import cotton on Advance Licencing Basis. Details of quantity, country and foreign exchange on the imports by individual mills are not available.

During the current cotton year (September, 1987-August, 1988), Government have also decided to permit import of one lakh bales of medium/long staple cotton duty free for production of hank yarn for supply to handloom sector at reasonable prices. Statement II is given below indicating the allocation of 95.435 bales out of this to various importing agencies. Since these imports are yet to take place, details of countries, quantity and foreign exchange involved are not available.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement-I

Bombay Zone

1. Keshavlal Talakchand, Bombay.
2. Patodia Synth, Bombay.
3. Excel Deals, Bombay.
4. Arunodaya Mills, Bombay.
5. The Bombay Dyeing & Mfg., Bombay.
6. Hindustan Mills, Bombay.
7. Gokak Mills, Bombay.
8. Mafatlal Fine & Spg., Bombay.
9. Nav Maharashtra Sah. Soot Girni, Ichalkaranji, Distt. Kolhapur.

10. Madhavnagar Cotton Mills, Madhavnagar, Dist. Sangli.
11. EMTI Exports, Bombay.
12. Ackays, Bombay.
13. Bhagwati Cotton Trading, Bombay.
14. Hyne Chem, Bombay.
15. Kaylee Corporation, Bombay.
16. Manilal Talakchand, Bombay.
17. National Textile Corporation Bombay.
18. Niranjani Mills, Bombay.
19. Rajasthan Textiles, Bombay.
20. Piramal Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Bombay.
21. Standard Mills, Bombay.
22. Sheth Investments, Bombay.
23. The Ruby Mills, Bombay.
24. Yarn Syndicate, Bombay.
25. Lakshmi Vishnu Textiles, Shajapur.

Madras Zone

1. The Gomathy Mills, Viravanallur.
2. The Premier Mills, CBE.
3. Sri Kannapiran Mills, Coimbatore.
4. Sri Narasimha Textiles, Coimbatore.
5. Sri Rajendra Mills, Coimbatore.
6. Sri Sivakami Mills, Coimbatore.
7. Madras Spinners, Coimbatore.
8. The Coimbatore Pioneer, Peelamedu.
9. Madura Coats, Coimbatore.
10. Muruganathan Mills, Coimbatore.
11. Swamiji Mills, Coimbatore.
12. Vijaykumar Mills, Coimbatore.
13. Sree Meenakshi Mills, Coimbatore.
14. Thiagarajar Mills, Coimbatore.
15. Sholingur Textiles, Coimbatore.

16. Sundararaja Mills, Coimbatore.
17. Loyal Textiles Mills, Coimbatore.
18. Coimbatore Kamala Mills, Coimbatore.
19. Nellai Cotton Mills, Shankar Nagar, P.O. Tamil Nadu.
20. Kwaliti Spinning, Coimbatore.
21. Lakshmi Mills, Coimbatore.
22. Kothari Industrial Corpn. Madras.
23. Thambi Modern Spg. Mills, Salem.
24. Vally Cotton Traders, Kottayam Dist.
25. Kadri Mills, Coimbatore.
26. Kongarar Spinners, Coimbatore.
27. Kalpee Texiles, Coimbatore.
28. India Overseas Corpn., Madras.
29. Sri Ramulinga Mills, Aruppukottai
30. Susuma Commercial, Madras.
31. Virughunagar Textiles, Virudhunagar.
32. Salem Textiles, Attur Taluka.
33. Sri Sabri Mills, Tiruchirapallai.
34. Tamari Mills Ltd., Coimbatore.
35. Kirt Textiles, Coimbatore.
36. Abasam Textiles, Tuticorin.
37. Thiagrajb Mills, Madurai.
38. Sujani Textiles, Coimbatore.
39. Karthikeya Spg. & Wvg. Mills Coimbatore.
40. Nithyakalayani Textiles, Ramnath Dist.

Cochin Zone

1. Vanaza Textiles, Trichur.
2. G.T.N. Textiles, Alwaye.
3. Ashok Textiles, Alwaye.

Karnataka Zone

1. Sri Kumarvel Textiles, Bangalore.
2. Maris Spinners, Mysore.
3. Sri Meenakshi Sundaram Textiles, Hunsur.

Amritsar (Punjab) Zone

1. Vardhman Spg. & General Mills, Ludhiana.
2. Mahavir Spg. Mills, Ludhiana.

Pondicherry

1. Anglo French Textiles, Paudicherry.

Hyderabad

1. Telangana Spg & Wvg. Mills, Hyderabad.

Calcutta

1. Indian Rayon & Industries Ltd., Unit Jayshree Textiles.

Statement-II

Sl. No.	Name of the Mills	No. of bales of cotton to be imported (each bale 179 Kgs)
1	2	3
1.	Tamil Nadu State Textile Corporation.	29,935
2.	Uttar Pradesh State Textile Corporation.	20,000
3.	Uttar Pradesh Co-Operative Spinning Mills Federation.	10,000
4.	Uttar Pradesh Spinning Mills Co. No. 1.	4,500
5.	Uttar Pradesh Spinning Mills Co. No. 2.	6,000
6.	Members of Mills of Uttar Pradesh Co-Operative Mills Federation.	

1	2	3
(i)	Santi Kabir Katai Mills, Maghar.	3,500
(ii)	Nagina Sahkari Katai Mills, Nagina.	3,500
(iii)	U.P. Co-Operative Spinning Mills, Etawah.	2,000
(iv)	Poorvanchal Sahakari Mills, Bahadurung.	1,250
(v)	Sitapur Katai Mills Ltd., Sitapur.	500
(vi)	U.P. Co-Op. Spinning Mills, Ferrukhabad (Kam-pil).	1,500
(vii)	U.P. Co-Op. Spinning Bulandshar Textiles, Bulandshar.	1,250
7.	Members of the Mills of Orissa Co-Operative Spinning Mills Federation.	
(i)	Utkal Weavers Co-Op. Spinning Mills.	600
(ii)	Kaling Weavers Co-Op. Spinning Mills.	1,600
(iii)	Sarala Weavers Co-Op. Spinning Mills.	1,400
(iv)	Jaganath Weavers Co-Op. Spinning Mills.	1,300
(v)	Orissa Weavers Co-Op. Spinning Mills.	1,600
8.	Khadi Village Industries Commission, Bombay.	5,000
Total No. of bales.		95,435

Sedimentation survey on reservoirs

3396. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sedimentation survey data for fortythree reservoirs in the country was carried out and analysed;

(b) if so, the names of these reservoirs and the States in which they are located; and

(c) the details of outcome of the survey undertaken and how the results achieved by the same will be utilised in other reservoirs in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISNNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Sedimentation surveys were taken up on 28 reservoirs located in different parts of the country, under the overall coordination of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power. Out of the 24 reservoirs for which studies have been completed results of 12 have been analysed and reported. The statement enclosed gives the name and location of the twelve reservoirs.

(c) The results indicate that the apparent volumes of sediment deposited are higher than those adopted at the project planning stage, and loss of live storage also takes place along with dead storage loss. The findings are kept in view for making requisite provisions while planning storage works, and to take measures to reduce sediment rate.

Statement

Name of Reservoir	Location
1. Maithon	Bihar
2. Panchet	Bihar
3. Nizam Sagar	Andhra Pradesh
4. Matatila	Uttar Pradesh
5. Sivaji Sagar	Maharashtra
6. Bhakra	Punjab
7. Gandhi Sagar	Madhya Pradesh
8. Mayurakshi	West Bengal
9. Lower Bhavani	Tamil Nadu
10. Tungabhadra	Karnataka
11. Hirakud	Orissa
12. Girna	Maharashtra

Supply of raw material at international prices to certain industries

3397. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced further liberalisation in the import of machinery and decided to make available raw materials at international prices to certain industries to increase exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to prevent the misuse of the concessions by the exporting firms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). Government has been trying to identify capital goods which are not indigenously available and which are required for export production. Such machines are notified in OGL from time to time to give exporters easy access to the same. There are several schemes for making available raw materials at international prices for export production like Advance License Scheme, International Price Reimbursement Scheme and their operation is being continuously reviewed in order to make improvements to give necessary impetus to exports.

(c) In cases where concessions are made available on the basis of export obligation, sufficient safe-guards are taken to prevent the misuse of the concessions, by taking appropriate Bank Guarantees/Legal Undertakings from the exporting firms.

Winding up proceedings against Mohini Mills, Calcutta

3398. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any direction or permission was issued by his Ministry to the Bank to proceed with winding up proceedings against Mohini Mills, Calcutta;

(b) if so, the main grounds on which the proceedings were ordered; and

(c) whether winding up has commenced/completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). The Government have only given consent to the financial institutions and the banks regarding the initiation of the proceedings for the winding up Mohini Mills, Belgharia, West Bengal, after taking into account, the financial condition of the industrial undertaking of M/s. Mohini Mills, Belgharia, its assets and liabilities.

(c) The Calcutta High Court vide its order dated 20th June, 1988 had appointed the Official Liquidator. The operation of this order was subsequently stayed by the Calcutta High Court as per available information.

Trade with US

**3399. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :**

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the trade between India and the US in 1987 has increased significantly over that of previous year;

(b) if so, the extent thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to further boost the exports during 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). India had favourable balance of trade with USA in 1987 when compared to the previous year as seen from the following table.

Year	(US million)		
	India's exports to USA	India's Imports from USA	Balance of Trade
1986	2283.2	1509.7	+ 773.5
1987	2528.6	1437.2	+ 1091.4

(c) With a view to exploiting the large US — market, export promotion programmes like buyer-seller meets, departmental stores promotion, contact promotion programme and specialised commodity fairs are being intensified in USA.

An export plan for increasing our exports to USA has been drawn up and among other measures included in the plan, emphasis has been laid on upgradation of quality of products and product adaptation to meet the requirements of US consumers, besides undertaking aggressive marketing and publicity programmes.

Price hike in iron ore exported to Japan

3400. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level group of Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) visited Japan recently to negotiate the price hike in iron ore import from India; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement reached at ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) and (b). Chairman, MMTC visited Japan in the first week of July, 1988 to discuss various issues relating to iron ore exports by MMTC to Japanese Steel Mills. During the discussions views were exchanged on export prospects of iron ore for 1988-89. No agreement was signed during the visit.

Excise duty relief to paper industry

3401. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD :
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the paper industry in the country is in doldrums and urging Government to provide excise duty relief;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on the repeated representations of the paper industry; and

(c) by when Government propose to provide relief to the paper industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). In this year's Budget, Government have granted certain concessions from excise duty to the paper industry. Representations have been received subsequently from the paper industry seeking further duty concessions. These have been examined but the Government do not find any justification at present for granting further concessions.

Irrigation project of Andhra Pradesh pending for approval

3402. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the project proposals from Andhra Pradesh pending with Union Government; and

(b) the latest stage of each of these projects proposals along with the reasons of delay for sanction of the projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Out of eight major and six medium irrigation projects received from the State Government, replies to comments of Central appraising agencies on seven major projects have not been received. One major project has been received in March, 1988. Appraisal of one medium project has been completed. Replies to comments on four medium ones were received in May-July, 1988. The remaining one medium project has been received in February, 1988.

Vamsadhara Stage-II

3403. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh and Orissa have agreed to limit the area of submersion to 106 acres due to Vamsadhara Stage II;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have given clearance for Vamsadhara Stage-II proposal; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which the clearance will be accorded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Concurrence of the Government of Orissa to the modified proposal of Andhra Pradesh Government has not been received. Clearance from environmental angle and under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, is also required.

NRI's Investment

3404. SHRI ANIL BASU :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRI SURESH KURUP :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the sectors and schemes in which the Non-Resident Indians have invested in India since 1982-83;

(b) the profits earned and repatriated by the Non-Resident Indians so far from such schemes; and

(c) the number of persons who got employment in the schemes and projects raised from out of the investment made by the Non-Resident Indians ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Non-Resident Indians have made investments both under the Direct Investment Scheme and the Portfolio Investment Scheme. Besides, they have also put money in Company Deposits and Bank Deposits. The main sectors where investments have been made are metallurgical, electrical, electronic, engineering, chemical and petrochemicals industries, hospitals and medical diagnostic equipments, food products, paper and pulp industries, hotel projects, plastic products; etc.

(b) and (c). Such information is not being maintained at present in this form.

Sickness in Textiles Engineering and Electrical Units

3405. SHRI ANIL BASU :
SHRI R.P. DAS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for high sickness in textiles, engineering and electrical units;

(b) the amount of bank credits extended to these units in the last three years, unit-wise and year-wise; and

(c) the manner in which Government propose to recover bank credits from these units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) As per reports received from RBI and IDBI, the major reasons for sickness in textile, engineering and electrical industries, inter-alia, include excess capacity, demand recession, outdated technology and equipment, management deficiencies, non availability of power, etc.

(b) RBI has reported that the bank credit outstanding against large sick and non SSI sick textile, engineering and electrical units for the period ending December, 1985, December, 1986 and June, 1987 is given below :

(Amount in Crores of Rs.)

Period	Textile		Engg. and Electrical	
	No. of Units	Amount 0/S.	No. of Units	Amount 0/S.
December' 85				
(large sick units)	073	1046.85	164	746.65
December' 86				
(large sick units)	191	1118.04	189	827.64
June' 87				
(non-SSI sick units)	213	898.53	326	815.63

Note : Large units for the period ending December, 1985 and December, 1986 are those units which enjoy individually aggregate credit limit of Rs. 1 crore and above from the entire banking system RBI has adopted the definition of non-SSI sick units as per the provisions of Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 in its returns for the period ending June, 1987.

(c) RBI has reported that in respect of potentially viable sick units, rehabilitation packages are drawn wherein reliefs/concessions are incorporated to enable sick units to return to health. Under the package, the dues of banks/financial institutions are recovered in a phased manner with suitable reschedulement. In respect of non viable sick units, banks undertake action as appropriate for the recovery of dues, which include, inter-alia, sale of goods hypothecated, enforcement of security available against the borrowers/guarantors, filing of suit for recovery, etc.

[Translation]

Training to woollen cloth weavers in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh

3406(H). SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any comprehensive scheme has been prepared by Union Government to impart training to the weavers of woollen cloth in hill areas of Uttar Pradesh with a view to give know-how of the latest technique to them;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) whether Union Government propose to open training centres in these areas under this scheme; and

(d) if so, when and the places where these centres will be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government of India have approved a project of U.P. State Government for the development of Woollen Handloom in the hill areas of Kumaon and Garhwal Districts. Under the project, eight training centres are to be set up in these Divisions to impart training to weavers in the latest technique and know-how. The U.P. Handloom Corporation, which is the implementing agency, have already set up five such training Centres at Bageswar, Chamol (Kumaon Div.) Nand Prayag, Chinka and Rishikesh (Garhwal Division). The remaining three Centres will be opened during 1988-89.

Silk cultivation in hill areas of U.P.

3407(H). SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state ;

(a) the total area of land in hectare brought under Tasar and Silk cultivation in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years and the production of silk and tasar in these areas during the said period;

(b) whether Union Government propose to prepare any special comprehensive scheme to encourage cultivation of silk and tasar in these areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Mulberry and Tasar Silk production in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh during the year 1984-85 to 1986-87 were as under :

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Mulberry silk			
production in kg.	8,000	10,000	0,000
Oak tasar cocoon			
production			
(Nos.)	37,000	61,000	68,000

At the end of 1986-87, the area under mulberry was 267 hect. and the Forest area under tasar plantation was 3,05,000 hectares, Data for the year 1987-88 has not been compiled.

(b) and (c). A project has been formulated by the Central Silk Board (CSB) for production of 140 tonnes of oak tasar raw silk in North-Eastern and North-Western States of India covering Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Nagaland, Uttar Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh. The total project cost is Rs. 45.50 crores. The implementing agencies would be the Central Silk Board (CSB) and concerned State Government. Further C.S.B. proposes to establish 100 mulberry demonstration centres with 1/2 acre mulberry in farmers fields in the Hill Areas of U.P. with a view to demonstrate the economics of sericulture and its advantage to farmer.

(d) Does not arise.

Pancheshwar Project

+ 3408. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has made any efforts to reach an agreement with the Nepal Government for the Pancheshwar Project; and

(b) if so, the details of such efforts and the reaction of the Nepal Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Official level talks have been held, but an agreement has not been concluded.

Intensive Handloom Development Scheme in hill areas of U.P.

3409.(H) SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Intensive Handloom Development Scheme has been prepared with the cooperation of Uttar Pradesh Government for the development of handloom industry in hill areas in the State ;

(b) if so, whether training, drawing, processing and marketing centres have been opened in each district under this scheme; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard and the time by which these centres will be opened in each district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir. A Hill Area Handloom Woollen Project in Garhwal and Kumaon Divisions of U.P. has been sanctioned by the Government of India.

(b) 5 Training Centres at Bageswar, Chamoli (Kumaon Division), Nand Prayag,

Chinka and Rishikesh (Garhwal Division) have been set up by the U.P. State Handloom Corporation which is the implementing agency of the project. The Corporation is setting up 4 small Dye Houses which would provide preloom and postloom processing facilities. The Corporation has also made arrangements with the National Institute of Designs, for developing designs for woollen products. Besides opening of marketing centres in hill area districts, marketing of products is also being done through other marketing outlets of the U.P. Handloom Corporation throughout the country.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Smuggling of narcotics and gold from Pakistan

3410. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge quantity of heroin, charas and other narcotics as well as gold smuggled from Pakistan across Rajasthan, Punjab border has been seized during the past six months;

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

(c) the preventive measures being taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The quantity of gold, heroin and charas seized by the Customs authorities in the Rajasthan and Punjab sector of the Indo-Pakistan border during the last six months are given below :

Narcotics including heroin Gold seized and charas seized :

Heroin	Charas	Quantity
(in Kgs.)	(in Kgs.)	
764.32	651.577	124.28

(c) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and the anti-smuggling machinery,

particularly on the vulnerable points of the land border in the Indo-Pakistan sector has been geared up. Close co-ordination is maintained with all the agencies including the B.S.F. concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling. Additional legal measures have also been taken and an Ordinance on the prevention of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances has been promulgated on 4th July, 1988.

Assistance by Banks for upliftment of Masses

3411. SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the banks in Andhra Pradesh have not reached so far to the masses and provided resources for their upliftment;

(b) whether Union Government propose to issue fresh orders to banks to reach the masses in Andhra Pradesh and provide resources for their upliftment; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Under poverty alleviation measures Banks provide assistance to the weaker sections of the society which consist of small and marginal farmers, share croppers, rural artisans, village and cottage industries, IRDP beneficiaries, DRI beneficiaries and SC/ST beneficiaries. According to the information available from Reserve Bank of India the Scheduled Commercial Banks' advances to weaker sections in Andhra Pradesh increased from Rs. 576 crores as at the end of December 1984 to Rs. 681 crores at the end of December 1985 and further to Rs. 789 crores at the end of December 1986.

The percentage share of weaker sections advances to total advances of scheduled commercial banks in Andhra Pradesh as at the end of December 1984, 1985 and 1986 works out to be 17.5 per cent, 18.1 per cent and 17.1 per cent respectively—comparatively higher than 7.8 per cent, 9.0 per cent and 9.4 per cent respectively at all-India level at the end of December 1984, 1985 and 1986.

Thus the performance of banks in meeting credit needs of weaker sections in Andhra Pradesh can be considered quite satisfactory.

Assistance to farmers in Andhra Pradesh under IRDP

3412 SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the loans sanctioned during the last three years, year-wise, to poor farmers under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (I.R.D.P.) in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there have been complaints against the banks' officials regarding corrupt practices being adopted by them in sanctioning/payment of loans; and

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has since been conducted against the persons found guilty and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The amounts disbursed by all the commercial banks (including co-operative banks) under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years have been as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	4767.71
1986-87	7098.80
1987-88	8517.30

(b) and (c). Representations regarding corruption, non-sanction of loans, delay in disbursement of loans, write off or remission of dues, rescheduling of repayment schedule, etc. received are referred to the concerned authorities for necessary action. Corrective measures are taken by banks in respect of complaints, with a view to provide redressal to the complainant.

Cash compensation to handloom exporters

3413. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give additional cash compensation to the handloom exporters, who have financially suffered in the process of maintaining their export commitments at pre-determined prices in the face of soaring yarn prices and who have submitted to Union Government their cost-data several times;

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

(c) the steps being taken to ensure supply of yarn at reasonable prices to handloom exporters enrolled with registered associations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). The cost data submitted did not justify any increase in the rate of CCS.

(c) A statement is given below.

Statement

Central Government in order to safeguard the interest of the decentralised handloom sector, have taken certain corrective measures to check the recent trend in the prices of yarn. They are as follows :

(i) In view of the reduced crop size and increase in cotton price, the export of staple cotton has been suspended since July, 1987.

(ii) It has also been decided to permit import of cotton against export of cotton yarn/cotton fabrics and made-ups on Advance Licence basis.

(iii) Import of one lakh bales of cotton, duty-free, for production of hank yarn for supply to handloom sector has been permitted. The price advantage accruing out of import of duty-free cotton, will be passed on to the handloom sector.

(iv) In the context of increase in the prices of yarn and other raw materials, the Government has decided to increase the rate of subsidy on Janta Cloth from Rs. 2 per square metre to Rs. 2.75 per square metre.

Supply of Cotton Spinning Mills

3414. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state the steps taken to supply adequate quantity of cotton to the spinning mills, particularly in the cooperative sector, in view of adverse conditions of cotton supply ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : In view of the lower production of cotton during 1986-87 and 1987-88, Government have taken the following steps for augmenting the availability of cotton :—

- (1) exports of staple cotton have been suspended since July, 1987 ;
- (2) Government have permitted import of cotton on Advance Licence basis against export of cotton yarn, cotton fabrics and made-ups ; and
- (3) Government have decided to permit import of one lakh bales of medium/long staple cotton duty free by State Textile Corporation/Co-operative spinning mills for supply Hank yarn to the Handloom Sector at reasonable prices.

Technology Exports

3415. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the nation-wise break-up of technology project exported from 1975 to 1986 ;

(b) the number and value of these projects ; and

(c) the steps being taken to give a new thrust to step up technology exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below,

Statement

(a) and (b). The number of export contracts secured for technology exports in the form of overseas projects during 1975 to 1986 was 914 valued at Rs. 7771 crores. Nation-wise break-up of these contracts prior to March, 1982 is not available. However, nation-wise information on contracts secured from March, 1982 onwards, till December, 1986 is furnished in the Annexure below,

(c) Export of Technology in the form of projects have been identified as one of the fourteen thrust sectors by the Government. With a view to boosting exports of projects and consultancy services, the Government has inter-alia taken the following measures :

- (i) Grant of project assistance to the tune of 10% of net foreign exchange earnings from the service portion of the contracts.
- (ii) Market Development Assistance for reimbursement of 50% of cost of preparation and submission of bids.
- (iii) Market Development Assistance for opening and operating overseas offices by consultancy firms.

(iv) EXIM Bank has recently been persuaded to reduce its interest rates to 7.5% per annum to enhance the competitiveness of Indian bids for Projects.

(v) Further, EXIM Bank in addition to supplier's credit and Buyer's credit has also been extending lines of credit to various developing countries with a view to encourage export of projects.

Annexure

Country-wise break-up of Construction/Turnkey Project secured during 1982 (March-December) and 1986

Sl. No.	Country	1982 Mar.-Dec.	1983	1984	1985	1986	(Value Rs' Cr.)
1.	Iraq	172.84	33.54	240.54	128.44	193.84	
2.	Libya	177.21	19.83	13.73	12.42	—	
3.	Jordan	—	—	—	16.71	131.40	
4.	Algeria	68.82	115.89	63.78	—	113.90	
5.	Saudi Arabia	23.99	51.48	3.91	39.01	—	
6.	Y.A.R.	—	7.07	30.67	—	—	
7.	U.A.E.	10.28	2.31	—	—	—	
8.	Kuwait	—	20.63	—	—	2.88	
9.	PDR Yemen	19.75	—	—	—	—	
10.	Qatar	—	—	—	133.	—	
11.	Syria	—	10.45	—	—	—	
12.	Iran	—	1.94	—	0.93	95.4	
13.	Uganda	—	—	10.02	3.30	3.63	
14.	Nigeria	5.51	5.64	—	—	—	
15.	Tranzania	—	5.13	—	—	—	
16.	Nepal	15.77	22.63	8.56	3.95	11.89	
17.	Malaysia	15.28	19.51	—	—	5.582	
18.	Sri Lanka	14.28	—	1.11	—	—	
19.	Thailand	5.61	—	2.66	1.50	—	
20.	Bangladesh	—	—	—	5.90	—	
21.	Phillipines	4.51	—	—	—	—	
22.	Bulgaria	—	1.13	—	—	—	
23.	Oman	—	—	—	—	6.92	
Total		533.85	317.18	375.28	215.29	495.26	

Source : EXIM Bank

Trade deficit with Japan

3416. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :
SHRI A. CHARLES :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the detailed discussions have been held between Japan and India to diversify Indian exports and to increase export of traditional items to that country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the trade deficit with Japan in 1987 vis-a-vis 1986 ; and

(d) the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to bridge the trade gap ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.K. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, during the last round of Trade Talks between India and Japan held in New Delhi in November, 1987 and recent visit of Minister of State for Commerce to Tokyo, India's keenness boost and diversify our exports was indicated. The Japanese expressed keenness to cooperate with and assist India in strengthening Indian export capabilities as also for increasing Japanese investment and transfer of technology to India.

(c) and (d). The trade deficit during 1987-88 has come down to *Rs. 499.39 crores from *Rs. 1214.27 crores during 1986-87, as a result of vigorous export promotional efforts and a fall in imports. Regular interaction at political, official and trade level, with Japan, holding of exclusive Indian fairs, undertaking specific product and market development programmes, exchange of delegations, etc. are steps undertaken to further bridge the trade gap.

*Provisional

Source : DGCI & S, Calcutta.

Impact of Import policy on Coir Industry

3417. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN :
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coir (fibre/yarn/fabrics) is included under Appendix II, Part-B List of Restricted Items of Imports and as such is eligible item for import ;

(b) the implications of the entry and policy ; and

(c) the rationale of this import policy which adversely affects the traditional industry of coir in Kerala and other Southern States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c). Coir (fibre/yarn/fabrics) is in the List of Restricted items. Only those items which have strong indigenous angle are included in the Restricted List and their import is not normally permitted to protect the indigenous industry.

Projects financed by Textile Export Promotion Fund

3418. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Apparel Export Promotion Council has submitted two projects to be financed from the Textile Export Promotion Fund ;

(b) if so, the details of the projects submitted ;

(c) whether Union Government have accepted these proposals ;

(d) to what extent these proposals will help export to Australia and Japan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (d). Apparel Export Promotion Council has submitted to the Government detailed action plans for boosting exports to Australia and Japan for being financed out of the Textile Export Promotion Fund. The action plans inter-alia envisage increased market penetration in these markets through product development, intensive publicity and improvement in fashion content of our garments. The projects have been accepted in principle.

It is anticipated that these measures would increase our exports to these markets substantially.

Visit of Japanese business delegation

3419. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level Japanese business delegation visited India in June, 1988 and showed keen interest in exploring new business fields in the country;

(b) if so, the major points of discussions held;

(c) whether any agreement has been reached; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (d). As per information available with this Ministry, a private delegation from C.I TOH and Company led by their Director Mrs. Kazuo Kobayashi visited India in June to assess the business and investment climate in India. The delegation is reported to have made calls on the Ministers of Finance and Energy where the discussions were general in nature and had meetings with private companies.

Surveillance by Securities and Exchange Board of India

3420. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the newly formed Securities and Exchange Board of India makes a close surveillance to check unfair trading practices in stock exchanges ;

(b) if so, the main steps taken by the Board ; and

(c) to what extent, the Board has helped the investors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). The primary task before the newly formed securities and Exchange Board of India is the preparation of a draft legislation for the regulation and orderly development of the securities market and for investor protection. However, the Chairman of the Board remains in close touch with the operation of the major stock exchanges, particularly Bombay, including in the context of their trading regulations and practices.

Tax concessions

3421. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a package of tax concessions for venture capital finance institutions with a view to giving development of indigenous technology a greater thrust;

(b) if so, the major concessions that are being considered;

(c) to what extent these concessions will be helpful in giving a thrust to the development of indigenous technology; and

(d) by which time this will give a boost for venture capital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). The Minister of Finance had already announced in his Budget Speech on 29th February, 1988 that it was decided to formulate a scheme under which approved Venture Capital Companies/Funds would be enabled to invest in new companies and be eligible for the concessional treatment of capital gains available to non-corporate entities. Necessary legislative measures would be taken to bring this into effect.

(c) and (d). It is expected that this would give a thrust to the development of

indigenous technology; but the extent and time can be known only after the concessions became operational for a year or two.

Rate of interest on NABARD loans to agriculturists

3422. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) sanctioned 24,000 schemes to the participating banks with a total refinance commitment of Rs. 150 crores during 1987-88;

(b) whether the Bank also sanctioned assistance under short term vending limits to State Cooperative Central Banks; and

(c) the rate of interest charged to agriculturists on short term and long term loans under NABARD schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that in the year (July 87-June 88) it had sanctioned 8258 schemes to the participating banks with a total refinance commitment of Rs. 1567.25 crores (including IRDP) as on 30th April, 1988.

(b) NABARD does not sanction assistance under short term vending limits to State Cooperative Central Banks.

(c) The rates of interest to be charged by Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACs) to the ultimate beneficiaries on crop loans are as under :

Short-term agricultural loans to farmers	Rate of interest (% per annum)	
	Upto end Feb '88	Effective from 1.3.1988
Upto Rs. 5,000/-	11.5	10.0
Over Rs. 5,000/- and upto Rs. 7,500/-	12.5	10.0
Over Rs. 7,500/- and upto Rs. 10,000/-	12.5	11.5
Over Rs. 10,000/- and upto Rs. 15,000/-	12.5 to 14.00	11.5

The rate of interest for long term loans under National Bank Schemes are as under :

Purpose	Rate of interest to ultimate borrowers (incl. of interest tax)	Rate of interest on NABARD refinance w.e.f. 1.4.1983
Minor Irrigation		
Diversified purpose	10%	6.5%
a. IRDP	10%	6.5%
b. Small farmers	10%	6.5%
c. Gobar gas	10%	6.5%
d. Others	12.5%	8%

Dividend under various schemes of Unit Trust of India

3423. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Unit Trust of India (UTI) has crossed Rs. 2000 crores sale mark for the first time and has announced higher rate of dividend for all its on going schemes for 1987-88; and

(b) if so, the increase in the rate of dividend under various schemes of the U.T.I. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The total sale of units of the Unit Trust of India (UTI) has crossed Rs. 2000 crores for the first time during 1987-88. The UTI has announced higher rates of dividend for all its ongoing schemes for 1987-88 except in respect of Parents' Gift and Growth Fund and Children's Gift Growth Fund Schemes.

(b) The rate of dividend declared by the UTI under its ongoing schemes for the year 1987-88 and increase in the rate of

dividend over the previous year are given below :

	1987-88 (Per cent)	Increase in the rate over 1986-87
(1) Unit Scheme 1964	16.50	0.40
(2) Unit Scheme 1971 (ULIP)	13.50	0.25
(3) Charitable & Religious Trusts & Registered Societies (CRTS) 1981	14.75	0.25
(4) Capital Gains Unit Scheme (CGS) 1984	9.60	0.10
(5) Parents' Gift & Growth Fund	12.50	—
(6) Children's Gift Growth Fund 1986	12.50	—

Direction of Indo-China trade

3424. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the trade between India and China is heavily raw material oriented;

(b) if so, whether any attempt has been made to shift it towards industrial manufacturers;

(c) whether the Indian businessmen have found that Chinese suppliers or buyers are not keen on trade with India;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any substantial increase in India-China trade potential has been reported by Indian trade delegations to that country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the new Trade Protocol signed for 1988-89 with China in June, 1988

the basket of items of exports has been diversified to include more value added products and non-traditional items.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. However, it has been noticed that the Chinese prefer to make greater use of trading organisations in Hong Kong.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Manufacture of polyjute packaging

3425. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :
DR. B. L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether polyjute has become a major packaging material in western markets;

(b) if so, whether India is having a good share of this market;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether production capacity in jute mills is now switching to manufacture polyjute packaging; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to step up and diversify production of this fabric ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). Use of polyjute bags is reported to be increasing in EEC Food Aid Packaging Programme. China is holding a large share of the market.

(c) to (e). Circular looms suitable for manufacture of polyjute bags have only recently been developed by some indigenous loom manufacturers. Commercial trial in some jute mills is in progress.

Bank computerisation

3426 SHRI SATYANDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign banks working in India have been allowed to have computerisation for ahead of any Indian bank;

(b) if so, whether this has created considerable imbalance between Indian and foreign banks working;

(c) if so, whether this has adversely affected the working of the Indian bank; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to bridge the gap ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The level of mechanisation and computerisation in some of the foreign banks operating in India is higher as compared to the Indian banks. However, foreign banks are operating only in a few selected centres and, therefore, their operations cannot be compared with those of the Indian banks.

In order to keep abreast of technological developments taking place abroad, Reserve Bank of India has drawn up a programme of mechanisation and computerisation for the Indian commercial banks which includes installation of Advanced Ledger Posting Machines (ALPMs) at branches, mini computers at regional/zonal offices, main-frame computers at head offices and for undertaking other operations. Indian banks implementing this programme consistent with their needs and requirements and taking account the various agreements reached with the staff unions.

Appointment of Chairman of STC.

3427. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation of India is still without a permanent Chairman;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this has affected its working

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A panel of names for the post of Chairman, State Trading Corporation, has been received from the Public Enterprises Selection Board. The recommendations of the Board are being processed to make appointment to the post as early as possible.

(c) No, Sir. In 1987-88, STC's turnover has increased to Rs. 3645.52 crores as against Rs. 2735.26 crores in 1986-87.

Expenditure on litigations by Banks

3428. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred by the nationalised banks on litigations during the last three years;

(b) whether there has been a steep increase in the such expenditure;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the percentage of such expenditure spent on lawyers fee;

(e) whether Government propose to conduct a study into the procedure set for engaging lawyers and fixing their fees and issuing guidelines in this regard;

(f) whether there are any guidelines to banks for inclusion of member of (i) Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes and (ii) Minorities on their panels of lawyers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (d). The

accounting system of the banks provide information regarding consolidated expenditure under the head 'Law Charges'. The expenditure under this Head incurred by the 28 Public Sector Banks, as published in their annual accounts, during the last three years was as follows :

	(Rs. in crore)
1985	8.84
1986	10.97
1987	13.43

The increase is attributable to increased volume of operations, increase in the number of suits for recovery of dues and upward revisions of lawyers' fees and other legal charges.

(e) to (g). Generally, empanelment of advocates is done by the Banks' managements at various levels on the basis of specified criteria laid down by their Central Offices. The criteria include professional experience particularly in areas relating to litigations in money matters/involving banking laws, standing in the court, past experience on the quality of attention, the volume of work with the advocates, his availability to bank, etc. The panels of advocates are reviewed periodically by banks.

Government have also issued instructions to the banks that other things being equal, it should be the endeavour of the banks to encourage advocates belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and other backward classes by enrolling them in the panels maintained by the banks and by allocating suitable work to them according to their merit.

Exemption to export finance profits of bank from tax

3429. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Banks Association has made any suggestion to exempt export finance profits of bank from tax;

(b) if so, the details of the suggestion; and

(c) Government's reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). The Indian Bank's Association has made of suggestion that interest income on export credit of banks should be exempted from payment of income tax.

This suggestion has not been found acceptable at present.

Precedence to export requirements over domestic needs

3430. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are thinking of insisting that export requirements would get precedence over domestic supply in regard to industrial products or at least selected ones;

(b) if so, how does its propose to enforce such a policy; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to avoid domestic shortage and rise in prices consequent on implementation of such policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). The Import Export Policy permits import of duty free industrial inputs for export production notwithstanding their indigenous angle while for domestic production imports are allowed only if the required inputs are not available indigenously and that too after payment of duty.

(c) Since exporters are allowed to import the required inputs under Advance Licenses, Imprest and Replenishment Licenses there should normally be no question of

shortages on account of exports. However, the demand and availability of various industrial products is kept under constant review. Necessary corrective steps are taken wherever there is apprehension of domestic shortages.

Investment in Shares

3431. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the study made by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has shown that shares are less attractive as an investment proposition than company and bank deposits;

(b) if so, whether this would gravely jeopardise availability of venture funds and raise banking costs and hence investment costs; and

(c) whether Government propose to pursue a policy of lower interest rates on idle funds to make capital venture more attractive and rewarding for investors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) A study made by the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and industry (FICCI) had considered the yield on shares vis--vis company deposits and interest on bank deposits for the period from 1983-84 to April-September, 1987. It appears that according to the above study shares have become relatively less attractive instruments. The conclusions of the FICCI study have limited value for policy-making or investments since the study relates to a short-period including a boom year for the stock market and subsequent period involving technical correction in share prices. Investments in equity shares are risk-orientad but provide an opportunity for capital appreciation over a period of time and it is not correct to compare return on such investments with fixed-interest bearing investments, like bank deposits.

(b) and (c). In view of the answer to (a) above, (b) and (c) do not arise at present.

Poverty Alleviation schemes of Public Sector Banks

3432. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of poverty alleviation schemes under the priority sector devised by the public sector banks in the country during the past three years; and

(b) the results of the introduction of these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). During the past three years in addition to the existing poverty alleviation measures such as Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), Differential Rate of Interest Scheme (DRI), lending to weaker sections, another scheme for Self-Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) has been introduced and implemented by the banks from September, 1986. The performance of banks under the SEPUP Scheme during the year 1986-87 and 1987-89 is given below :

Year	No. of loans (in lakhs)	Amount sanctioned, (Rs. crores)
1986-87	3.41	116.14
1987-88	3.62	131.74

Rationalisation of interest rate structure

3433. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :
SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to rationalise interest structure;

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) While various macro-economic policies are kept under review in the light of emerging conditions, at present there is no proposal for a change in the interest rate structure in the economy.

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

Realisation of excise duty from Cigarette Companies

3434. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to confiscate the assets of those cigarette manufacturing companies which have foreign share holders and are running hotels in India for realisation of excise duty; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). In case of confirmed Central Excise dues which have not been stayed by Courts or Appellate Authorities, the Government can take recourse to various measures under Central Excise Law for their recovery. These include :

- (i) detention of excisable goods, materials, preparations, plant, machinery, vessels etc. for recovery of arrears of revenue.
- (ii) deduction of the dues from any amount owing to the party;
- (iii) attachment and sale of excisable goods belonging to the party; and

(iv) certificate action, i.e. recovery of the dues as arrears of land revenue through the concerned State Revenue Authorities.

Most of the cases of evasion of Central Excise duties detected against cigarette manufacturing companies have either been stayed by various Courts or are pending adjudication before various Adjudicating Authorities. The question of taking coercive measures as detailed above, to recover excise dues would arise only after the stay orders are vacated and the cases finalised, in adjudication.

[Translation]

Prices of edibles

3435. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage increase in the prices of edible items, petrol, diesel, mustard oil, coal, vegetables, fruits, garlic, pepper and spices during the last four years;

(b) the impact of this price increase on the general living of the agriculturists and industrial labourers and whether any study has been made by Government to determine this impact; and

(c) the measures taken by Government for providing relief to these sections of people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). As commodity-wise details in respect of Consumer Price Indices (CPIs) are not compiled, the requisite information on the basis of movement of WPI is given in the Annexure. The effect of increases in the prices of items of daily consumption on industrial and agricultural workers is monitored through their impact on Consumer Price Indices (CPIs). However, these indices do not cover intermediate items like diesel and coal.

(c) Government has instituted mechanisms to provide relief to various sections.

Compensation to Government employees in the public sectors is determined on the basis of the CPI for Industrial Workers. The minimum wages of agricultural workers and workers in the non-formal sectors are revised from time to time keeping in view the move-

ment of CPI for Agricultural Labourers. Procurement/minimum support prices of important agricultural products are also revised from time to time taking into consideration, inter alia, changes in input costs.

Statement

*Increase in Prices of Edibles by Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan
(Percentage change in W.P.I)*

Items	Years				
	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89*
All Commodities	7.6	3.8	5.3	10.6	3.7
I. Food Articles	5.8	7.8	6.5	11.0	6.1
(a) Food Grains	3.6	9.8	-1.9	19.8	8.1
(b) Fruits & Veg.	11.1	21.8	12.2	4.3	1.4
(i) Fruits	30.3	3.3	22.5	10.8	6.4
(ii) Vegetables	6.9	82.6	-7.0	-11.6	25.5
(c) Milk & Milk products	1.4	2.4	12.6	9.6	5.1
(d) Condiments & Spices	12.5	-19.8	0.3	45.4	14.6
(i) Black Papper	96.0	12.0	26.9	-23.5	-12.2
(ii) Garlic	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
(e) Other Food Articles	-1.0	-21.3	14.1	-7.4	11.1
II. Manufactured Food	7.9	5.2	7.8	9.8	12.0
(a) Sugar, Khandsari & Gur	13.3	9.9	-6.2	7.2	24.6
(b) Edible Oil	-2.0	-0.3	36.4	11.1	-0.2
(c) Mustard Oil	-5.1	2.1	44.4	9.3	Neg.
III. Other Items					
(a) Petrol	15.3	6.0	-0.5	14.5	Noch.
(b) Diesel (H.S.D.)	5.5	3.6	-0.6	Noch.	Noch.
(c) Coal	Noch.	13.8	Noch.	17.6	Noch.

* Upto 30-7-88 Provisional (latest available)

N.A. The WPI is not computed for Garlic.

Pending cases in Supreme Court and High Courts

+ 3436. **SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN** : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases pending in different High Courts and Supreme Court for more than 20 years;

(b) the reasons therefor and the steps taken for their speedy trial; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up mobile courts in the country to provide justice to the people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) Pendency is due to several complex factors as also due to increase in institution of cases. A statement of steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency of cases in court is given below.

(c) The Government have no proposal under consideration, at present, to set up mobile courts in the country.

Statement

Statement in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3436 for 19.8.1988

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency in courts

1. Elimination of arrears in all courts had been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August—1st September 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference had been commended

to the High Courts and the State Governments for implementation.

2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeal from judgement of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (*vide* Section 100-A).
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 was amended in 1978 to expedite trial of criminal cases.
4. The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March 1977 to 444 as on 1st August, 1988.
5. The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission on delay and arrears in High Courts and other Appellate Courts are being implemented by the High Courts.
6. The High Courts are taking the following steps to expedite disposal of cases :
 - (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped together;
 - (b) Matters are fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;
 - (c) Printing of records is dispensed with, many cases; and
 - (d) Priority is given to cases requiring quick disposal.
7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are :
 - (a) the need for decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by;
 - (i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;
 - (ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined

- jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres; and
- (iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts;
- (b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part—XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working;
- (c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the fora envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii);
- (d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary;
- (e) the training of Judicial Officers;
- (f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice;
- (g) the desirability of formulation of the norms, which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such Undertakings;
- (h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants;
- (i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and
- (j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.
8. The Judge strength of the Supreme Court has been raised from 8 to 26 (including the Chief Justice) with effect from 9th May 1986 by amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.
9. The following steps are being taken in the Supreme Court to expedite disposal of cases :
- (i) Matters involving common question of law are grouped together and listed in groups so that they can all be disposed of together.
- (ii) In most of the matters, printing of the appeal record is dispensed with, which saves a lot of time and expenses of the litigants. In criminal appeals, counsel for the appellant is required to file cyclo-styled record to save time, which would otherwise be taken in getting the record printed, so that the matter could be heard early.
- (iii) To save the Court's time, Hon'ble the Chief Justice is taking mentioning matters which takes about one hour on each day, after the court hours.
- (iv) Supreme Court Rules have been amended empowering Hon'ble Judge in Chambers and the Registrar to dispose of certain types of matters, which were previously being listed in the court. This has been done to save the Court's time.
- (v) Specialised benches are constituted by Hon'ble the Chief Justice and particular types of matters are assigned to such specialised benches for quick disposal.
- (vi) Computer technology is soon going to be introduced in the Supreme

Court, which is expected to help, reduce the backlog of cases considerably.

- (vii) Recently Hon'ble the Chief Justice has directed that the counsel in each matter should file written arguments, if the arguments are to take more than five hours on each side. The oral arguments on each side are now restricted to five hours unless the Court feels that more time is to be given to the counsel in which case a maximum of ten hours are given for oral arguments by counsel of each side. The length of oral arguments by counsel of both the sides has thus been curtailed with a view to securing quick disposal of matters.

- (viii) A Court Administrator-cum-Registrar General, who is a senior judicial Officer, has been appointed very recently so that in conjunction with the present two Registrars there can be a re-organisation of the working of the Registry and improving its techniques and efficiency.

[English]

**Violation of customs and other duties
by cigarette companies**

3437. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that some fishing vessels of some cigarette companies are engaged in violation of customs duty and other duties and also in other dubious activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to investigate the matter and press revenue intelligence to keep a watch on their activities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) to (c). Available reports do not indicate that any fishing vessel found to be involved in smuggling activities or contraventions of the provisions of the Customs Act, 1962, is owned by a cigarette company. Suitable action under the law is taken against persons/vessels found to be involved in smuggling activities. All the agencies concerned including the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence remain alert and vigilant against smuggling activities.

Spinning mills

3438. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of spinning mills in the country and the number of spinning mills

(b) whether there is a great demand from the State Government of Orissa to establish a spinning mill in cooperative sector at Kasinga;

(c) if so, whether Union Government propose to consider the said proposal and issue letter of intent immediately; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) and (c). A letter of Intent has been issued for setting up a cooperative spinning mill at Kesinga, District Kalahandi.

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

Statement

*Statewise cotton/man-made fibre
spinning mills as on 31.3.1987*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Spinning Units Licenced under I (D&R) Act	Spinning Units Register- ed as Medium Scale Units
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47	4
2.	Assam	2	—
3.	Bihar	4	—
4.	Gujarat	26	2
5.	Haryana	13	—
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	—
8.	Karnataka	31	—
9.	Kerala	23	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	8	1
11.	Maharashtra	40	—
12.	Manipur	1	—
13.	Orissa	11	—
14.	Punjab	19	—
15.	Rajasthan	25	1
16.	Tamil Nadu	324	92
17.	Uttar Pradesh	37	—
18.	West Bengal	24	—
19.	Delhi	NIL	—
20.	Goa	1	—
21.	Pondicherry	3	—
Grand Total		644	100

**Assistance for Development projects
from World Bank during
Seventh Plan**

3439. PROF. NARAIN CHAND
PARASHAR : Will the Minister of
FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have forwarded any proposals for approval in respect of the Development projects for getting financial assistance from the World Bank during the Seventh Five Year Plan till date;

(b) if so, the details of the projects, for each Ministry/Public Undertaking or State-wise forwarded to the Bank, the financial assistance sanctioned so far for each of the projects and the details about the pending cases; and

(c) whether any reasons have been advanced for not clearing them and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Each year a pipeline of projects is posed for World Bank group assistance. The details of projects for which Bank group assistance has been committed during the Seventh Plan period, upto 31st July 1988 are furnished in the statement given below.

The number of projects for which assistance will be committed in the remaining period of the 7th plan is at present indeterminate, since this would depend upon the availability of Bank group finance and the status of project preparation and processing.

Statement

Details of projects approved by the World Bank Group during the Seventh Five Year Plan i.e. from 1.4.1985

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Amount of Loan/Credit (\$ Million)		Date of Agreement
		IBRD	IDA	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1985				
1.	Jharia Coking Coal Project.	248	—	10.5.1985
2.	Maharashtra Petrochemicals Project.	300	—	10.5.1985
3.	National Highways Project.	200	—	16.9.1985
4.	Rihand Transmission Power Project.	250	—	16.9.1985
5.	Chandrapur Thermal Power Project,	300	—	16.9.1985
6.	Kerala Power Project.	176	—	5.12.1985
7.	Kerala Water Supply and Sanitation Project.	—	41	24.9.1985
8.	Fourth India Population Project.	—	51	24.9.1985
9.	Narmada River Development (Gujarat) Water Delivery and Drainage Project.	—	150	10.5.1985
10.	West Bengal Minor Irrigation Project.	—	99	27.9.1985
11.	Maharashtra Composite Irrigation Project-III.	—	160	5.12.1985
12.	Narmada River Development (Gujarat) Sardar Sarovar Dam & Power Project (Multi-State participating State are Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh).	200	100	10.5.1985
13.	National Agriculture Extension Project-II (Multi-State participating States are Gujarat, J&K, Karnataka and Haryana).	—	49	10.5.1985
14.	National Social Forestry project (Multi-State participating States are Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan).	—	165	24.9.1985
1986				
15.	Industrial Export (Engineering product) project.	250	—	21.1.1986
16.	Cement Industry project.	200	—	22.7.1986

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
17.	Cooperative Fertilizer Industry project.	300.2	—	22.7.1986
18.	Combined Cycle Power project.	485	—	27.10.1986
19.	Gujarat Urban Development project.	—	62	15.4.1986
20.	A.P. Irrigation Project-II.	131	140	28.5.1986
21.	National Agriculture Research Project-II.	—	72.1	25.2.1986
22.	NABARD-I	375	—	28.5.1986
1987				
23.	IXth Telecommunications project	345	—	29.6.1987
24.	Coal (Mining and Quality-Improvement) Project.	340	—	29.6.1987
25.	Karnataka Power Project-I	330	—	21.12.1987
26.	Oil India Project.	140	—	29.6.1987
27.	Third Bombay Water Supply and Sewerage project.	185	—	12.5.1987
28.	Gujarat Rural Road project.	—	119.60	12.5.1987
29.	Bihar Public Tubewells project.	—	68	13.1.1987
30.	Drought Assistance project.	150	200	25.11.1987
31.	National Agriculture Extension Project-III (Multi-State participating States are U.P., H P. and Assam).	—	85	29.6.1987
32.	U.P. Urban Development and Water Supply (including Ganga-Component) (participating U.P. and Central Ganga Authority (CGA)).	125	25	21.12.1987
33.	National Water Management project (Multi-State participating-States are Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu).	—	140	12.5.1987
34.	Madras Metro Water Supply and Sanitation project.	—	69	21.12.1987
1988				
35.	Third Railway Modernisation Project.	390	—	12.5.1988
36.	Industrial Finance and Technical Assistance project.	360	—	12.5.1988
37.	Western Gas project.	295	—	21.4.1988
38.	Karnataka Power Project-II	260	—	27.7.1988
39.	U.P. Power project,	350	—	27.7.1988
40.	Second National Dairy project.	200	160	13.1.1988

Commission on demand drafts

3440. SHRI I. RAMA RAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present commission for the demand drafts is on the high side and that is one of the reasons why the people are taking recourse to cash transactions instead of payment through banking channels ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Government do not consider that the present commission on demand drafts charged by the public sector banks which is related to their cost inputs and covers only partially the cost incurred by them in rendering this service to customers is on the high side or is leading to people taking recourse to cash transactions.

(b) Does not arise.

Assistance to poor farmers in Dadra and Nagar Haveli under IRDP

3441. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the loans sanctioned during the last three years, year-wise, to poor farmers under the Integrated Rural Development Programme in Dadra & Nagar Haveli ;

(b) whether there have been complaints against the banks, officials regarding corrupt practices being adopted by them in sanctioning/payment of loans ; and

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has since been conducted against the persons found guilty and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The amount of loan disbursed under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) in Dadra-Nagar Haveli during the last three years have been as under :

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1985-86	0.13
1986-87	0.32
1987-88	0.16

(b) and (c). Representation regarding corruption, non-sanction of loans, delay in disbursement of loans, write off or remission of dues, rescheduling of repayment schedule, etc, received are referred to the concerned authorities for necessary action. Corrective measures are taken by banks in respect of complaints, with a view to provide redressal to the complainant.

Tax evasion cases

3442. SHRI H. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of tax evasion cases detected during 1986-87 and 1987-88 ;

(b) the total number of persons penalised for tax evasion during the above period ; and

(c) the total amount realised from the defaulters during 1986-87 and 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) Penalty proceedings for concealment of income were initiated in 22,321 cases during the financial year 1986-87 and in 25,551 cases during the financial year 1987-88.

Besides, a large number of searches were conducted by the Income-tax Depart-

ment. The results thereof are summarised below : —

Year	Searches conducted	Value of prima-facie un-accounted assets seized (Rs. in crores)	Amount of concealed income surrendered (Rs. in crores)
1986-87	7054	100.70	36.85
1987-88	8464	145.02	147.49

(b) Penalty for concealment of income was imposed in 8,221 cases during the financial year 1986-87 and 9,976 cases during the financial year 1987-88.

(c) Out of the arrear income-tax demand as on 31st March, 1986, a sum of Rs. 478.18 crores was collected during the financial year 1986-87. The corresponding figures for the collections during the financial year 1987-88 are not available at present.

Steps to eliminate competition in Cardamom Export

3443. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take initiatives to form a community of cardamom producing countries in order to eliminate unhealthy competition ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Alleged scuttling of fishing trawlers

3444. SHRI T. BALA GOUD :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received reports that some people have scuttled fishing trawlers near Calcutta to obtain insurance money ;

(b) the particulars of such companies and the name of the insurance company involved in this fraud ; and

(c) the effective measures taken to ensure that such fictitious incidents do not recur in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received regarding alleged scuttling in respect of a fishing trawler belonging to M/s Sanchetti Food Products Ltd., Vishakhapatnam, insured with National Insurance Company Ltd.

(c) All claims are surveyed and properly investigated by the insurance companies before the decision is taken as to their final disposal.

Ceiling on call deposits and short term deposits by NABARD

3445. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has urged Union Government to waive off the condition of imposing a ceiling on call deposits and short term deposits by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has

received a request from Maharashtra State Cooperarive Bank (MSCB) regarding waiving the condition imposed by NABARD with regard to ceiling on call deposits and short term deposits. In this connection, NABARD has reported that the ceiling for keeping funds by way of call deposits is operative as long as banks borrow from NABARD for financing Seasonal Agricultural Operations (SAO). As MSCB is not borrowing from NABARD for SAO the ceiling does not apply to it for the present.

Setting up of Hatcheries in Maharashtra

3446. SHRI BANBARI LAL
PUROHIT :
SHRI D. B. PATIL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPED) has set up big hatcheries based on imported technology in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Maharashtra Government has urged Union Government to set up such big hatcheries in the State; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. On account of paucity of funds, MPEDA cannot set up a hatchery in Maharashtra State during the current financial year.

Decision to close down India United Mills No. 2 in Bombay

3447. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Textile Corporation has taken a decision to close down India United Mill No. 2 in Bombay; and

(b) the reasons for the same and how many textile workers are likely to be retrenched ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Externally aided projects

3449. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of the externally aided projects under implementation in Maharashtra during the Seventh Plan; and

(b) what is the Central assistance sanctioned for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). A list of externally aided State Sector projects in Maharashtra under implementation during the Seventh Plan given in the statement below. Additional Central Assistance on account of Externally aided projects is based on disbursements by the external financing agency against project expenditures, and is made available to the State Governments concerned at the rate of 70 per cent of disbursements.

Statement			
Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Donor Agency	Additional Central Asssitance released so far (Rs. Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Maharashtra Composite Irrigation-III	World Bank group	951.30

1	2	3	4
2. National Water Management Multi-State (Maharashtra Component-Induction Training)	-do-	11.90	
3. Maharashtra Water Utilisation	-do-	1654.50	
4. Chandrapur Thermal Power	-do-	4239.90	
5. Second Bombay Water Supply and Sewerage.	-do-	15866.77	
6. Bombay Urban Development	-do-	1771.70	
7. Third Bombay Water Supply and Severage.	-do-	—	
8. Maharashtra Agricultural-Extension	-do-	1715.70	
9. Pilot project for Watershed Development in Rainfed areas. (Multi-State including-Maharashtra).	-do-	60.90	

1	2	3	4
10. 2nd Maharashtra Irrigation	-do-	14258.90	
11. Sardar Sarovar Dam & Power	-do-	184.80	
12. Saline Land Reclamation	EEC	651.805	
13. Ujiani Hydro Electric	Japan	489.54	
14. Maharashtra Irrigation Technology & Management	USAID	4094.21	
15. Maharashtra Minor Irrigation	USAID	944.81	
16. Maharashtra Social Forestry	USAID	1633.21	
17. Irrigation Management and Training (Multi-State-including Maharashtra).	USAID	136.46	

Rise in External Finance

3450. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the use of external finance by India is rising since last three years;

(b) the reasons therefor and the steps Government are taking to reduce external finance; and

(c) the total external debt including International Monetary Fund at the end of the year 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). As indicated in the mid-term appraisal of the Seventh Five Year Plan, over 90 per cent of the total plan resources are met from domestic sources. The need for external finance has not gone up. The percentage of net inflow of resources from abroad to the total resources for the Plan during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 is estimated to be 8.15 per cent, 8.77 per cent and 8.15 per cent respectively.

(c) The external debt outstanding at the end of 1987-88 on Government Account and I.M.F. Borrowings is estimated to be Rs. 36670 crores and Rs. 4348 crores respectively.

Stemborer menace in Coffee Growing Areas in Karnataka

3451. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that stemborer menace was wide-spread in border coffee growing areas and low rainfall areas in Karnataka; and

(b) if, so whether the Central Coffee Research Institute has taken any measures to contain it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The Stemborer incidence has been noticed only in the neglected Arabica Estates and other Estates where control measures recommended by the Research Deptt. of the Coffee Board, like tracing and BHC Swabbing of the main stem were not followed.

(b) To minimise the incidence of the stemborer, the Central Coffee Research

Institute has evolved the following Control measures :-

- (i) Systematic tracing, stumping/uprooting of borer infested stems as a regular practice.
- (ii) Swabbing of the main stem and thick primaries of Arabica Coffee once in April-May and twice during October to December with BHC 50 WP at 4 kg. per barrel of water, or Lindane 20 EC at 1300 ML per barrel of water.
- (iii) A well regulated shade in the plantations for controlling intensity of light.

NTC Mills in Karnataka

3453. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the National Textiles Corporation (NTC) Mills in Karnataka;

(b) the number of the NTC mills running in profit and in loss;

(c) the number of mills lying closed and under lockout;

(d) whether Union Government propose to modernise any NTC mills in Karnataka; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). NTC has four textile mills in Karnataka. All the four mills incurred losses during the year 1987-88.

(c) The operations in MSK mills, Gulbarga are under suspension since 01-06-1988 due to disconnection of electricity by the Karnataka State Electricity Board.

(d) and (e). Modernisation is a continuous process. Upto 31.3.1988 an amount

of Rs. 19 crores was spent on modernisation/renovation of NTC mills in Karnataka.

Pigmy Scheme of Nationalised Banks

3454. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) total number of depositors under pigmy schemes of various nationalised banks in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware of alleged unhealthy competition among nationalised banks to collect the money under pigmy schemes; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to formulate a uniform does for the pigmy schemes applicable to all the nationalised banks in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Data reporting system does not provide information in the manner asked for.

(b) and (c). On account of increasing difficulties in the operation of the scheme and high cost of collection of funds, public sector banks, on appropriate advice of Indian Banks Association, have decided not to extend this scheme further. Reserve Bank of India is of the view that as the scheme is unremunerative and operationally difficult, banks are free to withdraw the scheme on the basis of their own judgement.

Loans Advanced by LIC for Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes

3455. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation has advanced any loans for water supply and sewerage schemes and also to various apex co-operative housing finance societies in April-May, 1983; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Against the sanctions of 1987-88, the Life Insurance Corporation of India have advanced in April/May, 1988, loans for Water Supply and Sewerage Schemes as well as the Apex Co-operative Housing Finance Societies as under :-

Name of State.	Rs. in Lakhs	
	Water Supply & Sewerage Scheme	Apex. Co-op. Housing Finance Societies
Assam	10.777	—
Himachal Pradesh	—	25.00
Maharashtra	1019.00	—
Madhya Pradesh	175.00	—
Orissa	80.42	—
Tripura	92.00	—
Uttar Pradesh	—	400.00
	1474.19	425.00

Cell in Income Tax Department to unearth unaccounted Income

3456. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to create a cell in the Income Tax Department to unearth unaccounted income in the self-employed sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of reply to part (a), does not arise.

(c) The Income-Tax Department has been taking various measures for detection of unaccounted income by all categories of tax evaders including those in the self-employed sector. Some of these measures are systematic survey operations, searches in appropriate cases and intensive scrutiny in cases of suspected tax evasion. These measures would help in the detection of unaccounted income in the case of persons in the self employed sector also. The Government has also suitably augmented the strength of officers and staff employed in investigation wing. The creation of a separate cell only for tackling cases of self-employed persons is not considered necessary.

Proposals to Sustain upswing in Capital Market

3457. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether more fresh proposals are under the consideration of Government to sustain the recent upswing in the capital market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). Government are continually keeping the state of the capital market under review. Various proposals are made from time to time in regard to capital market. Government taken them into account in formulating its economic policy. Since this is a continuous process, it would not be feasible to give details of the various proposals made to Government from time to time.

Restructuring of Taxes for sick Industries

3458. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to restructure taxes for sick industries;

(b) if so, whether the Board of Industrial and Finance Reconstruction (BIFR) had forwarded four proposals to Union Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken or proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) The Government is examining certain proposals submitted by the Board of Industrial and Finance Reconstruction (BIFR) for revival of sick industries.

(b) and (c). The BIFR has submitted a proposal that the following provisions of the Income-tax Act should not be made applicable to the sick industrial units covered by a Scheme framed by the BIFR in accordance with the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 :

- (i) The provisions of section 41(1) relating to taxation of any amount of liability ceased or remitted, which has been allowed as deduction in any earlier years;
- (ii) The provisions of section 79 which denies the benefit of carry forward and set off of losses in the case of a company, in which public are not substantially interested, where a change in the share-holding resulting in a change in voting power of 51 per cent or more has taken place; and
- (iii) The provision of section 1157 relating to taxation of book profits in the case of companies.

The proposal made by the BIFR is under examination of the Government.

[Translation]

Loans advanced by Banks

3459. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the commercial banks are advancing loans to their customers against the goods mortgaged by them with the banks;

(b) if so, whether some cases of advancing of loans in excess of the value of the goods mortgaged by customers with them have come to the notice of Government;

(c) if so, the number of such cases which have come to the notice of Government during the last year as compared to those cases which came to the notice of Government during the past three years and the, State-wise, comparative details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to check such activities of banks; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a), (b), (d) and (e) Reserve Bank of India has reported that commercial banks generally meet the short term credit requirements of their borrowers and advances are normally given by way of cash credit against hypothecation/pledge of raw materials, stock in processes and finished goods. Advances are permitted upto the value of the goods less margin prescribed for various categories of advances of the credit limit fixed for the unit whichever is lower. There are occasions when the drawings in the accounts exceed the drawing power and in extreme cases even the value of the securities. In respect of advances against certain sensitive commodities, Reserve Bank of India has prescribed the margin to be followed by banks by way of selective credit control directives.

(c) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that their present data reporting system does not generate information in the manner asked for.

Bank loans to NCCF

3460. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the "Rashtriya Upphokta Sahkari Sangh" (National Consumers Cooperative Federation) has borrowed money as loans from the commercial banks in excess of the value of goods mortgaged by the Sangh with the banks;

(b) if so, whether the price of the mortgaged goods stated by the Sangh was not correct and this was in the knowledge of those banks;

(c) if so, the reasons for which the concerned banks had advanced money to the Sangh in excess of the price of the goods;

(d) whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry into the matter; and

(e) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Excise duty evasion by Golden Tobacco Company

3461. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Anti-evasion of the Central Excise Department has recently served a show cause notice to M/s. Golden Tobacco Company at Bombay;

(b) the details of the raids conducted at the premises of the Company during the last one year and the details of incriminating documents etc. seized; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to recover the excise duty and the action being taken against the persons involved in such evasion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The Director of Anti-Evasion has not served any show cause notice to M/s Golden Tobacco Company at Bombay recently. However Collector of Central Excise, Bombay-II has issued a show cause notice to M/s G.T.C. Industries Ltd., at Bombay on 30.3.1988 alleging evasion of duty to the tune of Rs. 50.33 crores.

(b) On 13.11.1987 search operations were carried out on the premises of M/s G.T.C. Industries Ltd, Bombay resulting in seizure of some incriminating documents. On the basis of these documents and other related evidence, a show cause notice dated 29.4.1988 has been issued to M/s North Eastern Tobacco, Vairangte, Mizoram and also to M/s G.T.C. Industries Ltd. for alleged evasion of duty to the tune of Rs. 15.87 lakhs.

(c) Most of the cases booked against M/s G.T.C. Industries Ltd. and their job workers are either pending adjudication or have been stayed by various Courts. Efforts are being made for vacation of the stay orders and expeditious disposal of the cases. The question of recovery of dues in these cases would arise only after they have been adjudicated. The question of taking any action against persons involved in such evasion would also arise only after these cases are adjudicated.

Exemption of D.A., CCA and HRA from income tax

3462. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government employees have demanded exemption of Dearness Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and House Rent Allowance from income-tax; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Numerous suggestions were received by the Government for exempting Dearness Allowance, City Compensatory Allowance and House Rent Allowance paid to the Government Employees from income-tax. The suggestions were examined and not found to be acceptable.

Allocation of fund for Indira Gandhi Nahar Project

3463. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of Central assistance in the total allocation for Indira Gandhi Nahar Project Stages I and II during 1988-89 ;

(b) the details of allocation for flow areas and lift schemes respectively ;

(c) what is the allocation for Sagarmal Gopa Branch and the time by which it will be completed upto its tail ;

(d) when the work on Gadra Road Extension will be commenced and water delivered upto its tail in Barmer district in Rajasthan ;

(e) whether it is desirable to give top priority to the areas to concentrate on the work of Gadra Road extension ;

(f) if so, the reasons for delay in completion of the work and Gadra Road ; and

(g) by when the work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The Central assistance for Indira Gandhi Nahar Project during 1988-89 includes a provision of Rs. 21 crores under the Boarder Area Development Programme and Rs. 20 crores under drought relief assistance (for the years

1987-88 and 1988-89). Further, it has also been decided that water-courses in the culturable command area of Stage-II of the Project for which irrigation potential has been created till March, 1988 would be covered by the Command Area Development Programme under which Central assistance is admissible on a matching basis.

(b) The details of allocation for construction of Stage I & II during 1988-89 are as under :—

	Stage-I	Stage-II	Total
Flow Area	Rs. 3.20 crores	Rs. 48.98 crores	Rs. 52.18 crores
Lift area	Rs. 1.30 crores	Rs. 6.52 crores	Rs. 7.82 crores
	Rs. 4.40 crores	Rs. 55.50 crores	Rs. 60.00 crores

(c) An amount of Rs. 11.6 crores has been kept during 1988-89 for the Sagarmal Gopa Branch which is likely to be completed by the beginning of the Eight five Year Plan subject to availability of funds.

(d) to (g). Preliminary survey work on Gadra Road extension sub-branch has already started. Work on this sub-branch will commence only after completion of Sagarmal Gopa Branch upto tail as water for its construction would not become otherwise available. Priority is being given to complete the branches and distribution system in a phased manner where water has already become available so that the potential created is utilised immediately.

Bank loans to needy people in rural areas of Orissa

3464. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment has been made to find out how the needy people in the rural areas of Orissa are being helped with banks loans to augment their economic betterment ;

(b) if so, the total loan disbursed during 1986 and 1987 in Orissa in the urban and rural areas, separately ;

(c) whether any linkage has been created by the banks whereby a loan taker is also given technical/business advice to gainfully invest this money and the money is paid back in time ; and

(d) the manner in which such counselling has helped the takers of the bank loans during these two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that surveys conducted all over the country including in Orissa by independent research institutes regarding the implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) covering the period from January 1987 to September 1987 has revealed that in Orissa State 98% of the assisted beneficiaries under the programme were selected by the Gram Sabha, 68 per cent of beneficiaries found financial assistance sufficient, in 34% cases the income generated by the assets was more than Rs. 2,000/- and in 16% of the cases it was between Rs. 1001/- to Rs. 2,000/-.

(b) Under IRDP the term credit disbursed in Orissa in rural areas during 1986-87 and 1987-88 was Rs. 37.48 crores and Rs. 47.49 crores respectively, under Self Employment Programme for Urban Poor (SEPUP) which covers urban and semi urban area (excluding area covered by IRDP) during the same years loan disbursed was Rs. 2.93 crores and Rs. 2.73 crores respectively.

(c) and (d). RBI has further reported that the technical advice is being imparted to the beneficiaries by the developmental agencies like District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) and District Industries Centres (DICA) for gainful utilisation of loans. Banks are also required to monitor utilisation and repayment of loans by keeping in touch with the borrowers.

**Financial institutions and Banks' investment
in Guest Keen Williams Ltd., Calcutta**

3465. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than 25 per cent of the shares of Guest Keen Williams Ltd., Calcutta are in the hands of financial institutions and nationalised banks and bulk of the loan fund has been provided by these sources ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the details of the investment of G.K.N. (England) in Guest Keen Williams Ltd., Calcutta ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) and (b). Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India Limited (ICICI) has reported that all-India financial institutions and banks hold 26.8% shares of Guest Keen Williams Ltd., Calcutta. The term loan and working capital finance have been provided to the company by financial institutions and a consortium of 8 banks.

(c) ICICI has also reported the GKN (England) holds 46.8% shares of Guest Keen Williams Limited, Calcutta.

Pending cases of Customs and Excise

3466. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases of Customs and Excise are pending for more than six months ;

(b) if so, the steps taken to clear the backlog ;

(c) whether any deadline has been fixed or an active plan proposed for the clearance of those cases ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government have been taking legal, administrative and other steps as are considered necessary from time to time to clear the backlog. No deadlines can be fixed in such cases as their finalisation depends on various factors, some beyond the control of the Government, such as Court cases etc. However, Government undertakes clearance drives from time to time besides directing the field formations to dispose of cases expeditiously. Supreme Court/High Courts and Tribunal are also approached for early listing of cases. The results have been found encouraging.

The Government is also setting up Customs and Excise Revenue Appellate Tribunal with a view to reducing piling up of Court cases. Computerisation of certain Customs and Excise functions and restructuring of Excise and Customs Department with a view to facilitate speedy disposal of cases are presently engaging the attention of the Government at the highest level.

**Pre-recruitment training centres opened by
Banks for minority communities**

3467. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places where pre-recruitment training centres have been opened by the public sector banks for the benefit of the minority communities, State-wise and District-wise ;

(b) the names of districts of minorities concentration where no such centres have been started ;

(c) the number of trainees in such centres, centre-wise during 1985, 1986 and 1987 ;

(d) the average period of training ;

(e) the courses and examinations for which the training was imparted ;

(f) the number of trainees who were selected for recruitment, year-wise ; and

(g) the programme for the establishment of such centres during 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) :

(a) and (b). The public sector banks conduct pre-recruitment training programmes for the candidates belonging to the minority communities at the training institutions or centres opened in minority concentration districts as well as other districts having sufficient number of minority candidates. Since the recruitment examinations are conducted usually once in a year, the pre-recruitment training programmes are not conducted throughout the year.

(c) Available data relating to pre-recruitment training centres opened by some of the public sector banks for imparting training to the candidates of minority communities and the number of candidates trained during 1986-87 are given in the statement below.

(d) The duration of the pre-recruitment training programme varies from three days to two weeks.

(e) The training is imparted both for officers' grade examinations and clerical cadre examinations. The training courses consist of subjects in which candidates are required to appear for the recruitment test viz. English, Mathematics, Aptitude, Reasoning, Interview techniques etc.

(f) Since the candidates trained are selected by different BSRBs and they do not report to the bank from where they got the training, the information with regard to candidate selected out of the trained personnel is not available with the banks.

(g) The number of pre-recruitment centres to be established during 1987-88 depends upon the examination schedules of Banking Service Recruitment Boards.

Statement

Location of the pre-recruitment training centres/institution where pre-recruitment training was conducted by some of the Banks and the number of minority community candidates trained during 1986-87

Name of the banks/ centres	(Data provisional No. of candidates trained)
1	2
Canara Bank	1
Aligerh	108
Delhi	4
Hyderabad	58
Vijayawada	28
Bangalore	74
Mangalore	28
Hubli	20
Syndicate Bank	
Belgaum	10
Uduppi	15
Bombay	6
Vijaya Bank	
D. Kannada	69
Bangalore	48
Indian Overseas Bank	
Madras	15
Madurai	15
Hyderabad	53
Delhi	1
Bombay	42
State Bank of Saurashtra	
Bhavnagar	15
Rajkot	7
Central Bank of India	
Ahmedabad	76
Hyderabad	113
Bombay	31
Bhopal	50
Chandigarh	32
Lucknow	18

1	2
Madras	4
Patna	3
Pune	23
Union Bank of India	
Ahmedabad	8
Bangalore	3
Azamgarh	361
Bombay	25
State Bank of Hyderabad	
Hyderabad	111
Oriental Bank of Commerce	
Delhi	8
Dena Bank	
Ahmedabad	17
Rajkot	31
Surat	36
Bangalore	22
Andhra Bank : Tripati,	
Vizag & Vijayawada	210
State Bank of Indore	
Indore	4
Punjab National Bank	
Lucknow	21
Kanpur	26
Bangalore	90
Delhi	28
State Bank of Mysore	
Mysore	11
Bangalore	9

1	2
Allahabad Bank	
Lucknow	4
Agra	28
Dehradun	6
Meerut	25
Varanasi	11

Status of old dams

3468. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present status of the
irrigation dams constructed since independ-
ence has been surveyed;

(b) whether it is a fact that many of
them have completed their estimated life;
and

(c) whether any steps are envisaged for
renovating the irrigation dams and/or
increasing their utilisation level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES
(SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) Such
surveys are taken up by the respective State
Governments/Agencies which own and
maintain the dams.

(b) and (c). The dams are designed for
an estimated life of 100 years. Most of the
dams have yet to complete their usual life.

Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes employees in banks

3469. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to
state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled Tribes do not have
due representation among the employees of
the banking sector; and

(b) the total number of employees,
group-wise and bank-wise, as on 1 April,
1987 and the corresponding number of
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The percentage representation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in all cadres of the 28 Public Sector Banks, as on 1.1.1987, (the latest information available) was as under:—

S. No.	Cadre	SC	ST
1.	Officers	7.30	1.84
2.	Clerks	13.84	3.71
3.	Sub-staff	29.94	4.39

(b) a statement showing the details of total number of employees Group-wise and Bank-wise and the corresponding number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes amongst them, as on 1.1.1987, is given below :

Statement

Statement Showing Representation of SCs and STs in 28 Public Sector Banks as on 1.1.1987.

Sl. No.	Name of the Bank	Total number of Employees			Number of Employees belonging to :					
		Scheduled Castes			Scheduled Tribes					
		Officers	Clerks	Sub-staff	Officers	Clerks	Sub-staff	Officers	Clerks	Sub-staff
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Central Bank of India	14944	21326	11427	1068	2600	2570	230	887	441
2.	Bank of India	10621	27352	10658	1151	3485	3041	470	1227	518
3.	Punjab National Bank	13610	26912	13392	279	4328	3967	213	854	720
4.	Bank of Baroda	10889	21024	9491	1028	2608	2489	137	561	477
5.	United Commercial Bank	7974	17803	7604	435	2029	1460	80	534	410
6.	Canara Bank	11380	28056	8628	910	3702	1472	348	1002	164
7.	United Bank of India	4790	11518	6557	464	1706	1306	83	216	198
8.	Dena Bank	4167	7817	3855	284	1041	864	102	464	347
9.	Syndicate Bank	9325	22279	6506	592	3079	1827	291	787	339
10.	Union Bank of India	8864	14811	6770	680	2547	2305	197	389	278
11.	Allahabad Bank	5422	8296	4726	602	1253	1214	131	216	171
12.	Indian Bank	6396	11909	3322	677	2354	1070	188	358	114
13.	Bank of Maharashtra	3714	9511	3541	396	1148	940	119	405	256
14.	Indian Overseas Bank	6420	14795	5021	657	3137	1767	243	352	229
15.	Punjab & Sind Bank	3673	5857	2217	40	261	290	13	64	15
16.	Corporation Bank	2622	4890	1182	69	487	373	12	138	58
17.	Oriental Bank of Commerce	2495	4904	2028	40	848	426	11	142	93
18.	Vijaya Bank	3126	7152	2338	35	470	257	10	146	87
19.	New Bank of India	3003	5949	2800	37	531	715	4	94	84
20.	Andhra Bank	4567	7016	2868	172	975	538	34	251	183
TOTAL : 'A'		137997	279477	114871	11016	38525	28921	2916	9087	5182

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21.	State Bank of India	53857	112423	43725	2820	15845	11081	687	5650	1827
22.	SB of Bikaner & Jaipur	2769	7284	3239	215	1314	662	61	470	173
23.	SB of Hyderabad	2773	6537	2719	212	611	325	31	83	71
24.	SB of Indore	1193	3367	1708	76	501	355	24	133	153
25.	SB of Mysore	1995	5888	1510	142	578	257	41	186	62
26.	SB of Patiala	1979	6094	3112	207	1235	1119	16	36	44
27.	SB of Saurashtra	1634	4020	1788	170	464	375	26	207	119
28.	SB of Travancore	2463	5882	2869	131	568	626	8	132	84
TOTAL : 'B' :		68663	151504	60670	4073	21116	14860	994	6897	2533
TOTAL : A+B :		206660	430981	175541	15089	59641	43781	3810	15984	7715

[Translation]

Representation by all India Timber Merchants Association

3470. (H) DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Timber Merchants' Association has submitted a memorandum in regard to the closure of their business;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any decision thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (d). A representation has been received from the All India Timber Importers Association suggesting that the present import policy in respect of Timber log/wood should be continued. There is no such proposal under consideration.

[English]

Decline in export of iron ore to Japan

3471. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATN-AIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Japan has reduced the import of iron ore from India;

(b) whether there is a sharp decline in the export of iron ore through Paradip Port;

(c) if so, the reasons why Japan declined the import of iron ore through Paradip Port;

(d) whether Government have taken any step to increase the export of iron through Paradip Port; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Iron ore exports through Paradip Port during 1987-88 were 17.09 lakh tonnes as against 20.29 lakh tonnes exported during 1985-86.

(c) Japan is reluctant to import iron ore through Paradip Port because Paradip Port cannot accommodate large sized vessels and Japan, has, therefore, to pay relatively higher freight for smaller sized vessels.

(d) and (e). To increase exports of iron ore from Paradip Port, following steps have been taken —

(i) Provision of incentives by way of additional discount in iron ore prices to induce major buyers to increase off take from Paradip Port;

(ii) Diversification of exports through Paradip Port to countries such as Bulgaria and China;

(iii) As against present capacity to accommodate vessels of 55,000 DWT, it is proposed to deepen the port for handling vessels of upto 1,70,000 DWT class and the proposal has already been approved in principle.

(iv) Proposed construction of Banspani-Daitari Railway Line so as to reduce the haulage cost by nearly 50 per cent and thereby reducing losses on export of iron ore through Paradip;

(v) Extension of benefits of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units Scheme to mining industry.

Proposal to diversify export of garments

3472. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATN-AIK : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) has a proposal to diversify exports of Indian garments;

(b) if so, the countries for which AEPC has prepared detailed action plan;

(c) the performance of AEPC in garment export, to those countries in last three years; and

(d) the total value of garments expected to be exported to those countries by the end of the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). Apparel Export Promotion Council has submitted to the Government Action Plans in respect of Australia and Japan.

(c) and (d). Value of garments exported to Australia and Japan in the last three years and anticipated to be exported by the end of the Seventh Plan are as indicated below :

(Rs. Crores)

Year	Australia	Japan
1985	18	40
1986	17	33
1987	23	38
and of 7th Plan	30	50

(Source : Apparel Export Promotion Council)

[Translation]

Loans advanced by nationalised banks branches in Bhopal, Sehore and Dewas

+ 3473. SHRI K.N. PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of loans disbursed by the branches of nationalised banks to the unemployed youths, farmers and businessmen in Bhopal, Sehore and Dewas districts of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years; and

(b) the targets fixed for the year 1988-89 for these branches ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The amount of loan disbursed by the branches of nationalised banks in the Districts of Bhopal, Dewas and Sehore of Madhya Pradesh during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 to unemployed youths, farmers and businessmen, as furnished by Bank of India, the lead bank for these three districts, is set out in the following table;

(Rs. in crores)

Districts	Unemployed Youths			Farmers			Businessmen		
	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987
Bhopal	13.98	15.80	11.84	6.65	6.14	5.63	2.87	3.02	3.84
Dewas	3.10	4.00	4.08	12.82	14.96	13.67	0.88	1.04	0.96
Sehore	1.74	1.61	2.08	5.53	10.28	9.92	0.50	0.47	0.68

(b) The targets of loans fixed for the year 1988-89 are reported to be as under :

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Districts</i>	<i>Unemployed Youths</i>	<i>Farmers</i>	<i>Businessmen</i>
Bhopal	12.71	7.74	2.05
Dewas	3.95	15.87	0.60
Sehore	1.74	11.68	0.72

[English]

Outstanding debt of World Bank and IMF

3474. DR. D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the outstanding debt of India to the World Bank and the IMF from 1 April, 1980 to 1 April, 1988 year-wise in Dollars and in Rupees respectively;

(b) the amount in debt service paid to the World Bank and IMF each year in Dollars and in Rupees respectively; and

(c) the outstanding amount India borrowed from the Asian Development Bank as on 1 April, 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). Information is given in the Statement below.

(c) Nothing is outstanding on Government Account to the Asian Development Bank as on 1.4.1988.

Statement

(A) Debt outstanding in respect of

As on	World Bank on Government Account		I.M.F. Borrowings including Trust Fund	
	U.S. \$ Million	Rs. in Crores	U.S. \$ Million	Rs. in Crores
1.4.80	4608.98	3825.52	—	..
1.4.81	5366.68	4460.02	1014.22	810.42
1.4.82	6398.80	6034.21	1734.22	1422.75
1.4.83	7690.64	7705.98	3707.60	3408.87
1.4.84	8884.58	9639.78	4906.50	4853.56
1.4.85	9880.11	12440.40	4859.84	5219.77
1.4.86	10811.15	13384.41	4427.36	5338.88
1.4.87	12050.42	15998.73	4444.39	5484.22
1.4.88	14155.92	18331.34	3746.07	4731.45

(B) Total debt servicing payments i.e. repayment of Principal and payment of interest in respect of

	World Bank i.e. IBRD/IDA		I.M.F. Borrowing including Trust Fund	
	U.S. \$ Million	Rs. in Crores	U.S. \$ Million	Rs. in Crores
1979-80	121.63	99.74	—	—
1980-81	135.03	108.42	9.47	8.05
1981-82	120.78	113.35	32.41	28.76
1982-83	177.68	170.14	158.39	149.72
1983-84	233.71	239.92	358.09	363.06
1984-85	279.82	329.29	509.93	578.10
1985-86	337.93	411.92	592.49	741.52
1986-87	488.29	629.34	943.83	1160.74
1987-88	693.71	901.65	1346.52	1687.66

Exchange rate of external debt

3475. DR D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the exchange value of rupee on 1 January, 1960 and 1 January, 1970 and upto 1 January, 1988 year-wise in relation to Dollar, Pound, Yen and Deutsche Mark, Swiss Franc and French Franc; and

(b) the effect of changes in exchange rates on Indian external debt and debt servicing from 1980 to 1988, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The exchange

value of rupee as at the end of December, 1959, 1969 and upto the end of Dec, 1987 year-wise in relation to Dollar, Pound, Yen, Deutsche Mark, Swiss Franc and French Franc are indicated in the statement below.

(b) Changes in the exchange rate between the rupee and other major currencies do not affect India's debt liabilities as the foreign currency amount of repayment of debt denominated in such other currencies would remain unaltered. However, these changes may alter the amount of repayments expressed in rupees. The extent of such changes depend on future exchange rate movements which cannot be estimated.

Statement

(Rs. per unit of Foreign Currency)

End December	U.S. Dollar	Pound Sterling	Deutsche Mark	Yen	French Franc	Swiss Franc
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1959	4.762	13.33	1.1900	0.0130	0.9650	1.0900
1969	7.559	18.00	2.0486	0.0211	1.3599	1.7506
1970	7.576	18.00	2.0768	0.0212	1.3723	1.7553
1971	7.279	18.97	2.2270	0.0231	1.3932	1.8593
1972	8.080	18.80	2.5238	0.0268	1.5778	2.1410

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1973	8.203	18.80	3.0348	0.0293	1.7422	2.5287
1974	8.150	18.80	3.3824	0.0241	1.8337	3.2087
1975	8.937	18.13	3.4081	0.0293	1.9924	3.4111
1976	8.881	15.20	3.7592	0.0303	1.7870	3.6256
1977	8.209	15.75	3.8998	0.0342	1.7447	4.1045
1978	8.188	16.50	4.4792	0.0421	1.9589	5.0543
1979	7.986	17.80	4.6252	0.0332	1.9866	5.0183
1980	7.884	18.85	4.0506	0.0390	1.7472	4.4809
1981	9.067	17.35	4.0290	0.0414	1.5888	5.0527
1982	9.687	15.70	4.0778	0.0414	1.4402	4.8494
1983	10.574	15.30	3.8712	0.0455	1.2653	4.8425
1984	12.377	14.40	3.9400	0.0494	1.2585	4.7856
1985	12.160	17.50	4.9368	0.0605	1.6094	5.8587
1986	13.109	19.25	6.7289	0.0820	2.0334	8.0595
1987	12.860	23.90	8.0681	0.1042	2.3807	9.9729

**Reaction of U.P. Government to
Jaswant Singh Commission's
recommendations**

3476. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the views and specific proposals of Government of Uttar Pradesh have since been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Union Government propose to ask the State Government to expedite their views and proposals ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Safeguarding Interests of MICA
dealers in Bihar**

3477. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will
the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to
state :

(a) whether the Mica Trading Corporation of India (MITCO) was created for the protection of weaker sections of mica processors and dealers;

(b) whether the Giridih branch of MITCO has withdrawn Business Associate (BA) numbers from 500 weaker sections of mica dealers in 1988;

(c) whether MITCO, Domchanch, has still not allotted BA number to 52 licences; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps Government propose to protect the interests of weaker sections of Mica dealers of Bihar ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R.
DAS MUNSI) :** (a) One of the objectives of Mica Trading Corporation is to help the weaker section mica processors and dealers.

(b) to (d). In order to provide benefits only to the genuine weaker section mica processors and dealers, a committee formed by MITCO scrutinized the working of each of the 446 dealers registered at Giridih as MITCO's Business Associates. It found only

71 of these registered Business Associates as actual mica processors and dealers and the registration of 375 dealers was accordingly cancelled by MITCO in April-May, 1988.

As for allotment of BA numbers by MITCO at Domchanch, MITCO has formed a Committee to study the details about the genuine dealers for their registration as Business Associates. More than 85 per cent of the purchases of MITCO are made from weaker section mica dealers. MITCO is, therefore, already protecting their interests.

Opening of MITCO purchase centre at Mirzaganj

3478. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mica Trading Corporation of India (MITCO) has opened one purchasing Centre at Mirzaganj (Jamua Bihar);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Rural Purchase Centre at Mirzaganj was opened by MITCO in January, 1987 in line with its policy to reach and provide succour to small mica processors who cannot come to Giridih for participating in MITCO's remunerative purchase programme.

Drug trafficking in India

3479. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has become the major transit centre of drug traffic of heroin and hashish in the last three years;

(b) if so, the steps taken to further tune up communication net work in collaboration with world agencies to increase the seizure of narcotics; and

(c) the estimated quantity of drugs leaking into India, during transit and the steps taken to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). India, in view of its geographical location between the two major sources of illicit drugs, commonly known as the 'Golden Crescent' and 'Golden Triangle' regions, has been increasingly facing the problem of transit traffic in recent years.

The United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control have committed financial assistance to the tune of US \$ 20 million for specific projects and programmes to fight drug trafficking and to prevent drug abuse to be jointly agreed upon by the Government of India and the Fund. Nearly US \$ 1.96 million has been earmarked for provision of telecommunication equipment.

(c) No precise estimates could be made about the possible quantity of drugs leaking into India during transit. However, the quantity of drugs seized in the country in 1986, 1987 and 1988 (upto July, 1988) as follows :

Name of drug	Quantity seized (kgs.)		
	1986	1987	* 1988 (upto July)
Opium	8,789	2,929	1,795
Heroin	2,621	2,747	1,782
Ganja	60,619	53,920	23,014
Hashish (Charas)	18,909	14,796	13,760
Methaqualone	1,485	1,500	631

* Figures provisional

Government have initiated various aggressive counter-measures against drug trafficking which, *inter-alia*, include strengthening of the preventive and intelligence machinery (especially around borders), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring

countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). Special narcotics cells have been created in all the Customs and Central Excise Collectorate all over the country and the state police organisations as well. 704 persons had been arrested for drug-related offences upto June, 1988.

Further, the Provention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance, 1988 has been promulgated by the President on 4.7.1988. Under this Ordinance, 157 detention orders have so far been issued and 130 persons have been detained in various places, thus immobilising them from indulging in illicit traffic in drugs.

Import of Coins

3480. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coins imported from foreign countries with their names during 1986-87, and 1987-88 and 1988-89 (so far);

(b) the number of coins yet to be imported; and

(c) the total cost of these coins as compared if they were produced in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) The information is given below :

Year of import	Quantity in million pieces imported from		
	United Kingdom	South Korea	Canada
1985-86	704.41	540.58	157.95
1986-87	1150.87	879.65	342.05
1987-88	144.72	79.77	—
1988-89	—	—	672.64

(b) As against an order for 1250 million pieces of stainless steel coins are yet to be shipped from Canada.

(c) Total CIF cost on imoort of these coins mentioned in parts (a) and (b) above is Rs. 157.96 crores. The estimated cost of production of these coins in India is Rs. 248.1 crores.

Adoption of villages in Assam by State Bank of India

3481. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Bank of India allegedly neglected some States in the adoption of villages in the community development programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of villages adopted by the bank in Assam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) State Bank of India has reported that it has adopted 1627 villages in the State of Assam under the Village Adoption Scheme.

[Translation]

Transfer of employees' leaders in State Bank of Indore

3482. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of State Bank of Indore regarding transfer of its officers/employees;

(b) whether transfer of employees unions leaders are done according to this policy; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). State Bank of Indore has reported that the officers are normally rotated from their assignments every 3 years with or without change in the centre. The bank also endeavours to rotate the officers from one centre to other after they complete 5 years at one centre. The bank follows a policy of transfer for award staff with a stay of 5 years or longer at one branch/office within the same centre. The above policy is also applicable to the "union leaders" however, in case of an officers' Association, the person concerned has remained posted at one centre for more than 5 years though his assignments were changed.

[English]

Overdrafts by Arunachal Pradesh

3483. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRI P. K. THUNGON :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Arunachal Pradesh have drawn overdraft of over Rupees Forty crores for the financial year 1987/1988; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Bank officials staying in Five Star Hotels

3484. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the Chairman and other senior officers of the nationalised banks stay in private Five Star Hotels whenever they stay in Metropolitan cities;

(b) whether any directive has been issued to them requiring their patronising the ITDC hotels; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to issue such directive ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). Government do not have precise information about the Hotels in which Chairmen and other senior officers of the banks stay while on tour. The Government guidelines for patronising the Public Sector Hotels while on tour have been made applicable to Public Sector Banks also. However, separate instructions have been issued to the Public Sector Banks that accommodation for their Chief Executive Directors while on tour may be arranged in Hotels other than Five Star Hotels. However, where the tariff charged by Five Star Public Sector Hotel, after deduction of permissible rebate, is equal to or less than that charged by a Four Star Hotel in the Private Sector, they may stay in the Public Sector Five Star Hotels. Where at any centre, Four Star accommodation in good locality and with clean reputation is not available, the Chief Executives/Executive Directors may stay at a Five Star Hotel at their discretion.

Duties on FAX machines

3485. SHRI DAULAT SINHJI JADEJA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have not taken into consideration the need to have modern office equipment and aids;

(b) the reasons for heavy taxes and duties on FAX machines;

(c) the steps being taken to reduce duties; and

(d) the scale of duties and charges on FAX machines presently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) to (d). At present, the rate of import duty on certain specified electronic equipments, including FAX machines, is 100 per cent ad valorem, whereas the statutory duty on these machines is 243 per cent ad valorem. The present rate is considered reasonable. Government have no proposal to reduce the rate of import duty on FAX machines any further.

Loans outstanding against fishing companies

3486. SHRI DAULAT SINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) The position of all dues from fishing companies under the control of Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India, giving individual figures of defaulting amounts, loans due, interest overdue, etc., as on June 30, 1988; and

(b) The financial status of each fishing company, having fishing boats acquired under the SDFC/SCICI loan finance system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). The position regarding loans advanced and instalments of principal and interest overdue as on 30.6.1988 in respect of fishing companies assisted by erstwhile Shipping Development Fund Committee/Government, is indicated in the Statement below.

Statement

*Statement showing loan outstanding overdue principal/interest from the fishing companies as on 30th June 1988
(Loans Paid by Erstwhile SDFC/Government)*

Name of the Company	Loan outstanding (Position as on 31.3.88)	Overdues as on 30.6.1988		(Total-Principal & Interest) overdue
		(Principal)	(Interest)	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(A) Private Sector				
1. Srinivasa Seafoods Limited	2,96,23,329.28	13,04,000.00	34,15,762.37	47,19,762.27
2. Vani Marines (P) Limited	11,68,475.51	4,00,000.00	46,483.62	4,46,483.62
3. Acqua Food Products (P) Limited	23,91,303.70	15,60,000.00	17,95,990.05	33,55,990.05
4. Marine Fisheries (P) Limited	55,13,521.08	1,95,000.00	51,584.73	2,46,586.73
5. Pron Magnate (P) Limited	10,80,303.70	—	—	—
6. Phoenix India Marine (P) Limited	10,46,000.00	3,10,000.00	2,88,077.65	5,98,077.65
7. West Coast Marine (P) Limited (*)	49,59,120.00	9,96,814.00	21,00,502.67	30,97,316.67
8. Yamuna Seafoods Limited (*)	2,53,62,896.75	8,62,115.00	20,60,166.98	29,22,285.98
9. Suraj Fisheries (P) Limited (*)	94,80,693.00	8,62,400.00	7,59,500.10	16,21,900.10
10. Sancheti Food Products Limited	1,23,51,733.00	8,82,267.02	19,00,033.07	27,82,300.07
11. Marshall Seafoods Limited (*)	1,00,98,465.62	16,83,080.00	24,47,220.24	41,30,300.24
12. Uni Marine (P) Limited (*)	1,05,14,375.75	17,52,420.00	24,86,753.79	42,39,173.79
13. Satyasai Marines (P) Limited	55,51,167.68	3,93,600.00	9,33,880.44	13,27,490.44
14. Sapphire Fisheries Limited	1,16,46,254.20	—	2,15,717.63	2,15,717.63
15. S.B.S. Marine Exports Limited	2,04,48,117.33	—	8,45,771.17	8,45,771.17
16. Coromandal Marines (P) Limited	60,46,511.00	8,09,200.00	11,16,824.09	19,26,024.09
17. Samro Food Processors (P) Limited	1,01,85,750.00	4,04,600.00	4,98,291.51	9,02,891.51

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
18. Arya Fisheries Limited	87,67,000.00	11,68,933.32	17,89,077.54	29,58,010.86
19. Annai Fisheries (P) Limited	50,46,576.00	2,00,000.00	6,89,620.87	8,89,620.87
20. Columbia Seafoods (P) Limited	1,01,37,186.00	11,17,255.00	14,75,937.99	25,93,192.99
21. Rainbow Seafoods (P) Limited	1,04,29,706.00	6,95,314.00	17,6,085.56	24,41,399.56
22. Bawn Fisheries (P) Limited	49,01,400.00	—	—	—
23. Leela Seafoods (P) Limited	49,01,400.00	—	—	—
24. Mulagada Marine (P) Limited	61,26,750.00	—	—	—
25. Golden Fisheries Limited	1,43,36,081.50	—	14,35,140.74	14,35,140.74
26. Tropical Shipping Company Limited	83,57,767.75	—	—	—
27. Golden Proteins Limited	52,62,300.25	—	73,073.37	73,073.37
28. Varuna Marine Products Limited	2,71,93,501.50	—	21,75,837.08	21,75,837.08
29. Four Season Fisheries Limited	1,17,88,150.00	—	13,09,174.86	13,09,174.86
30. V.B.C. Exports Limited	2,96,72,110.00	—	22,24,155.56	22,24,155.56
31. Akama Marines Limited	2,44,04,377.05	—	18,38,663.12	18,38,663.12
32. Shrimp India Limited	2,43,61,522.70	—	21,18,471.48	21,18,471.48
32. Coastal Trawlers Limited	2,55,65,755.60	—	7,15,863.30	7,15,863.30
34. Usha Seafoods Limited	1,40,98,039.00	—	9,21,499.51	9,21,499.51
35. Sarva Sakthi Fisheries Limited	1,22,03,000.00	—	8,37,970.20	8,37,970.20
36. Matsyika Exports Limited	1,09,67,880.00	—	—	—
37. Babko Seafoods Limited	44,30,580.00	—	—	—
38. Ocean Products India (P) Limited	1,34,24,864.00	—	4,47,367.54	4,47,367.54
39. G. P. Marines Products India (P) Ltd.	57,67,671.20	—	—	—
40. Kanchangang Seafoods Limited	57,67,671.20	—	—	—

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
41. Gange Kaveri Seafoods (P) Limited	7,63,320.00	—	—	—
42. Yeduguri Seafoods Limited	2,22,46,730.10	—	—	—
43. Shabri Fisheries (P) Limited	42,16,817.00	—	—	—
44. Shreyas Seafoods (P) Limited	42,16,817.00	—	—	—
45. Capricorn Fisheries (P) Limited	42,16,817.00	—	—	—
46. Sarvanan Marine Products (P) Limited	26,70,740.00	—	—	—
47. Continental Fisheries Limited	22,15,290.00	—	—	—
48. Reliance Seafoods Limited	1,40,98,039.00	—	9,18,412.18	9,18,412.18
49. Fishing Consortium Limited	1,40,98,039.00	—	9,10,729.11	9,10,729.11
50. Jabity Marines (P) Limited	22,15,290.60	—	—	—
51. Tashina Seafoods Limited	1,40,98,039.90	—	9,10,729.11	9,10,729.11
52. Raghu Seafoods (P) Limited	55,30,371.00	—	—	—
53. Sagarika Seafoods Limited	22,15,290.00	—	—	—
54. Gemini Seafoods (P) Limited	22,15,290.00	—	—	—
55. Shri Murugan Fisheries (P) Limited	55,55,296.90	—	2,97,728.98	2,97,728.98
56. Venkateswara Fisheries (P) Limited	64,95,850.00	—	8,22,802.76	8,22,802.76
57. Seamen Fisheries (P) Limited	80,73,450.00	—	10,08,333.03	10,08,333.03
58. Holy Island Fisheries (P) Limited	80,73,450.00	—	8,97,109.22	8,97,109.22
59. Seagull Seafoods (P) Limited	1,02,10,018.00	—	4,78,951.83	4,78,951.83
60. Chotamandal Shipping Company (P) Ltd.	1,02,10,018.00	—	4,57,166.94	4,57,166.94
61. Pallava Seafoods (P) Limited	86,37,480.00	—	6,90,472.17	6,90,472.17
62. Dana Shipping Limited	2,08,58,400.00	—	8,02,909.28	8,92,909.28
63. Sri Lakshmi Marine Products Limited	1,01,04,750.00	—	—	—

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
64. Western Water Craft & Fishing (P) Ltd.	3,61,574.20	—	—	—
65. Sennai Fisheries Limited	90,28,800.00	—	11,62,165.42	11,62,165.42
66. Kaza Seafoods Limited	57,67,671.20	—	—	—
67. Nekkanti Seafoods Limited	57,67,671.20	—	—	—
68. High Seafoods Limited	33,01,375.00	—	—	—
69. Premier Trawling (P) Limited	26,71,740.00	—	—	—
70. Gees Marine Products (P) Limited	26,71,740.00	—	—	—
71. Swagath Marine Products (P) Limited	41,98,460.00	—	—	—
72. Crown Fisheries (P) Limited	26,71,740.00	—	—	—
73. Mahalakshmi Marine Products (P) Ltd.	26,71,740.00	—	—	—
74. Seabay Venture (P) Limited	3,90,020.00	—	—	—
75. Bhavani Marine Traders (P) Limited	3,90,020.00	—	—	—
76. Geetha Marine Products (P) Limited	3,85,070.00	—	—	—
77. Sharmila Fisheries (P) Limited	3,85,070.70	—	—	—
78. Victoria Fisheries (P) Limited	1,77,93,125.00	—	6,45,934.72	6,45,934.72
79. Michel Seafoods (P) Limited	71,31,132.00	—	—	—
Total (A)	70,81,77,227.95	1,55,97,002.32	5,07,63,953.48	6,63,60,955.80

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(B) Public Sector (State Public Sector undertaking)				
1. Andhra Pradesh Fisheries Corpn. Ltd.	20,13,000.00	10,50,000.00	8,90,850.74	19,40,850.74
2. Tamilnadu Fisheries Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	14,50,984.00	—	—	—
3. Kerala Fisheries Corporation Ltd.	17,17,798.00	1,95,867.00	5,83,452.14	7,74,319.14
4. Gujarat Fisheries Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	1,14,41,400.00	—	—	—
5. Orissa Maritime & Chilka Area Dev. Corporation Limited	3,16,470.00	—	—	—
Total (B)	1,69,39,652.00	12,40,867.00	14,74,302.88	17,15,169.88
Grand Total (A) + (B)	72,51,16,879.95	1,68,37,869.32	5,22,38,256.36	6,90,76,125.68

*The following amounts of interest are due (as on 5.10.1987) from these companies on account of interest on stage payments for trawlers imported under Dutch Credit ;

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Amount of Interest due
1.	West Cost Marines (P) Limited, Kottayam.	Rs. 17,94,520.00
2.	Marshall Seafoods (P) Limited, Calcutta.	Rs. 34,41,656.76
3.	Uni Marine (P) Limited, Calcutta.	Rs. 31,73,835.13
4.	Suraj Fisheries Limited, New Delhi.	Rs. 36,07,017.19
5.	Yamuna Seafoods, New Delhi.	Rs. 21,23,994.20
TOTAL :		Rs. 1,41,41,023.20

Advisory committees/bodies under Ministry of Commerce

3487. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the various advisory committees or bodies under the aegis of his Ministry;

(b) the approximate date on which the existing tenure of such committees will be over;

(c) whether the process of re-constitution is going on for some advisory committees at this juncture; and

(d) if so, the names of such committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl. No.	Names of the main Advisory Committees constituted in the Ministry of Commerce	Date on which the existing tenure will be over
1.	Central Advisory Council on Trade	28.9.1989
2.	Export/Import Advisory Committee (Northern Zone), New Delhi	31.3.1990
3.	Export/Import Advisory Committee (Southern Zone), Madras	31.3.1990
4.	Export/Import Advisory Committee (Eastern Zone), Calcutta	31.3.1990
5.	Export/Import Advisory Committee (Western Zone), Bombay	31.3.1990
6.	Mica Advisory Committee	13.12.1989
7.	Hindi Salahakar Samiti (Committee)	28.4.1990
8.	Exhibition Advisory Committee	Permanent

Irrigation scheme pending for clearance in Gujarat

3488. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of irrigation schemes pending at present for want of environmental clearance certificates with State-wise break-up and since when; and

(b) how many of such schemes are from Gujarat ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) 11 Major irrigation schemes which have been found technno-economically viable by the

Central Water Commission are pending for want of environmental clearance certificates.

(b) None of them is from Gujarat.

Seizure of narcotics on Indo-Burma border

3489. SHRI YASHWANT RAO
GADAKH PATIL :
DR. B.L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the value of narcotics seized on the Indo-Burma border during 1987-88 and the first quarter of the current financial year;

(b) whether increased inflow thereof is expected according to the intelligence reports because of bumper poppy crop in the countries concerned; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and measures proposed to be taken to strengthen anti-smuggling operations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) to (c). As reported by International Narcotics Control Board (I.N.C.B.), 'Burma remains a major source of illicit opium, most of which is produced in remote areas of the northern and eastern parts of the country'. There is no specific information about a bumper crop of opium poppy in the countries in the Golden Triangle region (comprising of Laos, Thailand and Burma). Due to common border with Burma, India is affected by drug traffic from the Golden Triangle. The seizures of drugs of Golden Triangle origin, however, do not indicate any large-scale smuggling into India from that region. In 1987, nearly 2 kgs. of heroin and 1 kg. of methaqualone had been seized. In 1988, 2 ks. of heroign have, so far, been seized.

Government have initiated various aggressive counter-measures against drug trafficking which, inter-alia include strengthening of the preventive and intelligence

machinery, specially along the international borders, adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). Special narcotics cells have been created in all the Customs and Central Excise Collectorate all over the country as well as in the State police organisations.

Further, the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance has been promulgated by the President on 4.7.1988. Under this Ordinance, 157 detention orders have been issued and 130 persons have been detained as on 16.8.1988, thus immobilising them from indulging in illicit traffic in drugs.

An Indian delegation headed by the Minister of State for Finance (Revenue) visited Burma in July, 1988. In the talks with the Burmese authorities, the drug trafficking situation in both the countries and the counter measure taken were reviewed with an emphasis for intititutionalising the exchange of information between the law enforcement agencies of both the countries.

Export of textile machinery to Pakistan

3490. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :
Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether considerable scope exists for export of cotton yarn, polyester staple fibre, polyester filament yarn and textile machinery to Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether a high level team visited Pakistan in this regard;

(c) whether the team has submitted its report to Union Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (d). The reports of certain trade delegations which have been

to Pakistan recently indicate that Pakistanese parties are interested in import of textile machinery and Polyester Staple Fibre from India. However, such transaction can be entered into by public sector agencies of Pakistan which are allowed to trade without any restrictions.

**Appointment of Chartered Accounts
to boards of Directors of
companies**

3491. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to appoint Chartered Accountants to the Board of Directors of companies assisted by the financial institutions as well as nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the main reasons thereof; and

(c) the extent to which this is likely to improve the functioning of these companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c). IDBI has reported that non official nominees appointed by the financial institutions on the Boards of some of their assisted companies include professionals (which may, inter-alia include Chartered Accountants). Such nominees, with their professional expertise in matters relating to corporate management, are expected to play an effective role in proper functioning of these companies.

**Non-payment of festival allowance to
workers of Cannanore Spinning
and Weaving Mills**

3492. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations regarding non-payment of festival allowance to workers

of Cannanore Spinning and Weaving Mills, Cannanore, during the 'Vishu' festival have been received; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Union Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has not intervened in this internal matter of N.T.C.

**Clearance to Sri Ram Sagar Flood
flow channel**

3493. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sri Ram Sagar Flood flow channel submitted by Andhra Government has since been rejected by the Central Water Commission; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). The Central Water Commission intimated the State Government that the project was not attractive from investment considerations in view of high capital and operating cost and also substantial submersion.

**Non-utilisation of Installed Capacity
of NTC**

3494. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of textile mills which are under lock out or closure in the country and how many of them are in West Bengal;

(b) the amount locked up as a result thereof;

(c) whether the special committee appointed by Union Government in 1985 have made its recommendations;

(d) if so, to what extent they are being implemented; and

(e) whether 50 per cent of the total installed capacity of textile industry is not utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) As on 31.5.88, 133 Cotton/Man-made fibre textile mills in the country were lying closed for various reasons. Of these 9 were in West Bengal.

(b) Union Government do not maintain record of financial involvement of institutions, banks etc. in individual textile mills.

(c) and (d). An Expert Committee on Textile Industry was constituted by the Government in 1984. Its recommendations formed the basis for the Textile Policy Statement of June 1985, which is being followed.

(e) It is not correct that 50% of the total installed capacity of the textile industry is un-utilised.

Income by way of searches and seizures by Income Tax Department

3495. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a significant increase of the income of Government by way of searches and seizures by Income Tax Department in various parts of the country;

(b) the total income received through searches and assets seized from 1983-84 to 1987-88;

(c) the details of the amount held up in stays and in the courts; and

(d) the various major business houses raided and where significant assets were seized during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Information regarding undisclosed income surrendered by taxpayers during the course of searches and seizures by the Income-tax department and the value of assets seized in such searches is as under :

Year	No. of searches conducted	Value of assets seized (Rs. in crores)	Undisclosed income surrendered during searches (Rs. in crores)
1983-84	4332	27.99	—
1984-85	4345	25.07	—
1985-86	6431	50.32	—
1986-87	7054	100.70	36.85*
1987-88	8464	145.02	147.49

*Information given only in respect of searches conducted on or after 10.9.86 as the relevant provision under which such surrenders are made, came into force on the said date.

(c) The income-tax demand stayed by various courts. Settlement Commission and income-tax authorities as on 31.3.88 was Rs. ₹35.81 crores.

(d) The names of the business houses/individual in whose cases the amount of seizures is Rs. 1 crore or more during the period from 1983-84 to 1987-88 are as under :

Sl.	Name	Place
1	2	3
1.	M/s Bansali Group	Calcutta
2.	Lodha Group	Calcutta
3.	Poddar Group	Calcutta

1	2	3
4.	Nagarjuna Fertilizers Ltd.	Hyderabad
5.	M/s DLF Universal Ltd.	Delhi
6.	Iqbal Chand Khurana	Delhi
7.	M/s Damani Bros.	Bombay
8.	Sh. Chinta Mani Jain	Bombay
9.	Sh. Bansi Lal Zaveri	Bombay
10.	M/s Bhola Nath Ram Lubhaya and others	Bombay
11.	Dharamji Tejpal & Co.	Bombay
12.	M/s C.J. Dalal & Co.	Bombay
13.	M/s Lupin Laboratories	Bombay
14.	M/s Diamond Corporation and Partners	Bombay
15.	M/s B. Arun Kumar and Partners	Bombay
16.	M/s Dharamchand Paraschand	Bombay
17.	S/Shri Ram Sudhir and Sh. Nandu Lal Raghubir Prasad	Shahjahanpur
18.	M/s Aggarwal Group	Farukhabad
19.	Maradia Group	Ahmedabad
20.	Paharpur Cooling Towers Group	Calcutta
21.	Harbhajan Singh	Meerut
22.	R.K. Aggarwal and G.D. Sahukar	Bareilly
23.	Ram Kripal Roop Chand	Ghaziabad
24.	R.P. Goenka Group	Calcutta
25.	Chandraswamy and Associates	Delhi

Closure of woollen mills

3496. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether 36 woollen mills had closed down and many more are on the verge of total closure, due to the fact that raw wool

prices sky-rocketted by 185 per cent in a short span of 22 months;

(b) whether there was 25 per cent fall in the production of indigenous wool during 1987 and if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Union Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Agro-based industries in export sector

3497. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the different kinds of agro-based industries in the country in the export sector;

(b) whether the sea food industry needs to be developed to enable it to meet the growing need of Indian sea food, particularly dried marine products in the international markets; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to upgrade the sea food industry in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) The main agro-based industries are processed foods, sugar, fruit-based beverages, cashewnuts, oilcakes, oleoresins, tobacco etc.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Several steps have been taken to upgrade the seafood industry in the country which include :

(i) Assistance to States in diversifying fishing activities and motorisation of indigenous craft through loans/ subsidy.

- (ii) Augmentation of deep sea-fishing fleet through judicious mix of indigenous, imported and chartered fishing vessels,
- (iii) Providing 33 per cent subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels.
- (iv) Providing loans on soft terms by Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Ltd.
- (v) Systematic and Intensive Surveys of fishery resources in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone.
- (vi) Construction of fishing harbours at major and minor ports and of the landing and berthing facilities at smaller fishing centres.
- (vii) Training of personnel for manning the fishing vessels.
- (viii) Regulation of fishing by foreign vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone; and
- (ix) Development of value-added marine products like IQF shrimps.

UNDP assistance for sewing industry

3498. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether some sewing machine deve-
lopment centres have been set up in the
country with United Nations Development
Programme (UNDP) assistance;

(b) if so, the name of the cities or towns
where such sewing machine development
centres have been set up :

(c) whether the UNDP has approved
any new project to accelerate the growth of
sewing machine Industry in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE
(SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b).
UNDP provided assistance for the setting up
of a Sewing Machine Development Centre at
Ludhiana. The Phase-1 of this project was
completed in December 1987.

(c) and (d). The Phase-11 of the Sewing
Machine Development Centre at Ludhiana
was approved on 11 May 1988. While UNDP
inputs for the Phase-11 project would be
\$615,120 over a period of two years starting
October 1988, Government of India's
counterpart contribution would be
Rs. 84,75,000/- The UNDP assistance
would help the Sewing Machine Develop-
ment Centre in providing technical services
for the development of small scale units of
the sewing machine industry in the country.

Clarification on procedural matters
relating to MODVAT

3499. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will
the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to
state :

(a) whether a Memorandum had been
received by the Central Board of Excise and
Customs regarding certain clarifications on
procedural matters relating to MODVAT
from the Chamber of Indian Trade and
Industry, Delhi;

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter
by Government;

(c) whether Government propose to issue
more clarifications of a general nature to
reduce harassment to Trade and Industry by
the Excise Authorities at lower level, by
wrong interpretations; and

(d) whether Government also propose to
issue detailed guidelines about allowing/not
allowing the MODVAT credit to the manu-
facturers on account of minor technical faults
in declaration or endorsements of Gate
Passes etc. to reduce corruption ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K.
PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Suitable replies have already been given to the Chamber of Indian Trade and Industry, Delhi.

(c) and (d). Clarifications on procedural aspects are issued from time to time on problems being raised by departmental officers/Industry and trade. Instructions already exist for allowing MODVAT credit on account of minor technical faults in the declarations and also on endorsements of Gate passes.

Water and land management training institutes

3500. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of water and land management training institutes in the country operating in various States and Universities which are receiving the Central aid for their training activities;

(b) the nature of assistance, financial and otherwise rendered by the Centre to these institutes; and

(c) the details of training given in these institutes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) A list is enclosed.

(b) Assistance to these institutes is provided under USAID assisted Water Resources Management and Training Project and is in the form of consultancy services, equipments and training in the country and abroad. 70 per cent of the assistance received from the USAID under the project is passed on to the States as additional Central assistance.

(c) These Institutes conduct long and short term training courses, workshops and seminars for in-service personnel of the State Irrigation, CAD and Agriculture Departments. The training courses range from field operational levels to senior levels. In addition, training programmes for the farmers are also conducted.

List of Training Institutes

1. Water and Land Management Institute, Maharashtra.
2. Water and Land Management Institute, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
3. Water and Land Management Institute, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
4. Irrigation Management and Training Institute, Kota, Rajasthan.
5. Irrigation Management Training Institute, Trichy, Tamilnadu.
6. Water and Land Management Training and Research Institute, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
7. Water and Land Management Institute, Patna, Bihar.
8. Water and Land Management Institute, Bhubaneswar, Orissa.
9. Water and Land Management Institute, Okhla/Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
10. Centre for Water Resources Development and Management, Calicut, Kerala.
11. Mahatma Phule Agricultural University, Rahuri, Maharashtra.
12. Irrigation Management and Training Institute, M. S. University, Baroda, Gujarat.
13. Centre for Water Resources, Anna University, Madras, Tamilnadu.
14. College of Technology and Agricultural Engineering, Rajasthan Agriculture University, Udaipur, Rajasthan.

Improvement of Efficiency and Customer Service in Nationalised Banks

3502. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to ask the banks to increase their efficiency and customer service to achieve their goal of nation-building;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FAIRIRO) : (a) to (c). With a view to ensure that the public sector banks subserve the national goals and objectives, Government have been continually monitoring their performance in all aspects of their operations including efficiency and customer service. Towards this objective, the public sector banks at the instance of Government and Reserve Bank of India, have taken various measures during the last three years. These measures include evolution of time norms for rendering common services, speedier clearing of cheques through computerisation of Clearing Houses, speedier collection of outstation cheques through increased use of courier services, creation of machinery for quick redressal of customers' grievances extending to individuals the facility of immediate credit in respect of outstation cheques upto Rs. 2500/- payment of interest at savings bank rate for delayed collection of outstation cheques beyond 10/14 days, increased inter-face between customers and the bank Executives with a view to facilitating quick redressal of grievances and also promoting mutual understanding.

Proposal for incentive to exporters in thrust areas

3503. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the suggestions have been received to give special incentive scheme to provide support to exporters who achieve excellence in exports in identified thrust areas :

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government propose to take action on such suggestions ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (e). There is no specific proposal for a special incentive scheme to provide support to exporters who achieve excellence in exports in identified thrust areas. Several export incentives, general as well as sector-specific, have already been provided for exporters of various items, including thrust items.

Impact of non-availability of raw material on engineering exports

3504. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that export of engineering goods is affected due to non-availability of critical raw materials and its high prices ;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard ;

(c) the names of critical raw materials the engineering units are facing acute shortage ;

(d) whether Government propose to arrange crash import of such critical raw material items to increase exports of the country ;

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Government is aware of shortages of raw material both in the domestic and international market, and related price increases.

(b) In order to ensure supplies of raw material for export production the Import-Export Policy provides for the duty free import of inputs at international prices. Public Sector Units like SIC, MMTC ar

also entitled to service duty free licence holders through bulk imports. Further, exporters using indigenously manufactured iron and steel are reimbursed the difference between the domestic international prices of these materials, where the international prices are lower.

(c) The raw materials which are significantly required for the engineering industry and for which the domestic availability falls short of the total demand are pig iron, HR coils, MS Billets, Zinc, Nickle, Copper and Aluminium.

(d) to (f). Government has decided to import pig iron, HR coils and MS Billets to fulfill the shortfall in indigenous availability. This is expected to meet the demand of the engineering export sector. Import of Aluminium which was earlier canalised has now been placed under O.G.L.

Wealth Tax collection in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack

3505. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack who have been assessed for payment of Wealth Tax during 1986-87 and 1987-88 ;

(b) the total amount collected as Wealth Tax during the said period in these areas; and ;

(c) the total number of building/immovable properties taken over by Government for upder-valuation of the declared building/immovable properties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Number of persons in Bhubaneswar and Cuttack who have been assessed for payment of Wealth-tax during 1986-87 is 1020 (One Thousand Twenty) and during 1987-88 is 786 (Seven Hundred Eighty Six).

(b) Total amount collected as Wealth Tax during 1986-87 is Rs. 16,73,000 (Sixteen Lakhs Seventy three Thousand) and during 1987-88 is Rs. 13,60,000 (Thirteen Lakhs Sixty Thousand).

(c) Nil.

Co-operative banks in Orissa

3506. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have studied the situation being faced by the co-operative banks in Orissa due to their mismanagement, misfeasance and bankruptcy ; and

(b) if not, steps taken for financing the the farmers by nationalised banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALFIRO) : (a) and (b). In terms of the provisions contained in the co-operative societies Act, the Registrar of Co-operative societies is the authority empowered to take necessary action against co-operative banks who indulge in mismanagement and other irregularities. The public sector banks have been financing the farmers by providing, both short-term loans and term loans in accordance with the annual action plans of various districts.

Scheme of strengthening of surface and ground water in Orissa

3507. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Centrally sponsored scheme for strengthening of surface and ground water in the State of Orissa was approved by Union Government ;

(b) if so, the approved cost of the scheme ; and

(c) the steps being taken for implementation of the scheme in the State so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). Following schemes have been sanctioned so far in the State of Orissa in which 50% assistance is provided by Central Government :

Period of sanction	Name of Scheme	Approved cost of scheme (Rs. in lakhs)
1976-82	Strengthening of Ground Water Organisation (mainly for staff)	62.71
1978-82	Strengthening of Surface Water Organisation (mainly for staff)	28.21
1986-87	Strengthening of Ground Water Organisation (equipment only)	48.50
1987-88	Strengthening of Ground Water (equipment only)	50.00

(c) Progress reports are reviewed and monitoring undertaken periodically.

Income-tax notices to Civil Supplies Corporation and Essential Commodities Corporation of Andhra Pradesh

3508. SHRI E. AYYAPPU REDDY :
SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA
REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the notices under the Income-tax Act were issued to the Civil Supplies Corporation and Essential Commodities Corporation of Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether such notices have been issued to small Corporations in other States also ; and

(c) whether it is proposed to give exemption to such Corporation as they are purely meant for rendering Essential services to the weaker sections in the consumer public ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI (A.K. PANJA) : (a) As regards A.P. Civil Supplies Corporation, returns of income for the assessment years 1977-78 to 1980-81 were filed voluntarily whereas the returns for the assessment years 1981-82 to 1985-86 were filed in response to notices issued by the Department. Returns for the assessment years 1986-87 and 1987-88 were filed voluntarily claiming exemption from income-tax. No return for the assessment year 1988-89 has so far been filed nor any notices calling for the return has so far been issued by the Department.

(b) As regards A.P. Essential Commodities Corporation, returns for the assessment years 1983-84 to 1985-86 were filed declaring nil income claiming exemption from income-tax. These returns were filed in response to notices issued by the Department. The return for the assessment year 1986-87 has been filed voluntarily declaring nil income claiming exemption from income-tax. For the assessment years 1987-88 and 1988-89, no notices calling for the returns of income have so far been issued by the Department nor any returns have been filed by the assessee voluntarily.

(c) Requisite action is taken under the Income-tax Act to assess the income of any such Corporation where such action is called for.

(d) No, Sir.

Tea Board branch offices in Siliguri and Alipurduar

3509. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish branch offices of Tea Board in Siliguri and Alipurduar of North Bengal and at Guwahati, Tezpur, Dibrugarh and Jorhat in Assam ;

(b) if so, by what time ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c). The Board is already having its branch offices at Siliguri in North Bengal, and also at Guwahati, Tezpur, Jorhat and Silchar in Assam for the purpose of effective implementation of Board's activities.

Spices under OGL

3510. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRI K. MOHANDAS :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether certain spices have been put under OGL under the new Import Export policy;

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

(c) the percentage of increase in the prices of these spices after these were taken out of OGL last time;

(d) the percentage of decline in the prices after these have been put back under OGL ; and

(e) the steps being taken to maintain prices at remunerative level ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir, Import of cloves, cinnamon/cassia, nutmeg and mace has been decanalised and allowed under Open General Licence. During the period of canalisation, there were problems with regard to imports and distribution as also high rise in prices. As these items are required in every household and also for the preparation of Ayurvedic medicines, they have been brought back on Open General Licence.

(c) The price increases ranged between 65 per cent to 70 per cent in case of cloves

over a period of 18 months while it was 419 per cent and 160 per cent over a period of 3 years in case of nutmeg and mace respectively.

(d) The decline in prices ranged from 10 per cent to 17 per cent.

(e) The prices are being monitored regularly.

Impact of Import-Export policy on domestic prices of spices, coconut and rubber

3511. SHRI K. MOHANDAS :
SHRI K. KUNJAMBU :
SHRI A. CHARLES :
PROF. P.J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the domestic prices of spices, coconut and rubber declined after the announcement of new Import Export policy ;

(b) if so, the extent of decline;

(c) the steps taken to arrest the decline in prices of each of these items ; and

(d) the measures being taken to ensure remunerative prices to the growers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (d). There has been no change in the import policy in respect of rubber and coconut. Only import of certain spices-cloves, cinnamon/cassia, nutmeg and mace have been decanalised and allowed under OGL. The prices are being monitored regularly. After decanalisation, the prices have come down to the level obtaining prior to canalisation.

Import of almonds

3512. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of almonds imported in 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88, year-wise ;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to increase the import of almonds in 1988-89 ;

(c) if so, the total value of almonds expected to be imported in 1988-89 ; and

(d) the country from which almonds are being imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Import data is available upto March, 1986 only. However, total value of almonds imported during 1985-86 is given below :—

	Value (Rs. Lakhs)
(i) Almonds, Kernels	54.35
(ii) Almonds, in shells	927.53

(b) In July 1988 Government have liberalised import of almonds. Each eligible dry fruit licensee shall also be granted a licence for import of almonds for a value of Rs. 20,000/-. Also, Additional licences issued to Export Houses/Trading Houses after 1.4.88 on exports made during the licensing year 1987-88 or thereafter have been made valid for import of almonds upto 5 per cent of the value of the licence within the overall value of the licence.

(c) It is not possible at this stage to give an estimate of import of almonds during 1988-89 as import has been liberalised only in July, 1988.

(d) Countries and regions from which almonds are being imported are Afghanistan, Iran, U.S.A., Pakistan and China Republic.

Export of Agarbatti

3513. SHRI SHRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA

WADIYAR :

SHRI RADHAKANTA

DIGAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Agarbatti made in Karnataka are very popular in the International market;

(b) whether there has been decline in the export of Agarbatti in 1987-1988;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to increase Agarbatti export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Indian Agarbattis including those manufactured in Karnataka are popular in the international market.

(b) No Sir, Export of Agarbattis during 1987-88 has shown an increase of 8.6 per cent over the exports during the previous year.

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

Treaty with Foreign Governments on smuggling

3514. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to sign with several other foreign Governments treaty to exchange information on smuggling of drugs, gold and silver;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether government are aware that international smuggling gangs are operating in India to transport drugs to Europe and America in exchange for gold and silver being smuggled into India; and

(d) if so, whether Government would make death penalty mandatory for all drug traffickers as has already been made in several countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). India has recently

acceded to the multilateral Convention and Mutual Administrative Assistance or prevention, investigation and repression of customs offences adopted by the Customs Cooperation Council on 25th November, 1977, at Nairobi. The aim of the Convention is to establish multilateral cooperation between member-countries for prevention, investigation and repression of customs offences including smuggling of drugs, gold and silver based on the principles of reciprocity and strict respect for national laws.

(c) There is no definite evidence to indicate that international smuggling gangs are operating in India to transport drugs to Europe and America in exchange for gold and silver being smuggled into India.

(d) A comprehensive draft legislation to amend the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, in certain areas including the scaling up of the penal provisions therein for certain offences is under active consideration of the Government.

Budget Estimates and actual collection of Direct Taxes

3515. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what was the proportionate Budget estimates and the actual collection of direct taxes made during the first quarter of 1988-89 and the corresponding figures for the corresponding period in 1987-88;

(b) the collection of direct and indirect taxes during the current year and the reasons for lesser collection, if any;

(c) what is the expected rate of increase in the collection of direct taxes during the current year; and

(d) the major operations undertaken by Department for ensuring better collection of direct taxes this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Budget Estimates for direct taxes for 1987-88 and 1988-89 are Rs.

6541.00 crores and Rs. 7942.25 crores respectively.

Actual Collections for first quarter of 1987-88 and 1988-89 are Rs. 605.83 crores and Rs. 426.78 crores respectively.

(b) Collections of Direct Taxes (IT and C.T.) and Indirect Taxes upto July, are Rs. 818.78 crores and Rs. 10,395.37 crores respectively.

(c) The expected rate of increase in the collection of direct taxes during the current year over last year's collection is 16.78 per cent.

(d) The Department has launched a "Special Collection Scheme" under which tax payers are entitled to rebate of 50 per cent of the interest chargeable under section 220(2) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 if they make full payment of arrear demand (Certificated to the Tax Recovery Officer upto 31.3.86) together with 50 per cent of the interest due, during the period 1.7.88 to 30.9.88.

The Chief Commissioners of Income-tax/Directors General (Investigation) have been instructed to enforce collection immediately after the demand becomes due. The Commissioners of Income-tax (Appeals) have also been asked to decide high demand cases quickly.

[Translation]

Recommendations made by
Sub-Committee of CPOL
on Bhagirath Publication

+ 3516. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Sub-Committee of Committee of Parliament on Official Language made some recommendations in respect of Bhagirath publication some years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons for not implementing these recommendations fully so far;

(c) whether any arrangements for Parliament monitoring have been made for implementing these recommendations fully; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) During the inspection of Central Water Commission on 17.1.1979, the Second Sub-Committee of Parliamentary Committee on Official Language had suggested inter alia mainly to keep in view the following points :

(i) The appointment of staff of equal pay-scale may be considered for the publication of Bhagirath Patrika in English and Hindi.

(ii) It may be considered to give remuneration at a higher rate to the authors who write original articles in Hindi for Bhagirath Patrika.

(b) to (d). The following decisions were taken after considering those suggestions and the Sub-Committee was informed accordingly on 5.9.1983 at the time of their inspection of Central Water Commission.

(i) The posts in the same pay-scale have been created for the publication of "Bhagirath" Hindi and English. Action is being taken in this regard to fill up the posts which were created for Hindi Bhagirath and the recruitment procedure is in progress.

(ii) The honorarium is given on the same rates to the authors who write original articles both in Hindi and English languages.

[English]

Supply of Railway Coaches to Bangladesh

3517. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether 61 railway coaches were supplied to the Bangladesh Railways by the Projects and Equipments Corporation of India Ltd. Under the credit agreement of 15 June, 1983;

(b) the period of supply; and

(c) the total value of supply ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Supplies commenced in October, 1986 and were completed in July, 1987.

(c) The total value of the supply was Rs. 8.27 crores.

Manufacture of Poly-Jute Bags

3518. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have agreed to the proposal to allow manufacture of poly-jute bags;

(b) if so, the effect of the decision on the HDPE sack units in the small scale sector; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to protect the interests of the small scale HDPE sack units in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) No decision has been taken so far regarding manufacture of poly-jute bags by the decentralised sector.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Recovery of Bank Loans from Migrants from Punjab

3519. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ?

(a) whether a number of refugees from Punjab have got loans outstanding from the Punjab branches of nationalised banks;

(b) whether it is a fact that the banks concerned have started court proceedings for recovery of the loans and in some cases, got ex-parte decrees; and

(c) whether in view of their difficult conditions at present, the interest due on loans of such persons will be waived, recovery of the principal amounts will be deferred and their properties will not be auctioned in their absence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). Punjab National Bank (PNB), for convenor bank, State Level Bankers Committee (SLBC) for Punjab has reported that information with regard to number of refugees migrants from Punjab having loans outstanding from Punjab branches of nationalised banks is not available since the data reporting system from banks does not generate such information.

(c) The request for waiver of interest due on loans, deferment of recovery etc. will be decided by the banks concerned on the merit of each case.

12.hrs

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : I have given notice to raise a very serious matter. An Indian delegation sponsored by the Anti-Slavery Society, London appeared before the United Nations Working Group on indigenous population.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I Will look into that.

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : It was attended by Shri Amiya Kisku, a former Central Minister.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : That has been done I have seen that. Give it to me.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : It is an internal matter related to the tribal question in India.

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever it is, I will look into it.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : It is a very serious matter. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Whoever it is, I will ask.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it. You give in writing.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Have I to give another notice ? A Calling Attention ?

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : I have given an Adjournment Motion about the non-arrival of rakes of rice for the last ten days in West Bengal. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : You give in writing.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why do all of you make noise ? *(Translation)*

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you making noise ? The Hon. lady Member has already mentioned about it.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What is the use of it ? A very good issue has been raised, why are you destroying that ?

[English]

Why are you destroying that ? She has done it. All right. I will look into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANIL BASU Arambagh : You ask them. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : For the last ten days, the people of Culcutta are not eating rice. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Are you permitting a discussion on this ? *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : The report of the Business Advisory Committee is regularly sent to you. What have I told you ?

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : That is the competent authority now for that. I have admitted that.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Uttar Pradesh is reeling under severe flood and the Uttar Pradesh Government is doing nothing in this regard. I, therefore, request you to direct the Central Government to provide adequate help to the State Government.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : This year we are celebrating Maulana Abul Kalam Azada birth centenary. The Government should declare a national holiday on his birthday.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Both of you give me in writing.

12.02 hrs.

[English]

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Accounts and Audit Report of Spices Board for 26. 2.87 to 31.3 87 and a statement *re* : delay in laying these papers

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : I beg to lay on the table :

- (1) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Spices Board for the period from 26.2.1987 to 31.3.1987 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in library. See LT. 6417/88]

Statement correcting answer to US Q. No. 2558 re : import of cotton for Spinning Mills

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : I beg to lay on the Table. A statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting reply given on 12th August, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 2558 by Shrimati N. P. Jhansi Lakshmi and Shri K. Ramchandra Reddy, M. Ps regarding import of cotton for spinning mills.

[Placed in Library. *see* No. LT-6418/88]

Notification under Representation of the People Act

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ) : I beg to lay on the Table :-

- (1) A copy of notification No. O. N. 82 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th August, 1987 making certain corrections in Schedule XX of the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies Order, 1976 relating to the State of Tamil Nadu, under sub-section (2) of section 9 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

[Placed in Library. *see* No. LT-6419/88]

- (2) A copy of the Delimitation of Council Constituencies (Mysore) Amendment Order, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 448 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1988, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

[Placed in Library. *see* No. LT-6420/88]

Annual Report and Review on Industrial Development Bank of India for 1986-87

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : I beg to lay on the Table :

1. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Development Bank of India together with Audited Accounts of the General Fund and the Development Assistance Fund for the year 1986-87, under sub-section (5) of section 18 and sub-section (5) of section 23 of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964,
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Industrial Development Bank of India for the year 1986-87.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6421/88]

2. (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the year ended the 30th June, 1987 along with the statement showing the Assets and Liabilities and Profit and Loss Accounts of the Corporation, under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act 1948.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the year ended the 30th June, 1987.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6422/88]

Export of Footwear and Footwear Component (Quality Control and Inspection) Amendment Rules and Notifications under Imports and Exports (Control) Act.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSI) : I beg to lay on the Table :

1. A copy of the Export of Footwear and Footwear Components (Quality Control and Inspection) Amendment Rules 1988 (Hindi and English ver-

sions) published in Notification No. S.O. 2014 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd July, 1988 under sub-section (3) of section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6423/88]

2. A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under section 3 of the imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947 :

- (i) The Exports (Control) First Amendment Order, 1988 published in Notification No. S.O. 460A(E) in Gazette of India dated the 29th April, 1988.
- (ii) The Exports (Control) Third Amendment Order, 1988 published in Notification No. S.O. 483(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th May, 1988.
- (iii) The Exports (Control) Fifth Amendment Order, 1988 published in Notification No. S.O. 692(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th July, 1988.
- (iv) S.O. 545(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd June, 1988 making certain amendments in Notification No. S.O. 351 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th March, 1988.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6424/88]

3. A statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting reply given on 15th April, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 7076 by Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia, M.P. regarding News item captioned 'MMTC's favour to Multinationals.'

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6425/88]

4. A statement (Hindi and English versions) correcting reply given on 12th August, 1988 to Unstarred Question

No. 2519 by Shri Narsing Suryavansi, M.P. regarding suggestion of Delhi Exporters Association to simplify procedure.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6426/88]

12.03 hrs.

[English]

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

Thirty Seventh Report

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey) : I beg to present the Thirty-Seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Twentieth Report on Trade Fair Authority of India.

12 03½ hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : With your permission, Sir. On behalf of Shri H. K. L. Bhagat, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House on Monday, the 22nd and Tuesday, the 23rd August, 1988, will consist of :

1. Discussion and voting on :

- (a) Supplementary Demands for Grants (General) for 1988-89
- (b) Supplementary Demands for Grants (Railways) for 1988-89.

2. Discussion on the Resolution seeking disapproval of the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance 1988 and consideration and passing of the Bill in replacement thereof.
3. Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
4. Discussion under Rule 193 on the statement made by the Minister of Home Affairs on 12th August, 1988 regarding Memorandum of Settlement on Tripura at 4.00 P.M. on Tuesday, the 23rd August, 1988.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr Speaker, Sir, the following item may be included in the next week's agenda.

There is widespread resentment among the Punjabi writers against the language policy pursued by the Punjab University. Punjabi Lekhak Sabha submitted a memorandum to the Vice-Chancellor protesting against the decision of making English only as compulsory subject for B.A. classes. They have also protested against the University for non-introduction of Punjabi as official language. Punjabi has not been made as medium for teaching and research work in that language has stopped. The matter may be discussed.

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the last 40 years since independence, the irrigation capacity the country has been sufficiently increased. In 1947, the irrigation capacity of the country was 19.5 million hectares only whereas it is now 68 million hectares. In 1984-85, it was just possible to utilise only 61.9 per cent of the created capacity and the remaining capacity remained unutilised. I am therefore, to submit that Government should immediately prepare a scheme on priority basis to fully utilise this irrigation capacity and implement it so that it may boost the agricultural production of the country as also the economy of the country.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main purpose of the establishment of the Drugs Manufacturing Companies in Public Sector was to check the profiteering of private and multi-national companies, to acquire self-sufficiency in the drugs manufacturing industry and fulfil the actual requirements of the Indian masses but all the five drugs manufacturing companies of Public Sector have remained unsuccessful in achieving this target. Although, Government is making efforts to wipe out losses of public sector companies and to ward off their failures but I have to say with great distress that these efforts are not proving fruitful. For instance, the Bengal Immunity Limited, situated in West Bengal is incurring losses after 1985. In 1984-85, the production of the said company was worth Rs. 10.80 crore which has come down to Rs. 7.86 crore and Rs. 3.11 crore in 1985-86 and 1986-87 respectively. The same is the position of almost all the Drugs manufacturing companies in Public Sector. Similarly, the I.D.P.L. has so far incurred more losses than its capital investment.

I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government that the matter regarding the functioning of Central Public Sector companies may be discussed in the next week.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the following may be included in the Government business for the next week.

Berhampur Railway Station in Orissa is an important railway station and business centre near the port, University, Rare Earth Industry and Military Cantonment. But it has not been developed. There is no over-bridge, no covered platform and no decent waiting rooms. It should be so developed as to become a modern railway station. In Orissa only Bhubaneswar Station has been taken up under this scheme.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the almost 200 kilometres

stretches of Hajira-Vijapur, Jagdishpur Gas Pipe Line falls in my Lok Sabha Constituency. Several big industries are being set up based on this gas pipe line. There is capacity to set up some more industries on this gas pipe line. Therefore, some more industries should also be set up so that the gas may be fully utilised.

12 09 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the chair*]

At Sawai Madhopur in Rajasthan a fertiliser industry was to be installed on the basis of this Gas but the proposal of installing the industry on that place has been cancelled by the Ministry of Environment because it is feared that this industry will pollute the environment and adversely affect the sanctuary of Ranthambore.

Experts have now selected two places for its installation, one is in the Bundi district and the other is in the Kota district. I urge upon the Central Government that before the installation of these industries, special arrangements should be made for the drainage of discharged water because it will adversely affect flora and fauna of the areas.

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : I request that the following may be included in the next week's agenda :

- 1 Millions of construction labourers engaged in construction works carried out by private and Government agencies are not paid actual wages on regular basis. No welfare activities e.g. shelter food health care, etc. are provided by employers. There is no security for their lives and jobs. Immediate legislation to safeguard the interest of these unorganised workers be enacted.
2. On the advise of the Government of India to implement Dairy development project in Ganjam district of Orissa, the State Government had submitted the project proposal of Rs. 481.89 lakhs in the year 1986. The

project assistances from the Swiss Development Corporation is to be routed through the Centre to the National Dairy Development Board on the pattern of Indo-Swiss Project, Kerala. No progress after joint review meeting is noticed to implement the project. The matter needs to be discussed.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : The following item may be included in the next week's Agenda :

1. The Government of Karnataka has been insisting that the prestigious Visveswarayya Iron and Steel Ltd., Bhadravathi, should be taken over by the SAIL. The Government have also agreed to all the conditions of the Ministry of Steel in this behalf. But the Ministry has yet to take a decision in the matter. I urge the Government to take a decision immediately since the Government of Karnataka is losing nearly Rs. 2 crores every month on this project.
2. It was nearly 17 years ago that the foundation was laid for the Vijayanagar Steel Plant in Karnataka, by the then Prime Minister. But the plant has still not been set up. Though every facility is there, the Government is delaying. I urge the Government to include this project under 8th plan positively.

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North) : I request that the following may be included in the next week's Agenda :

1. Number of proposals for minor irrigation Projects in Maharashtra are pending clearance of Central Government. These relate to providing drinking water to villages and farmers. Deforestation of land is coming in the way of clearance of these proposals. Full discussion may be held thereon.
2. Railway Authority ask State Governments to share the cost of new projects. It is not possible for the

Government of Maharashtra to share the cost of Flyover bridges six corridors, and more rakes for suburban sections of Bombay. In view of urgent need to start work on Flyover in Bombay matter be included in next week's business.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : The following may be included in the next week's agenda :—

1. Latest revision of NREP/REP/RLEGP guidelines by Government has excluded all buildings except primary school buildings from their purview. This has given a set back to creation of small permanent community assets.

Apart from providing employment locally to the largest group, these community assets fulfil felt needs of the rural people in areas where otherwise these assets cannot be created.

Agriculture and Rural Development Department should permit construction of community assets under NREP/RLEGP.

2. Animal Husbandry is the main source of livelihood in the desert areas and unless a programme for breeding, feeding and management including marketing in this sector is developed fully, the economy of the desert areas cannot be improved.

National Commission on agriculture had recommended ground water exploration/exploitation, livestock development etc. as core sector programmes for the development of desert areas.

A sudden change was made in the year 1987-88 when animal husbandry programme was declared ineligible.

It is requested that Rural Development of Central Government may continue the

programme of Animal Husbandry under Desert Development Programme.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : The following item may be included in the next week's business :—

An old Anicut across the Krishna River at Vijayawada was constructed about 135 years back for an estimated ayacut of nearly five lakh acres. Later the height of shutters was increased. A new barrage was constructed in 1953 to replace the old anicut. The total area receiving irrigation facility under the barrage increased to nearly 12 lakh acres. Since the canals have silted up, adequate water is not reaching the tailend areas in proper time resulting in considerable loss of production of paddy. Government of Andhra Pradesh propose to undertake modernisation of Krishna Delta irrigation system. I urge upon the Union Government to propose this scheme for World Bank assistance or any foreign aid.

Vijayawada city with seven lakh residents and three lakh floating population is not a well-developed city. Many parts do not have underground drainage facility. New residential colonies are to be provided roads, drinking water and drainage facilities. This year the Municipal Corporation is celebrating centenary celebrations. I urge upon the Union Government to sanction at least Rs. 20 crores for the development of the city.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : Sir, the Business Advisory Committee is the authority to finalise the next week's business. I will place the views expressed by the Hon. Members before the Business Advisory Committee when it meets next.

317 *Call, Attention re-Distribution of adulterated Ineffective Pesticides*

12.18 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

[English]

**Reported Distribution of adulterated
ineffective pesticides to farmers in
Punjab**

**SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWA-
LIA (Sangrur):** I call the attention of the
Minister of Agriculture to the following
matter of urgent public importance and
request that he may make a statement there-
on :—

"The reported distribution of adulterated/
ineffective pesticides to farmers in Punjab
and other parts of the country adversely
affecting agricultural production and steps
taken by the Government in that
regard."

[Translation]

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI BHRJAN LAL):** The Government of
India is fully committed to ensure the
supply of pesticides of good quality to
safeguard the interests of the farmers.

In a vast country like India, occasional
instances of unscrupulous individuals indulg-
ing in unfair practices in the distribution
of pesticides come to the notice of the
Government. These are dealt with strictly in
accordance with the provisions of the Insecti-
cides Act, 1968,

There was a report in the Tribune, dated
12.8.1988, highlighting that Punjab Agricul-
ture Department had sold expired pesticides
to the farmers. No other report regarding
sale and distribution of adulterated and
ineffective pesticides in the country have been
received recently.

I have ascertained the facts from the
Government of Punjab. A small quantity
of pesticides was sold by the Punjab Agricul-
ture Department to the farmers within 25

SRAVANA 28, 1910 (SAKA)

*Call, Attention re-Distri-
bution adulterated
Ineffective Pesticides*

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days of the expiry of the validity period.
This was reportedly done in view of the fact
that the validity period expired but recently
and the farmers stood to gain by the lower
prices compared to open market prices.
Instructions have been issued by the Punjab
Government to stop such sales.

The scheme of distribution of pesticides
is being run by the Punjab Government
at 'No Profit No Loss' basis. The
Punjab Government has issued instructions
to all Deputy Commissioners in the
State to personally check the quality
of pesticides and take samples for
analysis. The District Police Chiefs have
also been given instructions to provide
assistance and security to sample collecting
teams. The process of checking is being
carried out in all the districts. A Pesticide
Selection Committee has been established
under the chairmanship of the Vice Chancel-
lor, Punjab Agricultural University,
Ludhiana, to recommend the brand names of
pesticides. Only ISI/BIS marked pesticides
are recommended after they have cleared the
bio-efficacy test of Punjab Agricultural
University.

In Punjab, high levels of agriculture
production have been sustained at a steady
level. This has been the result of continuous
effort by ensuring the quality of pesticides
supplied, through enforcement, vigilance and
surprise checks put in vigorous operation and
a large number of samples being collected
and analysed.

Since the coming into force of Insectici-
des Act, 1968 and the rules framed there-
under, 18 States and one Union Territory
have so far established 37 Pesticide Labora-
tories with an overall capacity for analysing
about 40,000 samples per annum. A Central
Insecticides Laboratory has been set up at
Faridabad with branches at Bombay and
Hyderabad. Two regional pesticides labora-
tories have been established one at Kanpur
and one at Chandigarh.

Enforcement of quality control of pesti-
cides has been stressed with an overall
purview of the Insecticides Act, 1968 and
the rules framed thereunder. The States
have notified functionaries for the enforce-
ment of the various provisions of the Act.

[Translation]

He has not been able to use strong words. The farmers of Punjab, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh are already complaining that priority in power supply is being to the air-conditioners in Delhi and not given to the farmers for agriculture purposes. All the three Ministers are present here, they belong to Haryana and Uttar Pradesh where the problem is acute. Shri Yadav, Shri Chowdhary and Shri Shastri must have been getting complaints earlier also. Actually the multi-national companies are playing havoc with this country. These pesticides are manufactured by these companies. "Lebaseed-1000" is manufactured in collaboration with a German firm. The Government should take note of it and take action against the multi-national companies. Why do these companies play havoc with India? Why are they exploiting Indian farmers? The Hon. Minister has referred to Mr Gill, the additional Secretary, who has said that a panel is being formed which will study the problem and submit its recommendations to the Government.

[English]

He said that the DCS had been asked to conduct raids to stop the sale of substandard fertilisers and pesticides.

[Translation]

We had raised the issue of sale of substandard pesticides, a week ago in the House. Has the Government of Punjab submitted any information during this week regarding the raids conducted and the people found guilty for selling substandard pesticides and the quantity of the pesticides seized and the number of the persons going to be prosecuted. I would urge the Hon. Minister to include all these points in his reply.

I would also like to say that the Government should exercise control over the sale of poisonous pesticides. These are harmful in two ways. We all belong to agricultural families and we know that children of a number of farmers fall ill and even die due to the adverse effects of these pesticides. New

ailments are coming to light with the extensive use of pesticides and the farmers are unable to the medical treatment in near by towns. All India Medical Institute of Medical Sciences has registered about 114 cases from Rohtak in Haryana, 55 cases from Uttar Pradesh and 30 cases from Madhya Pradesh. Has the Government ever conducted a survey to know the number of the people who fell ill due to spraying of pesticides or after consuming of pesticides treated foodgrains or vegetables? I do not oppose the modern techniques of science but I have personally noticed that the use of pesticides like Aldrin, BHC, Lindane, Daldrin etc. has been reduced to the minimum in the countries like United States and United Kingdom. They have discovered its substitute and further research work in this regard is in progress. They have made successful experiment that if the healthy seeds are supplied, then there is no need to use these pesticides. Would the Hon. Minister take similar measures in our country also? So far the statistics are concerned, the advanced countries have been reducing the use of such pesticides. I know that the Hon. Minister is an efficient man and is capable to accomplish swiftly any task assigned to him. I would like to bring to his notice that 81 per cent of the total pesticides are used in Asian countries and out of that 26 per cent is used in India, 19.3 per cent in South Korea, 10.2 per cent in Pakistan and 1 per cent in Bangla Desh. The datas go to show that these pesticides are used extensively in India. Now the question is that when there is a large market to sell these pesticides and adequate opportunities exist for the manufacturers, why then are they exploiting the farmers in India? Why do they sell substandard material? As far as Bangla Desh is concerned, only 1 per cent of the total pesticides are used there while in India the quantity is about one-fourth of that used in the whole world. Under these circumstances, the matter becomes more serious. So, special attention should be paid to this issue. I would like to mention one thing more. As I have already stated that 6 per cent of the used 26 per cent pesticides are being manufactured indigenously and 75 per cent of this 26 per cent are being manufactured by multi-national companies. Sir, I would like to give a suggestion because the maximum use of the pesticides in our country is in the State of Punjab. These are extensively used

[Translation]

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[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. Farmers are being exploited. We should start a public awareness campaign in this regard. The village level workers or the field level workers who are engaged for the application of these pesticides should be instructed through the media of radio, television, press to use them carefully.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to emphasise and request the Minister of Agriculture that some system should be evolved so that the farmer who is going to purchase the pesticide may know about its genuineness. He should know the contents that the pesticide has and the effects of its use also. I would like to lay special emphasis upon this aspect. In the end, I must state that the farmers are suffering huge financial loss due to supply of substandard pesticides and spurious fertilisers them on higher rates. The farmers are already financially weak and this type of loot would mean a great injustice to them and to the country. Special attention should be given to this. The condition of farmers in the country is not good. They are unable to get even the fair prices of their produce.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Agriculture Minister Shri Bhajan Lal and also Shri Shastriji have performed some special worships, hawans and sacrifices. Just because of it, we are having very good rains this year. I congratulate Hon. Minister for it and also pay my thanks to God for the good rains. Although some areas have been affected by floods but Hon. Minister has agreed to give compensation to the flood-affected persons. On the one hand, though ten per cent of the farmers have suffered loss because of floods, but at the same time 100 per cent farmers have been benefited by good rains.

India is a very large country and good rains are very useful for it. I would also like to urge upon the Hon. Minister to pay more attention to the areas where the consumption of pesticides is quite high so that the farmers may get good quality of pesticides and they are not made to suffer a loss. If spurious, adulterated and expired dated pesticides are supplied to the farmers, not only the farmers will suffer a loss but it will also damage the foodgrains worth Rs, 6,000 crore in a year. Therefore, more attention should be paid to all these things.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, while calling the attention of this House, in these words, I urge upon the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to pay special attention to it because it is a very important matter.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the importance of pesticides cannot be ignored in any condition. It is correct that even today the food-grains worth Rs. 6,000 crore goes waste in our country for want of pesticides. I am grateful to the Hon. Speaker, Mr. Balram Jakhar who raised this issue on 3rd August in this House which attracted the attention of the entire country. It is not a matter which concerns Punjab alone but the entire country. Today, we have a great concern about Punjab because of the President's Rule there had because of that, Government is directly responsible for it. Besides Punjab, in many other States, the sub-standard pesticides, insecticides, fertilizers and seeds are being supplied to the people.

Shri Bairagiji has stated that Madhya Pradesh is also one of such States.

Though Hon. Minister has rightly stated but perhaps he must not be knowing that other States also have been facing the same problem. In Ganganagar, a farmer used pesticides and his crop worth Rs. 5.6 lakh got damaged. I request to the Hon. Minister to pay special attention to it because adulterated pesticides have also caused damage at several other places in Punjab. It is not appropriate to say that it was only 25 days after the expiry date of pesticides that farmers were given pesticides at lower rate in Punjab. Everybody knows, it is very harmful to use the pesticides or the drugs for human consumption of which the expiry date is already over. In our childhood we used to hear that a time will come when even the pure poison will not be available. It seems, that time has arrived now.

A perusal of the newspapers of the last one year will indicate to the Hon. Minister as to how large a quantity of adulterated pesticides, insecticides and fertilizers was supplied to the farmers.

Everybody is aware of the great loss Bihar suffered last year due to floods but

adulterated pesticides were supplied to the farmers when they started their sowing operations after floods. This I can say with full responsibility because Bihar is such a State about which if something wrong comes to fore, the people take it for granted. After flood, we were very happy and expecting a very rich crop in winter and had a hope that the poor will be able to earn their livelihood with this mango crop. but 90 per cent of the mango crop in the rural areas got damaged due to adulterated insecticides and pesticides. I want to know if there is anybody to find out the reasons ?

When we go to the villages, the farmers complain to us of the spurious insecticides. We ask them to give its proof but how the poor will prove it ? Suppose, a person complains of the adulterated milk after consuming it and if he is asked to prove it, how will he prove it when he has already consumed it. Similarly, he has already consumed the pesticides supplied to him but how will he prove its adulteration. One person may tell a lie, even two, ten and hundred persons may tell a lie but thousands and lakhs of people cannot tell a lie. Therefore an enquiry should be instituted to find out the quantity of adulterated pesticides supplied to the farmers after the last floods in Bihar. I am not talking only of the insecticides and pesticides. But also in regard to the fertilizers, I want to request to the Government to enquire and find out the quantity of spurious and adulterated fertilisers supplied to the farmers after flood in Bihar. My submission is that 95 per cent of farmers have been supplied adulterated fertilizers and soil has been given to them in the name of fertilizers. There is no other proof of it. The Government will be apprised of the whole situation if it goes through the news papers of Bihar for the last one year. You may say that the Central Government has discharged its responsibility as it has referred the matter to the State Government. The State Government will simply reply that they are looking into the matter. But you see that the poor farmers have suffered a monetary loss There should be some justice for them at least in some matters. Our Hon. Minister is justice loving. I would request him to go deep into this matter and find out the truth. It is well

known that a Mafia is working behind it. The persons howsoever big they are, if found guilty of distributing adulterated fertilizers to the poor farmers should be given most severe punishment and they should not be spared. Only then the people will have their faith in the Government. If the Government ignores this matter simply by saying that the seeds of sub-standard quality were supplied to the farmers, it will serve no purpose. I want to tell you that whosoever used these seeds was ruined as the seeds did not grow and resultantly there was no crop.

Today, there is social tension in Bihar. One of its reason is that the vested interests are cheating the poor and if this malpractice is not stopped either by the Government or by the people, who else will stop it ? The responsibility of the centre doesn't end here simply with the issuing of instructions to the State Governments for preventive measures. The Centre should send a team there to find out the facts. The pesticides and insecticides being supplied by the multinational companies have been banned in U.S.A. and in other countries but the same are being supplied to India. Will somebody look to it ?

Many such cases of death due to the use of adulterated pesticides have been registered in All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Several News Papers have brought out Editorials omit. The Government should take note of it.

There is such a machinery in this world by which one can examine the genuineness of the seed. The Government should import such machines. The situation can be improved if some guilty persons are punished. Our Hon. Minister is very capable. I would request him to listen to those poor farmers who cannot raise their voice and who have no means to bring their grievances to the notice of the Central Government. Chandigarh and Punjab are quite near from Delhi and that is why the Central Government took note of the plight of the farmers of Punjab only when Hon. Speaker raised his voice in this regard. You do not pay any attention to the farmers of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. Therefore, I request you to pay special attention to them and find

[Dr. G. S. Rajhans]

out the facts in this regard. The Government must take some decision so that the farmers may get at least unadulterated things.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Government is fully committed to safeguard the interests of the farmers by making available quality pesticides/insecticides to them. I hope that the Government is not only committed, but is also bent upon to fulfil this task. However, the situation cannot be remedied only through display of determination and commitment.

The people dealing in pesticides have got their own vested interests and therefore, they are bent upon selling their sub-standard pesticide and sub-standard fertilisers. The Government has enacted Insecticides Act, 1968 to check all these malpractices. The Act is not being properly enforced in the country. A little while ago, Shri Rajhansji referred to Bihar and when I rose to speak Shri Balkavi Bairagiji asked me to refer to Madhya Pradesh also. I think all over the country, even in remote areas like Arunachal Pradesh and in my own constituency, pesticides are being sold. The farther the area, more is the adulteration and malpractice. The Hon. Minister is requested to furnish the complete information regarding the number of persons against whom action has been taken under the Insecticides Act, 1968? I would also like to know the details of the action taken against such persons. If the Hon. Minister is unable to furnish the details right now, then he may ask the officials of his Ministry to get the information collected from the States, only then will he be able to see the clear picture and know how ineffective the Insecticides Act, 1968 is. As a matter of suggestion I would like to request the Hon. Minister to make the similar punitive action provisions under the Insecticides Act, 1968, as has been made under the Food Adulteration Act and the Essential Commodities Act. Suppose, at present somebody is engaged in malpractices of selling adulterated fertilisers or insecticides whose expiry date is over and later on found guilty on investigation and sent to jail for few days or

forced to pay fine by the court after two-three years, then it is not a deterrent punishment. He has earned thousands of rupees during this period. The people indulging in these things are shameless and to them imprisonment of 5-10 days is meaningless. Therefore, I would like to request the Hon. Minister to make the provision for cancelling the licence in the event of offence being committed for the first time and punitive provisions should be made more stringent. In the event of licence in the name of husband being cancelled for the offence of malpractice, the licences in the name of wife and relatives should not be issued to such persons as suggested by Bairagiji. I express my approval to the suggestion made by Shri Bairagi.

As stated by Ramoowaliaji, a number of such pesticides are being sold in our country whose sale has been banned both in the developed as well as the developing countries and even in Africa. But many multinational companies have been permitted to sell these pesticides within India. You are requested to get the matter enquired as to which are the pesticides and in what circumstances their sale has been allowed to multinationals. Are these pesticides absolutely necessary and are there no substitutes to them? Investigation should also be done in the light of the findings of the study conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Incidence of diseases due to the application of spurious pesticides is on the rise in North Indian States of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan. The patients are being treated with great difficulty at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. According to the Doctors treating the patients at the Institute, the incidences are on the increase due to more and more application of these pesticides. This has been stated not only by the Hon. Members but also by Dr. Rohan of the Planning Commission. This he has stated not once but several times. There is the need to conduct a study in the matter towards which the attention of the Government has been drawn. I would like to request the Hon. Minister to look into the circumstances under which multinationals have been allowed to sell these pesticides in India. Is there any substitute available

to these? If yes, then why not substitutes are made available to the farmers and multi-nationals prevented from playing with the lives of the farmers of our country? The Hon. Minister must should look into these things.

Sir, today you have stated that a committee has been set up to examine the quality of the pesticides being used in Punjab. This is really very good and I would like to thank the Hon. Minister and the officials of the Ministry for this. The Hon. Minister also deserves congratulations for being very prompt in taking action on the complaint made by Shri Ramoowalia.

When such a committee has been set up in Punjab then why does not the Government form such committees in each state to study the environment and the requirements of the state and submit their report to the Ministry for evaluation. These will be of help to the Ministry in arranging the supplies of pesticides in the States.

I would like to state here on the floor of the House that 37 laboratories have been set up in the country. Of these 3 laboratories have been set up in Uttar Pradesh which are quite inadequate, 2 in Haryana and 3 in Punjab. Therefore, I would like to know the attitude of the Government regarding setting up of more laboratories in the country.

At the same time testing of the samples sent by farmers should be made free of charge and the report should be made available to them within the stipulated period of time. My another suggestion is that the arrangements for the training to the farmers should also be made as they are not aware of the application requirements of the pesticides. So they should be trained by sending teams of the specialists to the agricultural fairs or otherwise. The Government must look into this thing.

[English]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you and particularly to our Hon. Speaker

that he has given the opportunity to speak on this issue which is a burning problem of millions of farmers of our country.

I am grateful to the Hon. Minister for giving a very elaborate statement about the action taken by the Government. In the 9th paragraph he has stated that "need for stricter enforcement of quality control measures has been stressed upon the State Governments from time to time." Sir, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any provision in the Act like in the Drugs and Cosmetics Control Act, that the Drug Inspector can collect samples *suo moto* and send to the laboratory when they filed complaints against the defaulters. I want to know whether such a provision is there or not. If so, how many State Governments utilise it and how many such samples are *suo moto* collected and sent to the laboratory for test and their results for the last two years.

Sir, a survey was conducted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific and the U.N. Development Programme have reported that in 1985 alone Asian countries marketed Rs. 81.189 million worth of pesticides of which, as our Hon. friend Mr. Ramoowalia has already told 26 per. cent of the total pesticides is being consumed by our country. So, 18 Asian countries like us have some legislation on this issue to control these pesticides etc. But the frame work does not guarantee control as enforcement is often lacking, as opined by the ESCAP organisation. In such a situation may I know the position of our country and the effective implementation of the Act? I am not telling that the Act is there. But I am telling about the effective implementation of the Act, specially when our country is the maximum user of pesticides in Asian countries.

13 hrs.

My Hon. friends have said about multi-nationals. I have got a list of 24 such multi-nationals who are producing pesticides in private sector. May I urge upon the Government, the Hon. Minister to look to this aspect and see whether pesticides can be produced in public undertakings, either as joint venture with the State Government

[Shri Chintamani Jena]

or by the Centre themselves. This aspect may kindly be examined and also this type of exploitation by the multi-nationals stopped.

My Hon. friend Mr. Rawat and Mr. Ramoowaliaji have told that many pesticides like Endrin, Aldrin, BHC, DDT etc., which are commonly used by us are banned in U.K., U.S.A., and other developed countries. This type of exploitation can be checked, if we can have our own arrangement of production of pesticides in public sector.

The UNESCAP also recommended to provide training and enhance individual and public awareness about the environment aspect of pesticides production, marketing among those who are using pesticides. May I know what action has been taken till now to provide training and to help some States so that public awareness can be created. Training in this direction is absolutely needed, at least for farmers, plant managers, dealers and medical personnel. On this issue, what action the Government has taken. Similarly, for public awareness, campaign should also be there to improve the safety and efficient use of pesticides at the farmers' level. We know that our farmers are mostly from poorer class and are illiterate. My humble submission would be that some model communication system through pamphlets, slogans, posters and TV and Radio broadcast should be provided to educate about the safety and efficient use and good effect of these pesticides.

The experts who attended a 3-day National Seminar held in June this year, on a Changing Pest Situation in the Current Agricultural Scenario, recommended scientific management of crop pests to sustain agricultural production. They have recommended to counter developed-resistance to pesticides and insecticides, biological control measure and integrated pest management system in keeping with the need of protecting environment and avoid pollution. Though the experts had recommended this since long, what action has been taken on this issue. (*Interruptions.*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You please put questions to the Minister so that the Minister will reply.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : These are all special points which are not covered by my Hon. friend.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Put the question based on that.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Besides, the Seminar recommended strengthening of the infrastructure involving monitoring, survey and surveillance of pest and insects, specifying various agro-climatic zones in the country.

Our Hon. Minister who is sitting and you, Mr. Chairman, are all farmers. You know very well the crops which are grown. In some areas, cotton is grown but in some areas, there is no such crop as cotton. They have recommended that considering the agro-climatic condition of the area, the country should be divided into some zones where specific measures would be taken for these crops which are abruptly grown there and which are affected by pests. Similarly, plant guarantee and identification also need to be strengthened not only to check migration of pests from other parts of the world but also to regulate movement of infected seeds and also planting material within the country. They have also recommended the setting up of plant health clinics in all States wherever Agriculture Universities or Research Institutes of ICAR are located.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. Please put the question.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : This is a very vital point. My humble submission would be...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Not your submission but your question.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : In this connection, may I know from the Hon. Minister what action has been taken in this direction ?

I would like to quote one instance. Only yesterday, there was a question from

my side, Question No. 3221 but, to my misfortune, it was an unstarred question in which I have asked whether a large number of snails in the fruit and vegetable gardens destroyed fruits and vegetable cultivation in certain parts of Orissa and, if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to check the spreading of snails to save the cultivation.

MR. CHAIRMAN : That has nothing to do with pesticides.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : This is what you say.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please confine to Call Attention. Please put the question and confine to Call Attention.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : I am confining to Call Attention.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is the question ? Please confine yourself to the Call Attention.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Though the Hon. Minister has replied in the affirmative but no action has been taken by the State Government of Orissa to check these spreading of snails.

I am not going down to bring the debate to a personal level. I am only citing one example. I will not speak against anyone nor held anyone guilty.

This is the packet of insecticide 'Furadan' which is used to check stem-bore attack on plants. I had purchased it for Rs. 32/-. The date of expiry given on the packet is the year 1990. I had used it two or three times but without any result or effect.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why not you write to the Hon. Minister about these things ? The Hon. Member has mentioned it. That is enough. Please write to the Hon. Minister for details.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : All right.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only 5 minutes are given to you but you have taken 15 minutes.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : One horticulturist has recommended its use but it is not giving any effect. After examining this, he came to the conclusion that actually there is no effect in this medicine. There is no point in using it. Such things are going on. Therefore, I would request the Hon. Ministers—there are three capable Ministers now—to look into this matter and help the poor farmers who are crying because of these problems.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia has drawn the attention of the House toward an important issue. It will not be good on the part of the Government if it fails to provide quality seeds, fertilisers and insecticides timely, because farmers are the backbone of the nation. It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to make available agricultural inputs, water, electricity at appropriate prices for the produce to the farmers. Despite all precautions such complaints are also often made, because majority of the fertilisers in the country are marketed and produced by the private people and private companies. Insecticides in small quantity are produced by the Government agencies. There are no two opinions about the bungling practiced by the private businessmen engaged in the sale of insecticides as only small quantities are sold by the State Governments. The Government of India, at least thrice in a year, invites the attention of the State Government for issuing instructions regarding monitoring the quality of pesticides through surprise checks in a bid to provide quality inputs to the farmers. In this connection references are made and the meetings are also held. As regard the matter raised by Shri Ramoowalia which was published in the Tribune that a particular pesticide was continuously sold for 25 days even after the date of expiry was over. I would like to say that it is very bad. The pesticides should not be sold

[Shri Bhajan Lal]

even after one day the date of expiry is over otherwise there is no sense in fixing the date of expiry. Pesticides do not remain totally effective. These pesticides were not sold by any private businessman, but by the Agriculture Department of the Punjab Government at a price Rs. 176 for the benefit of the farmers whose price in the open market is Rs. 232. The additional chief secretary of the Punjab Government Shri Gill is also looking after the Agriculture Department. We made a contact and he issued instructions stopping the sale. Nearly two thousand litres of pesticides have been taken into custody by him. The Hon. Member has rightly stated that the application of this particular pesticide should be reduced to minimum. In the Eighth Five Year plan the Government proposes to supply to the farmers disease resistance quality seeds by raising their output, because weak people are easily susceptible to the diseases.

The I.C.A.R. has been doing very good work. They have done good research work and produced good quality seeds with lesser chances of contracting diseases. It is not correct, as you have said, that it is being used in the maximum quantity in India. I can give you figures. In the U.S.A. it is used 618 kilogram per hectare. In Japan it is 9.721 kilogram per hectare and in Britain, it is 8.311 kilogram per hectare. But in India it is used 0.297 kilogram is a quarter of a kilogram per hectare. We have stopped importing these pesticides which are causing harm. There have been complaints that people consumed these pesticides following a minor quarrels in their household. We have totally stopped the import of these pesticides so that these pesticides may not cause any harm to our health. We keep foodgrain either in bags or in loose form in the rooms and spray pesticides on them as a result of which it causes more harm. We have, therefore, tried to use them in the minimum quantity so that they may not cause any harm to our health. Shri Rawat desired to know as to how many persons have been punished and what action has been taken under this Act. In reply to that, I would like to say that a total of 241 cases had been filed in courts in 1986-87. Of them, judgement was given in 51 cases and punishment was awarded in 38 cases. In the year 1987-88, a total of 127 cases had been filed in the courts and punishment

was awarded in 15 cases. Last year, in 1987-88 we took 33134 samples through out the country and out of them, test was conducted on 29251 samples. Of these, 28187 samples were found upto mark and in case of 1064 samples, the presence of pesticide was much less than the required one. It was 3.6 less. We took action wherever it was found less. The Act provides for the cancellation and suspension of licence, and imprisonment for 3 to 6 months. We have made the law so stringent that no one can dare play with the life of the people and the people may not get the supply of sub-standard pesticides. We have so arranged that people may get the pesticides of good quality which will increase production in the country. The committees, as has been said by Shri Ramoowalia, should have been constituted much earlier in all the States.....

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : The committees were constituted after you asked for it over the telephone.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : It is all right that we constituted the committees later. We will see that such committees are constituted in all the States with the Vice-chancellors of the universities as their members so that we could exercise proper check on the quality of these pesticides and nobody dared to sell sub-standard pesticides and such pesticides whose date of expiry has already been over, by fixing wrong labels on the packs.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : Fertilisers should also be covered under it.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : We will cover everything. So far as the fertilisers are concerned, we have already given all the powers to the State Governments. The Government of India also can take samples and in fact we have taken some samples. But we do not have that much of staff to undertake this task. It is a state subject and 99 per cent samples have been taken in the states only. In this connection action has also been taken against the defaulters in the states. We will see that such committees are formed through out the country so that it could be completely checked in future.

You have made a mention of the consumption of fertilisers and also complained that injustice is meted out to the farmers. But the Government had no such intention. We never thrust sub-standard goods on anybody.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : I did not accuse the Government. I was just talking of the tendency.

SHRI BHAJAN LAL : You are perfectly right in saying that nobody should be given sub-standard things. The shop-keepers say that if no customer comes to purchase these sub-standard items, the farmers will come to purchase it.

Dr. G.S. Rajhans has stated that food-grains worth Rs. 6000 crores is got damaged in his state. He also referred to the 'Vyapar' or 'Vyavhar' of pesticides in Ganganagar. But it was not 'Vyavhar' because this word is used for business. Perhaps you meant to say the word 'use'. They have used it for spray. As a matter of fact, the Hon. Speaker had also said this thing yesterday and we have asked our officers to conduct an enquiry. This village is situated 100 kilometers away from Ganganagar and road communication to this village is also not good. Even then we expect a report from that village to-night. I have already ordered that samples may be taken from the company from where this pesticide was purchased and if the company is found guilty, action will be taken against it. Perhaps, the headquarters of the company is at Delhi. We have also directed that samples may also be taken from that office and most stringent action may be taken against the company if found guilty.

He has also said that good quality fertilisers are not available in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, but it is not so. We also take the samples of fertilisers from time to time. If he has any complaint about any particular area, let him tell us, we will take samples, hold an enquiry and take appropriate action on it. So far as the consumption of fertilisers is concerned, it is far less as compared to the other countries. We will have to increase consumption of fertilisers. Whereas in other countries the rate of consumption

of fertilisers is 300 to 400 kilograms per hectare, in our country it is only 49 kilograms on an average and that too due to the consumption in Punjab being as high as 159 kilograms. The rate of consumption in Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh is also good and the average consumption in the whole country comes to this proportion only because of higher rate of consumption in these states. Our production will not increase further until and unless we raise the rate of consumption of fertilisers. Shri Chintamani Jena made a mention of samples and said that the rate of consumption is less in other countries and more in our country. It is true. As it is, I have tried my best to reply all the questions. Even then we will give a serious consideration to the various suggestions made by you. The Government has all along been trying to provide good seeds and good quality fertilisers to the farmers. Anybody if found guilty, howsoever big he may be, will not be allowed to go scot free by the Government. I would like to assure the House that nobody will be allowed to play with the life of the farmers.

13.25 hrs.

Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a 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.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a 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."

The motion was adopted

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

Statement re : Prevention of Illicit Traffic
in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic
Substances Ordinances

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PUJA) : I beg to lay on the Table an explanatory statement (Hindi and English versions) giving reasons for immediate legislation by the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance, 1988.

13.26 hrs.

MOTOR VEHICLES BILL—Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Motion for consideration of the Bill has already been moved. Hon. Members who wish to move their amendments may please do so.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Sir, I beg to move :

That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to motor vehicles be referred to a Joint Committee of the House consisting of 15 members, 10 from this House, namely :—

- (1) Shri Somnath Chatterjee
 - (2) Prof. Madhu Dandavate
 - (3) Shri Dinesh Goswami
 - (4) Shri Indrajit Gupta
 - (5) Smt. Geeta Mukherjee
 - (6) Shri Rajesh Pilot
 - (7) Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia
 - (8) Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy
 - (9) Shri K. Ramachandra Reddy
 - (10) Shri Amar Roypradhan
- and 5 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of Members of the Joint Committee :

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the last week of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committee shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 5 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee. (1)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Sir, I beg to move :

That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to motor vehicles be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 15 members, 10 from this House, namely :—

- (1) Shri G. M. Banatwalla
 - (2) Shri Somnath Chatterjee
 - (3) Shri Sharad Dighe
 - (4) Shri V. N. Gadgil
 - (5) Shri Indrajit Gupta
 - (6) Shri Haroobhai Mehta
 - (7) Shri Rajesh Pilot
 - (8) Shri Somnath Rath
 - (9) Shri Syed Shahabuddin
 - (10) Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan
- and 5 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the Budget session, 1989;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary

Committees shall apply with such variation and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 5 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee. (103)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: The Motor Vehicles Bill at least has come today for consideration. The Bill was introduced last year as Motor Vehicles Bill 1987. At that time a number of amendments had been moved by the Hon. Minister himself and also by a number of Hon. Members. I am happy that the Hon. Minister has considered many of those amendments. Apart from the Government amendments, some of the amendments moved by the Hon. Members have also been accepted and incorporated in this Bill—Motor Vehicles Bill 1988. So far so good.

I must congratulate the Minister for steering clear and ultimately for being successful in bringing this Bill. Because such a Bill was prepared in 1979; but it never saw the light of the day. The necessity for such a consolidated Bill was felt for a very long time. Several Committees have gone into this question of consolidating the law relating to the Motor Vehicles. The Police Commission, the National Transport Policy Committee and several other institutions had presented their Reports. They were all before the Government and the Government had to set up as it was told a working group which went into this question and the Report of the Working Group was presented as long ago as 1980.

Going through some of the chapters of the Working Group Report relating to the Motor Vehicles, I found certain discrepancies. Some very useful suggestions made by the National Transport Policy Committee and also by the Working Group could not be incorporated for perhaps practical reasons. When the matter was discussed in the meeting of the Transport Ministers of all the States in 1986, perhaps some States objected, and perhaps the Government felt that the recommendations proposed by the Work-

ing Group are not suitable. Whatever may be the reasons, now the Bill is before us running into about 217 clauses. Going through this Bill, through many of the provisions and sections are only repetitions or only reproductions of the sections which are contained in the 1939 Bill, yet there are certain very important chapters dealing with so many important questions which need to be thoroughly gone into, scrutinised and then an expert opinion taken before this Bill is enacted. It is for this purpose that I gave notice that this may be referred to the joint select committee. If this had been done earlier in 1987 itself when the Bill was introduced then by this time we would have got the report of the joint committee and that would have made proper justice to the various provisions of the Bill.

Since the Bill is before the House I would like to draw the attention of the House to some of the important aspects or some of the lapses which I feel should be rectified even at this stage. Going by the gesture of the Hon. Minister in accepting some of the amendments of the Hon. Members earlier I would request him to consider these suggestions in the proper perspective and even now to introduce some of the amendments based on our suggestions and accept them. I hope he will have no objection to doing so after all it is a non-controversial Bill.

Sir, first I come to the question of nationalisation which is very important and with which all the State governments are concerned because the States are going on nationalising routes. They have problems every day dealing with this problem of nationalisation because people are going to courts and getting stays. At some places the decisions are being delayed. The most important aspect in this is that as against the earlier Act the authority to prepare the scheme for nationalisation and the authority to call for clearance and publishing the scheme and sit on judgement on this particular scheme is only one. In the earlier Act the authorities were different. Earlier the transport undertakings were preparing the scheme for nationalisation because it is they who know better what routes are to be nationalised whether they have the infrastructure or not because it is ultimately they

[Shri C. Madhav Reddy]

who have to run it. It is they who have to prepare the scheme for taking over certain routes. Then it is for the Government to sit in judgement over the state transport undertakings as to whether it is right to taking over the route or not. Based on the objections received from the various parties and individuals the State Governments can take a decision like a judge. It is like quasi-judicial proceedings. They have to ask for clearance of objections and hearing has to be given. Final judgement has to be given by the Government. This is being denied in this Bill. In this Bill what we are doing in Chapter 6 is that the State Government itself is coming to the conclusion that this is the route which has to be nationalised. The State Government itself is publishing the scheme and then inviting objections and when the objections are received the State Government is sitting in judgement on these objections and finally taking a decision whether that particular route, is to be nationalised or not. This, I think is not fair. The existing provision is very good because a number of cases have come and in the last ten years of its operation several people have gone to the courts and obtained judgements.

Full case law is before us. The things are already settled and now we are disturbing the apple-cart. What we are doing in this is, once this is done, then again a case will go to the court and again the courts have to give their judgement. Not only this is against the natural justice, but also this is likely to create problems for the State Governments to nationalise a particular route. The parties are bound to go to court and find out some loopholes. Today, they can't because the courts have settled. The Supreme Court has settled. The case laws are before us. The cases are being decided in the light of not only the laws but also the case laws existing today. This aspect has to be seriously considered. I am sure, many State Governments have objected to this. I do not know for what reason this has been clubbed. This may kindly be considered.

The second aspect which I would like to come to is the case of compensation to be paid to the victims. I am happy that the Government has accepted the Supreme Court's judgement earlier that the compensation is to be enhanced. Now, the

compensation is about Rs. 25,000 in the case of death and Rs. 12,000 in the case of permanent disablement. The disablement has been defined in the Act. But I do not agree with the definition of disablement. Suppose if a limb is amputated, if an eye goes, if the injury is such that one of the limbs is lost, then that becomes a permanent disablement. But what happens to the person whose brain is injured in the sense that he has been injured in such a way that it cannot be found out. He has not lost any limb. In all the accident cases, it has been seen that it is the head injury which is most dangerous. Then, the man is actually alive. He is very well but he is useless. His mind is affected. In such cases, what are you going to do? He won't get any compensation unless it is proved on the principle of the default. That is very difficult.

You have yourself said in the Bill that the principle of default is very difficult to prove in the court. When a principle of default is proved, certainly he will get more. When he gets more, that should be an additionality and not to be adjusted against the compensation already paid. That may kindly be noted. Under this particular clause, subsequently on the principle of default if it is proved in the court that the driver was wrong, he was drunk or something was wrong with the vehicle or he was going on the wrong side, then he gets compensation award from the court. In that case, suppose he gets Rs. 30,000 and earlier you paid him Rs. 20,000, then, you are going to pay him only Rs. 10,000. What I want to say is that earlier when a payment has been made for an accident in which death occurred without any regard to the principle of default, this payment is being made. Am I correct or not? Kindly tell me.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Yes, you are right.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: The point is even without proving in the court that there was a default on the part of the driver or the owner, the compensation is being paid. That is a very good principle. We appreciate that because it is very difficult to prove that the driver was wrong. Now,

whatever compensation is being paid, it will be adjusted against the future compensation whenever that compensation is awarded by the court after the default is proved. What I mean to say is that there should be an additionality. What is wrong with it? In many countries, this actually is being practised. In USA, this is the practice. Anyway, that is for consideration. But whatever has been done is a step in the right direction. Further improvement is possible. That is what I wanted to say.

Coming to another question of the testing facilities, we all know that many vehicles which are condemned, polluting the atmosphere are on the road. All types of vehicles are on the road. Sometimes, such buses of the State Road Transport Corporation are also on the road because of various reasons. I do not want to go into those reasons. But what we are doing is we are opening the floodgates by allowing private testing institutions to test these vehicles, whether they are roadworthy or not in addition to the existing facilities that the State Governments or the Central Government are having for testing. You are doing this for the reason that you do not have adequate facilities. What you are doing is that the private garages are going to be permitted to test the vehicles and give a certificate. That means that there is lot of scope for malpractices. Any vehicle will be passed and a certificate given by the private testing institutions. What arrangement is there to see that it is checked? How can we do that? It would be easy for anybody to approach a private garage and get a certificate. Of course, he will be an authorised for that purpose. That does not help us. My point is that the States will also be losing some revenue because for testing we charge certain fees and I think, nobody is going to come to Government testing institutions. I am sure that. This will actually aggravate the position and more and more condemned vehicles will be on the road polluting the atmosphere. This may kindly be looked into.

It is actually the regional or the State Transport Authorities which are executing the Act at the State level. After all, this is an Act which is to be executed by the State Governments and the Central Government has nothing to do with it. You are passing an Act, the implementation is in their hands.

Now, it is found that many of these State Road Transport authorities have a number of people on the Committee. There are States, where I was told there are 12 persons, 15 persons on the authority and whenever a meeting is held, quorum is never achieved and decisions are never taken and no judicious decisions is possible, particularly because a lot of condemned politicians are there. They come and sit in the Committee. The Government realised this and today we have fixed the maximum number to be on these Committees. Very good, but in the earlier Act, we had the minimum number. What we wanted was that there should be a minimum as well as maximum. What you are doing today is that you have done away with the minimum, you have accepted the maximum.

[Translation]

Earlier, there was a practice which you abandoned and started a new one. You have accepted the maximum.

[English]

The number for the State Transport Authority is four excluding the Chairman and minimum is two excluding the Chairman in the case of Regional Transport Authority. But what is the minimum. Minimum can be even one.

One Chairman and one member. Will they decide anything? What can they do? Is it possible? Again, there is a lacuna. What you have to do is that you must have a maximum strength as also minimum strength prescribed otherwise there is a possibility that it will be a one-man show. Only the Chairman will be sitting and deciding the things.

With regard to certain Road Transport Corporations, it was found that these transport authorities, State and Regional Transport Authorities, were exercising control over these State Transport Corporations also so much so that without any regard for certain problems, they were cancelling the permits etc. These complaints are there. Every day State Government receives such complaints

[Shri C. Madhav Reddi]

because the State Transport Organisations are run by the Government. And then they have the difficulties. Now, these difficulties had been examined by the National Transport Policy Committee and the Committee gave a very sound recommendation that in such cases you can delegate certain powers to the Chairman of the State Transport Undertaking. After all why cannot you do that? Why should the Regional Authorities or the State Transport Authority exercise those powers? Why not you give certain powers to the Chairman of these undertakings. Anyway, I could not find any clause in which it has been done. Obviously it has been missed. That should be done so that there may not be any unnecessary harassment to the State Public Sector Undertaking.

Coming to the question of special provisions and special Acts passed by the State Legislatures, I would like to say that while there was a Central Act in existence, certain States had been permitted with the permission of the Central Government, to take certain special provisions and pass certain special legislation for the implementation of this Act in their States in respect of certain matters because certain special circumstances may obtain in a particular State. It should be possible for every State to make certain provisions at the State level.

Now, under Clause 217 of the Repealing Act, we are repealing all those Acts and all those provisions. After this Bill is passed all those Acts or special provisions made by special legislation in various States for the implementation of this Act are going to be repealed. Now, I would like to ask, before doing this, have you discussed and have you consulted the State Governments. You have been consulting the State Governments very often I know. But the effect of passing this Act is that all the special Acts, or special provisions—they are not exhaustive Acts, they are only related to certain provisions in respect of certain States—will stand repealed. Now, what would be the effect of this? Again they have to pass certain Acts and certain provisions have to be made. You have validated the action taken before the passing of the Act but in future for implementing this Act they will find difficulty and again every State has to go the legislature

and pass certain amending provisions and come to you for approval, as far as this Act is concerned. This has to be looked into because it is likely to create problems for the State in implementing the Act.

Lastly, I will come to the question of National permits, and the various types of permits which are being issued for the goods carriages, etc. Sir, we have about 5 categories of permits. There is a District Permit, Intrastate Permit, Interstate Permit based on certain agreement and again there is a Zonal Permit and a National Permit. Why do you have these categories? Where is the need for these permits? You could have only a State Permit. Today transportation has increased to such an extent that there is no truck which can be called a 'district truck' which means that its area of operation is confined to just within the district. At some point of distance it has to cross and go to another district. Therefore, there is no meaning in having this district permit. There should be only be two permits—national permit and state permit. This permit system should be further simplified by saying that there should be only two categories of permits, namely State Permits and National Permits. Whether the area of operation is two States or five States or ten States, it should be covered under the national permit. Once it is beyond one State, it has to be a national permit. Let there be no inter-state permit because inter-state permit means entering into lot of negotiations, agreements and so on which is somewhat difficult.

These are some of the suggestions that I wanted to offer while speaking on this Bill. I request the Hon. Minister to accept some of my suggestions true to his tradition and see that this Bill which has come after a long time to consolidate the Motor Vehicles Act is made as perfect as possible.

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanyharpur): Sir, it is, in itself an exhaustive Bill. The clauses incorporated in this Bill are so large in number that one gets totally confused while reading it. Repetitions are seen off and on. I tried to read it a number of times and got confused with it. Even then by and large a good Bill has been brought

forward. Efforts have been made to remove all the discrepancies noticed in the Bill.

One thing that I find in the Bill is that it will be implemented by the State Governments. At the stage of its implementation it should be seen that nobody falls victim to the police atrocities or to the atrocities of the transport authorities. You said that anyone, who is 16 years old, can drive a motor cycle without fear. The driver will be granted a licence for this. But the driving rules provide that one should have attained the age of 19 years for having a licence for the motor cycle—and 20 years for driving a heavy vehicle. I think that a person becomes eligible for having a driving licence for a heavy vehicle at the age of 18. You should look to this aspect.

While going through the Bill I felt time and again that this Bill may become instrumental to exploit the poor. You can make a survey through out the country. You will find that there are very few owners who drive their own vehicles. Only poor people who come from rural areas and some how or the other learn driving, get employed as the drivers of their cars or trucks. You have made a number of provisions in this Bill. But, I am afraid, lest the owners of the vehicles should exploit their drivers under the cover of this Bill.

It has also been said that people above the age of 40 will have to get their licences renewed. Their licences will be renewed for the next 5 years and every time they will have to produce a medical certificate at the time of renewal. Everybody knows that it is both very easy and difficult to get a medical certificate. If somebody finds some lacunae in the certificate, the driver will lose his job at the age of 40. I, therefore, request you to change it to 55 years instead of 40. When a person above 55 years of age demands a licence, he should be asked to produce a medical certificate. If he has any defect in his eyes, he should be examined. But on the ground there should not be any injustice with him. One should not be harassed or made to suffer for minor defects such as being under-weight or having cough. I have seen that the driver pass their days in utmost poverty and resort to driving under very compelling circumstances.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : How much you pay to your driver ?

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : That is not to be disclosed here.

[Translation]

We come across many such instances in which people own vehicles and do not have their own driving licences. They or their children go on joy riding and drive the vehicles carelessly. In the case of any accident, they shift the charge on to the driver with the statement that the accident took place when the driver was driving the vehicle. The driver accepts the charge, because it involves his job. This type of exploitation takes place on several occasions. If the stipulation of producing medical certificate after 40 years of age is enforced, the owners and private companies will threaten the drivers daily and warn them to work properly otherwise to lose their jobs. In this way the poor fellow will be ruined. I, therefore, request the Hon. Minister to have a practical approach in this regard. If any such person is having some defect in his eye, he should be asked to under go the eye test. In case of any other defect he should not be removed from service. Several opthalmogical defects are curable. Hence he should be given the facility of treatment.

With reference to registration you have said that a car running for more than 12 months in a State will have to be got registered in that every State. In this connection I would like to point out that a number of States are situated quite adjacent to one another and people belonging to one State are required to stay in the adjoining State under the exigencies of work for quite a longer period. For example, a resident of Ranchi stays in the adjoining State of Orissa or West Bengal under exigencies of work for 14 to 15 months. You can very well imagine what difficulties he will have to face in these States if he is asked to get his car registered there. I, therefore, request you to extend this period to 3 years from 12 months. Everybody knows, how much difficult it is to get a vehicle registered and

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

to have a driving licence of it. So far as it is applicable in the case of the original State transport authority, I support the proposal.

You have mentioned a very interesting thing in clause—116 of the Bill.

15.59 hrs

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

The State Government may remove or cause to be removed any sign or advertisement which is likely to distract the attention or concentration of the driver.

14.00 hrs.

You may have seen that in big cities such as Delhi and Bombay, etc. advertisements are put on the buses. May be very few people know the fact that through advertisements, Government or the transport department earns a very large amount of money. Assume that on a bus, there is a picture of a beautiful girl in the advertisement and some fifty or hundred persons are looking at it, then the attention of the driver will naturally also be diverted towards it out of curiosity which may cause an accident. I have seen this. Advertisements should be put on the back side of the bus. It should not put on the sides of the buses and the State Governments should be instructed in this regard. Mention has been made about un-manned level-crossing also. Accidents occur due to the faults not only on the part of drivers but on the part of trains and pedestrians also. The Hon. Minister mentioned about the driving schools. The Hon. Minister might be knowing how the driving schools are being run in all big cities. Persons running driving schools with connivance of police and tauts issue driving licences to the needy persons. A driving licence is issued even in the name of a who is not in India running of a driving school is a very flourishing business which fetches a good amount of money. You have rightly said that a through investigation should be made about the instructors and personnels employed in the driving schools. I would rather suggest that this business of private driving school should be totally abolished. There should be only

Government runned driving schools and only bonafide persons should be given driving licences, be it a learner or a permanent licence. It is rightly said that driving of a motor-vehicle is a work of much responsibility. So a wrong person should not be granted licence. It is a very good provision that any person driving vehicle under influence of alcohol or drug will be punished. But it is very difficult to carryout blood examination of such persons on the spot. I know a case in which the guilty person was saved by the Hospital doctors. When he was brought in the hospital by the police for his blood examination as he caused accident under the influence of alcohol. In this connection I do not want to refer the name of Willington Hospital. It can be any hospital, that man was saved, but some one else surfered. So a provision should be made that if a person is found driving vehicle under the influence of alcohol, he should be arrested then and there on the spot on the basis of evidence, pending outcome of his blood test. In several states there are transport authorities where rampant corruption is prevalent. I know about one State where the Chairman of the State Trading Corporation auctioned a bus at a cost of Rs. 60 only. A person known to him might have purchased it and thus he got a property worth lakhs of rupees at a nominal cost of Rs. 60 only. My suggestion is this that the policy of nationalisation should be done away with and all the persons who want to operate buses on the roads under State transport be allowed to do so. Such arrangements should exist not only in Delhi but outside Delhi also. If fifty persons want to operate buses on one particular route, let them allow to do so. In that case there will be stiff competition and only such operators will survive who will give good service to the public. This is the law of the survival of the fittest. In that case there will not be monopoly of one persons...

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : This is in the Bill.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : I know, I have read the Bill. You have liberalised earlier also. But, now, stop this totally. In order to provide better service to the public, maximum number of persons who are willing to operate tourist or passenger buses should be issued permits.

In the end, I would like to submit one thing that you have brought a good comprehensive Bill and welfare of poor drivers should also be looked into.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): I stand to support the Motor Vehicles Bill, 1988. At the outset, I may congratulate the Minister for the very comprehensive Bill which has now been introduced. The Act that was in existence from 1939 and the various amendments made thereafter were not sufficient to meet the requirements of the recent times and we know many of the frauds that are committed in the offices, in the RTO's office in getting the permits, in granting licences and all that. Sufficient care has been taken to see that those anomalies are removed, and the malpractices are to be removed. So, the necessity of the Bill cannot be overemphasised. I have been listening to the speeches of the earlier two speakers.

One thing that has been said is that this Bill ought to have been again referred to a Joint Select Committee. We know that when this was first introduced there were hundreds of amendments even from the side of the Treasury Benches and another hundred from the Opposition. I am glad that the Minister and the Ministry have given due consideration to all these amendments.

Much of the difficulties have been removed because everything has been compiled, recast and a very beautiful Bill has now been presented. If we again send this Bill to a Joint Select Committee, then I am afraid this Bill would not see the light of the day in the next three or four years because it has been our experience. There is a saying. If you do not want to act, you appoint a Committee, but if you want to act, you take a decision. I congratulate the Minister for taking a bold decision. There may be difficulties when we implement the provisions of this. But those difficulties can be taken care of by bringing amendments or whatever is required in future. I am glad that this Bill has been presented now.

Salient features are found in this Bill. Since it is a very large Bill, it is very difficult

for anyone to go extensively into the provisions of this Bill. There are stricter procedures relating to grant of licences; standards for anti pollution devices; fitness certificate for the private sector; nationalisation of route; maintenance of roads; road safety and a lot of other things. So, I am sure that when this Bill becomes a law, much of the difficulties that we experienced in this field would be removed.

I would like to draw the attention to one or two Clauses.

Fear has been experienced that a free licensing system will be given for giving permits. But if you go through the Bill very carefully, I am sure that fear has no basis.

Sir, nationalisation, I must say, must not be merely for the sake of nationalisation. I represent Trivandrum Constituency in my State. Trivandrum has got a totally nationalised route. But in most of the interior districts, there are both private and Government route. Our experience is that when there is a nationalised permit system alone, passengers find it very difficult and they have to stand for hours together because Kerala State Road Transport Corporation is the only agency which is plying buses in the city. In some of the other districts, they allow both the private sector and the State Government Road Transport Corporation to operate together. They fix a time limit and there is a real competition between the two. Though we are all for the nationalisation, we would not be able to nationalise all the routes throughout the country at one stretch. We have private sector in a very large area. So, I must say that there should be a real competition between these two, which will enable the ordinary passengers to have more comfortable time in getting the buses in time and other facilities.

I would like to draw the attention particularly to Clause 99. It relates to awarding of permit. It says:

"Where any State Government is of opinion that for the purpose of providing an efficient, adequate, economical and properly co-ordinated road transport service, it is necessary in the public

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interest that road transport services in general or any particular class of such service in relation to any area or route or portion thereof should be run and operated by the State transport undertaking, whether to the exclusion, complete or partial, of other persons or otherwise, the State Government may formulate a proposal regarding a scheme....."

This has been questioned by the first speaker. It is said that in the present system, the law is very clear because rules are there. I must say that in Kerala, even at present it is the Government which decides which routes are to be nationalised. So I do not think the point raised by the first speaker has any basis. There are very clear rules for the nationalisation of routes.

Regarding national highways, more care needs to be taken for their upkeep as most of the accidents take place on the national highways because of unsafe conditions of roads. Even though lot of funds are earmarked by the Government of India for the maintenance of national highways, it is very doubtful whether these funds are being properly utilised. I must say that there should be a Central agency to see funds that are earmarked are actually spent for the purpose for which they are given. Our experience is that when we go through the national highways from one State to another, we find that the conditions of these roads are not good at all. Certain State Governments are not at all keen in spending any money on these highways. So it should be ensured that whatever money is earmarked it should be properly spent for the maintenance of national highways.

I request that more roads be declared as national highways. In Kerala there is a request for declaring MC roads as national highways. I know, this is not the time to make such a request. However, it is good if the Government of India consider it favourably.

About the issue of driving licence, I congratulate the Minister for giving an exhaustive chapter on that because I know that many of the accident take place because of lack of proper training. That has been well taken care of,

Noise pollution, fuel pollution and other pollutions are creating problems. The Bill has taken care of that also. I am glad that sufficient care has been taken to remove the anomalies.

I am sure, when the implementation of this Bill starts, most of the difficulties being faced by the people will be removed and the roads will be more safer for the passengers.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): After fifty years, this Bill has been brought to make new provisions, the need for which has been felt for quite some time.

As the Minister has explained in his introductory speech, circumstances have changed considerably since 1939. The number of motor vehicles on the road has increased from 3 lakhs to about 100 lakhs and the road network has also increased. But what he has not mentioned is that qualitatively there has been a big difference not only in the number of vehicles but in the type of vehicles that are using the roads. Previously we had small lorries.

When 1939 Act was passed, the maximum load which a truck could carry was one tonne, but now on paper it can carry 7.5 tonnes. But I am told on a very good authority that these trucks which we see on the roads-Tata trucks-they are really capable of carrying upto 15 tonnes. They, in fact, carry that much load. So, qualitatively there has been a difference which has also to be taken note of, which means that the motor vehicles of today, the goods vehicles and the stage carriages all have become much more lethal in character than they were in 1939. Then they were slow, they were lighter and the roads were not so congested. Secondly, the lethal quality has increased many more folds than will appear from mere numbers. I am afraid that this part has not been taken into account in formulating the provisions of the Bill. Adequate measures have not been brought forward to satisfy the needs of safety on the road, for which various other provisions will be required if safety is to be ensured to the people using the roads, either as pedestrians or as passengers in vehicles, and to ensure that the vehicles themselves do not damage

property alongside the road, and so on. In this matter I think that a lot of new thinking was necessary. Unfortunately for all the Committee Reports etc. which have been gone into by the Working Group, they have not really considered the needs that have arisen because of these technical changes which have already taken place and are taking place at a very rapid rate today. This Bill which will be enacted—I am sure that this Bill when put to vote will be enacted because the ruling party wants it—will again be continuing for another half a century. If that is kept in mind, then various other provisions could have been brought in, and that is why I will request the Minister to pay heed to the amendments which have been tabled and the requests which have been made to take it before a Joint Select Committee of Parliament so that due consideration can be given. I know that it is a time-consuming process but if we could have waited for fifty years—the need for a new Bill having been felt at least twenty or thirty years ago—we can wait for another one and a half, two or three years also so that something comes. In the mean time, it is not as if there is nothing at all. The Act is there, and some slight changes which are urgently, necessary might be made. But for the new Bill, I think it would be worthwhile to wait even for two or three years so that all the aspects of the changes which have taken place, technically and otherwise, can be taken into account, including the changes which are envisaged, which have already taken place in other countries and will soon come to this country. So, I would again request the Hon. Minister to think about it and see, if it is possible, even now to withdraw the Bill and to send it to a Joint Select Committee of the Parliament.

I would draw the attention of the Minister to certain aspects only. The Bill is a very long one and it is not possible, given the time which is allocated to Members, to go through the major portion of the Bill. So, I have to confine myself to certain portions only.

Before I do that, another aspect I will emphasise it that the Minister has said that the State Governments have been consulted so far as the Bill is concerned. It is possible that some State Governments might have sug-

gested some amendments to the Bill now existing, but I understand, and it is also stated in the Minister's introductory speech of today, that after the Bill was drafted on the basis of the Working Group's recommendations—of course, there is a lot of departure from the Working Group's recommendations also—there was a meeting convened only once of the Ministers of Transport of State Governments. That has not, in my view, given the States an adequate opportunity of present their views. Therefore, I believe that a number of States are still feeling aggrieved that they have not been properly consulted in bringing this comprehensive Bill before Parliament.

Now, let me pass on the aspect of the safety which is very predominant in my mind and it should have been taken care of by this Bill because it is something quite urgent. Now, what we see today and the Bill unfortunately does not take care of that evil which has crept in. The whole licensing procedure—licence to drive—has become rather a farce. A man does not know how to drive because there are no proper driving schools. Now, you are bringing some provisions to control the driving schools, but even these are not adequate because there is no way in which a person can teach the other persons to drive unless he is trained so to teach. He has not enough training to teach others. So, there is no such training given as prescribed or thought of prescribing in the provisions which have been brought today. Now, that is it to be gone into. How to ensure that people can learn to drive properly and what kind of regulation the Government must have on these schools so that there are schools where people can go to learn driving and not just to get licences. In fact, that is exactly what is happening today that people go to the driving school and pay certain amount of fees and they get the licence. As Mr. Rajhans has said, irrespective of whether they are staying in India or not, the licence is given. These have become merely professional agents and in fact the Department has become corrupt and that is why this thing can proliferate. So on the money part, if Rs. 500 is given to the driving school and for getting a licence—and they are not teaching a person to drive, they are getting a licence—naturally they will take Rs. 200 or, Rs. 300 to the officials concerned to issue

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the licence. This is what has been happening. Now, if people have some kind of training school, some kind of training they have to obtain before coming for a test. They have to go to the driving schools. The driving schools have to be properly regulated and controlled by the Government to see that they remain reliable when they send somebody or when they bring somebody for a test. It must be properly taken care of by appropriate vigilance on the officials themselves. I do not know whether the same sort of officials are continuing who have been continuing under the existing Act because they suddenly turn honest because corruption has gone to such a proportion that it is very difficult to eradicate. So, proper vigilance is very much necessary. There is no provision to see that this kind of vigilance is incorporated in the way the Department is organised or appointed. So, that should be done.

Then the danger to people may come from drivers, not merely because they have not been trained, but they have just got the licence by paying a sum of money directly or indirectly to the Inspector issuing the licence, but also he may after getting the licence on learning the proper driving, he may not drive properly. What one has to do is to see that traffic regulations are also appropriately followed and they are implemented. Now, the implementation machinery for traffic offences is very very weak. First of all, there is no way of catching a person who is violating the traffic rules, not to speak of actually getting him punished for such violation. The offence are there. But those offences do not allow a Policeman, even if he sees a person violating the traffic rules, to arrest because all these are non-cognisable offences. So, what can be done is not just to issue a notice or a summons to ultimately make him to appear or not appear before any court, but the point is whether at all the summons can be issued or whether at all the court is to take up the case. As I understand, most of these traffic offences are never actually tried. I hope that the Minister knows that this is the actual state of affairs. So, to ensure safety on the roads one has to see that the offences are not only created by the Act, but these offences are brought to book and bringing to book has got various stages—spotting the offence and apprehen-

ding the offender, bringing him to court for trial and all these stages. I am afraid these have not been taken care of in sufficient details in this Act which we should have done having regard to our experience under the existing Act.

So, that is one side of the thing. Of course, there is a provision now that the court may revoke the licence. This should be done in certain cases of offences, particularly of offences regarding dangerous driving and so on. This should be not an option given to court because the court may be sometimes unduly charitable to the offender and not to the persons who stand in danger of being killed or hurt grievously by this type of driving. So, what in fact should happen, what should be provided for in the Bill is that in the case of dangerous or reckless driving or driving under the influence of drinks or driving with excessive weight in case of heavy vehicles or with excessive passengers in case of public service vehicles, there should be a compulsory revocation of licence. If that is not done, then of course there is no appropriate punishment which will in fact safeguard the life and property of other people. So, that should be made compulsory and not optional as to whether the licence is to be cancelled or suspended.

The other aspect of it is the machine itself—how to ensure that even if a person knows how to drive, even if he is willing to or trying observe the traffic rules, if the vehicle itself is not fit to be driven on the road and fit for all types of situations which it may have to go through in the road while being driven on the road, there of course again the danger will not be removed from the users of the road. This requires the fitness certificate to be obtained by the vehicle. What is provided now and what is being envisaged in this Bill is that this fitness certificate will be brought once a year. Do you think that once a year is sufficient? Given the number of distances travelled by the heavy vehicles—a vehicle may ply from Delhi to Bombay and from Bombay to Bangalore and come back to Delhi, something like that, in the course of two weeks only, and in the course of one year it will be making the same trip may be 50 times or a little more or a little less. So, it is necessary that the vehicles having regard to the

nature of the journeys made by them should be obliged to obtain the fitness certificate much more frequently than once a year. I personally think that at least a quarterly fitness certificate is required for the heavy vehicles including the buses which carry so many passengers, so many passengers' lives are involved...*(Interruptions)*. Now, I am coming to that, what you have been indicating. *(Interruptions)*.

Now, the question is fitness certificate can be obtained by paying money. This is what Mr. Mushran has been indicating to me. I am going almost into the root of this evil which should be eradicated. Otherwise, if by paying money anything can be done, then you can do away with the annual fitness certificate also. I am assuming that the fitness certificate will be genuine, after proper test it will be issued and not only in exchange of money. In that case I would say that it is necessary for you to see that proper vigilance is exercised on the people who give the fitness certificate. And that also should be put in the Act itself. It is not only that the fitness certificate is given but the authorities concerned must see and check that these fitness certificates are given in a proper way and not by graft. The question has arisen and Shri Madhav Reddi has rightly said that it will not be proper that the fitness certificate to be obtained from private garages. I agree with him. But I would insist that private garages be properly equipped and private garages may give a certificate, and on the basis of that certificate, the vehicle will be tested. Otherwise, the vehicle will not be tested at all and then the fitness certificate will be given by Government inspector only and the Government inspector must also have access to proper testing machinery. At the moment, nothing has happened in these 50 years, from 1939 to 1988, where have we proceeded with regard to the motor vehicles, in regard to proper maintenance and repair? Can you obtain even half a dozen garages in a place like Delhi which are equipped with proper testing equipment. You should not find it. There may be one or two garages in the State Transport Corporation and one or two in the private sector, etc. Otherwise, they have nothing at all. Even for a brake test what happens? If the brake in my car is not working and if I go to the mechanic, he will

drive it in the crowded street and see whether it works or not. If it does not work, there will be an accident. This is position because nobody is insisting on safety. This is the opportunity where Parliament could have insisted that first of all the certificates have to be obtained. At present you have to obtain the certificate from the garage. But that garage will have to be properly equipped. Otherwise this certificate will be of no use. That kind of control I want the Government to exercise because this is much more important perhaps than even the Factories Act. In the Factories Act, you are trying to save from danger the workers who are working in the factory with the same machinery day in any day out. Whereas here you are trying to save the lives of the users of road who are not faced with the danger, every time except whenever they are on the road. They are not habituated to it. They cannot anticipate what kind of danger they may have to face. Therefore, it is much more important. You could understand 15 tonnes or 20 tonnes of truck rushing around the street with great speed and what kind of danger it poses to the people. Unfortunately I see from the whole thing, the way the Bill has been framed, the people who have done this job, have no imagination as to the type of changes which have taken place and the type of dangers that people today face. Therefore, I will request you to kindly think about my suggestion that there should be two sets of tests, with proper equipment and the test should be much more frequent.

So far as the Claims Tribunals are concerned, the Claims Tribunals were originally set up for the purpose of disposing of claims in relation to accidents arising out of the motor vehicles in a very short period of time, because the court procedure was cumbersome. But even now what happens is, once a person goes to the Tribunal, he also does not get remedy for 4 or 5 years. There are two or three reasons. One is the Tribunal follows the same procedure practically as the court does. Secondly, the police who are supposed to bring the evidence before the tribunal at least of the accident and of the death, if death has occurred, do not cooperate. Thirdly the insurance companies who are ultimately to pay the money try to drag the case as long as possible. It is a settled policy to do so to tire the claimant

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out. All these things should be taken care of through the Motor Vehicles Act by giving time limit within which, if these people do not cooperate, the award has to be given in favour of the claimant. In that case only, these people will cooperate with the Tribunal to see that the case is quickly disposed of.

The Law Commission has also given a report that the jurisdiction of the Claims Tribunal should be such that a victim of an accident or the kith and kin if he has died, should be able to bring the case in the Tribunal having jurisdiction where they are residing and not only where the accident has taken place or the defendant resides which is the principle today, as it will be very difficult for a person permanently disabled and for the widow and minor children of a person who has died, to go to a place of accident or where the defendant resides, to bring a case in the Tribunal. It is not possible for them to go. This is a Law Commission report. Kindly see whether you can incorporate that.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motor Vehicles Bill, 1988. At the outset, I congratulate the Government, particularly the Hon. Minister in charge of Surface Transport, for the strenuous efforts he has put in to bring this comprehensive Bill before Parliament.

As you know, the Act that we have at present dates back to 1939. About half a century, 50 years time, has elapsed in the meanwhile and in between we have also achieved our independence in 1947 and obviously after independence, economic development activities have been stepped up and things have changed miraculously. There has been a sea change in different fields and obviously much water has flown in the river Ganga since then and although this Act has been amended as many as 24 times so far, still much is left for this present Act to be relevant to the modern times. Therefore, it was good of the Government to come to Parliament with this comprehensive legislation. There was also a demand from different quarters for a comprehensive Bill and, therefore, I wholeheartedly support this Bill.

As has been pointed out earlier, it is a very long Bill with a large number of provisions and one cannot do justice to all these provisions.

There has been a demand from the Opposition for referring it to the Joint Select Committee and, I think it has been rightly rejected by the Hon. Minister. Some Hon'ble Members have also observed earlier that any reference to a Committee would further delay the matter and secondly, different provisions have been scrutinised in detail by different competent Bodies dealing with road transport like the National Police Commission and the Road Council. Different Bodies have discussed this and, as we know, it is the State Governments who are the implementing agencies for this sort of Act. They have also been consulted. So, that way, this Bill cannot be referred to a Joint Committee because of the urgency and time factor involved. Further, I would like to say that when the provisions have been scrutinised by different bodies and when the State Governments have duly been consulted, there is no necessity for referring this Bill to a Joint Committee... (Interruptions) What is not correct? Let me tell you that the State Governments have been consulted. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Interruptions will not go on record. Mr. Panigrahi, you please continue.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Sir, now I don't like to go into the salient features of this Bill because they have been dealt with by the Hon. Member who spoke, previously. Since there is paucity of time, I do not want to repeat those things. But, what is our problem in the field of road transport? Unfortunately, India has been a country where the road accident rate is very high. It has got to be brought down. I think 60 per cent of the road accidents in India is due to the carelessness, negligence and recklessness on the part of the drivers. This is one thing. The second point is that the road condition in different areas is not

*Not recorded.

very good. That is also a factor which contributes to this.

Sir, in the field of road transport, what we have come across is that there is rampant corruption in different transport offices at the time of issues of permits to motor vehicles, at the time of issue of driving licence to the drivers and there are so many such things. It is common knowledge that a large number of commercial vehicles and also buses ply on the roads without any valid permit, without paying taxes to the Government, they manage to run the services. With the fantastic growth in our population, there is heavy pressure on different fields including the field of transport. The result is that all the buses are over-loaded and crowded. I am sure, after the Bill is passed, if the provisions are implemented properly, there will be spectacular improvement in the situation. But again the implementation part is very important. In many areas, we are not in dearth of good pieces of legislation. But what is required is proper implementation and the necessary will power on the part of the implementing machinery to implement them, with the spirit that is underlying such legislations.

Sir, I would like to say here that some new definitions are added. Technology is changing. Road conditions are changing and there is also increase in vehicular traffic. The vehicular traffic, that is, the number of motor vehicles in 1939 was about 3 lakhs. But, yesterday, the Hon. Minister was telling that it has now reached beyond the one crore mark.

About driving licence, I would like to say something more. In many cases, the drivers are plying the vehicles even after mid-night. Most of the accidents take place in between 12 O'clock of the mid-night and 4 A.M. in the early morning. Therefore, it may kindly be examined whether the heavy vehicles etc. plying on the roads after mid-night can be forbidden and or restricted. At some places, on the side of the highways, we come across country liquor shops. For Heaven's sake, please see that they are shifted to distant places. If they can be completely removed, it is well and good. Nothing like that if there could be a com-

plete ban on opening of liquor shops. At least they should not be located at short or approachable distance from the national highways or the main roads.

As I have said, the procedure has been simplified in this Bill. Also grant of permit has been liberalised. It is very good. By this, corruption, I believe, would be minimised. I again say that it will not be eliminated completely; that is a tremendous task. Looking to the proportion that corruption has reached, nobody can boast of doing away with it completely, but it can be minimised. Anybody can now put in an application; anybody who intends to come to the transport arena can now do so. There is no question of its being rejected. Two types of vehicles have been integrated into one. Grant of Stage Carriage permits is proposed to be liberalised so as to make all eligible applicants enter the field of transport. This is a very good provision. Coming to All India Permit, I would draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to one thing. I could not understand why the limit or ceiling on permits, both internally, inside the State, as well as for national permit, has been increased in the case of individuals and companies. When a large number of educated unemployed youths are there and banks are ready to finance such projects, naturally there should not be concentration like this that a single individual can possess upto five and a company upto 10 permits. It can be examined whether it could be reduced. The unemployment problem is growing out of proportion and that way, many more persons could be accommodated or absorbed bank finance. The insurance provision is there. The Supreme Court's observations in respect of accident claims have also been accommodated. There are many good things, many welcome measures. Actually we have been looking forward to such a comprehensive Bill since long, with the procedure simplified and all that. At the same time, as I said, it is the State Government which should be impressed upon to implement it properly. Traffic consciousness has got to be created. Traffic monitoring system should be effective. Road Safety Weeks should not be observed just as a matter of routine or as a ritual, but actually the road safety instructions, road signals, etc., should be followed. The awareness should be created.

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

On the national highways, and also on many State highways, at so many places barriers are there. If there is a school or if there are some important places, then the barriers should be there. But at the same time when so many barriers, so many gates, are there, they are an impediment for speedy movement, etc., on highways, and such movements on highways should not be restricted because of time factor.

Also the road conditions at many places need improvement.

Bridges are now being built. There is a new trend. When a bridge is built on a national highway, there is a ceiling on expenditure and when the expenditure is above a certain amount, then that has to be realised by way of toll tax. There are toll gates fixed. But in some places, within a distance of 50 to 60 kms., there are more than one toll point. That should be looked into.

Regarding by-pass, the other day I gave a reference to Deogarh town in my constituency. The National Highway Number 6 connecting Calcutta with Bombay just passes through the heart of the town. It is not only Deogarh town alone but in many towns there are cases of accidents particularly killing children. Therefore, construction of by-pass also should be emphasised and given priority.

With all these things, I would support the Bill whole-heartedly. But, at the same time, there should be good understanding between the Centre and the States. It is not that we should have such good provision for issue of licence to the drivers and permits to the vehicle owners. But at the same time, there should be good number of recognised driving schools and also good workshops for proper training and testing. Therefore, recognised workshops and training schools should be located rationally all over the country in required numbers. Otherwise, the Bill, although with a very laudable purpose, will not be able to serve the purpose, and there should be a drive to create an effective awareness.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Maveli-kara): Sir. This is an old law and it has

to be changed. Several attempts were also made to change it. And also, I had the occasion to deal with this law for the past 25 years as a practising lawyer. I know some of the implications of it. I would like to urge the Minister that, in fact, the provisions regarding permits by which the present attempt also made to amend the law may have a very drastic consequences. And also it may go against the dictum laid down by various important decisions of the Supreme Court.

I can appreciate the eagerness of the Minister to see that things are more liberalised. But in the name of liberalisation, if things go as free and for all, then the motor vehicles and permits come in the hands of our officers to decide it in the light of the guidelines prescribed today in the present amendment how much is the authority or the officer will get out of these things. Whereas I can understand that there are so many lacunae in the existing laws. One is, the RTO's office or the Motor Vehicles Department' is now taken as an example for the nationalised corruption from one end to the other end of the nation. That is true. Every public man is very much concerned about it. But in spite of that corruption is there very much. I do remember in my State people staged a walk out saying that this is a right of the permit to be given as a bribe to the officers and concerned people. It came as a naxalite movement in my State and making people aware of how much corruption is taking place. It is true that corruption has to be avoided. But for that purpose, if you are leaving these things entirely at the responsibility of the Regional Transport Officer or the authorities taking away quasi-judicial power by giving certain things in the hands of them in the nature of guideline, then how much it will affect is the question which we have to go into. Also, in that respect, I would like to point out one thing. A person can get a permit if he has got a vehicle. Now under Section 47(1) of the present Act which says that it is of paramount importance if that is of public interest. In all the theories about public interest, right from the period of Britishers, the Privy Council onwards has given interpretation to this Motor Vehicles law. They have said that the paramount consideration is the public interest. It is

not a person's right to hold a permit. It is not a business. It is not a profession. But it is a thing which is done by an operator in the interest of the travelling public. Therefore, restrictions are there. Therefore, the Supreme Court in many cases has said this. I do remember a case of 1975 of the Supreme Court at page 819. 1976 Supreme Court Page 2202—all these cases are reported in the AIR. They say, if there is a party which is not represented before the quasi judicial authority, then the Court will have to pay attention to that and the public interest is to be given the maximum priority in granting the permit.

15 hrs.

In this present Bill, instead of Sections 47 to 58 of the existing law by which the permits are issued, new sections 69 to 78 in Chapter 4 are provided. Here certain guidelines are given, that the Government will give certain administrative guidelines and the authorities concerned will decide on that. What is the guideline about? The first is the ownership of a vehicle and the second about the length of the route. In the length of the route it is said that one single man can get a permit for 50 Kms. and another company can get upto 10 permits. Like that some restrictions are made.

In the matter of issuing the permit this has been developed as one of the important case laws. The Supreme Court through their number of decisions have made a case law to this effect as to how this has to be controlled. Now more than a statutory provision the case law is the thing which is governed in the Motor Vehicles Act. I feel proper attention has not been paid to the various decisions of the Supreme Court in the haste to see that corruption is removed and things are liberalised, I fear that in the practical experience this liberalisation will go against the public interest.

There is a case law I make in the present comprehensive law. There will be a case of public interest and the personal entitlement of a permit. That practice will come in. You will have to check that in the control of vehicles. I would suggest that a serious study has to be made. There can

be two opinions. Perhaps the Minister is of the opinion that let us implement it, see it and then correct it. There can be another opinion that it may be referred to a Select Committee, let evidence be taken and then it should be brought. But I would like to point out that if the chapter on issuance of permits as at present envisaged under section 71 is implemented, it will create a lot of difficulties.

A permit has to be given to a single owner. Suppose a bus has to be run by a conductor, a driver and a cleaner. All the three want to own a bus. How are you going to give priority for them? I mean, under self-employment scheme some people want to find a job, have you given any provision for that?

A cooperative society is registered and in the name of that cooperative society suppose a few employees join together, make money, take loan and purchase a vehicle, have you given any preference for them? Something like that which are very important things are there. No statutory preference is there. Instead of that, I feel more freedom is given to the officers concerned to deal with this subject. Finally, when you try to eliminate corruption, corruption will consolidate at the officers level. That is my fear with regard to the permit matter. All steps taken to eradicate corruption in this Bill will have our whole-hearted support.

There is a dog in the manager policy with regard to nationalisation. Chapter 4(A) of the present Act says that there is a nationalisation scheme. When a scheme is notified, no permit can be issued on that route. Because of this provision the public is suffering. If the Maharashtra Government notifies a particular route for a public undertaking, no new bus service will come in that route and the public is suffering. Therefore you have provided a provision here.

Yesterday when you were making your introductory speech, you mentioned that for the time being if the notification is there and if they are not in a position to implement it, then automatically the permit will be cancelled.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : Mr, Chairman Sir, I just want to clarify some doubts. I think the Hon. Member has not read the provisions provided in this Bill. As far as the nationalisation is concerned, I had clarified yesterday that suppose a route from A to B is at the moment being operated by 20 private operators. The moment the State Government or the Public State Transport Undertaking wants to nationalise that route because they feel that it is in the interest of the public and they give notice, after the notice has been given, all the private operators come running to the authorities saying that please don't nationalise it. So no nationalisation takes place. Whenever they feel like it they withdraw it. Now what we say is that within one year you nationalise that route and also when you are nationalising the system which is prevailing should continue and within one year if you do not nationalise then your notification becomes null and void. This will help not to encourage the wrong thing in the system. That is the idea.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Still I would like to point out that for twenty years the notifications were published and they were not implemented. There is what is called schedule 'A', schedule 'B', etc. and finally people were suffering. Then the advocates will have to make a case it is not overlapping. The cases went upto Supreme Court and in a number of cases the Supreme Court said that two overlapping points should not be there. You can cross or intersect. To overcome that difficulty my suggestion is that proper buses should be available for the people.

There is another thing also. Being an MLA or some local influential man his first interest is to see that a bus is taken to his constituency whether there is a necessity or not. Then he will say that this route should be nationalised. Now this process should be avoided. This happening everyday.

Finally if you look at the history of the transport undertakings in this country you will find most of them are incurring heavy losses. Even the other day you yourself told that DTC is running into heavy losses. On the other hand when a private operator gets

a licence he makes money. He purchases one bus, two buses and then three buses. So somewhere the restriction has to be imposed and the streamlining to be done.

I would like to say a few words about permit matters. Steps should be taken to streamline these things. The directions of the Supreme Court are there. While implementing you should see no contradictions creep in. There should not be anything contradictory. Stringent steps have to be taken in respect of driving licences. The provisions with regard to claims tribunals, etc. is good. At present there is cumbersome procedure which needs to be rationalised and necessary facilities given to the public to take advantage of the situation. At the same time I would like to point out that the road conditions are bad. There are notifications for limiting the permits and unhealthy competition takes place. Another important thing is inter-connecting services. Naturally there are decisions to that effect. When a permit is given one of the criteria is to see whether he has got coordinated bus service. The coordinated bus service is one of the factors but when you restrict it to a certain extent how the coordination function can be there. There are bus operators who have developed their bus service in different tangents and developed into a big concern. How that will be affected is a matter which will have to be investigated in the light of the provisions of this Act. Suppose coordinated transport system is available for the public will it be ruined. That is my fear because you are limiting the permits to five, ten, etc. Beyond ten permits nobody could get. Will it affect the existing system? It is a question which has to be gone into.

Since you are ringing the bell in conclusion I would like to say that on the whole the review of the entire matter and a new law is a must and it has to be there.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Mr, Chairman, unfortunately I was delayed a little and I have not been able to move my amendments myself but substantially it does not matter because Shri C. Madhav Reddi and Shri Soz have moved their amendments which I support. Now the question is that lot has been said about the difference between the earlier Bill and

this Bill. As I understand there are not very substantial differences but if there is a difference then it is in these terms.

I would like to mention that in sub-para (e) of para 3 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons in the Motor Vehicles Bill, 1987, it is stated :

“laying down clear parameters where the private and public sector can co-exist and develop in road transport field.”

But in the present Bill, the same para has been totally substituted as under :—

“(e) simplification of procedure and policy liberalisation for private sector operations in the road transport field.

Earlier, there was at least some reference for co-existence of public sector and private sector in the transport field. Now, even that pretension has been given up. It has been clearly stated that it is only for simplification of procedure and policy liberalisation for private sector operators in the transport field. The public sector does not even feature there. This is in keeping with the present Government's policy of privatisation rather than laying stress on the public sector.

As the time is short at my disposal, I would hurriedly like to point out why some of the aspects should be referred to the select committee. As this is a long Bill and the time is limited, I would like to lay stress on two or three points. Firstly, this Bill does not do anything for increasing the benefits for ordinary users, who are not necessarily the owners of the vehicles. It gives advantage to private operators at the cost of state exchequer. I am saying this because there is a change in definitions which have been given for different types of vehicles. As a consequence of this change, they will pay less for registration fee and fitness certificate. For example, for 4000 kg of laden weight, earlier, one used to pay Rs. 50. Now, for 6,000 kg, the same fifty rupees will have to be paid. I am sure, this benefit will not be passed on to the users who will be using the vehicles for transporting their goods. There will be a loss to the exchequer.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It will be other way round.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Not the other way round. This is the practice. They will not pass on these benefits to the users. Crores of rupees will go out.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : You have not read the whole Bill, Madam. If you see, up to 4,000 kg, no permit was required earlier. We have allowed up to 6,000 kg. We have put a permit at 3,000 kg. So, more revenue will go to the exchequer. It is other way round.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : You come to next slab. As a whole, all the slabs decrease. It will actually cost the exchequer crores of rupees. There is no doubt about that. Due to relaxation in weight in different segments, Government revenue would be lost. But that will not pass on to the users. This is the first thing.

Secondly, as I said, it tends towards privatisation which is clearly written in the objective. It is also in the present provision of giving the private garages the right for fitness certificate. Then it is said that the Government inspectors are corrupt and so on and so forth. Who has ever said that these private garages have got all the virtues? That has never happened. Then you have said ‘subject to the State Governments’. What right has the State Government got? Are these garages according to the specifications of the Central Government? If once they are according to the specifications of the Central Government, the State Government does refuse to give them permission to issue the fitness certificate. They will immediately go to the court and get it washed. Therefore, in reality the State Governments are not left with the power of option of not giving the private garages the right to issue the fitness certificates. There again, the question arises as to why have you given this? You yourself said in your statement once that driving and training will be better in the hands of the Government. But in the case of inspection of transport vehicles, the power should be given to the private garages. This is your own-statement at a particular time. If training is to be given by the Government, the

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

Government must guarantee that the fitness certificate is alright. If you want to give employment benefit to certain persons, let them repair the garages. Why the fitness certificate has to be given to them? Is it that this fitness certificate gives them employment? Repairs of garages will give them employment. Fitness certificate is a question of public safety. It should be in the hands of the Central Government and the State Government should have the right to exercise it. Your Bill has rightly denied that.

You have claimed that you have instructed the State Government. So far as my knowledge goes, Clause 56 giving the fitness certificate authority to private garages has been objected by the Governments of Orissa, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Pondicherry and Tamil Nadu. The political colours of the States are not uniform. Obviously, the State Governments of different parties felt that this should not be given to the private garages. They are still of the same opinion but you have given that. Therefore, your object is being subjected to different phrases and is not an empty thing. It is there in the Bill. It cannot be denied. Public safety is endangered and the exchequer is robbed.

Thirdly, your concern for the public safety is also a little difficult for me to understand. A new provision that you have made is that if one takes the driving licence then one can renew it after twenty years. So far, three years was the time limit. Within twenty years, my hands or legs may be broken or I may be in shambles but my licence will be valued. What will happen to the public safety with regard to those things?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is a personal vehicle driving licence. If I am driving my personal vehicle I must know whether I am fit or not. It is personal vehicle driving licence, not commercial licence.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : (Basirhat) Why should it be known after a gap of twenty years?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : We have given permission for a personal vehicle licence up to the age of 40 years or for 20 years. This

is because I know myself when I am driving my vehicle, whether I am fit or not, or whether I may fall into a ditch. If I am not responsible enough to know whether I am fit to drive my personal vehicle or not, that is a different thing.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Pilots may be quite conscientious, I am glad, but if all the drivers in our country are half as conscientious as the pilots, then we could have avoided all the accidents. In fact, people do not want to go in for taking driving licences and on the top of it you are making it for twenty years. I do not think every private owner of the car will be as conscientious as you are. This should not have been done in the interest of public safety.

You have been piloting in the air and you seem to have a sympathy for the pilots on the road. But I must tell you that it is not in the interest of public safety.

This is such a big Bill and there are very many provisions, some of which have already been commented upon by my friends. I do not have much time.

The factors that I have mentioned would signify that our notice of amendment for referring this Bill to a Joint Committee of the two House is the correct course despite all your claims and many of the certificates which you have won from your side. I think, you should think over it seriously/ and agree to our amendment. Even if that takes a little time, that will improve matters. You yourself had to bring two Bills within one year. That itself shows that it is a matter for consideration by Select Committee. From all these considerations, I request you to reconsider the situation and refer it to a Joint Select Committee, so that all these aspects and many other aspects that have been raised can be gone into properly.

What is all this mad drive for privatisation and losing revenue, I do not understand. I hope you will reconsider it.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. Undoubtedly, it is a very comprehensive Bill with so many provisions and

one can make reference to only a few of the provisions.

One of the portions in the statement of Objects and Reasons is very attractive to some of us—"the greater flow of passenger and freight with the least impediments so that islands of isolation are not created..."

As the Hon. Minister knows, I belong to one of the islands of isolation in North-East. In the North-East region beginning with Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal, and we can take Sikkim also, there are no railway facilities, only vehicular traffic or roadway facility is there. That is the only facility that we get for passengers and freight. The importance of this Bill cannot, therefore, be exaggerated as far as that region is concerned. Sir, one of the provisions related permits for the buses to move State to State. Sir, I am not a lawyer myself. I have not been able to go through all the provisions skilfully. In this context, I would like to say that people in that region are scared of moving by train, they are not used to moving by the train. So, during the pilgrimage season, particularly in my State of Manipur, the majority Hindu population move out in buses and reach to the Hindu pilgrim places of the country. It is very difficult for these buses to move between the State passing the interstate borders because the border police and others who are in charge of the vehicles harass them. I am speaking of only of those cases which I know. But the situation may be same with other pilgrim or tourist buses coming from the Tamil Nadu and other Southern States from where the pilgrim buses go to all over the country, like Haridwar, Rishikesh and Banaras.

Now, most of the drivers, conductors and those who are in charge of the vehicles, are not very educated people. Here a mention has been made of giving licences to the conductors. This itself may or may not help because I am very doubtful about the utility of the licences being issued to the conductors. But, as the Government said, this Bill has been based on the recommendations, reports and other findings from various studies at different levels, I don't challenge and dispute this provision.

15.27 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

But what is important is that due respect should be paid to such permits and issued by a State Transport Authority to cover a country side route. Such permits should be foolproof permit which does not give any room to the police on the interstate borders to harass such innocent drivers, conductors and passengers who are mostly not businessmen but mainly pilgrims. So, this provision has to be made. This can be covered only by having a national permit which will have a building impact on the State Transport Authorities. I think, this aspect has been taken care of in the Bill.

Then there is the provision of restriction of the hour of working for the drivers. It says that the driver has to take 5 hrs. duty at a stretch and then half-an-hour rest before he takes up the driving work again. So, according to this provision the total working hours for one week are 48 hrs. I think, this may create some problem to the Transport Authority. As the saying goes, the taste of pudding is in its eating, though these provisions seem to be very useful and good provisions, how useful they would be will be known only when we will reach at the implementation stage. Who is going to check these things and how efficiently and effectively they can be implemented.

Sir, when we talk about the small-small details like the limited hours for the drivers and so many other things, in the civil aviation flights we see that the pilots, the hostesses and stewards who are on duty have been given certain specific flying hours beyond which they don't remain on duty and other persons take over from them.

Now, I think that this provision only indicates that due attention has been given to the safety aspect of both the passengers and the vehicles by introducing strict number of driving or duty hours...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Are you going to conclude or do you want to continue ?

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Kindly allow me to continue Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. You may continue when we next take up this Bill,

15.30 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE : CENTRE-STATE
RELATIONS—Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : we may now take up further discussion on the following Resolution moved by Shri H.M. Patel on the 18th March 1988 :—

"This House expresses its deep concern over the present Centre-State relations and demands their early restructuring so that federalism underlying our Constitution is made more meaningful."

Dr. Manoj Pande to continue his speech. He is not present in the House. Shri Jagatrakshakan may speak please.

[Translation]

*DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN (Chingleput) : Hon, Chairman, Sir, I support the resolution on Centre-State relations moved by the Hon. member Shri H.M. Patel.

Sir, federalism is the hallmark of our Constitution. Our Constitution says that there shall be a Union of States. But only when one particular language or culture is imposed upon one set of people, they develop secessionist tendencies. Therefore, imposing unwanted things on people, this very Government sows the seeds of secessionism in the minds of people.

Sir, 'nation' and 'Nationalism' are age-old ideas. The metamorphosis of these would continue for ages to come. It was

*Translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

Mazzini in Italy who first gave 'nationalism' a distinct political delineation. In those days nationalism meant loyalty to the ruler. Liberal ideas later crept in and 'nationalism' blossomed into a wider concept of 'nation state' in Europe in the 19th century and in Asia in the present century. The federalism and the golden principle of maintaining 'unity in diversity' came to India very recently in the middle of this century.

Sir, as far as Tamilians are concerned, they feel they are Tamilians first and Indians next. The broader feeling of being Indian, as it is of nascent origin, cannot shake off the pride of every Tamilian that he is a Tamilian first as it is ingrained in him since ages immemorial. The spirit of being a Tamilian is blended in his blood and flesh that the recent nationalist idea of being Indian cannot either alienate or take precedence to the former feeling of being a Tamilian. Sir, only when the Government tries to tame the Tamilians to sacrifice this in born spirit and pride of feeling that they are Tamilians first, we detest such moves and speak in secessionist tones.

When the Constitution was framed, it was framed to be a federal Constitution. Our Constitutional ideologies are based on those of the Constitutions of Canada, Australia and such other countries. Federalism is working very well and is being preserved in those countries. We have restructured the Constitution by amending it 59 times so far, yet we could not get at its spirit and make it shine. Without the concept of federalism our Constitution would be merely a code of alphabets arranged in readable syllables.

Article 356 is a spurious provision in the Constitution. There is no such parallel provision in any of the federal Constitution in the world. It is there only in our Constitution. This provision is the Government's trump card. They will misuse the same provision to keep an unpopular Government on saddle as they did in Meghalaya and misuse it again to deny an opportunity to forming a majority Government in Nagaland. This is an anti-democratic provision. This provision is there to serve as an handle for the Central Government to murder democracy. This is not there in the Constitution

to safeguard democracy and democratic institutions. This provision has been misused by this Government several times to topple and to get rid of unwanted State Governments. History stand testimony to these sordid acts of this Government.

Next is about the interference of the Central Government in the day-to-day administration of the State Governments. The Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi whenever visits a State meets the collectors and other district officials who owe allegiance to the State Government without taking into confidence the Chief Minister concerned. This is nothing but an attempt to instigate the district officials to destabilise the State Governments which they ought to serve. People have already started to view with scepticism these moves of the Prime Minister. This Government has a duty to dispel such doubts.

Now the Prime Minister has increased his visits to Tamil Nadu. We would welcome the Prime Minister at all times, if he visits the State as Prime Minister. But he comes as the Congress President under the garb of Prime Minister. More than 7½ crores are being spent on every such visit of the Prime Minister. But what is the benefit to the State? Nothing. Let us take a count of his visits since he became Prime Minister in 1985 and the number of his visits since the State came under President's rule. I am unable to understand the sudden spurt in the number of his visits to the State. I am unable to decipher the reason behind his sudden love for the people of Tamil Nadu. People also wonder and doubt the intentions of his visits.

About the office of the Governors, Sir, Perarignar (the Enlightened) Anna repeatedly appealed when he spoke in Parliament that the institution as a whole has to be abolished. Even the very Congress party which is now heavily relying on the Governors for their cheap political game of toppling the State Governments, voiced vehemently against the office of the Governors. The Congressmen, then, said that Governors were extra-constitutional authorities, their powers should be snatched and their offices should be abolished and all that. But

now the same Congressmen have vested in the Governors of free India more powers than the colonial Whites were kind to give them. This is the way the Congressmen are safeguarding democracy. This is the way the Congressmen are championing the cause of democracy. I would like to charge, Sir, that every Congressman has in his inner heart colonial attitude. That's why these Congressmen send the Governors as plenipotentiaries to pull the carpets from under the Chief Ministers' feet.

Sir, the President of Indian Union is elected by ballot. But the Governor is appointed, that too, appointed by the Central Government. If this Government believes in democracy, they must amend the Constitution so that Governors are elected by ballot as President of India.

Had this Government been sincere in keeping cordial relations between the States and the Centre, tell us, what this Government has done to solve the water problem in Tamil Nadu. Every year, they celebrated the Independence and Republic days. They stop with that. No concrete action follows. We have been appealing to this Government Ganga and Cauvery and thereby help to achieve unity and integrity among the people of North and South and also to solve the water problem in Tamil Nadu. But our voices have fallen on deaf ears. Nothing has been done so far in this regard. Even if the Government had made a sincere effort to save money from wasteful expenditure on functions attended by the Prime Minister and other dignitaries I believe, it could have been fruitfully utilized for the project. The same is the fate of Cauvery water dispute. No step has been taken so far in this direction. If this the situation, how could the Centre and the States go together?

This Government is apportioning finances to the State Governments. When there is a Congress Government in the State, they make an increased allocation. When there is an opposition Government in the State, they make inadequate allocations. In nutshell, financial allocations are being made to the States as per the whims and fancies of the Central Government. This discretion should

[Dr. S. Jagathrakshakan]

go. This is a matter of economic development of the Country as a whole. The terms and conditions, the ratio and other parameters of financial allocation to each State by the Centre should, therefore, be unambiguously specified in the Constitution itself, so that, whichever Government is there in the Centre or in the States, the duty of the Centre in this behalf becomes imperative and the parameters of such financial allocations become invariable.

Yesterday, this House approved the Tamil Nadu budget. We hoped that in view of the Prime Minister's frequent visits to the State, there would be some new programmes. To our dismay, there was none. In Tamil Nadu the conditions of schools are far from satisfactory. Children sit in tree shade and receive education. Nothing has been done in the budget to improve the educational facilities.

Now, they say that they wish cordial Centre-State relations. But what actually they do? In Tamil Nadu, the Governor's rule is there. On TV and over radio, they eulogise the Governor's administration. Along with the media, the official machinery is also being misused. They tomtom the glory of the hollow Governor's administration. If this blitzkrieg over radio and TV about the alleged efficacy of the Governor's administration is allowed to continue, I am sure people will lose faith in the democratic devices. People will lose faith in elections. People will lose faith in popular Governments.

This Government toppled a Government in the State which commanded majority. They said the Constitutional machinery had failed. They imposed the President's rule in the State for 6 months. They could not restore the Constitutional machinery back into operation within those 6 months. Then they extended it further by another 6 months. Still they are unable to repair it back. Such a Government is unfit to rule this country. This Government has become a laughing stock before the people of Tamil Nadu.

The Centre must strive to respect the regional feelings. They must strive to fulfill the regional aspirations. Persons sitting in

Delhi, 2000 kms. away, cannot decide what the people in Tamil Nadu want. They must respect the views of the people hailing from the State on all matters including the language issue. That's why Periragnar Anna suggested federalism in Centre and autonomy for the States.

This Government tried to use language as a device for unification of this country. This Government has miserably failed. Over the 40 years, all such attempts to impose one language, one culture etc. have been thwarted. This Government cannot achieve cordial Centre-State relations if it does not become accommodative and shed its craving to impose unwanted ideologies on the people belonging to one region. With these words, I support this resolution.

15.46 hrs.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : Sir, at the very outset I am grateful to the Hon. Member who has moved this Resolution. He himself has got vast experience about administration both in the Centre and in the States, and the idea of bringing this Bill was noble and it has given a chance to several members both from the Treasury Benches and from the Opposition to discuss various matters in connection with the Centre-State relations.

Our Constitution is based on two very important institutional arrangements that is, parliamentary democracy and federal administrative structure. I hope and I am sure all the members of this august House will certainly agree with me that after 41 years of independence and 39 years of our Constitution, our Constitution has stood the test of the time and this august House on various occasions, as the Hon. Member who has spoken just now has said, to suit the need of the political, economic and social conditions has amended the Constitution. All these amendments were made by this august House in order to suit the various needs of the various situations, or the various situations that have arisen from our experience.

The federal structure which our Constitution envisages is democratic in its operation

and aspects. And some of the crucial subjects which have agitated the minds of the Hon. Members have been raised through this debate. One was the appointment of the Governor, another was the role of the Governor. Some have raised the distribution of the financial resources of the Centre between the States and the Centre. Some have raised the three language formula. Some have also raised the introduction of Hindi in non-Hindi speaking States.

Many members during the discussion have also brought forward the various recommendations which have been made by the Sarkaria Commission and also the various memoranda which have been given by different political parties and different governments before the Sarkaria Commission. Many members, defending them in this House, have also brought those papers to this august House, at the time of the debate,

I am happy to say that we have written letters to the Hon. Speaker and the Chairman of Rajya Sabha requesting to allot time to have a full fledged discussion on Sarkaria Commission. This would give further chance to the Hon. Members of this House to discuss the Centre State relations at length and also on the various recommendations which have been raised today or in the past in connection with this particular debate.

As I mentioned earlier, our federal structure is quite unique to the extent that while Constitution provides maximum possible autonomy to the States, it places in the hands of the Centre adequate power to ensure the unity and integrity of a country like ours which is not only vast in its area but varied in terms of culture, language and topography. The Constitution strikes a fair balance between the Centre and the States by clearly defining the legislative and executive powers for the Centre and the State and putting the residuary powers vested in the Union. In view of this position, this country is one of the biggest democracies in the world. It is true that on certain occasions, certain matters have created some

misunderstanding between the State and the Centre, but our democracy is so strong and the Legislature and the Parliamentary democracy is so cohesive, during the last fortyone years, we have been able to solve all the problems between the States and the Centre and never our Constitution has stood in the way. In view of the fact that there were certain grievances from the state, the Government has not hesitated to have a further look on the Centre State relations. Now the Sarkaria Commission has submitted its report. This was one of the reasons that the Government had appointed Sarkaria Commission to see with the change of time, some other adjustments or some amendments or diverting some powers either to the Centre or to the State are necessary. As I said earlier its deliberation will come before this House and I am sure during the deliberation, the Members will be able to give their valuable suggestions.

It has been the singular duty of the Centre to protect the States against external aggression communal disturbances and to ensure that the governance of the States is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution as defined under article 355. Article 356 has been questioned now and again and on this pretext, just now the Hon. Members has mentioned certain things regarding Tamil Nadu about the visit of the Prime Minister and also why the Central Government has imposed President's Rule in Tamil Nadu. Governor has a constitutional power and whenever the discretionary power was used by the Governor, it has never become an accepted decision. I do not think that Governor, at any stage has misused in our independent India except on one or two occasions, where the Government has also amended the mistakes done by the Governor. It will be wrong to say that article 356 has been constantly misused. When the Constitutional breakdown comes in a particular State, the Governor has got an inherent power to decide. As I said, it is a matter of debate and this is one of the subjects in the Sarkaria Commission. The Hon. Members will be getting more chance to discuss about this particular power of the Governor when we take up the Sarkaria Commission's report for discussion,

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

Many members have also raised about the sharing of the Central resources by the States and in the process they have given some valuable suggestions. All these suggestions are noted. But the Mover of the Resolution himself knows that there is the Finance Commission which is constituted every five years. It gives recommendations after detailed deliberation with the State Governments, detailed assessment of the revenue and non-plan expenditure of different State Governments, as to what portion of the income-tax revenue and excise duty revenue should go to the respective State Governments. It is an established fact that the Finance Commission before making recommendations, take into consideration the non-plan expenditure, specially of the deficit States and economic imbalance which is a major problem in our country giving rise to agitations in different parts of the country. It has always been proved that the Finance Commission's recommendations have solved many of the problems than creating any. I am sure, the suggestions which have been given by the Hon. Members will be taken care of by the respective State Governments with the Finance Commission which is now having its deliberations. It has submitted an interim report. Its final report is yet to come. We, on our part, shall try to draw the attention of the Finance Commission to many of the suggestions that have been placed here.

Many Members have also referred to the functioning of the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is the brain-child of the founding fathers of our nation specially Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, which was subsequently strengthened by Shrimati Indira Gandhi and other Prime Ministers. The success of seven five year plans has proved that the economic development of our country has taken rapid strides. Now we are one among the 10th industrially and scientifically developed countries of the world. This has been achieved because of the correct planning. Today we do not have to go to other countries with a begging bowl. That is the success of our planning, the agriculturists and the cooperation that exists between the States and the Center, which is going to be strengthened further. The Planning Commission takes into consideration various aspects of different States like

imbalance, etc. You know many of the north-eastern States are subsidised to the extent of 90 per cent. The funds which are allotted from the Centre go not as loan but as grants. Thereby the imbalance which is now persisting in various parts of the country, is taken care of by the Planning Commission. Not only that, Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has taken a decision that in order to make planning more meaningful, planning at the district level should be given more importance. So the old process has been reversed. This has been done because on various occasions, in this august House Hon. Members from both sides have drawn the attention that the planners have not taken into consideration the reality which existed in the field. So this corrective step has been taken on the suggestion of Hon. Members.

16 00 hrs,

Many Members have raised their grievances and they have also suggested the development of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, the Hill Areas and the Tribal Areas. As you know, this Government is very sympathetic to the development of SCs/STs and also of the Hill Areas. Various schemes have been given in the past. At present also, there are various schemes in existence and I am sure that in the coming Plan, more funds will be allotted for these backward communities, which is the thrust of the Government because the Government is aware of the fact that 75 per cent to 80 per cent of our population lives in rural areas. This is why I am grateful to the Hon. Members who have suggested various schemes to be implemented. They have also criticised some of the schemes which are in vogue today in the country. All these suggestions have been taken note of by us and we shall try to communicate the same to the respective implementing Ministries, and I am sure that ultimately care will be taken by the respective Ministries.

There has been a reference to the institution of Governor, selection of the incumbent and the manner of functioning. The Governor derives his authority, powers and functions from the Constitution. He is the Head of the State. It is the fact that

because of his discretionary powers, the Governor's task is sensitive. I would not, however, hesitate to say that since independence, the Governors have fulfilled their constitutional responsibility not only effectively but also in a judicious manner. There are, to be sure, occasional criticisms about the functioning of one or two particular Governors. It is, however, a matter of opinion. I would like to specifically mention that the institution of the Governor is one of the focal points of our federal system and there is no question of undermining or abolishing this institution. As I said, in both the Houses the Sarkaria Commission's Report will be discussed at length and the Members will get further chance to discuss.

Particular issues raised regarding various States, I would not like to answer today, nor would I like to go into detail about the various points which have been raised. But I am very much thankful and grateful to the Hon. Member who has moved this Resolution. This has given us a chance to listen to the valued views of Hon. Members of this House.

Before I conclude, I say that our federal structure contemplates a strong Union with strong States working harmoniously in the process of development and progress. In this context, I would like to quote the report of the Administrative Reforms Commission which examined the Centre-State relations in the light of the present situation. I quote :

"The Constitution is flexible enough to ensure its successful working, irrespective of whichever party may be in power, provided that those who are in power, mean to work it and not wreck it. We are convinced that it is not in the amendment of the Constitution that the solution of the problem of the Centre-State relationship is to be sought, but in the working of the Constitution by all concerned in the spirit in which the founding fathers intended them to be worked. There is no other way of ensuring cordial and fruitful Centre-state relations."

This is the theme on which we should try to work, we should try to survive. The Centre-State relations will be strengthened further in future. It is now also in a very strong position and there are cordial relations between the Centre and the States. I hope that the Member who has brought this particular Resolution will take this into consideration and will withdraw his Resolution and wait for a better occasion when we can discuss this. But I must accept that this debate has given us enough chance to know the feelings of the Members and has also given us many valued suggestions which will be kept in our mind for our future work. Before I conclude I want to say :

"No Constitutional amendment is necessary for ensuring proper and harmonious relations between the Centre and the States in as much as the provision of the Constitution governing the Centre-State relations for the purpose of meeting any situation or resolving any problem that may arise is envisaged."

With these words, I would like to commend to this august House that the Resolution tabled by the Hon. Member regarding the Centre-State relations may not be accepted and I would request the Hon'ble Member to withdraw his resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Patel, would you like to withdraw your Resolution ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Sabarkantha) : Sir, I must say that I was very much disappointed at the Minister's observations. I had expected him to have read a little more carefully the Resolution itself. I have not said in the Resolution anything that warrants his final commendation that this Resolution be not accepted. What is the Resolution ? This House is asked to express its deep concern over the present Centre-State relations. I presume that when you say you don't accept it, you are of the view that the Centre-State relations are so excellent that there is no need for any concern. Actually, I think if you are honest to yourself you would say that undoubtedly the Centre-State relations are a cause for concern. If they were not, why did you appoint of Sarkaria Commission ? Why have you had to estab-

[Shri H. M. Patel]

lish more and more problems for examination ? Undoubtedly, the Centre-State relations are such that they cause concern. Causing concern does not mean that the Centre-State relations are necessarily bad, that the Constitutional provisions are bad, nothing of the kind. But, it is a statement of fact. Your degree of concern may be different in degree. Your degree of concern may be less than. But I would certainly say that this is a matter which would be causing concern to every honest citizen of this country.

Then what the Resolution says next is about the need for early restructuring so that federalism underlying our Constitution is made more meaningful. Am I saying that federalism should not continue that federalism underlying our Constitution should not be made more meaningful ? I should say that our federalism is based on our Constitution. But because of the way in which we have worked, even the last quotation which the Hon. Minister read out said that it is the spirit in which you work, not just a mere Constitutional provision that enable us to work any human relationship satisfactorily.

Sir, the Centre-State relations are unsatisfactory, not because our Constitution is bad. Our Constitution went into this very carefully, for it had a problem to solve. The problem arose in this way. The circumstances at the time when the Constitution was being formulated were such that on the one hand everyone felt that the Centre must be strong and at the same time everyone also felt that the States should be strong and autonomous, autonomous within of course the powers given to the Central Government. So, the point was not that either the State should be strong at the cost of the Centre or the Centre should be strong at the cost of the States. But that the Centre should be made strong and nothing should be provided in the Constitution so that there should be any danger of the centrifugal tendencies getting the upper hand. So, it still seems to me that the Resolution had been very carefully drafted and it certainly should not have warranted your commendation to the House that it should not be accepted. On the contrary I would have expected you to say, accept it, but let us discuss it further in the light of the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations. You have made no observations whatsoever on what your views are in regard to the

recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission perhaps rightly because there is to be further discussion. But at any rate you should have indicated something about the various problems to which a reference was made in the course of this debate in the House.

I must say, Mr. Chairman, that I was very agreeably happy to find that the various speakers spoke on the whole in a constructive manner. Every one who spoke wants that the Centre-State relations should be strong and healthy, there should not be suspicion in the minds of the States that 'the Centre is trying to do them down.' But that is so and when I can give you illustrations. Illustrations were given in the course of this debate which show that the States were not always satisfied that the Centre was doing justice to them.

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : It is a two-way traffic.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Undoubtedly, I agree, but more is expected of the Centre. Do you realise that it is the Centre which is stronger in every way ? It is the Centre which has money to give because of the essential taxation powers it has and which can really enable it to raise money that is why this is the requirement that we have the Finance Commission every five years to see that if there is any imbalance etc., it is rectified. So the point is realised. But, for you to say it is a two-way traffic as if it was denied that there should be anything other-than a two-way traffic ?

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI : The money being given by the Centre should be properly utilised for the benefit of the people, not for political ends. That is what I mean.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Well, I think nobody suggested anything else. I do not know why suddenly my Hon. friend here suggested that merely because I say that 'the Centre should be fair to the States' means that the States, even if they are misusing funds they should be provided funds. I have not suggested anything of that kind. I have merely said that the Constitution provides that the Centre should be strong and desires that the Centre should be strong and there is no reason and no suggestion whatsoever

that anything should be done to weaken the Centre. If the States are weakened, the Centre cannot be strong. The Centre's strength depends upon strong States. I think this is a self-evident proposition. Quite obviously it surprises me to find an Hon. Member who straightaway rises to say that it is a two-way traffic. Undoubtedly, what I said, Mr. Hon. Minister, was that the spirit in which the constitutional provisions are implemented matters most and the spirit in which they are implemented does not mean only the spirit to be observed by the Centre, it is also for the States to work in the same spirit. Now consider this, the power has been given to the Governor to withhold Bills for submission to the Centre. There are Bills which have been pending, you will see from the Sarkaria Commission's Report, for years. Could there be any justification? Not at all. There are even today Bills which have been sent by Congress Governments, which are still with the Central Government even though several years have passed. Now, what justification can there be for that? And therefore, naturally the States are unhappy. There are a number of projects which the States have forwarded to the Centre and they have been with the Centre for years together. Is that something which is satisfactory? Mind you, this is not only about projects which have been sent by non-Congress Governments but Congress Governments also. This is something which must arouse of unhappiness in the State Governments.

Similarly, take for instance, the question of royalty. The Gujarat Government has a major complaint against the Centre as also, I think, has Assam. This is not a complaint that the Gujarat Government has had today but has been there for long.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :
They had during your time also.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : If some gas or oil has been found, you evolve a formula, that is 20 per cent of the price of the crude would be given to them. Who fixes the price of the crude—the Central Government. Even if the Central Government fixes the price of crude, it should do it so that it is fair at all times. You have arranged a formula of 20 per cent

of the price which is fixed once in 4 years. Thus the royalty which has been fixed on the basis of price which obtained in the initial year and the price rises greatly in the next 4 years. There would be a 10 times increase. But the royalty remains the same and it is not considered by you as fair to increase it. What you are paying as royalty to the State Government is only a fraction of today's price. They consider they are entitled to get 20 per cent of the current price. Despite their submissions that this should be revised, not on a purely technical or legal ground but in the spirit of fairness and on an equity approach. That is not done, unfortunately. As I have said, it should be a two-way traffic and it would mean, if the Centre felt, "Yes, in the mean time, the price has gone up, the royalty should also be increased as understanding between friends. After all, the State development is your Central development. You consider that the Constitution requires that the development of the States should take place. I might correct the Hon. Minister who stated that the Planning Commission was the creation of the founding-fathers. It is not so. Planning Commission came into existence after the Constitution. Quite rightly, it was the Prime Minister of that day, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's idea. I would not say it was his brain-child, but it was certainly his desire that a Planning Commission should be set up in order to that our future development may be on planned lines. But the Planning Commission coming in to existence, upset, in a sense, the balanced scheme that had been envisaged in the Constitution. The Finance Commission was to sit every 5 years and examine in the light of whatever had taken place in the previous 5 years to see what further financial assistance may be given to the States so that they can pursue their development activities satisfactorily. The Constitution did not envisage the existence of the Planning Commission. It came after the Constitution was formulated. The Planning Commission decides almost everything and therefore, you will see that a substantial amount of funds are placed at the disposal of the States by the Planning Commission on the basis of its scheme of things. This is where a certain amount of unhappiness, certain amount of difference of opinion now and again arises and that takes place with reference to all States.

[Shri H. M. Patel]

It has nothing to do with the ruling party governed States or with the non-ruling party governed States.

I emphasise these view points and I do not think I will to repeat whatever has been said before.

The Hon. Minister said that the Sarkaria Commission report will be discussed in this House and I do hope that it will be discussed fairly soon. The Hon. Minister was careful not to mention any date.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : It will be discussed during this Session. You have asked why did I not answer the various points of the Sarkaria Commission report which have been raised ? The precise reason is the Consultative Committee of our Ministry has started parawise discussion and they had two sittings. They are going to have two more sittings on it. Both the Houses of Parliament would discuss it. We have extended time up to 31st August. Various State Governments had asked for time. We have an open mind. We have not formed any opinion. At this stage, it will be very difficult for me to give any opinion from our side to the various suggestions which have been made by you now or by other Members. Hence I have said in the very beginning that as regards this particular subject, further detailed discussion will be there in both the Houses of Parliament and in the various forums.

So, I request you to take it in that light. The suggestions that you have given would be taken note of and we will definitely consider them at proper time. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI H. M. PATEL : The Hon. Minister said something about the appointment of Governors. The institution of Governor is necessary. I have no objection to that at all. I would also agree with the Hon. Minister. The Sarkaria Commission has gone into it. It has suggested that certain conventions be established. In fact, the Sarkaria Commission laid great emphasis on the need for conventions in any written Constitution. We really cannot cover all grounds in a written Constitution and, therefore, conventions have to be developed and it is up to us to respect those conventions and then not set them aside when they

do not suit us merely because they are not in writing. This is one of the important prerequisite conditions of the conventions. The institution of Governor is really, to my mind also, necessary but we have to take care that we appoint as Governors persons who will act as objectively, neutrally and as judiciously as possible and, therefore, I think Sarkaria Commission has made an attempt to spell out the sort of persons you might select. I do not think it is a point on which I would like to say anything now. But I agree that we should make every attempt to see that we appoint as Governors those persons who are experienced, knowledgeable but, above all, objective in their approach.

There are a number of other points which create dissatisfaction among the States. Things like the appointment of judges and the delay in their appointment and the consequential effect. Similarly, I think there is some reference to the tribals etc. But I don't think they need be gone into. This is really a matter of management.

One final point I would like to refer to is about reference to District Planning which is the basis on which planning should start. The Prime Minister suggested that the planning may be done at the grass-roots level. It is not new thing. It has been going on already. It has been suggested before. You cannot just plan from the bottom and end up at the top. It is just not practical for you to do this. It doesn't. Certain amount of discussion on what is needed at the District Level should be considered at the District Level and the suggestions that emerge from that should be considered by those who formulate the state plan. The last speaker has referred to one point as to why the Prime Minister is calling meetings of the District Magistrates and so on without consulting the States. I would say that if that is so, then it is not proper to do so.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : It has been explained by Shri Chidambaram that State Governments are taken into confidence and the Chief Ministers are also invited.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : What the Hon. Member mentioned was that the States are not consulted. If that is so, then I would say that it is not correct. But it cannot be

so. I can really understand that the Conference of District Magistrates could only have been called with the full knowledge and concurrence of the State Governments. The Hon. Minister was good enough to say about that. I have some familiarity with the administration. So, I would not say like that. As I see, it will take me more into the details of things. So, I would not like to go into all these other matter, I leave it over till the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations are finalised.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars) : Sir, many of the State Chief Ministers are not finding it easy to get appointments with the Ministers here. It is very difficult...

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not a question regarding Government. You are asking the clarification. It pertains to a resolution of a private Member. You are not entitled to that.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Sir, I feel that the purpose I had in mind when I had moved this Resolution, to my mind, has been served because practically every speaker brought out points in regard to Centre-State Relations which worried him and he put forward some remedies also. This was the objective. This is a matter which causes concern and therefore it should be discussed and thought over with a view to ensuring that federalism underlying our Constitution functions in a more meaningful way.

Though I would withdraw my Resolution willingly—because the Hon. Minister says that this matter is going to be discussed again in the light of the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations—but I would also request the Hon. Minister also to withdraw his recommendation that this Resolution should be opposed.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : If you withdraw your Resolution, I will also do the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Shantaram Naik had moved two amendments to the Resolution on 30.3.88. But I find that he is not present in the House. So, I shall now put the amendments to the vote of the House.

Amendments Nos. 1 and 2 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Patelji, are you prepared to withdraw your Resolution as promised ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Yes, Sir. I seek the leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution, namely :

"This House expresses its deep concern over the present Centre State relations and demands their early restructuring so that federalism underlying our Constitution is made more meaningful."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Resolution, namely;

This House expresses its deep concern over the present Centre State relations and demands their early restructuring so that federalism underlying our Constitution is made more meaningful."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Sir, I withdraw the Resolution.

RESOLUTION RE : IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW 20-POINT PROGRAMME

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We now go to the next item Shri Somnath Rath to move his Resolution on Implementation of New 20-Point Programme.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Sir, I beg to move :

"This House, while expressing its appreciation of the New 20-Point Programme initiated by the Government, notes that implementation of

the poverty alleviation programmes has not been fully satisfactory and urges upon the Government to take immediate steps for effective implementation thereof."

Removal of poverty and removal of unemployment are the main thrust of this Government under the leadership of our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Our Prime Minister has declared war against poverty. The late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi dedicated her life to people's welfare and national unity—Bank nationalisation, abolition of Privy Purses, help to the poor. Now eradication of poverty is our topmost priority. Funds for implementation of the 20-Point Programme have been increased to Rs. 2000 crores. The 20-Point Economic Programme had been prepared under the active guidance of our Prime Minister and laid on the Table of this House by the Minister for Programme Implementation on 20th August, 1986. It is based upon the experience gained and with an extension to fight soverty, raising of production and productivity, reduction of income inequalities, removal of social and economic disparities. To improve the quality of life of the people is the aim of the new 20-Point Economic Programme. As per the last census, 73 per cent of the youth of our population, that is, more than 271 million, live in rural areas. The 20-Point Economic Programme intends to give them employment, including self-employment. Credit with subsidy is to be provided to the rural poor and also to the persons depending on agriculture. The unorganized labour in our country constitutes 90 per cent. 10 per cent are in the organised sector; they have got their trade union movement; they can bargain with the employer and achieve their demand. But the 90 per cent of the unorganized labour which constitutes the agricultural labour also living in the rural areas have no bargaining power and they do not get even the minimum wages and suffer very much. Our Prime Minister, is the first person who has given a clarion call not only in our country but before the world body, at Geneva, that the problem of the unorganized labour should be taken note of. The agricultural labour in our country gets employment only during the season, for a few months, and as such in the loan months, they should be provided work through khadi and village industries.

These are some of the methods the main problems through which poverty can be eradicated.

The Sevenrh Five Year Plan has fixed a target to reduce the number of persons living below the poverty line in rural areas from 39.9 per cent at the beginning of the Plan that is, about 222.2 million to 28.2 per cent in 1989-90 and five per cent by the turn of the century that is, by the year 2000. What is essential to ensure is that one or the other of the entire poverty programme should reach at least each family in rural areas and it must be implemented in the right earnest. The fact remains that 20 Point Programme has enhanced and helped many million families in our country. Their standard of living has increased. Employment has been provided both in the rural areas as well as in the urban areas. Under the programme of Income Generation, assets are inducted by supplying working capital and providing institutional credit with subsidy. The question is whether the beneficiaries are getting the credit in time and whether the banks are advancing the credit in time and whether the credit including the subsidy reaches to the people and is utilised for the purpose for which it is given. Complaints have been received, that banks do not give the credit facilities in time. Subsidies given by the Government through the district authorities and other bodies remain in the bank for years together and they invest that subsidy by way of giving loans to rich people and thus earn profit. In order to gain undue advantage out of the subsidy amount of the poor people, they do not advance the loans with subsidy in time and also do not advance loans in instalments as envisaged. Thus programmes are not implemented in its right perspective.

Take for instance, the self-employment of the urban educated and also the rural educated. Government has given enough money. It has provided credit with subsidy Rs. 25,000 for matriculates who are unemployed and about Rs. 40,000 to those who hold degrees. But which is the agency that selects the beneficiaries? At the block level, the agency is the BDO and representative of the bank. Sir, you will not be surprised to learn that when it goes to district level, it is being changed. At the district level, who are the persons of the

so-called Task Force? It is the collector of the district, the General Manager, DIC, again the bank representatives. But the peoples' representatives are not involved. They select the beneficiaries. MPs are made the President of these DICs; but they have nothing to do with Selection of beneficiaries.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Not everywhere, not in our State.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH: If it is not in your State, you are happy. It is done in Orissa. When the Finance Minister Mr. Faleiro went there it was represented to him. In Orissa MPs happen to be Presidents of these DICs and the Collectors happen to be the Chairmen. The credit or the loan with subsidy given to the beneficiaries are determined by the Task Force where the people's representatives have nothing to do. Some MLAs are also Members of the DICs.

This attitude must change. They say that it is directed by the Reserve Bank that the politicians such as MPs and MLAs should not be involved. It is strange. There should be accountability of bureaucrats to the people and, to the people's representatives. Unless there is accountability of the bureaucrats to the people's representatives and legislature how can this programme be implemented in the right earnest. There must be supervising agency involving people's representatives.

I will give an instance. In Orissa in each districts a Vigilance Committee has been formed with an M.P. as Chairman to enquire and report, to take action against misutilisation of grains meant for the poverty alleviation schemes. Fortunately or unfortunately I happened to be the President of the Ganjam District Vigilance Committee. The statistics given by the Programme Implementation Ministry reveal that everything is very good and the results are satisfactory.

Under the Indira Awas Scheme, grains are allotted for construction of the houses for poor people. In the Vigilance Committee in Orissa an MP happens to be the Chairman, there is an MLA, a representative of the Chairman of the Block and the

Additional DRDO who is of the rank of an ADM as the Secretary. There are two engineers also. We went to the spot, verified one Indira Awas Scheme and we found that the grains have not been given to the beneficiaries. The scheme provides that the beneficiaries should get the grains for construction of houses meant for them. All the grains have been misappropriated. We gave a report to the Collector of Ganjam district in Orissa. The Collector did not act upon the report; but forwarded to the SDO for verification.

How can one expect that when a Committee which is formed by notification in the Gazette under the Chairmanship of an MP with the people's representatives, MLA and Panchayat Samiti Chairman as members gives a report that there is misutilisation and misappropriation of grains and no action is taken on that report, how best these programmes can be implemented?

I say this because in this the 20 Point Programme you will find that monitoring and implementation is one of the points on which the Prime Minister has laid stress. The last point of the 20 Point Programme is 'Responsive Administration'. Our Prime Minister has visited different districts. He has given stress for implementation of the 20 point programme also. He has laid stress on the District Planning. But some district authorities never understand what a district planning is. It is stated that success of any programme however well formulated and well intentioned depends on effective implementation. Monitoring systems have been developed in different States for keeping a watch on the implementation of Plan projects and schemes. Effective monitoring is a means towards identification of areas requiring corrective action to ensure successful implementation of targets assumes considerable significance with the launching of the 20-point programme, 1986. The prime responsibility of monitoring lies with the agencies entrusted with the execution of the programme.

Well, this being the intention, unless the programme it is implemented in right earnest however the Centre may try and however our Prime Minister express his anxiety it will not benefit those for whom it is meant. Grains have been given to some States for poverty alleviation scheme. Some

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States utilised it for other purpose and not for the purpose for which it was meant. It has gone to the consumer in public distribution system by way of selling rice at about Rs. 2 per kg. Implementation sometimes also fails at the grass-root level. So these are the loopholes that should be plugged in order to achieve the real purpose for which this 20-point economic programme is meant.

AN HON. MEMBER : Are you against this Rs. 2 per kg thing ?

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : I am against certain States diverting the grain meant for poverty alleviation programme to another channel for political gain. I do not mind if the States themselves apply their resources and supply rice at Rs. 2 per kg but let not those States divert the grains given by the Centre for poverty alleviation programme. I object to that. (*Interruptions*)

Centre gives grain and money for the implementation of the poverty alleviation programme. The same should be utilised for that purpose. Let it not be diverted for supply to the consumers in general. Now the success of a programme depends on the earnest implementation based on the co-operation of both States as well as Centre and other institutions like banks and officers at the grass-root level. Importance has been given in 20-point economic programme to irrigation and dry-land farming. Irrigation projects should be completed in time, or else on account of price escalation, the programmes cannot be implemented.

Under the grow more rice scheme, funds have been provided for water harvesting structures dry-land farming. It is a good movement. It will help for growing oilseeds also which are badly required in the country.

Is there any provision to maintain the projects, that is watershed after being constructed. Whether the States will be in a position to maintain them ? So, provision should be made to see that projects are maintained.

Importance has been given in the 20-point programme about land reforms and

land ceiling. In our country, the size of landholding of the large land-holder is about 52 times more than that of the marginal land-holder. According to the 1981 census, 256 million agricultural workers—mostly landless—are living in our country. We should take care of the landless and marginal landholders. The distribution of surplus land should be expedited. Of course, there are many obstacles. Litigation goes on for years in the courts. Unfortunately when the High Court says to maintain status-quo ante, the persons to whom the surplus lands are given, suffer. Those poor people take credit from different banks for development of the land given to them out of ceiling surplus land. They are not only put to a great loss, but also become desperate. They get money from the banks by way of credit. They made the land fit for cultivation. Generally, the landlords do not part with fertile land because there is an option available to them. Naturally, they give away such surplus lands which are not fit for cultivation or dry land. The result is that after the court order the banks proceed against the sureties of these beneficiaries besides, they being deprived of ceiling surplus land. This aspect should be looked into.

To make the implementation of IRDP, NREP and RLEGP more effective, there should be proper planning and supervision at the grassroot level. The raising of income through self-employment should be undertaken with determination. There are complaints about not giving bank credit to the unemployed poor. The banks favour the affluent persons while giving the loans because these people are associated with the block level committees. The banks should be pro-poor. We get figures that so many people are unemployed. But you must see that the persons who get loans, are really unemployed, and they are living below the poverty line and not the children of affluent persons.

Money taken by them from banks is being utilised for the trade of their parents. That should also be looked into. To gear up the administrative structure for better implementation is the prime need. The Seventh Plan aims to generate employment and to reduce the poverty ratio to 25 per cent. The Eighth Plan is going to be framed.

The thinking is to reduce the unemployment and to create more jobs.

Coming to the new education policy, huge amounts are given to the different States and to the universities to educate people and to remove illiteracy. Pardon me if I say that many universities and many Governments have not either cared to understand the policy in detail or not going to implement it. For example, take my state, Orissa. Though there is a proposal in the Education Policy that 500 colleges will be raised to the status of up as autonomous colleges in the country by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan, not a single college has been recommended as yet by Orissa Government and universities and the universities in Orissa are not eager to take the advantage of the benefits and assistance given by the Government of India and the UGC...*(Interruptions)*...I am not speaking about your Government. I am speaking about the policy. We are all here for implementation. What is happening in West Bengal? I am talking about Orissa. If I am wrong, I am subject to correction. So, what is needed is that the implementation of the education policy should be supervised. We know that education is in the Concurrent List. In Orissa, about more than 80 per cent of the educational institutions are run by private organisations and about 20 per cent by the Government. There is no provision in UGC for temporary or provisional concurrence of affiliation. The Orissa Government gives either temporary or provisional concurrence to Colleges run by private bodies. The result is that the university also gives affiliations temporarily or provisionally. UGC is not able to assist these Colleges because of conditional affiliations. The same case is with Bihar also. So, in both the States, the private Colleges are given provisional or temporary concurrence and universities temporary or provisional affiliations. Thereby those private Colleges are deprived of the benefit given by the Government of India and UGC. The States are unable to give sufficient assistance to these institutions. They stand on the way of developing those Colleges, deprive them of getting the facilities offered under the scheme. The Secretary of the State in Orissa and the Education Department of Orissa Government has peculiar view of new education policy and is more royal than the King. If the man who is the Head of the policy imple-

mentation is not able to understand not prepared to discuss and extend ideas, even with people's representative, and do not treat them properly when they discuss, there can be no effective implementation.

17.00 hrs.

How can one imagine that these programmes will be implemented if there is no rapport between the peoples' representatives and the administration? In Berhampore University in Orissa, an MLA went and talked to a clerk to get some information and the Administrator punished the clerk simply because he had talked to the MLA. In spite of their privilege to get information and interact with the bureaucrats, MPs and M.L.As should not be at the mercy of the bureaucrats. They do not get that much respect, that much information necessary to discharge their duties as M.Ps and M.L.As. It is obligatory.

Since education is in the Concurrent List, the Government of India should insist on all the State Governments to implement the new Education Policy in right earnest. It seems, officers from the U.G.C. went and had a discussion with the West Bengal Government. Unless there is a discussion, there is an understanding, these programmes cannot be implemented in their true scene.

The 10-Point programme of 1967—Garibi Hatao—, the 20-Point Programme of 1975 and the new 20-Point Programme are all running through a common thread of programmes aiming at eradication of poverty and unemployment. The programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), Training of Rural Youth for Self-Command Area Development (CAD), Self-Employment and Training to the Urban Poor (SETUP), Massive Programme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers (MPASMF) are in addition to the general programmes of development. The 20-Point Programme is a special action plan to promote social justice and economic development. The new 20-Point Programme has laid stress on taking the benefit of development straight to the weaker sections and the rural poor and under-privileged groups in urban areas. The stress is laid

[Shri Somnath Rath]

on increased production and to serve the entire population. That is the new 20-Point economic programme. With a view to achieve this, special stress has been laid on agriculture and education also. Timely completion of the projects must be given priority.

There is also a provision for action against smugglers and hoarders. In the new Education policy, there is stress on spread of education, removal of adult illiteracy etc. Our Prime Minister has visited a number of villages in the country and has talked to the common man and has discussed with them to have a first-hand information whether all these programmes are working to their benefit or not, have reached to the intended levels or not throughout the country. Perhaps he has come to the conclusion that these programmes need to be further accelerated and implemented in right earnest.

As I have already stated, this programme has helped many million families to raise their standard of living. The total Plan outlay for the year 1987-88 is Rs. 44690.43 crores and out of that the total 20 Point approved outlay is Rs. 13597.27 crores. We see the magnitude of the outlay. When this is the magnitude of the total approved outlay from the total annual Plan Outlay, are we not to give stress on the real expenditure of this 20-Point Economic Programme to see that the actual beneficiaries are benefited under this programme and not the middleman?

I would like to say a few words about what Shrimati Indira Gandhi said in connection with this programme and I quote :

"Our economy is on the move. It is in our hands to maintain the improvement, to lighten the burden of our millions. This programme is for each one of you, and for the nation which is ours to serve, to cherish and to build. I seek to your hearted cooperation in making the programme a success."

This should be our aim. I would suggest the Hon. Minister, through you, Sir, that he will enlighten us as to what specific steps are going to be taken or have already

been taken or thought of to plug the loopholes, to achieve our aims to the optimum. I don't say, it is not at all satisfactory, it is not fully satisfactory.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Resolution moved :

"This House, while expressing its appreciation of the New 20-Point Programme initiated by the Government notes that implementation of the poverty alleviation programmes has not been fully satisfactory and urges upon the Government to take immediate steps for effective implementation thereof".

Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH

(Jahanabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the 20 point programme. I support the suggestion put forward by the Hon. Member just now for the upliftment of the people living below the poverty line. The anti-poverty programmes under the 20 point programme about which we hold discussions should benefit the poor. For example, under D.R.D.A., efforts are made to uplift those people who are living below the poverty line. But the things which are supplied to them are spurious and sub-standard. I want to submit in the form of a challenge to the Government that if you want to lift the poor people above the poverty line, you should get these things investigated. The things which are supplied to the poor people in the shape of financial assistance are sub-standard and they are also harassed because they are receiving these benefits. You provide them with cattle and other assets, I want to request that a survey should be conducted to find out whether they have actually been benefitted or not and whether they have come above the poverty line or not. If you confine yourself to sheer paper and do not take an all round or retrospective view of it and blindly accept the figures put in front of you, then you will be closing your eye to the truth. Therefore, you should get this matter investigated. It is a fact that this programme has benefitted some people, for example, some bank officers, middlemen and greedy politicians and they have of course become rich but the poor people who should be the actual beneficiaries of Government assistance have been reduced to bonded labour. I want to challenge you and I can

guarantee that whatever I have submitted is the truth. You can come to my constituency Jahanabad for getting first hand information about the prevailing situation and get an enquiry conducted into this matter. It is true that Government has extended funds for distribution and we have received it but funds have been misused and as a result terrorism is increasing there. So far, only the Hon. Ministers have visited our area, but looking at the seriousness of the situation it seems that perhaps the Hon. Prime Minister may have to go there sometime later as well.

You have mentioned the Indira Housing Scheme. Houses are undoubtedly being constructed under this scheme and I have myself seen these constructions at one or two places. Such houses have been constructed in Vrindaban village which is under Arbal block in my constituency. Some poor people showed me their houses and I saw that the quantity of cement used for construction was negligible and it was entirely done with sand. The bricks used are also of a very poor quality and these are almost mud houses. If we want to fix lintels, these houses will not be able to bear the weight, and we will have to hear that so many hundreds of harijans have died when houses constructed under the Indira Housing Scheme collapsed. This is a fact. When corruption reaches its apex, everyone is affected despite of whatever you may say. This will not let the facts come to light but truth cannot be hidden for long. Therefore, I want that you should visit the site personally and get an enquiry conducted into this matter. Let a Parliamentary Committee be constituted for this purpose which will go to the site look into all the details. I have the relevant documents to prove and the Hon. Minister of Rural Development has himself accepted that the road which was constructed under this scheme and for which Rs. 7 lakhs were spent became unfit for use within 6 months. That road connected Makadampur with Solwan. Now another estimated expenditure of Rs. 7 lakhs is to be incurred for the repair of this road. How can development take place in this way? If you call this a development, then you are deliberately closing your eyes to the truth. Similarly, the road connecting Kurtha and Sammidhama, for the construction of which Rs. 27 lakhs were spent has not become fit for use so far. Is this the sort of develop-

ment which you want? If the head is not functioning properly, how can the arms and legs function? The Collector of that area is himself a thief but our blind Government is unaware of it. If as per your figures, 50 per cent of the poor people have been lifted above the poverty line, then why is terrorism increasing at such a fast pace there? Who are the people being drawn to it? These are the unemployed people who are taking to terrorist activities because Government has not taken any steps to provide them with employment so far. As a consequence, they are taking training in handling rifles and throwing bombs. The main reason behind it is their state of unemployment. Government is silent in the matter of creating employment opportunities for them. As regards land reforms, you are not distributing that land which is under the Government but your attention is towards possession private land.

You are siding with the big land-owners and land-holders I give an example. The Government has a piece of land in Bihar measuring 57 acres which was being ploughed by a big land-holder. I have been fighting for the poor since 1969 so that it may be distributed among them and we have won the case from the High Court and Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has stated in their judgement that the Bihar Government is the owner of the land. When, once the judgement has been given by the court, then what difficulty is there for the Government to get it distributed. But Land Reforms Commissioner of Bihar writes a letter to the collector and asks him if the distribution of the land will lead to any blood-shed, now tell me how the Government shall function that way. How will the land distribution lead to blood shed? There is already blood-shed going on even without it. What is the hitch in distributing the land when a judgement has been given by the court that the land belongs to Bihar Government. It is a matter of great shame. You claim that you are implementing the 20-point programme. I am giving you the photo-stat copy of that letter. Similarly, I have already sent you photo-stat copies of several such letters, but you are paying no attention. If go through this photo-copy, you will come to know the reasons why the land has not been distributed till now,

[Shri Ramashray Prasad Singh]

The fact is that there is a young I.A.S. Officer, S.D.O. Shri Vyas, who has got the land allotted to Harijans on papers but your legislators do not let the 20-point programme implemented. They are siding with big land holders. At the time of this incident, Shri Dubey was in power. This honest and good officer was removed by the Government on charges of his being a naxalite because he had got the land allotted to the Harijans. While keeping all things before you, I urge upon the Government to get an enquiry conducted in regard to all these things. I request the Government to constitute a committee of the members of this House to look into the matter and punish the guilty whether they belong to the Congress party or any other party. But the legislators belonging to that area are sabotaging the 20-point programme, they do not let the 20-point programme implemented. Please hold such legislator guilty and punish them. If any officer does not implement the programme, file a suit against him, only then the programme may be successfully implemented. You referred to education. Rajiv Gandhiji has gone from village to village and talked about the primary education, which I think, is a must for every person to make him a real man. But killings of the human being are still going on there every day. The number of such killings is generally increasing. There are some villages of the poor which have a population between 300 to 1000 and where no educational facilities have been provided. When these things are raised before the District Education Planning Committee, your legislators assert that these school will not be opened in Harijan villages. D.D.C. has also written a letter to that effect to the Bihar Government maintaining that the legislators do not cooperate in such matters. He desired to be instructed what he should do in such a situation. According to the Government policy, the schools should be opened in the villages of the poor and the backward classes but this could not be done. The Government should look to it how the 20 point programme will be implemented and when the Government will be able to provide the facility of primary education to the people ?

When the legislators of your own party oppose the 20-point programme, how will it be implemented and made successful. The Government should get the veracity of my

words examined and if all that what I have said, is not fund correct, after your investigation, I will leave the membership of this House and I will be no more. We all want that the poor people should come above the poverty line in the true sense of the term and the atmosphere of violence should be restored to normalcy. That's what I want. But the people of your party do not want it. In such a situation nothing could be said. If the Government wants to implement these things, it is should do it honestly and not to make claims or raising the Harijans and the poor above the poverty line. In my view, the Government is not thus helping the poor and the Harijans to come above the poverty line working for a handful of people to make them millionaire and billionaire.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, before taking my seat, I again insist on the investigation of all the things raised by me and I am also addressing a letter to that effect to the Hon. Minister.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, in regard to implementation of 20-point programme in the rural areas, all those things which were envisaged, have not been done. No doubt, Indiraji had achieved success in regard to her programme of 'Garibi Hataao', but exactly 2 years hence, Rajivji has given a new 20 point programme on 20th August, 1986.

It has been quite unfortunate that our expectations from the implementation of this programme be it in respect of I.R.D.P., N.R.E.P. or R.L.E.G.P, have not been realised. I regret to say that we have reached the place from where we had started but I am the representative of the people. It is not merely for crirticism sake but it is a fact. The figures supplied by the States; at least those by the Bihar Government are not correct. This, I am saying out of my experience because I live with the poor people and go from village to village for 5-6 months in a year. I know the way programme is being implemented.

In Bihar, for the last three consecutive years is in 1985, 1986 and 1987-no meeting was held in regard to the 20-point programme particularly in my district. In some other districts it was occasionally

held but in majority of the districts it was not held until we raised our voice in this House against the all claims of the Government that there had been a great progress under the 20 point programme. I assert that nothing has been done in this regard. You may conduct an inquiry in to it when Shri Sukh Ram, the then Minister, had asked me, if it was true, I said that I could give it in writing and he should convey it to the Prime Minister. Then he told the Prime Minister on whose insistence, 20-Point Programme Committees were expeditiously constituted in Bihar. In the beginning the collector used to be all and all in the 20-point committee who could sanction and execute the schemes at his discretion, and even the Bills of expenditure for the entire scheme were passed by him. I have never seen such a gross impropriety that a single individual is entrusted with the overall responsibility of a particulars scheme. It did not happen even under the Mughal rule. Most surprising thing is that he himself audits the accounts. I had already said that the collector was like a Mini Mughal emperor of the district and public representatives had no say. Even today, the situation is more or less the same.

At present a meeting of such Committees is held in 3-4 months. M. Ps and M L A's are its members but M. Ps have no say though the M.L.A have it to some extent because the officers think that he may get them transferred by order from the level of the Chief Minister or they may be posted some where else but what is the power of an M P., what can he do. I have not come here to ventilate the grievances of M.Ps but to tell you that the figures supplied to you in regard to the employment, wages, dwelling units, roads, bridges and bank loans are far away from truth. I will say only this that 5 or 7 M.P.'s who do not belong to Bihar, should be sent to Bihar and they should make a random selection of some villages areas, blocks or some Panchayats and find out if there has been any progress under the 20-point programme. If there has not been any progress, then we are responsible for it, but what can we do in this regard except raising our voice in this House.

I just want to mention if that under the administrative structure built up for the 20-point programme, the Government has

made collector an overall incharge of the programme leaving everything to his discretion but it would not do. The Executive Engineer has also been put under his control. I was stunned to learn about it. I do not know if others also know about it.

Now-a-days more stress is being laid on development of forests in Bihar. It has been decided that 25 per cent of the total funds to be spent on 20 point programme will be spent on development of forests. But in the name of forest development the Forest Officers are amassing abundant wealth. I did not see anywhere that trees have been planted on land. When I enquired from the D.F.O. about the position of actual plantation, he replied that trees had been planted but they had submerged under of flood water. The truth is that trees had not been planted at all. Then where the question of their getting submerged under water arise? What can be done in this regard? Unfortunately, a practice has developed under which the figures sent by the district administration are accepted by the State Government and the figures sent by the State are accepted by the Centre. It is, therefore, necessary that there must be some system of monitoring or cross checking to find out the factual position. I have visited several places and saw the things myself. I asked the people working on the roads as to how much money they were getting towards their daily wages. They were getting only Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 whereas they should have been paid Rs. 15 per day. I enquired about it from the collector. He said that he would get this thing enquired into. But no enquiry has been conducted so far. All of them are hand and glove with one another. Now-a-days very peculiar system has been in vogue particularly in Bihar.

The B.L.W., who is the lowest officer at the Blocks level and is not an officer in the real sense of the term is being advanced an amount to the extent of Rs. 10 lakhs and he is being asked to take up work like construction of roads and school buildings etc. Some of these officers have fled away to Nepal with the money. These people collude with one another and decide not to take up the work at all so that the question of submitting progress report etc, will not arise at all when they get everything set right at all levels, then why should they take up the botheration of constructing the roads and

[Dr. G. S. Rajhans]

school buildings. I would like to bring to your notice that a very peculiar situation has developed in Bihar. Officers at all levels are in collusion with one another. They say that a very fine road had been constructed, but it was washed away by the floods. In this connection I would say emphatically that the roads had not be constructed at all, then how were they washed away by the floods? This is not the position only in one particular state but in all the states. It is a question of tendency and there will be no improvement in the system until and unless full control is brought under the Centre. If poverty alleviation programme is taken up in its right earnest under the 20 point programme, a lot of improvement would take place. I request you to do a small thing that instead of entrusting the work of implementation to States, it may please be kept under the charge of the Central Government. The Railway as well the post offices are also functioning in Bihar and they are functioning very efficiently. Under the 20 point programme the Centre gives 50 per cent aid and in some cases it gives even hundred per cent aid. Then why should not the Central Government take over the charge of its implementation? I, therefore, tell you Sir, that now the opportune time has come when the monitoring system of all the things should be changed and the overall control should be taken over by the Central Government. You are entrusting the whole work of implementation in the hands of the District Magistrate. The District Magistrate is not an incarnation of God. I have already stated on a number of occasions that a C.B.I. raid was conducted on the residence of a commissioner and cash worth Rs 40 lakhs and some dollars were recovered. That I.A.S. officer wandered about from one place to the other for several days and thereafter he was granted anticipatory bail. You must draw a line somewhere. You have plans to raise the people above the poverty line, but in practice it is being confined to paper work only. On the other hand there are other people who are prospering. Thus a new class of officers is coming up in the society. These people have become millionaires. Nobody has a check on the I.A.S. officers. A fresh I.A.S. becomes a District Magistrate after putting in 3 to 4 years service. Some of them get their palatial houses constructed in Patna, Ranchi or Delhi. But there is nobody to look to it whether they have submitted their income tax return or how they

manage to satisfy the Government in this regard. Somebody should exercise a check on them. This is the position in other States also. What I mean to say is that these people did not allow the dream of Indiraji to be realised. There is a saying in Bihar that the 20 point programme runs on L/4. I had said this thing earlier also. L/4 means L divided by 4. They include bureaucrats, engineers, contractors and politicians like me. You will have to stop this loot. If we are not able to stop this loot, the whole programme will remain confined to papers only. We may write anything on the paper. But unless this loot is checked, we cannot run this programme successfully.

What is responsible for the present State of affair in Bihar. It is so because on one side people have nothing to eat and on the other side, a B.D.O. accumulates wealth to the extent of Rs. 20 lakhs during the course of his posting. The price of land has not gone up so high in any other part of the country as it is in Bihar. In Patna one square yard of land costs Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000. Perhaps, the price of land in Delhi is also the same. It is because the officers the engineers, and the contractors have abundant wealth and they are prepared to pay any amount of money for land.

Finally, I would like to say that the 20 point programme as envisaged by Rajivji is a very good programme, but its monitoring should rest with the Central Government. I want to say this much only.

*SHRI R. ANNANAMBI (Pollachi) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I feel extremely glad to express my views on the Resolution re : poverty alleviation programmes moved by Hon. Member Shri Somnath Rath.

Besides the 20-point programme, there are many other programmes aimed at alleviating poverty in this country. Despite these, even after 40 years of independence we feel sad that we are not able to eradicate poverty from this country. To tell precisely even after 8 five-year plan and a short-termed rolling plan under the Janata regime, we are still struggling with this poverty problem, we are still unable to lift the millions above the poverty line.

* Translation of speech originally delivered in Tamil.

With a view to alleviating poverty, our Hon. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has been frequently touring all the countries. His efforts has only brought money from abroad and these have added to our external debt. Every child born in this country has on its head a debt burden of Rs. 2000/-. The main reason for poverty being that our country has lagged behind in production first. We must increase our gross production in the country. We must expand our industrial development. All efforts must be taken to strengthen our economy. These are the ways of alleviating poverty in the country.

In Bombay, Madras, Delhi, Calcutta, Hyderabad and in many other cities we can see the vertical growth of sky-rise buildings. Besides, we can also see the horizontal proliferation of slums just below them. We are unable to do anything to stop the proliferation of the slums. These slums are our proud inheritance. Even the programmes like IRDP, NREP and RLEGP are not able to wipe out poverty. In this context, therefore, Sir, I must welcome this approach to expand the new 20-point economic programme aimed at alleviating poverty.

Sir, I would also like to give certain suggestions in this regard. I hope the Hon. Minister would consider my suggestions. In this country, there are many capitalists like TATA and BIRLA amassing wealth without any control. I feel we must impose a ceiling on wealth accumulation and thereby de-concentrate wealth. By this also, we can wipe out poverty. All these programmes for poverty alleviation can be implemented in the best manner only by the State Governments. I, therefore, recommend to the Hon. Minister to consider the desirability of conferring more powers on the State Governments and also increase the financial assistance provided to the State Governments.

We must also take steps to stamp out fissiparous tendencies among the various sections of the public. Differences should not arise between a Muslim and a Hindu. Differences should not arise between a high caste person and a Scheduled caste individual. We must create awareness among the public so that people correct themselves and do not give cause to communal clashes and riots. We must also weed out administrative

irregularities and check malpractices. The whole administrative structure should be reformed. We must also ensure that there is no discrimination on the basis of sex as enshrined in the constitution. We must also see that imbalances in the developmental processes of rural and urban areas do not continue.

We know, Sir, most of our children hail from poor families. The Government must issue free bus passes to all the poor children in the country. Our leader, Puratchi Thalaivi (Leader Revolutionary) Selvi Jayalalitha has promised to the people that if she is voted to power, she would arrange to issue free bus passes to all the poor children in the State. If the Central Government takes up my suggestion and accordingly issue free bus passes to the poor children all over the country, the whole nation will be grateful to the Central Government.

Sir, at present, reservation is being extended to poor people on the basis of social status. I request the Government to extend this facility to people on the basis of economic conditions also. The Government must take all efforts to set up industries in villages. Thereby the Government can generate employment opportunities which would in turn wipe out poverty. I also like the Government to impart compulsory technical education to all. The Central Government must come forward with a specific educational plan.

I would also like to urge upon the Government to entrust the education sector fully to the State Government free from all Central interference. If education is administered by the State Government without any restrictions from the Central Government, I am certain, the State Governments would be able to fulfill the regional aspirations of the respective state, language and other related clashes would never arise.

I would be failing in my duty if I do not allude to the services of our Late Chief Minister Dr. M. G. R. done to the poor people for lifting them above poverty line. He made a plan to construct 30 lakhs houses for the low-income group. I do not know what happened to that plan today. The whole scheme is being given twists in different angles.

[Shri R. Annanambi]

Dr. M. G. R. fed the mouths of poor children in Tamil Nadu. Out of 5 crore people in the State, more than 80 lakh children are being benefited under the Nutritious Meals scheme. He fulfilled the dream of Perarignar Anna by building an egalitarian society in Tamil Nadu. He saw god in the smile of the poor as said by Anna. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to chalk out a programme on the same lines of the Nutritious Meal Scheme of Dr. M. G. R. for covering many million poor mouths in the country.

In the same manner, Dr. M. G. R. implemented programmes for distributing free chappals and uniforms to poor children in the State. He also distributed free dhoties and sarees to the poor agricultural labourer. That was how he battled against poverty.

I once again urge upon the Central Government to grant more powers and financial assistance to the State Governments for fighting poverty in the respective States. Poverty should be fought by all concerned regardless of party considerations. With these words, I support the Resolution.

[Translation]

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak. I rise to support the motion moved by our Hon. colleague, Shri Somnath Rath. After achieving independence we had taken a vow in this country that until and unless we wipe out every drop of tear from the eyes of every citizen, our mission will not be fulfilled and, till then, we will not be able to reach our goal. It was the declaration of Mahatma Gandhi, it was a vow which was repeated by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 15-8-1947 which taking the oath of office on the first Prime Minister of India in both the Houses of Parliament. But that vow, that declaration remains half done till to-day. If we make an assessment of the economic freedom which we had envisaged and the outline of which we had drawn and ask the slum dwellers living in poverty and thatched houses where perennial darkness, sorrows and suffering prevail, as to what rays of freedom are falling on their slums, they will say only one thing in the words of Faiz Ahmed Faiz.

"Ye dag dag ujala, ye shab gujida
sahar,
Wo intjar tha jiska, ye wo sahar to
nahin".

In order to fulfill this pledge by achieving the economic development of the country, late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had announced a 15-point programme followed by a 20-point programme. My Hon. colleague has just now mentioned about the situation in Bihar. Almost same is the case in regard to Madhya Pradesh also, but the situation in Madhya Pradesh is not so worse as that in Bihar. I would certainly like to say that the benefits of your plans for the implementation of the 20 point programme, or for the drought relief programme, do not reach those common citizens of India, who live below the poverty line. On the other hand, these benefits are reaped by the officers, bureaucrats and politicians, Social workers, political workers, members of Panchayats, Sarpanchs, Legislators and Members of Parliament also cannot free themselves from their responsibilities in this regard. But as far as the role of Members of Parliament is concerned, they are helpless. They have neither any control over the district administration nor over the State Government. They can either simply raise their issues in Parliament or write to the Minister concerned and get a reply :

[English]

"I am getting the matter looked into."

[Translation]

Thereafter only God knows whether any action is taken or not. This is regrettable and I would like to request the Hon. Prime Minister through this House to take some steps to change this practice. It was stated in this House that the main aim of the 20-point programme is to give employment. I would like to give an example in this regard. Out of five big industries in my parliamentary constituency, Satna, three cement industries and others belong to the Birlas and the remaining two belong to the Tatas. 75 per cent population of this area consists of Adivasis, Harijans and other backward classes who are victims of poverty, bleak prospects, starvation and diseases. What is regrettable is that not even 5 per

cent people of this area are employed in these industries. After getting elected, I joined this House three years ago and since then I have been raising my voice against the Tatas and the Birlas but they are so powerful that I have not been able to get anything done against them. I, therefore, simply admit my failure. In this connection, I wrote several letters and the reply which I received from the Hon. Minister of Industry, Shri Vengal Raoji and the then Minister of Labour Shri Jagdish Tytler was that 'it is regretted that we have no power to compell the Tatas and the Birlas to give employment to the local people in their factories to remove unemployment there.' When I told these things to my friends there, they said that if my Government was so impotent to compell a capitalist to provide jobs to the poor people, unemployed persons and indigent people of the area concerned and not to bring outsiders there, then I had no right to represent them in the Lok Sabha. I want to ask the Government, have we no such laws under which we can compell any capitalist? Can the Government not enact such a law under which those people whose lands have been acquired for constructing big industries, get jobs in these industries? Are there no class-III or class IV jobs in these industries for those people whose life has become difficult because of the air pollution caused by the dust of cement in the 20 mile area and who have fallen victims of different types of dreaded diseases such as T.B., Cancer etc.? Competitive tests may be held and the merit list prepared for the technical and higher posts but the class-III and class IV jobs must be provided to the local poor people. If the class-III and class-IV posts are not given to the poor people then I would like to warn the Government that the local people will not tolerate this situation any more. They will start an agitation against this state of affairs. I will lead these poor people having flag in my hands and fight against the Tatas and Birlas. None can tolerate this state of affairs in which the Central Government cannot compell industrialists like Birlas and Tatas to provide jobs to the poor people of the area concerned instead of giving jobs to outsiders at the cost of the poor local people. They should not be allowed to make money by exploiting these local people. It amounts to an unjustified and atrocious deed and this will never be tolerated.

Secondly, a reference has been made to the issue of land reforms. I had said earlier also and now I want to repeat that there is a sugar factory in my old Assembly Constituency Sihone near Bhopal. This is owned by a big industrialist who previously used to live in Bombay but now he has become Delhite. This factory was got constructed by the Nawab of Bhopal in his own time for which the precious land of the people had been acquired at the rate of rupees 5 to 10 per acre. It means that the people were given compensation at the rate of Rs. 5 to 10 per acre. About 6-7 thousand acres of land had been acquired for growing sugarcane for the factory. Thereafter, the Nawab of Bhopal sold this factory to the private people. Today, the position is this that out of 7000 acre land, sugarcane is grown in 500 acres and the rest is utilised for growing other crops such as soyabean, wheat etc. In this way, this land is being misused. We have not been able to acquire an inch of land for distribution among the landless even after 15 years of the imposition of the Land Ceiling Act because of the mutual concordance between the bureaucrats and the factory owners. Once I had said that the labourers should be made the owners of this factory by constituting a cooperative society to run this factory. But my proposal was not accepted. As a result thereof the atrocities are continuously being committed in the Sihore sugar factory and the factory owners are playing with the lives of the people. Not even this, the filthy water discharged by this factory flows into the rivers causing pollution and making the people sick after drinking that water. Mr. Chairman I want to speak further.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to conclude?

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: I will continue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you conclude your speech within two or three minutes?

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI: No. It will take more time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then you can continue your speech next time.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, August, 22, 1988/Sravana 31, 1910 (Saka)