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**Tuesday, March 11, 1986
Phalguna 20, 1907 (Saka)**

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

**Fifth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



(Vol. XIV contains Nos. 11 to 20)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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CONTENTS

No. 13, Tuesday, March 11, 1986/Phalgun 20, 1907 (Saka)

	COLUMNS
Welcome to the Hungarian Parliamentary Delegation	1
Oral Answers to Questions	2—28
*Starred Question Nos. 224 to 230 and 241	
Written Answers to Questions	28—250
Starred Question Nos. 231 to 233, 235 to 238, 240, 242 and 243	28—43
Unstarred Question Nos. 2173, 2175 to 2221, 2223 to 2313, 2315 to 2331 and 2333 to 2403	43—247
Papers Laid on the Table	250—252
Statement Re : Formation of a Corporation for Bombay and Delhi Telephone Systems and another Corporation for Overseas Communication Service	252—255
Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha	
Statement Re : Grant of Certain Concessions to Pensioners	255—257
Shri P. Chidambaram	
Statement in Explanation of his Resignation from the Office of Minister of State in the Department of Rural Development	257—259
Shri Chandulal Chandrakar	
Business Advisory Committee	259
Twenty-first Report	
Matters Under Rule 377	260—265
(i) Need to check the underground water pollution caused by wastes released by Kanpur Chemical works	
Shri Jagdish Awasthi	260

* The Sign † marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

(ii) Provision of more airport facilities in Kerala	
Shri Mullappally Ramachandran	260
(iii) Need to increase the monthly and quarterly quota of Kerosene oil to Orissa	
Shri Chintamani Jena	261
(iv) Necessary measures needed to ensure remunerative prices of agricultural produce to the farmers	
Shri Ram Pujan Patel	262
(v) Need to set up branches of all Selection Boards for recruitment in Banks in Bihar	
Shri Kunwar Ram	262
(vi) Need to give assent to the Bill passed by the State Government of Tamil Nadu regarding taking over of Madras race club	
Shri P. Kolandaivelu	263
(vii) Setting up of a Committee to look into the grievances of small fishermen in Kutch, Mandvi and Budreshwar districts of Gujarat	
Shrimati Usha Thakkar	264
(viii) Need to give employment to land holders whose lands have been acquired in Ramagundam and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh for construction of National Thermal Power Station and Steel Industry	
Shri C. Janga Reddy	264
General Budget, 1986-87—General Discussion—Contd.	265—376
Shri R. Jeevarathinam	265
Shri Sunil Dutt	268
Shri Charanjit Singh Walia	278
Shri Tariq Anwar	283
Shrimati Sheila Dikshit	286
Shri Jagannath Rao	288
Shri K. Mohandas	293
Shri P. A. Antony	296
Shri Ananta Prasad Sethi	299

Shri Digvijay Singh	301
Dr. Datta Samant	306
Shri Pratap Bhanu Sharma	311
Shri Ram Samujhawan	314
Shri R. Annanambi	317
Dr. Sankta Prasad	320
Shri Shanti Dhariwal	323
Shri Parag Chaliha	325
Shri R. P. Suman	330
Shri Bharat Singh	334
Shri Sultan Salahuddin Owaisi	337
Shri Jujhar Singh	341
Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan	345
Shri N. V. N. Somu	349
Shri Jai Prakash Agarwal	351
Shri Salahuddin	354
Shri Mankuram Sodi	356
Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer	359
Shri Ram Ratan Ram	362
Shri A. Jayamohan	365
Shrimati Usha Thakkar	367
Shri Ramashary Prasad Singh	371
Shri Madan Pandey	373
Shri Harish Rawat	376

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, March 11, 1986/Phalgun
20, 1907 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

WELCOME TO THE HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members, at the outset, I have to make an announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the Hon'ble Members of the House, I have great pleasure in welcoming His Excellency Mr. Istvan Sarlos, President of the National Assembly of the Hungarian People's Republic and the Hon'ble Members of the Hungarian Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon'ble Members of the delegation are :

- (1) Dr. Miklos Vida, M.P.
- (2) Dr. (Mrs.) Iren Kakas Szabo, M.P.
- (3) Dr. Sandor Karacsonyi, M.P.

The delegation arrived Delhi on Sunday, 9 March, 1986 early morning. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. Through them we convey our greetings and best wishes to the President, the Parliament, the Government and the friendly people of the Hungarian People's Republic.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTION

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sri Hari Rao.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Question No. 224 Sir.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Sir, Question No. 241 also relate to the non-conventional energy. Both Question Nos. 224 and 241 may be taken up together.

MR. SPEAKER : What has the Energy Minister to say ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I don't mind, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : All right, we shall take both of them together.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What a terrific lift he has got !

Discontinuance of Subsidy for Viable Project for Controlling Pollution

*224. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to discontinue subsidy given to private sector industries for introducing a viable project for controlling pollution by use of non-conventional sources of energy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether there are any new proposals in this regard; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir. However, the matter is kept under periodic review.

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

Generation of Power through Non-Conventional Sources of Energy

*241. SHRI H. M. PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the total Plan allotment for power has been substantially reduced because of shortage of resources;

(b) if so, the reasons for not making efforts to utilise non-conventional sources of energy to the full extent;

(c) whether Government are aware that a village in Gujarat has been energised through the utilisation of non-conventional energy; and

(d) whether Government propose to examine the possibility of similar generation of power through non-conventional sources of energy so that villages could be energised and agricultural development accelerated ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) In view of overall constraint in resources, the Seventh Plan outlay for the Power Sector is Rs. 34,273 crores.

(b) Efforts are already being made to utilize non-conventional sources of energy in the country for a wide variety of applications, with particular emphasis on providing energy in rural areas. Significant progress has been made in large-scale national programmes in the areas of biogas, improved chulhas, solar thermal, solar photovoltaics, biomass and wind energy. Further efforts towards greater utilization will depend upon higher financial allocations.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : To what extent have these non-conventional methods minimised the pollution content ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : To the extent that it does energy conservation and substitution by utilising non-conventional methods. For example, if you take the pollution caused by sugar distilleries, with the new technology of utilising the waste for conversion into energy, there we can convert it into energy as well as save the pollution. This is how it helps in pollution control.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Is it a fact that the PP Environment Controls offered a technology which would minimise the pollution of Ganga water without any cost to the Government ? If so, why does the Government not take the technology into consideration ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Is the hon. Member referring to pollution caused by distilleries or any other pollutant ? Every Pollutant is not capable of being converted into energy.

SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Is any indigenous technology available ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We will welcome any technology from anywhere that can help not only save energy but also prevent pollution.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Sir, I would like to seek a brief clarification. The so-called resource constraint is not the point. For the conventional energy you are spending something like Rs. 35000 crores whereas for the non-conventional energy you have provided only Rs 400 crores and odd. The task force which you had appointed recommended Rs. 3400 crores. In your reply you admit that so much good work can be done if non-conventional energy is pursued further in the manner it is being pursued which would result in substantial saving of conventional energy which is very costly. So, would it be possible for the Government to reconsider and allot larger funds for non-conventional energy ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, frankly speaking my personal view is that... (Interruptions).

I will come to that. Up till now we did not think that non-conventional sources of energy such as solar, wind and biomass can be commercially exploitable to become commercially viable. That is why Government did not allocate substantial resources or divert, if I may say so, resources which we are putting for conventional energy but with new technologies growing both in the field of solar with photo-voltaic and amorphous silicon coming we may be able to have...

SHRI AMAL DATTA : What about wind acro-generators ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is part of the wind mill system. With these new technologies developing we are already trying them out. For example, we have already set up three wind mill farms with the capacity of 500 KW each at present. In other countries like USA, in California, they have wind mill farm which generates about 1000 MW. That is the level upto which things have gone. Solar energy also can be utilised substantially and we want to encourage electricity generation from non-conventional sources. Already as a heat substitution in rural areas biomass is proving to be highly useful. It provides gas for cooking in rural areas as the substitution for fuel. So, this is where it will be useful and, I think, we will be able to find resources. Our policy is to encourage non-conventional sources of energy.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Sir, the hon. Minister has expressed his personal view. It is quite clear that he has not been successful in getting allocation of more funds from the Planning Commission and the Government in spite of the fact that it means so much saving. For instance, you have mentioned that one windmill can generate 500 KW of power. There is also a project before you, which costs about Rs. 18 crores which will enable you to generate 15 MW. If that is so, obviously it ought to be allocated more funds...

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Which project do you have in mind ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Some project which is very near to Delhi. I want to ask you one thing. You referred to the fact that rural areas would be greatly benefited if this development is pursued with some speed because it means decentralisation of energy in the rural areas. Small hamlets do not get normal thermal power for a long time because of transmissional and other difficulties. Whereas this development, if pursued further, would mean a tremendous benefit to the rural areas. There is the example of Khandya in Gujarat which has been wholly electrified and energised by non-conventional energy and it has resulted in substantial improvement of the well-being of

the village and in fact the benefit has accrued to all the 900 and odd largely tribal people in this small hamlet. I would like to know whether it is true that some 20 other similar experiments are being carried out in this country. If that is so, why should this not be pursued more rapidly ? I do not have the exact figures, but it does not cost much. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much they have spent on each of the projects. Instead of just 20 such units, why cannot you carry out this experiment in 2000 villages in one year, so that you can cover many villages in the Seventh Five Year Plan period ? I request the Minister that more money should be allotted for this development during the Seventh Plan.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I entirely agree. Khandya has set an example of what an integrated energy concept can do to make a small tribale village self-sufficient in energy and it only cost 15 lakhs of rupees. So, if we can have this concept of integrated energy centres, which we want to spread out in the rural areas, it will really help our rural areas in becoming self-sufficient in energy more speedily.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, our Government have done commendable work in the field of development of non-conventional sources of energy and with this end in view, a separate department has also been created. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether that department has formulated any long-term plan for the development of non-conventional sources of energy ?

Secondly, an amount of Rs. 120 crores was spent under this department during 1985-86, whereas an amount of Rs. 100 crores only has been provided for the year 1986-87. What is the reaction of this department to this reduction in allocation and what steps are being taken in this regard ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I feel that more allocation should be made for this sector and it will be my endeavour to put the entire budget allocation to maximum use for the development of this sector. Besides, we have a long-term

plan also for the development of non-conventional sources of energy.

Fall in production in Cement Factories run by Cement Corporation of India

*225. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether cement production has fallen during the last two years in some of the factories run by the Cement Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the names of such factories and the extent to which this production is less than the estimated production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). Out of nine factories run by the Cement Corporation of India, there was relative fall in cement production in respect of two factories during 1983-84 and four factories during 1984-85. The extent to which the production in these factories was less than the estimated production is indicated in Table below :

Units	1983-84		1984-85	
	Estimated production	Actual production	Estimated production (In Lakh tonnes)	Actual production
Kurkunta	1.70	1.87	2.00	1.83
Akaltara	3.20	3.02	3.17	2.80
Yerraguntla	3.15	3.12	3.15	2.75
Charkhi Dadri	1.55	1.59	1.68	1.49

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is clear from the reply given by the hon. Minister that production of cement had declined in two units of the C.C.I. during 1983-84 and during 1984-85, instead of making improvement, the number of such units rose to 4. The hon. Minister, while replying to a question on 26-11-85, had said that C.C.I. had taken some steps to improve the performance of its units and to push up the profit. In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much improvement has been achieved ever since these steps were taken ? If there has been some improvement in the performance, may I know the quantum of profit earned by the C.C.I. during 1984-85 and 1985-86.

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : With regard to the question asked by the hon. Member about the financial aspects of the C.C.I., I am to state that the figures relating to the year 1984-85 have been given in the statement that has been placed on the Table of the House.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I have also asked about the year 1985-86.

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Besides, in addition to making annual general review of the undertakings, I undertook a special survey of the Cement Corporation of India and have constituted a high level committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vishweshwaraiya, an eminent expert in the cement industry in our country and I hope that after the study of the working of the Cement Corporation of India has been completed, the first report of this committee would be submitted to the Government by the last week of March.

Firstly, the Units have been hit due to shortage of power supply, especially, in Karnataka and Rajasthan. The steps taken by the Cement Corporation of India so far in that regard include installation of captive power plants of 16.8 MW in five cement units. The recommendations of the National Productivity Council are being implemented. Efforts are being made to get adequate

supplies of coal. Besides, the requirement of materials has been assessed through the Industrial Development Corporation. Separate comprehensive reports have been prepared on cost control, production management and efficient management with regard to maintenance. I am sure, the position will improve after Dr. Vishweshwaraiya submits his report...

MR. SPEAKER : Will the situation improve after the report is submitted or after action on the report is taken ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : The situation will improve after the follow-up action on the report is taken. Action is sure to follow after the report is submitted.

The loss during 1984-85 is estimated at Rs. 1.84 crores.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : What has been the quantum of loss uptill now during 1985-86 ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : From the figures available so far 1985-86, the loss is expected to be Rs. 13 crores.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : The other hon. Members might be satisfied with the replies given by the hon. Minister so far but I do not feel satisfied. It is a fact that earlier the hon. Minister had stated in this House that C.C.I. had earned a profit of about Rs. 2 crores in 1984-85. Later on, it was said that a profit of Rs. 79 lakhs (provisional) was earned. But today, he had to say that the C.C.I. suffered a loss of rupees one crore and a few lakhs during 1984-85. From this it appears that the efficiency of the C.C.I. has successively gone down. This becomes very clear from the fact that the units having a capacity of 1200 tonnes per day in the private sector take 6 months at the maximum to stabilize, whereas the units set up by the C.C.I. have not stabilized as yet, after they were commissioned. The reason being that the performance tests of the plants supplied by the private parties were not conducted. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the performance tests of the plants supplied by the C.C.I. for their four units of 1200 tonnes capacity each were carried out and if not, whether action is proposed to be taken against the officer responsible for it ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Sir, I shall try my best to see that the resentment of the hon. Member turns into satisfaction.

MR. SPEAKER : Bring changes in it.

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Changes both in our policies and programmes.

It is really said that the losses of the Cement Corporation of India have increased. That is why I personally looked into it and decided that a high level committee headed by a learned person like Dr. Vishweshwaraiya should make an in-depth study. His report is being awaited. On the basis of that report, action will be taken on the administrative recommendations, if any.

So far as the question of performance test is concerned, Mandhar Plant was commissioned in 1970, Kurkunta Plant was commissioned in 1972, Bakejan Plant was commissioned in 1977, Akaltara Plant was commissioned in 1981 and Charkhi-Dadri Plant, which is an old plant, was taken over in 1981. I do not have information right now as to whether commissioning tests of these plants were conducted or not. If the hon. Member gives me notice, I shall definitely find out.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIKAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, Pandit Narayan Dutt Tiwari must believe me that the management of the C.C.I. has decided that they will swell the losses from 13 crores to Rs. 30 crores. I shall treat you a prophet if improvements are brought about after the Vishweshwaraiya Committee submits its report. I have only one question to ask. You are importing 2 to 2.5 lakh tonnes of cement every year from abroad and thus foreign exchange worth crores of rupees is being spent on it. But if the Government, after mutual consultations, supply coal to the cement companies on time, then the loss can be made good by raising production. Have you taken any decision in this regard ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Sir, had the learned Member taken the trouble of listening to my reply, he would have got answer to it. I have already said that there are some difficulties with regard

to coal, both from qualitative and quantitative angle. We are having direct consultations with the Department of Coal on both these points. We make effective consultations daily to ensure smooth and regular supply of coal.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Vishweshwaraiya Committee does not come into this question. I am talking about the position before the Committee report comes.

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Vishweshwaraiya Committee will first go into this question.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is not related to profit or loss. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government propose to set up a cement factory in Bihar since Bihar is a backward State ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Sir, I am sorry that I have to reply to this question in the negative.

SHRI KEYUR BHUSHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the public sector Akaltara Cement Factory, located in Chhattisgarh region, has been found short of 37 thousand tonnes of *Kilikar* resulting in a loss of about Rs. 9 crores. No action has been taken to look into it. Similarly, the Mandhar cement was rejected on the ground of its not being up to the mark. I want to know whether any action was taken to conduct an inquiry into it ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Sir, so as the question of Akaltara is concerned, as has been stated earlier, a fire had broken out there due to which the production suffered. As regards the shortage of *Kilikar*, I shall get it looked into.

[*English*]

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, from what the hon. Minister has stated, I understand that a high-powered committee had been appointed to look into the functioning of the CCI. However, I also came to know that more than half of the members of the committee

are the existing members of the Board of Directors of the CCI. In such circumstances, can we really expect that committee to give a fair report, or would he consider changing and reconstituting the committee so that one can expect a fair report at least to that extent ? After all, one thing is, that these losses have not come on their own, because something had happened due to which these losses have occurred. There has been a lot of malfunctioning and embesslement, etc. Charges are there. How can the same Board of Directors sit and inquire into the matter ? Would the Minister reconsider the matter and appoint these members, who do not figure on the earlier Board of Directors of CCI ?

AN HON. MEMBER : A good question.

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : There are Six members on this committee, which consists of Dr. Visvesvaraiya; Shri A. K. Poulse, retired Financial Commissioner, Railways; Prof. Pulin K. Garg, of the Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad, Shri A. V. Gokak, Development Commissioner Shri Sahai, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industry and Shri V. T. Kale, Joint Adviser (Production), Bureau of Public Enterprises.

The hon. Member may note that three out of six of these are not directly connected with this but they are experts in the field,

[*Translation*]

Telephone Connections on MPs Recommendation

*226. **SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government sanction now telephone connections on the recommendation of Members of Parliament in the same way as Petroleum Ministry allows Gas connections;

(b) if so, in what kind of cases recommendation of an M. P. is accepted; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. However, recommendation of a Member of Parliament for according priority for provision of telephone connection is given due consideration in individual cases on merits.

(b) Members of parliament who are nominated on Telephone/Tele-communications Advisory Committee may recommend for provision of telephone connections on priority basis for applicants registered under 'OYT' and 'Non-OYT-Special' categories at the time of bulk release of telephone connections.

(c) In view of (b) above, does not arise.

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt that the hon. Minister does give priority to our recommendations Sir, so many people come to us to seek recommendation and we have to recommend their cases just by way of a feeling of consideration for them. But none of them gets telephone on those recommendations. When we tell such people that our recommendation will not serve the purpose, they simply say "We have already arranged things with the authorities concerned, you just recommend our case." And thus they put us in a dilemma. Will the hon. Minister fix a certain number of telephones to be recommended by us in the same way as we have a quota of one gas connection per month which can be had on our recommendation? I would not mind getting one telephone connection in a year on our recommendation, but some quota should be fixed for us.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, we have tried to find out the rules that have been framed by the Petroleum Ministry in this regard. We have yet to get a set of their rules. (Interruptions) As admitted by the hon. Member himself, we do give them out of turn priority, whether it is the case of their constituency or some other.

[English]

AN HON. MEMBER : What about other Members? (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Sir, it has never happened like that. Not a single telephone connection is given on the recommendation of an M. P. (Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Mr. Speaker, I have got a full register with me showing the number of telephone connections given on the recommendations of hon. Members and other persons who come under the category of V.I.Ps. such as Ministers in the States, Chief Ministers, Governors and other distinguished persons. I have got the register and I can give you the figures if you so desire.

MR. SPEAKER : To how many people will you provide telephones?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : We do not have had such experience.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Therefore, to fix a quota.....

MR. SPEAKER : It will give rise to complications.

SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY : As stated by the hon. Minister, this question will be considered as soon as the rules from the Department of Petroleum are received. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister will give assurance to the effect that these rules would be implemented when received?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : We shall see after the rules are received. I want to tell you that 10 lakh people are on the waiting list in the country. In the special category of the Waiting list, there are journalists, doctors, ex-M.L.As and M.Ps. If you want priority to be given over them, it is a different question. The problems of L.P.G. and that of telephones are different.

MR. SPEAKER : What offence have they committed whom you want to supersede?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you inviting trouble? Already, there is a dispute regarding the signatures on the passport forms.

Thermal Power Generation in Kapurdi Area (Rajasthan)

*227. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work to process lignite in sufficient quantity for generating 500 megawatts thermal power in Kapurdi area of Barmer District of Rajasthan is being carried out by the Mineral Exploration Corporation under the directions of the Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission;

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard;

(c) the time by which the project report in this regard will be prepared; and

(d) whether Government propose to meet the power requirement of desert areas and other parts of the State by including the said scheme in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) M/s. Mineral Exploration Corporation have been commissioned to evaluate the lignite potential of the Kapurdi area in the Barmer District.

(b) The present estimate of deposits is approximately 57 million tonnes. Minal deposits have yet to be established.

(c) The report of M/s. Mineral Exploration Corporation is expected to be completed by 1987-88.

(d) If minable commercial deposits are established, only, thereafter, the question of including this scheme in the Seventh or Eighth Plan can be considered for meeting the power requirements of the desert areas and other parts of the State.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Hon. Speaker, Sir, Mineral Exploration

Corporation has been doing exploratory and drilling work in Kapurdi area of Barmer district for the last four years. Earlier also, when I asked this question, an assurance was given that this work would be completed by 1986-87 and only after its completion a conclusion would be arrived at whether 500 MW Power station could be set up or of a different capacity. Therefore, I would like to know the reasons for its delay. Is the non-availability of drilling machines at the site one of the reasons? Will the Government accelerate the pace of this work?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there has been no delay in this matter and the work is going on according to the schedule. Compared to the drilling done earlier, now the drilling is being done very closely so that a definite assessment of how minable deposits are spread out could be made. Only after the completion of this work in 1987-88, we shall be able to assess the quantum of commercially minable and viable resources which in turn will help us decide the capacity of the power house to be set up. This is the process and unless these things are known, no further step can be taken. Eleven agencies are engaged in this operation and the exploration work is in full swing.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Sir, I know that the information regarding the commercial viability of the mineral deposits is essential and then only the project can be set up, but I would like to know whether in view of the power crisis in the desert areas in Rajasthan, the speed of this work would be accelerated and it would be taken up on war footing?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the work is already going on war footing.

[English]

Import and Export of Crude Oil

*228. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL † : SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of crude oil imported during 1984 and 1985 and whether any contract has been signed for 1986;

(b) the quantity of crude oil likely to be imported during 1986, the countries from which to be imported and at what rate;

(c) the steps being taken to increase the production of crude within the country to reduce the import;

(d) whether India is also exporting crude oil;

(e) if so, the quantity of crude exported during 1984 and 1985 and likely to be exported during 1986;

(f) whether any contract has been signed in this regard; and

(g) whether the export of crude oil is being made by some private sector firms/companies; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SAEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (g). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). Quantity of crude oil imported during 1984 and 1985 is 15.9 MMT and 13.8 MMT respectively. No contracts with countries have been finalised so far in 1986. The import of crude oil during 1986 is estimated to be 14.664 MMT.

(c) Steps taken to increase the production of crude within the country include intensification of exploration, use of enhanced recovery techniques, induction of advanced technology and conservation measures to curb consumption.

(d) and (e). Quantities of crude exported during 1984 and 1985 were 6.7 MMT and 1.9 MMT respectively. No export is envisaged in 1986.

(f) and (g). The export is made through tenders in international oil market.

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Sir, today we are importing oil and spending huge amount of foreign exchange. Government is increasing duty on petroleum products with a view that the consumption of

petroleum becomes less. So, I would like to know, firstly, whether the actual consumption of petroleum in the last three years has decreased or not and, secondly, what will be the percentage of indigenous production of crude oil at the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan for meeting the total demand.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Sir, I have explained the position on the floor of the House that during the last eighteen months the rate of growth of consumption of petroleum and petroleum products has been seven percent. The details have already been given. I have also explained how the situation is going to develop in the Seventh Plan period. I would like to tell the hon. Member that while during the Sixth Plan period in 1980-81 the degree of self-sufficiency involved was of the order of 31.6 per cent, at the end of the Sixth Plan period we reached a figure of 70 per cent. But the present projections are that this is going to decline and by the year 1989-90, the degree of self-sufficiency may go down to 61 per cent or so.

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Sir, my second supplementary is whether there is a long pending demand to increase the royalty on oil from oil producing States, specially from Gujarat and whether the Government has taken any decision. If yes, what are the details and when will it be implemented and, if not, when will the decision be taken?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Sir, the demand has been under consideration of the Government for increase of royalty, both from the States of Gujarat and Assam. I had a discussion with the Chief Ministers of both the States and it is expected that we are going to raise the royalty very soon.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister which are the countries from where the crude oil was imported in 1985 and 1986 and what is the amount of foreign exchange involved and when there is indigenous requirement of crude oil, what was the necessity of exporting it to the foreign countries in 1985 and 1986?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : The countries from which we are importing oil are well-known. They are : USSR, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Oman, United Arab

Emirates and such other countries. The actual foreign exchange outgo on account of imports in the year 1984-85 has been Rs. 3,527 crores. In the year 1985-86 the revised estimates are Rs. 4555 crores. In the year 1986-87 we shall try to take it down to Rs. 4091 crores. This is the situation in respect of our foreign exchange outgo on account of our imports. (*Inter-ruption*) Some export has been under limitation on account of our refining capacity which has been increased in the 6th Plan period. Hence forward there is no likelihood of exports of crude from this country.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : While importing and exporting of crude oil there is a loss of Rs. 7 crores to the ONGC in 1985. When you check up the bills of ONGC office in Calcutta, you will find that the bill Nos. starting from 20231 to 20750 show a swindling of funds of Rs. 60 lakhs. And that happened between 17th November 1985 to 26th December 1985. If it is correct, what is the action that is proposed to be taken by the Government in this matter? Will the Government order a CBI inquiry into the matter?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Sir, the hon. Member is referring to a specific thing. But I would like to make it clear that the ONGC has nothing to do with import or export of oil. The canalising agency for import and export is the IOC. There might be some other difficulty or something wrong with ONGC. If the Member writes to me I shall certainly look into it.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Is the Government prepared to order a CBI inquiry into the matter?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : You may write to me; I shall certainly look into it. If there is a *prima facie* thing I will look into it.

SHRI TARUN KANTI GHOSH : When the prices fall in the international market in a big way, that is almost 50 per cent, why should the saving of foreign exchange be so small?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Because our imports are likely to go up as

explained, the degree of self-sufficiency is declining in the next 4 years. So our imports will go up. Therefore although the prices have fallen down substantially we do not know about what is going to happen in the future. But the total reduction is not in proportion to the fall in international prices. I may assure the House that we are taking full advantage of the present international situation in respect of oil prices.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : In consonance with the decrease in oil prices in the oil market I would like to ask the Minister where is the need for entering into long term contract with oil companies instead of purchasing the oil across the counter.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : We purchase through two methods. First there is long term contract for a certain quantity. If it is in the interest of the country and in the interest of maintenance of commercial relations with some of the oil production countries then we enter into agreements. But in respect of these countries also we do not go for official prices. We are trying to negotiate with them on market-related prices or spot purchase. So that is not going to affect our total cost for the oil that we may get from them.

Commissioning of Automatic Telephone Exchange at Leh

*229. **SHRI P. NAMGYAL :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Automatic Telephone Exchange was to be commissioned at Leh during the year 1985 and the building for the same has already been constructed and completed;

(b) if so, the reasons for non-commissioning of the exchange so far; and

(c) the time by which the Exchange is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State authorities have not agreed to give mains power supply due to meagre power generation at Leh.

(c) The exchange is planned for commissioning during 1986-87 subject to availability of Mains power supply.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Sir, in view of the sensitive nature of the area and the extreme climatic condition there, the people feel that automatic exchange must be set up very early because in the case of emergency the operators do not attend or respond to calls during the night although the exchanges are supposed to function for 24 hour. Before coming to the other question, I would like to know in the first instance what is the capacity of the proposed automatic exchange and what is the power requirement of the automatic exchange and whether the Department has explored the possibility of getting power from the Army.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, may I reserve...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Are you taking some interest in Leh ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : The capacity of the automatic exchange which is being installed at Leh is 300 lines and the power supply, the State Government promised us, would be made available when the hydel project comes into operation which would be very soon. In the meanwhile, we are in touch with Army authorities who run a captive power plant there to see if they can make available power supply from their power plant, and I can assure the hon. Member that the importance of Leh is very much recognised by our Department, we have a satellite earth station there which connects Leh with Delhi directly, and Leh with Srinagar, and I can assure the hon. Member that we would be able to decide on either of the two propositions very soon and that automatic exchange would be commissioned.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Sir, we are expecting to commission the Stakna hydel project this year. At the same time the power generating capacity of the present Diesel Engines this summer are expected to

be improved. Meanwhile, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the installation of machineries and other equipment everything will be done by the opening of road there ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Yes, Sir. Installation etc. would be complete by the time the State Government provides the roads.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let us hope that this exchange will be operative some time this year or early next year so that this exchange may have a functioning operation so far as North-East India and Eastern India are concerned. Will the hon. Minister see that the rotten telephone exchange in Calcutta is improved so that from Leh and Eastern India there is a proper connection ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is an unsportsmanship link up !

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This is of Leh. I want to know whether the telephone system will function so far as north-east and eastern India are concerned. There is no answer, Sir.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is an unmanageable link up !

Shifting of industries located in crowded localities in Delhi

*230. PROF. K. K. TEWARY† :
SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI
GUPTA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any studies have been made about the industries which are located in crowded localities in Delhi and whose emissions of gas are harmful to the public;

(b) if so, the results of those studies; and

(c) the steps being taken to get the industries referred in part (a) above shifted to far off areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b). A quick survey conducted by the Industries Department of the Delhi Administration has revealed that there are 1476 industrial units which are causing environmental pollution. Of these 1202 industrial units have been found to be causing air pollution due to emission of gases.

(c) Exemption of capital gains arising from transfer of buildings or lands used for purposes of business from tax was extended to capital gains arising out of transfer of machinery and plant also in the General Budget for 1983-84 to encourage industries to shift from urban areas and also as a measure of decongesting the crowded cities and reducing pollution. Apart from the fiscal concessions the locational policy followed by Government does not generally permit setting up of new units and substantial expansions of the existing industrial undertakings in standard urban area limits and municipal cities. Individual industrial undertakings are expected to take advantage of the concessions/facilities offered for shifting their premises to their new locations.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, unfortunately we have had the dubious distinction of having the worst industrial disaster in history in our country, that is, Bhopal. Bhopal was almost nearing equal to Nagasaki and Hiroshima. All the world over, this disaster was studied and analysed and industrial safety measures were strengthened and taken. I do not know whether much has been done in our country, but what the Minister has revealed in his reply is rather harrowing.

Sir, the hazardous industrial units which are polluting the environment keeping the people on a diet of poison, their number in Delhi alone in congested areas is 1476. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken particularly when on the very first Anniversary of the Bhopal outrage people in India were pondering over this. Gas leakage took place on the third of September. Shriram Foods and Fertilizers

factory in Najafgarh—that unit was in the notice of the Government...

MR. SPEAKER : Please put a question.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I am putting the question. A study had been ordered. Miss Neeta Bali, Commissioner of Delhi Administration had submitted a report on this unit that it should be closed down and eventually shifted. Even a British expert, Dr. Lader who was also brought in, submitted the same report. Then, Shri Manmohan Singh submitted the report...

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question. What are you doing ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : This is what happens when I start putting the question.

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question. I am telling you for your benefit.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : If you shut me for ever in the House, I will go out of the House. You have listened to people for 10 minutes and 15 minutes.

MR. SPEAKER : If you do not put the question, you lose the importance of this matter.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : He is threatening, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : He can threaten me because he is my master. I don't mind that. The only thing is, I am asking him to put this important question.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : There are several reports of committees appointed by the Government before this gas leakage took place. I would like to know from the Minister what happened to all these reports of the committees appointed by the Government.

Now comes the Air and Water Pollution Board. They gave certificate of excellence to this unit, Shriram Food and Fertilizers Unit before the disaster took place. And then, the Supreme Court Committee which has been set up also suggested that this unit had to be shifted from that place. In view of this, what steps is the Government taking ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The question is, do you agree with his speech ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : I think, my agreeing with the hon. Member lies in the complementary nature of our thoughts.

The hon. Member has mentioned that the whole matter is before the Supreme Court. Even in today's paper, you can find a reference to the order of the Supreme Court delivered yesterday in which they have relaxed certain conditions regarding the reopening of the chemical factory at the same premises subject to certain rigid conditions. The Supreme Court judgement will be studied as soon as it is received and seen by us. It was delivered yesterday and we have to get it today.

I can assure the hon. Member that as far as question of, shifting of the factory is concerned, I have already asked the Delhi Administration to go into depth of the matter. We have to comply with the Supreme Court judgement as far as it is relevant to the purpose of this matter. As far as shifting of the factory is concerned, the Delhi Administration has been advised to look into the matter immediately in accordance with the judgement of the Supreme Court.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : A committee appointed by the Supreme Court had submitted its report. I am reading from that report :

"Complete elimination of risk to pollution at large obviously lies in the location of plant in an area without habitation."

The Supreme Court has not given any ruling or judgement against shifting of this unit. So, in view of the danger posed by this unit for the last several years and successive reports submitted by committees appointed by the Government, will the Government take immediate steps for the shifting of this unit and also review safety measures all over the country because there are thousands of units posing health hazards to the public at large ? In view of this, is there any Comprehensive policy before the Government on this issue ?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : I have already assured the hon. Member that the Delhi Administration is being asked to look into the matter of shifting of this particular industry from Delhi. As far as safety measures are concerned, the President's speech itself has mentioned some of the measures that are proposed to be taken. There are many amendments which are on the anvil. The Factory Act, 1948 is proposed to be amended with a view to strengthening safety provisions in respect of hazardous processes, on-site disaster control plants and stiffer penalty. The Ministry of Surface Transport has been requested to formulate amendments to the Motor Vehicles Act to avoid risk of accidents during transport of hazardous substances. The Water Pollution Act, the Control of Pollution Act, 1974 and the Air Pollution Act, 1981, are proposed to be strengthened by providing powers closure of plants posing imminent danger for polluting air or water through stiffer penalty and by enabling private citizens to file complaints against offending industry.

The President has also mentioned the proposed enactment of the Hazardous Substances Control Bill.

Another general legislation is proposed for environmental protection. In this legislation, it is proposed that a provision should be made for the creation of a high-powered authority which coordinates activities of various Departments in this matter.

The Bill also is expected to propose environmental laboratories.

Regarding location policy, prior environmental clearance is already laid down in respect of 20 high pollution industries.

Most of these steps will lead to the implementation of the suggestions of the hon. Member.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said a good thing that they are going to bring forward a comprehensive Bill to overcome the problems relating to environment. He has also started that a survey conducted by

the Industries Department of the Delhi Administration has revealed that there are 1476 industrial units which are causing environmental pollution out of which 1202 industrial units have been found to be causing air pollution due to emission of gasses. He has further stated that the Government have evolved a policy under which tax exemption would be granted to such units as shift from congested localities and more facilities would also be provided. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of industrial units which are likely to be benefited from these facilities and also the number of units which have shifted from congested localities and availed themselves of the facilities provided by the Government?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Sir, the hon. Member is aware of the geographical location of Delhi. Delhi, which is the National Capital Region, is surrounded by Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and close to it is Rajasthan. As long as all the concerned State Governments do not have coordination, it is difficult to give the exact figures in respect of the industrial units which have shifted from Delhi to the neighbouring States. I have myself tried to know the complete figures. I do not have the relevant figures at the moment.

The industrial units located in the neighbouring areas, such as, NOIDA to Sahibabad, Gurgaon, Daruhara and Faridabad to Ballabhgarh are all such industries which otherwise would have been set up in Delhi. The entrepreneurs of Delhi have developed these industries centres outside the capital and have set up their industries there:

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I can understand the cruel attitude of the private industrialists who violate this pollution laws. But there are a number of public enterprises fully controlled by Government, that too the Central Government, constantly violating these pollution laws. I myself have complained about an industry in my Constituency that is newsprint factory at Kottayam about the emissions it made to the nearby river. No action has been taken.

What I want to know from the hon. Minister is, what strict controls the Government will apply on these public enterprises about which large-scale allegations are there in regard to violation of pollution laws.

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : These laws should apply strictly to public sector undertakings also.

As far as that particular Kerala undertaking is concerned, I have been there and we have tried to satisfy anti-pollution requirements and we have installed all possible equipment. I would appreciate if the hon. Member writes to me about further mitigating the pollution.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if the Supreme Court has not ordered the shifting of Shriram Factory due to some technical reasons, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government propose to remedy those technical reasons?

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : Sir, as I have told just now, the Delhi Administration would consider shifting of this factory outside Delhi.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Energy Requirements in Rural Areas

*231. **SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) per capita energy requirements in rural areas;

(b) whether per capita requirement in rural areas in India is higher or lower in comparison to other developing nations in Commonwealth countries; and

(c) if it is lower, the steps taken by Government for increasing the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) According to the

"Energy Statistics Year Book" published by the United Nations in 1985, the per capita electricity consumption in India in 1983 was 202 Kwh. The per capita consumption in the agricultural sector has been estimated at about 25 Kwh. It is estimated that the consumption in the agricultural sector is about 18.7%.

For the household sector, the Advisory Board on Energy, have assumed a requirement of 680 Kilo calories of useful heat per capita per day. The percentage shares of different forms of energy estimated by the Working Group on Energy Policy (1979), are given below :

(1) Electricity	0.6%
(2) Oil Products	16.9%
(3) Coal Products	2.3%
(4) Firewood	68.5%
(5) Animal Dung	8.3%
(6) Others	3.4%

Share of Commercial fuels—20.0%

Share of Non commercial fuels—80.0%

(b) According to the Energy Statistics Year Book, the per capita electricity consumption in 1983 in some of the developing countries was as follows :

(In Kilo Watt Hours)

India	202
Bangladesh	39
Malaysia	820
Srilanka	134
Kenya	124
Nigeria	94
Mauritius	422
Uganda	30
Tanzania	34
Zambia	1106

The per capita consumption of commercial energy have countries was as follows :

(In Kilograms of Coal equivalent)

India	231
Bangladesh	48
Malaysia	896
Srilanka	134
Kenya	95
Nigeria	191
Mauritius	276
Uganda	24
Tanzania	43
Zambia	354

(c) Government have taken the following steps to augment the supply in rural areas :

- (i) High priority is being accorded to electrification of villages and energisation of pumpsets.
- (ii) The supply of firewood is being augmented through afforestation programmes.
- (iii) A programme of thermally efficient and smokeless chulhas has been undertaken.
- (iv) A large-scale programme of setting up biogas plants is being implemented.
- (v) The availability of energy is also being augmented by promotion of alternative sources of energy based on solar, wind and biomass.

[Translation]

Installation and Shifting of Telephone Connections on Priority Basis in Delhi

*232. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of those telephone exchanges in Delhi from which neither new telephone connections are being provided nor the old ones are being shifted;

(b) the total number of new telephone connections provided and shifted on priority basis from these telephone exchanges during 1984-85 and 1985-86; and

(c) the basis for providing new connections and shifting old connections on priority basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) In Shahdra East I and II ('20' and '86' exchanges) and Shakti Nagar telephone exchanges in Delhi neither new telephone connections are being provided, nor the old ones are being shifted. However, in case of Shakti Nagar exchange all requests for shift of telephones registered upto 31-12-1985 are shortly being cleared, soon after the expansion of '74' exchange by 1200 lines which is scheduled during the month of March 1986.

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

(c) In some exceptional cases, depending upon the merits of the case, new connections and shifting of telephones are permitted in such exchanges.

[English]

Benefits out of Contracts given to Foreign Companies for Oil Exploration

*233. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of foreign companies, which were given oil exploration contracts in the country during the last three years and the terms of the contracts entered into with those companies; and

(b) the benefits envisaged for the country under those contracts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). No exploration contract has been awarded to any foreign company during the last three years.

Additional Power Supply to Bangalore

*235. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bangalore City has been getting its share of power from Ramagundam Thermal Power Station directly;

(b) if not, whether it is due to non-completion of Cuddapah-Bangalore transmission line;

(c) if so, the time by which the Cuddapah-Bangalore line will be ready; and

(d) whether Government propose to take steps to allot additional power supply to Bangalore city from Ramagundam Thermal Power Station since Bangalore is having a number of Central Government undertakings and is facing acute power shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). Power from the Ramagundam super thermal station has been allocated to Karnataka and is feed in the State grid; it is for the Karnataka authorities to supply power from the grid to individual cities like Bangalore. During April, 1985 to February, 1986, as against its share of 474.4 million units, Karnataka received 733 million units from Ramagundam thermal station in the Central sector. It is the responsibility of the State authorities to supply power to consumers in the State, including Central undertakings. The Cuddapah-Bangalore transmission line is expected to be completed by the end of April, 1986.

Setting up of Industries in areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes, Girijans and Adivasis under Public Sector

*236. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether more encouragement will be given for starting industries in the areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes, Girijans and Adivasis;

(b) the number of industries so far started in these areas under public sector; and

(c) whether the infrastructure like electricity, roads, railways, communications, needed for industries, help the development of areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes, Girijans and Adivasis ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :

(a) Industrially backward districts/areas in the country have been placed in Categories A, B and C for grant of Central Investment Subsidy and the entrepreneurs setting up industrial units in these districts are eligible for 25% Category A, 15% in Category B and 10% in Category C besides concessional finance, income-tax concessions etc. Districts inhabited by Girijans and Adivasis have mostly been covered in one of these categories. Scheduled Castes are inhabiting almost all districts in the country, and therefore, it is not possible to evolve a special Central Investment Subsidy Scheme for them. However, under the various programmes e.g. those run by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, liberalised assistance is given to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes etc. Some of the Khadi and Village Industries Programmes such as Woollen

Khadi, Tusser Silk Khadi, Village Leather, Collection of non-edible Oil-Seeds, Bee-keeping, Fibre and Forest-based industries provide employment mainly to artisans belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Information is not readily available.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government are aware that one of the impediments towards rapid industrialisation in the backward areas is the absence of infrastructural facilities. It has, therefore, been decided to assist the State Governments to take infrastructural development in one or two identified growth centres in each No-Industry District. The assistance from the Central Government will be limited to 1/3rd of the total cost of infrastructural development subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores per district. The infrastructural facilities which qualify for Central assistance are approach roads, water-works, effluent discharge systems, culverts, common utilities, power-substations, drainage, industrial housing and additional facilities that are normally provided in growth centres by the State Government. A list indicating the backward tribal districts and the categories in which these have been included is given below in the statement.

Statement

List of Tribal Districts Identified as Industrially Backward

State	District	Categorisation
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	Srikakulam	B and C
	Warangal	B and C
	Khammam	B and C
2. Assam	Goalpara	A
	Kamrup	A
	Nowgong	A
	Darrang	A
	Sibsagar	A
	Dibrugarh	A
	Lakhimpur	A

1	2	3
	Cachar	A
3. Bihar	Palamau	B
	Santhal Parganas	B
4. Gujarat	Dangs	A
	Panchmahal	B
	Beroach	B
	Banaskantha	C
	Sabarkantha	C
5. Himachal Pradesh	Kinnair	A
	Lahaul and Spiti	A
	Chamba	A
6. Karnataka	Mysore	B
	South Kanara	C
7. Kerala	Idukki	A
	Malapuram	B
	Cannanore	B
	Trivandrum	C
8. Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua	A
	Dhar	A
	Chhindwara	A
	Balaghat	A
	Mandla	A
	Surguja	A
	Sidhi	A
	Seoni	A
	Morena	B and C
	Khargone	B and C
	Ratlam	B and C
	Raipur	B and C
	Bilaspur	B and C
	Betul	C
	Bastar	C
	Raigarh	C
	Hoshangabad	C

1	2	3
	Rajnandgaon	C
9. Maharashtra	Gadchiroli	A
	Chandrapur	B
	Jalgaon	C
	Nanded	C
	Yeotmal	C
	Dhulia	C
10. Manipur	Manipur-North	A
	Manipur-South	A
	Manipur-East	A
	Manipnr-West	A
	Tengnoupal	A
11. Orissa	Balasore	A
	Phulbani	A
	Kalahandi	B
	Mayurbhanj	B
	Keonjhar	B
	Koraput	B
12. Rajasthan	Sirohi	A
	Udaipur	B
	Banswara	C
	Dungarpur	C
13. Tamil Nadu	North Arcot	B and C
	South Arcot	C
	Tiruchirapalli	C
14. Uttar Pradesh	Gonda	C
15. West Bengal	Baukura	A
	Malda	A
	Jalapaiguri	A
	Darjeeling	A
	Purulia	B
	Midnapur	B

1	2	3
	Birbhum	C
	West Dinajpur	C
	Murshidabad	C
	Burdwan	C
	Hoogly	C
16. Tripura	North Tripura	A
	South Tripura	A
	West Tripura	A
17. Andaman and Nicobar islands	Nicobar	A
18. Goa, Daman and Diu	Daman	A
19. Nagaland	Entire Territory	A
20. Meghalaya	Entire Territory	A
21. Mizoram	Entire Territory	A
22. Arunachal Pradesh	Entire Territory	A
23. Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Entire Territory	A
24. Lakshadweep	Entire Territory	A

Proposals of Non-resident Indians to set up Industries in Kerala

***237. SHRI SURESH KURUP :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals for setting up industries with the help of non-resident Indians in Kerala, sent for the Union Government's approval during the past two years; and

(b) the number of industries set up with the aid of non-resident Indians in Kerala so far ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) Since setting up of the Special Approval Committee (NRI) in November 1983, only three proposals were received from the non-resident Indians, seeking industrial licences

under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, to set up units in Kerala. These were for the manufacture of polyacetal resin, electron gun assembly for TV picture tubes and computer systems, daisy wheel printers, CRT monitors, microfiche equipment and scanning therapy equipment. These were rejected by the Government on the grounds that further licensing had been stopped due to sufficient capacity having been already approved, the proposal was not well formulated, production was based on kit imports and the applicant would not be able to sell his products.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of Electricity from Renewable and Non-Conventional Energy Sources

***238. SHRI B. K. GADHVI :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) how many megawatts of electricity is being produced in the country from renewable and non-conventional sources of energy;

(b) whether Government propose to undertake further projects in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) In addition to large scale programmes currently underway for providing heat energy from non-conventional sources of energy; 2.75 MW of electrical capacity has already been established and an additional 5.5 MW are under installation.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Several projects are being planned during the 7th plan period for production of electricity based on solar energy, wind energy, biomass and other non-conventional energy sources. Among these are rural electrification through solar photovoltaics, establishment of wind farms, electrical generating units based on gasifiers, electricity from urban waste and agricultural residues and small hydro power etc. The aggregate capacity and phasing would depend on the financial resources made available for such projects.

Raichur Thermal Power Plant and Kali Project at Soopa

***240. SHRI D. K. NAIKAR :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that there is an acute shortage of power in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to complete Thermal Power Plant at Raichur and Kali Project at Soopa and the reasons for delay in completing these two projects; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be completed and power generated therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The units of 210 MW each at Raichur Thermal Power Station have

already been commissioned in March, 1985 and March, 1986 respectively. Two units of 50 MW each at Supa dam of Kalinadi Hydro Project have also been commissioned in August, 1985 and November, 1985 respectively. Power from these projects is already being generated. The main reasons for slippage at Raichur Thermal Project were delay in civil works, and fire accident at project site. In case of Units at Supa dam, delay occurred due to geological problems encountered during construction of the dam.

Modernisation of Telephone Exchange in Kerala

***242. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to modernise the telephone exchanges in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The following are the proposals to modernise telephone exchanges in Kerala :

1. Manual Telephone exchange at Changanacherry was automatised by an electronic exchange of 2000 lines capacity during the current year;
2. Electronic trunk automatic exchange will be installed at Ernakulam during 1987-88;
3. Electronic telephone exchanges of E-10 B type have been planned for installation during the 7th Plan period at Trivandrum (10,000 lines) Ernakulam (3000 lines) and Kottayam (5000 lines).
4. Small electronic exchanges will be installed at Kalpatta (600 lines) and Mannar (400 lines) in 1986-87.

Power Finance Corporation

***243. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the functions of the Power Finance Corporation to be set up in 1986-87; and

(b) the details of the steps taken and contemplated in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The Power Finance Corporation will *inter-alia* provide term finance to thermal, hydel and transmission projects, schemes of renovation and modernisation, and system improvement schemes. The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Corporation are being finalised for incorporation of the Power Finance Corporation in 1986-87.

Losses in Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking

2173. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether DESU (Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking) has been suffering heavy losses year after year;

(b) if so, the losses incurred during the years from 1982-83 to 1985-86;

(c) the main reasons for the same;

(d) whether any assessment has been made about the extent of loss suffered on account of theft of electricity; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being contemplated to effectively prevent such theft of power ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking has been facing revenue deficit since 1973-74 mainly on account of increase in the cost of inputs of power generation/supply as also the increase in cost of power purchased. The provisional figures of revenue deficit since 1982-83 onwards are as follows :—

Year	Deficit (Rs. in crores)
1982-83	67.45
1983-84	97.54
1984-85	118.99

Figure for revenue deficit, if any, for 1985-86 would be available after the year is over.

(d) and (e). The difference between the energy available for sale and the energy billed are normally the T and D losses which work out to 18% approximately. The transmission and distribution losses consist of (i) technical losses attributable to transmission and line losses; and (ii) commercial losses due to pilferage of theft. It is not possible to segregate theft of energy from the total transmission losses, though technical losses are a substantial component of the T and D losses.

To check the theft of power, surprise raids are conducted by DESU from time to time. On detection of a case of theft of energy, necessary FIR is lodged with the Police against the defaulter. The supply so taken unlawfully is disconnected besides assessing the consumption of energy on the basis of connected load for making recovery from the party concerned.

Utilisation of Capacity of Telecommunication Circuits in INSAT-B Network

2175. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the target set out for utilisation of the capacity of telecommunication circuits in INSAT-B network by the end of December, 1985;

(b) whether the target capacity has been fully utilised;

(c) if so, in which months of the year 1985 the target was achieved; and

(d) the future programme of the Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Utilising fully the planned capacity of 3956 Trunk Telecommunication Circuits.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) November, 1985.

(d) Plans are under finalisation for enhancing the capacity of Telecommunication Circuits by about 50% after INSAT-1C becomes operational.

Phones went Dead in Delhi

2176. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether after a light water shower on 9th February night over 2000 phones went dead in South Delhi region alone and thousands elsewhere in Delhi;

(b) whether two electronic locaters for cable faults which detect defects in 5-15 minutes were not used in most of the regions; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and corrective steps proposed to obviate such large scale breakdown of telephones ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The shower on the night of 9.2.86 was a heavy down-pour which continued practically throughout the night. Nearly 3000 phones were affected in South Delhi and about 2500 in the rest of Delhi.

(b) The latest pulse echo type cable fault locator was extensively used in the South Delhi areas for localisation of faults.

(c) The telephones were affected due to seepage of water into the cables. The following steps are taken to obviate cable break-down.

- (i) Laying of new junction, primary, secondary cables in ducys to protect them from external damages.
- (ii) Pressurisation of primary, secondary and junction cables to minimise cable break-down faults.
- (iii) Use of jelly filed cables in the distribution network to prevent entry of water in the cables and to avoid faults.
- (iv) Cable trenches are being flooded before being closed so as to detect any damage during trenching or laying of the cables. The public is being asked to inform before they take up digging on 'Dial Before you Dig' service so as to keep liasion with other agencies who are engaged in digging.
- (v) Extensive patrolling of cable routes to detect any digging operations and to take precautionary measures to avoid damage to cables.
- (vi) Inter utility services committees have been set up to coordinate digging activities.

Allotment of Kerosene to Kerala

2177. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the allotment of kerosene to Kerala from the Central pool during the last year, month-wise;

(b) whether Government are aware that present allotment of kerosene is not adequate to meet the requirements of the State;

(c) whether Government have received any request from the Government of Kerala to increase the allotment; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Month-wise

kerosene allocations made to Kerala State during 1985 are given in the statement given below.

(b) The kerosene requirement of States/ Union Territories is worked out after allowing an increase of 5% over the allocation for the corresponding period of four months in the previous year. Allocations to Kerala have been made on this basis, apart from *ad hoc* allocations at times to meet special situations like shortage of LPG.

(c) Yes, sir.

(d) Kerosene allocation to Kerala for the Winter Block of November, 1985 to February, 1986 was made at a growth rate of 7½% and for the Summer Block of March-June, 1986, has been made at a growth rate of 7 per cent.

Statement

Statement showing Month-wise Kerosene allocation made to Kerala State during 1985.

(Figures in Tonnes)

Month	Quantity
January	15,750
February	16,250
March	15,000
April	14,680
May	14,000
June	13,380
July	14,900
August	14,900
September	14,900
October	14,900
November	17,240
December	17,240
Total	1,83,140

Oil and Gas Reserves at Gandhar in Cambay

2178. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADHAK
PATIL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the newly discovered Gandhar oil field in the Cambay basin is considered to be the second biggest after Bombay High;

(b) the estimated hydrocarbon reserves and the oil and gas ratio; and

(c) when it is likely to go into production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Gandhar field in Cambay basin is still in the assessment stage.

(c) ONGC has planned to commence trial production from Gandhar by July, 1986.

Profits from Investments in Public Sector

2179. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to ensure profits from huge investments in public sector through improved profitability and accountability as reported in Economic Times of 13 February, 1986; and

(b) whether Government propose to professionalise the top management and also remove bureaucratic controls and over-centralisation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Government have been continuously endeavouring to improve the profitability of the Central Public Enterprises by improving their performance.

(b) It has been the Government's constant endeavour to inject professionalisation and autonomy in Public Sector Undertakings consistent with the country's high stakes in their efficient working and Government's own accountability to Parliament.

Telephone Facilities in Villages of Khargone District of Madhya Pradesh

2180. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in the District of Khargone of Madhya Pradesh which are likely to be provided with telephone facilities during 1986-87; and

(b) the funds allocated for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Eight villages in the District of Khargone of Madhya Pradesh are likely to be provided with telephone facilities during 1986-87.

(b) Funds for setting up these long distance public call offices will be met from the lump sum grant given to the Circle for the year.

Inventory Holding of Plant and Machinery for Public Sector Companies

2181. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government have decided to evolve and introduce a new system for inventory holding of plant and machinery for public sector companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, does not arise.

Demand and Production of LPG Cylinders in West Bengal

2182. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :
SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN :
DR. SUDHIR ROY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand for LPG cylinders in West Bengal and the total production of LPG cylinders in the State;

(b) whether there is vast difference between the demand of cylinders and availability of cylinders in the State;

(c) how the difference is being covered, whether by bringing cylinders from other States or by other means; and

(d) if so, whether consumers are compelled to pay higher rate per cylinder than in other States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Requirement of LPG cylinders in any area, including West Bengal, from time to time depends upon the existing number of consumers, the pace of release of new connections, bottling capacity etc. These requirements are met by each company through existing cylinders and procurement of new cylinders from manufacturers located all over the country. There is no shortage of cylinders for supply of LPG in West Bengal.

(d) No, Sir.

New Oil Refinery in Assam

2183. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to set up a new oil refinery in Assam in private sector as per the Assam Accord of August 15, 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any study has been made about the impact of such a step on national economy and on public sector Oil Corporations and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). A Working Group was set up to make a study of the various aspects and recommend the feasibility of setting up a refinery in Assam. The report of this Working Group is under consideration.

Production of tyres and tubes by Modi Rubber Ltd.

2184. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Modi Rubber Ltd. have violated the norms and produced nearly double the licensed capacity of tyres and tubes; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against the said industrial concern ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). It came to notice of the Government that the production of M/s. Modi Rubber Ltd. during 1979-80, was 7.64 lakh nos. of automotive tyres and tubes as against approved capacity of 4 lakh nos. A show cause notice was issued to the company in this regard and an enquiry was held. In the course of the enquiry it was found that the excess production had been achieved by way of improved technology, efficiency and fuller utilization of plant and machinery and not by way of installation of any additional machinery. Further, the firm was also holding a letter of intent No. LI : 735 (80), dated 6-12-80, for an additional capacity of 2 lakh nos. of tyres. The case was examined and in terms of Government scheme notified on 4-9-80, the excess installed capacity of the undertaking covered by the Licence was regularised and re-fixed at 7.64 (seven decimal six four) lakh numbers per annum each for automobile tyres and tubes. The regularisation of excess capacity was also

subject to the condition that the Letter of Intent No. 735 (80), dated 6-12-1980, granted to the company should be deemed to be subsumed in the capacity so regularised.

Opening of branches of Small Industries Service Institute in Himachal Pradesh

2185. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the latest position with regard to sanction and opening of branches of Small Industries Service Institute at Hamirpur and Mehatpur in Una district of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) since when the matter has been under consideration of Government and the reasons for delay; and

(c) the likely date of sanction and opening of the branches ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Proposals have been received for opening of a Branch Small Industries Service Institute at Hamirpur and an Extension Centre at Mehatpur in Una district of Himachal Pradesh from Small Industries Service Institute, Solan, Himachal Pradesh during August, 1984. These are still under examination.

Setting up of New Telephone Exchanges

2186. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are proposals to provide more telephone exchanges in the country to clear pending waiting lists in big cities and towns; and

(b) if so, the number thereof and the places at which these are proposed to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). During the Plan period 11 lakh Direct

Exchange Lines (DELs) are proposed to be added. These additions are carried out both by opening new exchanges as also by expanding existing ones. Based on the actual annual allotment of funds by the Planning Commission targets are fixed in terms of new lines to be added every year. The exchanges range from very small sizes any 25 lines to very large sizes over 10,000 lines and it is not possible to assess the total number throughout the country for the Plan period at this stage.

**Representation from Bharat Brakes
and Valves Mazdoor Union**

2187. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation dated 19 December, 1985 from the Bharat Brakes and Valves Mazdoor Union, 13A, Creek Lane, Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the steps taken by Government on the said representation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation contains a study report of the plant capacity of Bharat Brakes and Valves Ltd., a summary note on the demands of the Union, such as, LTA, CCA and other matters.

(c) and (d). The representation has been examined and it is found that the proposal for plant capacity utilisation is based on unrealistic data and has no relevance to the present market demand, prices, production and productivity achievement made so far. As regards various demands of the Union for grant of LTA, CCA and HRA, the present financial position of the company does not permit of additional expenditure on account of these items. The management has informed the Union accordingly.

**Opening of Sub-Divisional Office (Tele-
phones) at Bhawani Patna District
Kalahandi**

2188. SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the norms to establish a Sub-Divisional Office (Telephones) at a particular place;

(b) whether Bhawani Patna in district Kalahandi (Orissa) justifies for a Sub-Divisional Office (Telephones); and

(c) if not, whether considering the backwardness of the area Government propose to open a Sub-Divisional Office (Telephones) at Bhawani Patna ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The norms for establishing a sub-Divisional office (Telephones) are given in the statement given below.

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

Statement

Standards for Sub-Divisional Office (Telephones)

One post of SDO Phones will be sanctioned if the total workload in the concentrated system reaches 0.65 i.e. 4420 units. The workload is calculated as per co-efficients given below for all the assets :

S. No.	Assets	Scale Unit
1	2	3
A. Outdoor Plant		
(i)	DEL to Exchange	0.8
(ii)	PBX/PABX with EC :	
	(a) 99 ext. or less	10
	(b) 100 and above	40
(iii)	Extensions of all types	0.3
(iv)	Telex Subscriber	15
	Rented and departmental T. P. Circuits	15 per cent.
(v)	Carrier/Repeater/VFT systems	65
	per channel	5
(vi)	C.T.O.	40 per office
(vii)	D.T.O.	20 per office
(viii)	N. E. Lines/Private wires/LDPCOs	4 per line
(ix)	Sanctioned staff for outdoor plant including J.E.	5
(x)	J.E. (O. D)	15
B. Indoor Plant		
	Exchanges having equipped capacity of	
(i)	1000-1999 lines	1100
(ii)	2000-2999 lines	1675
(iii)	3000-4999 lines	3300
(iv)	5000 and above	5500
(v)	Special Service positions	15 per position
(vi)	SLOD/MLOD/STD	3 per Circuit
(vii)	Telex Exchange	110 per exchange
	Telex working connections	4 per working connections
(viii)	Sanctioned staff for Indoor Plant including JEs	8
(ix)	JEs (Indoor)	15

1	2	3
C. Trunk Plant		
	Trunk Exchange with	
(i)	10-15 traffic handling positions.	500 psr exchange
	per O.G. position	150
	per I.C./CIT position	100
(ii)	16 or more traffic handling positions	70)
	per O.G. position	175
	per I.C./CIT position	125
(iii)	Record Enquiry position related to above	15
(iv)	Sanctioned staff for Trunk Plant including JEs	8
(v)	JEs (TK)	15
D. Other Assets in concentrated system not covered by above.		
(i)	Exchange 100-499 Weightages	125
(i)	For difficult terrain i.e. terrain accepted as difficult by Govt. of India	25% on Units A (i) and B (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) above
(ii)	Cross Bar Systems	15% on units at A above
(ii)	TAX terminations :	
(i)	Constant per exchange	as per equivalent auto exchanges
(ii)	Per Circuit	3 units
(iii)	per head of staff	8 units

**Proposal to recognise housing sector
as an industry**

2189. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA ;
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased
to state :

(a) whether in view of the housing
sector having large potential for generation
of employment and augmentation of
production of building material, Government
propose to recognise the housing sector as an
industry;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that
direction; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.
ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). The Ministry
of Urban Development are yet to finalise the
proposal for treating housing as an industry.

Production of LPG Cylinders

2190. SHRI SYED MASUDAL
HOSSAIN ; Will the Minister of
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be
pleased to refer to the reply given to
Unstarred Question No. 4133 on 23rd April,
1985 regarding production of LPG cylinders
and state :

(a) the State-wise details of 650 LPG cylinder manufacturing units mentioned therein;

(b) how many of those units are manufacturing cylinder, State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken regarding other units not yet manufacturing cylinders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The State-wise details of LPG cylinder manufacturing units which hold valid DGTD registration as on date are given below :

Andhra Pradesh	24
Haryana	125
Karnataka	23
Kerala	6
Punjab	26
Rajasthan	40
Himachal Pradesh	37
Gujarat	32
Bihar	15
Jammu and Kashmir	2
Dadar Nagar Haveli	1
Madhya Pradesh	39
Maharashtra	38
Orissa	16
Tamil Nadu	22
Uttar Pradesh	127
Pondicherry	14
West Bengal	26
Assam	13
Goa	4
Delhi	1

631

(b) State-wise details of the 53 units manufacturing LPG cylinders at present are given below :

Andhra Pradesh	12
Bihar	1
Gujarat	3
Delhi	1
Haryana	5
Jammu and Kashmir	1
Karnataka	5
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	5
Orissa	2
Punjab	2
Rajasthan	3
Tamil Nadu	3
U. P.	6
West Bengal	2
	53

(c) Placement of orders by the oil industry will be done on units holding all requisite clearances in terms of the policy from time to time for procurement of cylinders.

Setting up of more Hydel Power Projects in Kerala

2191. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposals for setting up of thermal or hydel projects for generating power are pending with the Union Government for clearance; if so, the names of the States and the proposed location of the projects;

(b) whether Government have granted clearance to any thermal or hydel projects during 1985-86 and if so, particulars thereof;

(c) whether in view of the extensive waterways in Kerala, setting up of more hydel power generators will be considered in this area; and

(d) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the State of Kerala in this regard; if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Hydro and Thermal Power projects in the country awaiting Investment Approval of the Planning Commission, are indicated in the Statement-I given below.

(b) 3 Thermal and 15 Hydro Electric Projects have been approved during 1985-86. The details are given in the statement-II given below.

(c) Any proposal for setting up of more Hydel Power Projects in Kerala will be

appraised by the Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic clearance.

(d) The following Hydro Electric Schemes from Kerala are presently under appraisal in the Central Electricity Authority/Central Water Commission :

1. Chalakudy Stage-II 2×40 MW Stage-I 2×60 MW Stage-II
2. Pa'ivasal 4×60 MW

The projects involving inter-State aspects where revised Project Reports are required, have not been included in the above.

Statement-I

Projects awaiting Investment approval of Planning Commission

S. No.	Name of Scheme	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
I. Northern Region		
Jammu and Kashmir		
1.	Pahalgam Hydel (3×1 MW)	3
2.	Diesel Scheme in J and K (2×20 MW)	40
Punjab		
3.	Guru Nanak Dev Thermal Extension Bhatinda (2×210 MW)	420
Rajasthan		
4.	Palana Lignite Thermal Station (2×60 MW)	120
5. Mini/Micro Hydel Schemes in Rajasthan		
A.	RMC Mahi I ($2 \times .4$ MW)	0.80
B.	Birsalpur $\left. \begin{array}{l} (1 \times .75 \text{ MW}) \\ (1 \times .25 \text{ MW}) \\ (1 \times .35 \text{ MW}) \end{array} \right\}$	1.35
C.	Etawa ($1 \times .5$ MW)	0.50
D.	Jaluwala ($1 \times .09$ MW)	0.09
E.	RMC Mahi-II ($1 \times .06$ MW)	0.06
F.	Nachna ($1 \times .175$ MW)	0.175

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh		
6.	Srinagar HES (4 × 50 MW)	200.00
7.	Pala Maneri HES (3 × 47.5 MW)	142.50
8.	Khara HES (3 × 24 MW)	72.00
9.	Unchahar Ext. (T) (2 × 210 MW)	420.00
10.	Rajghat HES MP/UP (3 × 15 MW)	45.00
11.	Sobla HES (3 × 2 MW)	6.00
II. Western Region		
Gujarat		
1.	Gandhinagar TPS Extn. Unit-4	210
2.	Kutch Lignite Extn.	70
3.	Panam Canal Bed Power House	2
4.	Uttran Thermal Power Station Replacement Unit	120
Madhya Pradesh		
1.	Tawa Left Bank Canal Hydel Project	12
2.	Bhimgarh Mini H.E.P.	2.4

Statement-II*Thermal/Hydel Projects approved during 1985-86*

S. No.	Name of Scheme	State	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3	4
A. Thermal			
1.	Tuticorin TPS Stage-III	Tamil Nadu	2 × 210
2.	North Madras TPS (approved in principle)	Tamil Nadu	3 × 210
3.	Kahalgaoon TPS (Central Sector)	Bihar	4 × 210
B. Hydro			
1.	Kakatiya Canal HEP	Andhra Pradesh	3 × 0.5
2.	Nagarjunasagar HEP Right Bank Canal 3rd Unit	Andhra Pradesh	1 × 30
3.	Yoteshwar Mini HEP	Maharashtra	1 × 0.075
4.	Dalaima HEP	Assam	2 × 2

1	2	3	4
5. Teesta Canal HEP	West Bengal	9 × 7.5	
6. Rongnichu HEP	Sikkim	5 × 0.5	
7. Surya HEP	Maharashtra	1 × 5	
8. Manikdeh HEP	Maharashtra	1 × 6	
9. Kanhar HEP	Maharashtra	1 × 4	
10. Dham HEP	Maharashtra	2 × 1	
11. Rengali Stage-II HEP	Orissa	3 × 50	
12. Morand HEP	Madhya Pradesh	2 × 0.5	
13. Malampuzha HEP	Kerala	1 × 2.5	
14. Madupatty HEP	Kerala	1 × 2	
15. Dimbhe HEP	Maharashtra	1 × 5	
Maharashtra			
1. Installation of 1 × 120 MW Waste Head Recovery Units at Uran Gas Turbine Station		120	
III. Southern Region			
A. Thermal			
1. North Madras Thermal Power Station (3 × 210 MW)—Tamil Nadu		630	
B. Hydel			
1. Sharavathy Tail Race (4 × 60 MW)—Karnataka		240	
2. Madur Branch Canal (1 × 1.5 MW)—Karnataka		1.5	
3. Pyankutty (2 × 120 MW)—Kerala		240	
4. Muvattupuzha (1 × 6 MW)—Kerala		6.0	
5. Chimoni (1 × 2.5 MW)—Kerala		2.5	
6. Mini Hydel Stations at D-83 of Kakatiya Canal—Andhra Pradesh			
(i) at 6th and 7th mileage (4 × .475 MW)		1.9	
(ii) at 12th mileage (3 × 270 KW)		0.81	
(iii) at 14th mileage (5 × 300 KW)		1.5	
(iv) at 16th mileage (4 × 410 KW)		1.64	
(v) at 9th and 10th mileage (4 × 335 KW)		1.44	
(vi) at 25th mileage (3 × 100 MW)		0.30	
IV. Eastern Region			
Orisssa			
1. Ib Valley TPS (4 × 210 MW)		840	

1	2	3	4
West Bengal			
1. Bakreshwar TPS (3 × 210 MW)			630
V. North-Eastern Region			
A. Thermal			
1. Lakwa Waste Heat (1 × 22 MW)—Assam			22
2. Tago Hydro Electric Project (3 × 1.5 MW)—Arunachal Pradesh			4.5
3. Leimakhong St. III (2 × 500 KW)—Manipur			1.0
4. Thoubal Hydro Electric Project (3 × 2.5 MW)—Manipur.			7.5
5. Ranganadi Hydro Electric Project (3 × 135 MW)—Arunachal Pradesh (NEC Project)			405.0
6. Gas Based Thermal Power Plant in Upper Assam (2 × 7 × 40 MW) at Lakwa and Kathalguri			560.0

More Direct Exchange Lines and Long Distance Public Telephones in Maharashtra State

2192. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme of the Department of Telecommunications to add some more direct exchange lines and long distance public telephones during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, particularly in the State of Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. With the allocations indicated by the Planning Commission, Department of Telecommunications Plans to add 11 lakh Direct Exchange Lines (DELs) and 9,000 long distance public telephones in the country. In the state of Maharashtra, it is expected to add around 1.25 lakh DELs and 950 long distance public telephones. This figure excludes the telephone Districts of Bombay and Pune where DELs additions are expected to be around 1.12 lakh and 0.12 lakh lines respectively.

Malpractices by LPG Agents in Gurgaon (Haryana)

2193. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to LPG agents for supplying second gas cylinders to consumers;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether it is a fact that LPG agents at Gurgaon (Haryana) are not issuing second gas cylinder to consumers;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken against them;

(e) whether it is also a fact that LPG agents at Gurgaon do not supply gas for weeks together and there are allegations that they sell the gas cylinders to unauthorised consumers at higher prices; and

(f) if so, whether Government propose to conduct an enquiry in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Government have from time to time advised the oil marketing companies to release the

second LPG cylinder to customers liberally. Subject to any operational problems, the oil industry has been releasing such cylinders.

(c) and (d). LPG cylinders in Gurgaon market are fitted with 'F' type equipment. The conversion to pin type has started from January 1986. Release of DBCs will be taken up after the conversion is completed.

(e) The reason delay in meeting the peak (winter) season demand are operational and transportation bottlenecks.

No specific complaints regarding supply of refills by distributors to unauthorised consumers at higher prices have been received.

(f) Does not arise.

Demand and Supply of Coal

2194. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) what was target of coal production during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) whether the target was fully achieved; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the target for the Seventh Plan period; and

(d) what is the gap between the demand and supply ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The target of coal production for the terminal year of the Sixth Plan i.e. 1984-85 was 152 m.t. of raw coal. The actual production was 147.45 m.t. for the same year. The marginal shortage in coal production was due to the following reasons :

- (i) Difficulties in acquisition of land combined with law and order problems.
- (ii) Want of timely availability of major items of mining equipment.
- (iii) Inadequate and unreliable power supply.
- (iv) Shortage of stowing material.

(c) and (d). The National Development Council has approved a demand of 237 m. t. of raw coal in 1989-90, the terminal year of the Seventh Plan. To meet this demand a production target of 226 m.t. of raw coal in the same year has been approved. The gap between the demand and production would be met by draw down from stocks and import of coking coal.

Nationalisation of Tobacco Companies

2195. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to nationalise the tobacco companies to save the tobacco growers and workers from the clutches of middlemen and private trade; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil Exploration in Orissa

2196. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some areas in Orissa have been selected by Oil India for locating oil and gas there;

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

(c) the progress made so far in regard to survey work there and the time by which oil drilling work is likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tentatively 8 drillable locations have been identified for exploratory drilling during the 7th Plan period. These locations fall in the districts of Puri, Cuttack and Balasore,

(c) Seismic surveys in onshore Orissa begun in November, 1981. Approximately 3800 line kms. of survey was carried out by two contract crews and completed by September, 1984. The seismic data were processed and interpreted by OIL's Geoscientists and a number of prospective locations have been identified. It is planned that 8 exploratory wells will be drilled during the 7th Plan period beginning June-July, 1986.

[Translation]

Report of Chari Committee on Working of Eastern Coalfields Ltd.

2197. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Chari Committee had submitted its recommendations in November, 1985 for bringing about improvements in the working of Eastern Coalfields Ltd., commercial exploitation of coal deposits and enhancement of the production of coal therein; and

(b) if so, the details of these recommendations and the reaction of Government to each recommendation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). A Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri K.S.R. Chari, Consultant and former Secretary, Department of Coal was appointed in April, 1985 to make an indepth study of the working of the Eastern Coalfields Limited with a view to identifying the various problems plaguing the Company and finding out remedial steps/measures to be undertaken to get over those problems in order to enable the company to achieve its main objectives of scientific development of coal reserves in its jurisdiction, increasing coal production and implementing other schemes for development and welfare. The Committee has submitted its report in November, 1985 which is under examination.

[English]

Thermal Power Plant at Majia

2198. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 600 MW thermal power plant proposed by Damodar Valley Corporation at Mejia has been held up; and

(b) the steps being taken to remove the bottlenecks in its way ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The thermal power project at Mejia will be taken up for implementation after clearance under the Forest Conservation Act, which is being expedited, has been received.

[Translation]

Waiting List for New Telephone Connections in Uttar Pradesh

2199. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons in the waiting list for telephone connections in Uttar Pradesh at present;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to provide them telephone connections at an early date; and

(c) the names of places where telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the likely capacity of each of the proposed exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Uttar Pradesh as on 31-1-1986 is 39,525.

(b) Steps are being taken to provide telephone connections to most of them during the 7th Five Year Plan period depending on the availability of resources.

(c) Some of the major places, where telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up or expanded with net increase in capacity during the 7th Five Year Plan, are as follows :

1. Agra	5,000 Lines
2. Allahabad	5,000 „
3. Kanpur	16,800 „
4. Lucknow	17,000 „
5. Meerut	6,000 „
6. Mussourie	1,500 „
7. NOIDA	4,000 „
8. Varanasi	5,600 „

[English]

DMT Plant Imported by Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Ltd.

2200. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have ordered an enquiry against Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Ltd. for misleading Government regarding the life of the D.M.T. plant imported by the firm; and

(b) if so, how far Government have succeeded in ascertaining the facts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Complaints of Defective Washers in L.P.G. Cylinders

2201. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of large number of complaints about the risks and inconvenience caused to the consumers of LPG because of the defective rubber washer in LPG cylinders;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the complaints of distributors of LPG cylinders that out of 400 cylinders received by them more than 50 cylinders in the lot are either without washer or with damaged washer; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to minimise risks involved in defective use of rubber washers in LPG cylinders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Some complaints about defective rubber washers in LPG cylinders are received by the oil marketing companies in the course of their business operation.

(b) The percentage of such cases is negligible.

(c) At all the bottling plants, every filled cylinder is checked with Compact Valve Tester, for ascertaining the presence and proper functioning of the rubber washer. Dealers are also under instructions to check the rubber washers before delivering the cylinders to the consumers.

Possession of Land Acquired for Telephone Exchange at Race Course, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

2202. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that land was acquired at a cost of Rs. 7.35 lakhs during 1979 for the use of Telephone Exchange department at Race Course, Coimbatore from the State Government of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the said amount has been paid by the Union Government to State funds;

(c) if so, the details thereof and in not, reasons thereof; and

(d) the reasons for delay in taking possession of the land by the Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). An amount of Rs. 7.53 lakhs was paid to the Revenue Authorities on their demand.

(d) The Revenue Authorities, Coimbatore intimated that the Government of Tamil Nadu has decided to drop the land acquisition proceedings, hence the possession of land was not made over by the State Government.

Legal Aid Committees in States

2203. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Legal Aid Committees set up at the State level with a view to extending legal assistance to the landless Adivasis, State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the extent to which these Legal Aid Committees have been successful in restoring illegally transferred land to the Adivasis in Bihar during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : According to information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes :

(a) State Legal Aid and Advice Boards have been constituted in every State with a view to extending legal assistance to the needy persons including landless Adivasis.

(b) No information in this behalf is available with the Government.

[Translation]

Running of Parallel Postal Service

2204. SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that parallel dak system is being run at a number of places illegally in view of inadequate and defective dak distribution system which is unable to meet the needs of the people at present;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to introduce some alternative system or to improve the existing system with a view to check it; and

(c) whether Government have received suggestions that as the present system is not

rendering satisfactory service the old distribution system, which was more efficient than the present system, may be re-introduced with necessary changes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Parallel Postal Services are operating in various parts of the country. It is, however, not correct to say that this is in view of the inadequate and defective dak distribution system which is unable to meet the needs of the people.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Suggestions have been received seeking re-introduction of old distribution system. These were examined but were not accepted as the present system is found to be rendering satisfactory service.

[English]

Import-based modernisation

2205. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the present import-based modernisation is working against the country's indigenous and developing industry; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps proposed, especially in the light of tight resources and foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Provision for Better Telex Services in Major Cities

2206. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to provide better communication facilities, particularly telex services in the major cities;

(b) if so, the names of the cities where such facilities are proposed to be provided;

(c) the schemes prepared and expected time of launching those schemes; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Electronic Telex exchanges have been provided at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. These exchanges are planned to

be expanded as required. Similar Electronic telex exchanges are proposed to be provided at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ernakulam, Jaipur, Gauhati Baroda, Chandigarh, Lucknow and Pune.

(c) The exchanges at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ernakulam, Jaipur and Gauhati are to be installed with the imported electronic telex equipment. These installations are planned to be started in 1986-87. Electronic Telex exchanges at the other four stations are planned to be taken up during the 7th Plan period.

(d) The details of the scheme are given in the statement given below.

Statement

Electronic Telex Exchanges proposed for Major Cities

I. Expansion of Electronic Telex Capacity

Name of station	Existing capacity of Electronic exchange	Expansion proposed
Bombay	8,500 lines	7,000 lines
New Delhi	7,264 „	4,000 „
Calcutta	3,000 „	2,500 „
Madras	3,700 „	1,200 „

II. New Electronic Telex Exchanges

Name of station	Present Electro-mechanical Telex Exchange capacity	Capacity Proposed with Electronic Telex Equipment
1. Ahmedabad	500 Lines	2000 Lines
2. Bangalore	1100 „	2700 „
3. Hyderabad	800 „	2000 „
4. Ernakulam	500 „	1750 „
5. Jaipur	250 „	1050 „
6. Gauhati	200 „	500 „
7. Baroda	400 „	700 „
8. Chandigarh	200 „	700 „
9. Lucknow	200 „	500 „
10. Pune	400 „	1000 „

Utilisation of capacity of LPG cylinder plants

2207. **SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps are being taken to increase the utilisation of capacity of LPG cylinder plants;

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken so far in this regard;

(c) whether the safety of cylinders is being jeopardized by such greater utilisation of the manufacturing process; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures being taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Capacity utilisation of LPG cylinder plants depends on the flow of orders from oil companies commensurate with their requirements.

(c) and (d). Do not arise as the manufacturing capacity for LPG cylinders in the country is far in excess of the requirements at present.

Requirement/production of LPG cylinders

2208. **SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present requirement of LPG cylinders in the country;

(b) the manufacturing capacity of Government-owned LPG cylinder manufacturing companies;

(c) whether any import of LPG cylinders is necessary considering the present requirement of the country;

(d) whether any tenders are being invited from the private sector LPG manufacturing units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The present requirement of LPG cylinders in the country is estimated at 45 to 50 lakhs per year.

(b) The PLG cylinder manufacturing capacity of Government companies is as under :

S. No.	Name of Unit	Manufacturing Capacity (in lakhs nos. per annum)
1.	Hyderabad Allwyn Metal Works Hyderabad.	10.00
2.	Bharat Pumps and Compressors Ltd., Naini (Allahabad).	1.00
3.	(a) Balmer Lawrie and Co., Mathura.	6.00
	(b) Balmer Lawrie and Co., Paharpur, Calcutta.	1.25
4.	Bharat Wagon and Engineering Co. Ltd., Muzaffarpur.	1.00
5.	Bharat Brakes and Valves Ltd., Calcutta.	0.42

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). The procurement policy for the next year has not been finalised by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Bonus to Reserved Trained Pool Employees in P and T Department

2209. **SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserved Trained Pool employees in the P and T Department are not being paid bonus whereas even casual labourers in this department are being paid bonus;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to pay bonus to this category of employees; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) RTPs (Reserved Trained Pool) are employed on hourly basis only while the casual labourers are employed for fully day.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Setting up of New Public Sector Units

2210. SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts in the country with one or more units of a public sector undertaking under the Union Government, State-wise;

(b) the names of districts in which the first unit of a public sector undertaking under the Union Government is proposed to be set up during Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the incentives offered to attract private sector or districts with no public sector or major private sector investment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) The details of the districts in which one or more units of the Central Public Sector Undertakings are located, are not maintained and the efforts involved in collecting the data in respect of these enterprises, numbering more than 200, is not considered to be

commensurate with the benefits to be derived therefrom.

(b) The Central outlays are not decided on state-wise/district-wise basis but on techno-economic feasibility and cannot be pre-determined on such a basis.

(c) Setting up of Industries in a State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government although the Central Government supplements their efforts through provision of various incentives/concessions to industries in backward areas, details of which are contained in the booklet "Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas", copies of which are available in the parliament library.

Absorption of Reserved Trained Persons in Telecommunications Department

2211. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :
DR. G. S. RAJHANS :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :
SHRI V. S. VIJAYA-RAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be taken by his Ministry to absorb the reserved trained persons in the regular employment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : The RTP (Reserved Trained Pool) staff will be regularised as and when posts are created.

[Translation]

Irregularity in Sending Electricity Bills by D.E.S.U.

2212. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Delh Electric Supply Undertaking is not sending⁸ electricity bills in regard to numerous houses

in various colonies of Delhi ever after 3-4 years of their providing connections to them;

(b) whether this is resulting in loss to the Government revenue and increase in burden on the consumers;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to instruct the Undertaking to send the bills regularly after every two months as heretofore and in one case within one year and give date of issue on such bills; and

(d) the time by which it would be done and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) According to Delhi Electronic Supply Undertaking, first bill of a new connection is normally sent in 3-4 months. Isolated cases of late billing which might occur in some colonies are rectified as soon as possible.

(b) Practically no revenue loss is suffered by DESU on account of late billing as the consumption charges are ultimately realised from the consumers. To avoid inconvenience to consumers where bills for longer period are issued, benefit of payment in instalments is allowed to consumers.

(c) and (d). DESU have introduced a new procedure from 15-5-1985 which *inter-alia* provides for issue of first bill within 2-3 months of energisation of a new connection. DESU has also increased the number of Districts from 15 to 20 so that adequate attention is paid to the consumers particularly in the outlying colonies. Arrangements for normally sending electricity bills on monthly and/or bi-monthly basis already exist in DESU. To improve the consumers' service, DESU is installing its own computer system. Giving date of issue of bill could be considered after DESU installs its own in-house computer.

[*Translation*]

Implementation of Tiwari Committee Report on Poisonous Chemicals

2213. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any machinery exists in the country to study the ill effects of pollution and to examine the adverse effects of indigenous and imported chemicals;

(b) whether Government are aware that many chemicals like T.D.I. (Toluene Di-Isocyanate) are more dangerous than MIC (Methyl Isocyanate) used in plastic industry and P.C.B. (Poly-chlorinated Biphenyl) is also very poisonous over which Government have no control;

(c) whether we are importing some such chemicals also, the use of which is prohibited even in those countries which export them; and

(d) whether Tiwari Committee had given some suggestions for exercising control over poisonous chemicals and whether these suggestions have been implemented so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). There are a number of agencies which study the ill-effects of chemicals and process technologies.

As per published information, MIC (Methyl Isocyanate) has been given a higher rating than TDI (Toluene Di-Isocyanate) in terms of toxicity. In India, Polyurethane foams are manufactured exclusively in the small scale sector, based on imported TDI and Polyols.

The appropriate statutory authorities under the Factories Act as well as under the Air and Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Acts would ensure safety within the factory premises and would also ensure protection for the environment respectively.

According to available information, in some countries, use of Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) is permitted only for specific purposes.

The prevailing Import-Export Policy regulate, in general, the import of all items, including chemicals into the country. Further, under the Insecticides Act, pesticides and insecticides, not registered for use in the country, can neither be manufactured nor imported.

(c) According to available information, Government is not aware of instances of import of chemicals from those countries where they are banned.

(d) Yes, Sir. Tiwari Committee had recommended that an act on toxic substances control is required to ensure protection of environment from the sale, manufacture, use and disposal of chemicals, other than pesticides. Action has already been taken by formulating a proposal for legislation on hazardous substances, including toxic chemicals.

[English]

Import of Technologies

2214. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technologies developed by the international telecommunication giants are essentially suited for low traffic high density countries of the world;

(b) whether these technologies can be successfully transferred to India which is a high traffic, low density country; and

(c) whether such large scale technology transfer will not affect India's policy of self reliance in the economic field and mar the initiative of India technocrats ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Technologies developed abroad are not only used in developed countries with high telephone density and low traffic, but also in many developing countries with low telephone density and high traffic. Efforts are made by the designers to optimise the technologies suitable for both situations, particularly since the suppliers in developed countries look forward to exporting their products to the developing countries also.

(b) While importing technologies, due care is taken while evaluating the various alternatives to ensure that technologies imported to meet the requirements of the situation prevailing in the country.

(c) All efforts are made to ensure that import of technology is kept to the barest minimum and to ensure that the import of technology does not kill the initiative of indigenous technocrats and Research and development activities.

The policies in regard to technology development and transfer are so regulated that the country can achieve maximum self-reliance in the entire field of telecommunication, consistent with adequate quality and high reliability.

Constitutional cases pending in Supreme Court

2215. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the number of constitutional cases pending to be heard by a full bench of the Supreme Court for over 14 years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : As per information furnished by the Registry of the Supreme Court, 19 constitutional cases are pending for over 14 years.

Energy Conservation in Industry

2216. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the recommendations/suggestions made at the Conference on energy conservation in industry held New Delhi in January 1986 under the auspices of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and if so, their reaction thereon;

(b) what are the results of the study undertaken by the Kapoor Committee on the industrial sector in regard to the saving to result from energy conservation in terms of quantity, value and the resources; and

(c) whether the recommendations of Kapoor Committee have been considered and implemented and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The proceedings and recommendations of the Conference on Energy Conservation in industry held in New Delhi in January, 1986 by the

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry are yet to be received from FICCI. These will be considered after the recommendations are received.

(b) The report of the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Utilisation and Conservation of Energy, set up under the Chairmanship of Shri D. V. Kapoor, indicates that saving to the extent of 17.5 million tonnes of coal, 1.0 million tonnes of oil and 5250 MW of electricity could result from energy conservation measures in the industrial sector. The report further indicates that an investment of Rs. 3600 crores for implementing energy conservation measures in industrial sector can save a capital expenditure of Rs. 5780 crores on capacity build-up in the energy supplying sector, besides improving the operations of the industrial sector by avoiding a recurring energy bill of Rs. 1925 crores.

(c) The Working Group have recommended long term and short term energy conservation measures for industrial sector. Since a number of Sectors/Agencies are involved in the implementation of the recommendations and there is need to create new mechanisms and practices, implementation of these recommendations are being taken up in a phased manner.

Installed Capacity and Production of Thermal Power Stations

2217. DR. K. G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of thermal power stations in the country State-wise with their installed capacity and production by the end of the Sixth Plan; and

(b) the steps taken to reach the installed capacity and the time schedule for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The names of the thermal power stations in each State, their generating capacity and generation during 1984-85 are given in the statement given below.

(b) It is not possible to make 100 per cent utilisation of the installed capacity. In thermal power stations, it is necessary to subject the generating units to obligatory boiler overhaul and capital maintenance of turbines depending on the conditions of the units and manufacturers' instructions. There is also non-utilisation of available capacity due to system load variations. However, in order to further improve the performance of thermal power stations a number of measures are being taken on a continuous basis. These measures include :

- (1) Assistance to State Electricity Boards/power stations in procurement of requisite quality and quantity of coal and also spare parts from indigenous and foreign sources.
- (2) Assistance to State Electricity Boards/Power stations for undertaking plant betterment programmes.
- (3) Visit of task forces and roving teams to identify weak areas requiring improvement and preparation of time bound programmes for rectification.
- (4) Training of engineers and operation and maintenance personnel.
- (5) Implementation of a Centrally Sponsored renovation and modernisation scheme covering 32 thermal power stations, with Central loan assistance totalling Rs. 500 crores.

Statement

*Station-wise thermal generating capacity as on 31-3-1985
and Power Generation during 1984-85*

State	Station	Generating Capacity (MW) as on 31-3-85	Generation (MU) 1984-85
1	2	3	4
Delhi	Badarpur (NTPC)	720.0	3014
	I. P. Station	282.5	1527
	Rajghat	28.0	75
	Total	1030.5	4616
Haryana	Faridabad	195	496
	Panipat	220	765
	Total	415	1261
J and K	Kalabate	22.5	0
Rajasthan	Kota	220	1103
Punjab	Bhatinda	440	2385
	Ropar	420	557
	Total	860	2942
Uttar Pradesh	Obra	1550	4038
	Harduaganj 'A'	90	252
	Harduaganj 'B'	450	1162
	Panki	284	1095
	Paricha	220	27
	R. P. H. Kanpur	65	141
	Others	33.5	75
	U. P. S. E. B.	2692.5	6790
	Singrauli (NTPC)	1050	5315
	Total	3742.5	12105
Gujarat	Dhuvaran (T)	534	3098
	Dhuvaran Gt	54	0
	Ukai	850	2910
	Gandhi Nagar	240	837
	Wanakbori	630	2768
	Uran	61	319
	others	23	20

1	2	3	4
Gujarat	G. E. B.	2392	9952
	A. E. CO. (PVT.)	161	1005
	Sabarmati (PVT.)	220	732
	Total	2773	11689
Madhya Pradesh	Satpura	1142.5	4453
	Korba-I	100	483
	Korba-II	200	777
	Korba-III	240	1181
	Korba West	630	1131
	Amarkantak	300	1732
	M. P. E. B.	2612.5	9857
	Korba (NTPC)	630	2851
	Total	3242.5	12708
Maharashtra	Nasik	910	4141
	Koradi	1100	3403
	Khaperkheda	90	147
	Paras	90.5	279
	Bhusawal	482.5	1930
	Parli	480	1754
	Chandrapur	420	734
	Uran Gt	240	1294
	Others	18	44
	MSEB	3833	13731
	Trombay (PVT.)	830	4680
	Chala (Rly.)	40	172
	Total	4703	18583
Andhra Pradesh	Kothagudem	680	2593
	Ramagundem 'B'	62.5	276
	Nellore	30	117
	Vijayawada	420	2847
	Others	33	5
	A. P. S. E. B.	1225.5	5838
	Ramagundem (NTPC)	600	1491
	Total	1825.5	7329

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	Raichur	210	0
Tamil Nadu	Ennore	450	1427
	Basin Bridge	70	87
	Tuticorin	630	3423
	T. N. E. B.	1150	4937
	Neyveli	600	4057
	Total	1750	8994
Bihar	Patratu	730	1984
	Barauni	365	508
	Muzaffarpur	110	0
	Total	1205	2492
D. V. C.	Chandrapura	780	3606
	Durgapur	460	1625
	Bokaro	205	915
	Total	1445	6146
Orissa	Talcher	470	1326
West Bengal	Bandel	530	2248
	Santaldih	480	1039
	Kolaghat	210	227
West Bengal	Gouripur	28	30
	Gas Turbines	100	65
	W. B. S. E. B.	1348	3609
	C. E. S. C. (PVT.)	328	1309
	Titagarh (PVT.)	240	1005
	D. P. L.	280	705
	Total	2196	6628
Assam	Namrup (i/e WH)	133.5	373
	Chandrapur	30	92
	Bongaigaon	120	167
	Lakwa GT	45	149
	Others	21	67
	Total	349.5	848
All India		26460	98770

Role of Directors in Public Sector Management

2218. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to review the role of Directors in the public sector management on the pattern of French model management;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which such a pattern will improve the working and performance of public sector organisations in the country; and

(d) whether a high-powered committee has been set up by Government in this regard; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) No, Sir.

[*Translation*]

Demonstration by Employees of Telephone Department, Delhi

2219. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :
SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of employees of Telephone Department demonstrated on 6 February, 1986 at 'Sanchar Bhawan' for presenting their demand before Government regarding regularisation of casual staff as referred to in the Supreme Court's decision in the matter;

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

(c) the difficulties if any in regularising casual employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some Union leaders and Casual Labourers demonstrated between 3rd and 10th February in front of Sanchar Bhawan for regularisation of Casual labourers and other demands.

(b) The demands of the Casual Labourers were discussed in a meeting with the representatives of NFP and TE and an 'agreement' was reached. Suitable Orders, to implement the 'agreement' wherever necessary has been issued.

(c) The Department has about 90,000 Casual Labourers on rolls. They are being regularised against Group 'D' posts as and when available.

[*English*]

Management of Public Sector Enterprises

2220. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
DR. K. G. ADITYODI :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :
SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM :
DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to make departure from the existing pattern of management of public sector enterprises is under consideration of Government;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to make the public sector more effective; and

(c) the extent to which Government would exercise control over the public sector companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There is at present no proposal before the Government to change the existing pattern of management of public enterprises.

(b) It has always been the Government's endeavour to professionalise management of public sector enterprises, remove the constraints in their way and regularly review their performance so as to make them more effective and result-oriented.

(c) As the prime investor in public sector enterprises is the Government, its control over them is consistent with need to ensure better performance of these enterprises.

[Translation]

Setting up of industries in drought affected Adivasi Districts

2221. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is considering a proposal to grant any special concession for the setting up of industries in drought affected 'No Industry' adivasi districts; and

(b) if so, the details of the special concessions being given in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. No special concession is under consideration for drought affected 'No Industry' adivasi districts. The concessions available to 'No Industry Districts' are given in the Booklet on "Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas—April, 1984" read with Press Note No. 14/2-83-DBA-I dated 9-4-85 copies of which are available in Parliament Library.

Subsidy on Kerosene Oil

2223. SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state whether Government propose to give cent per cent subsidy on increased kerosene oil prices so that the common man is not required to bear the burden of increased prices of kerosene ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : There is no such proposal at present.

[English]

Scarcity of Kerosene in Gujarat

2224. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is acute scarcity of kerosene in Gujarat;

(b) whether it is a fact that people have to stand in long queues for getting meagre quantity of kerosene from fair price shops; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to supply adequate quantity of kerosene to meet the public demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). No reports in this regard have been received.

(c) The kerosene requirement is assessed after allowing a 5% growth over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year on a four-month-block basis and allocations are made accordingly. However, to meet the increased demand, kerosene allocations to Gujarat for the Winter Block comprising the months of November, 1985 to February, 1986 and the Summer Block comprising the months of March-June, 1986 have been made after allowing a growth rate of $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ and 7% respectively.

Projects held up due to disputes environmental clearance etc.

2225. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are a number of industrial projects which are held up due to disputes, delays in environmental clearance, delayed equipment and also lack of co-ordination among various departments;

(b) if so, the number of projects held up (State-wise) and the type of industries they related to; and

(c) the action Government propose to take for their speedy implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (c). Against applications for the grant of industrial licences, letters of intent valid for a period of one year are issued initially. On the entrepreneurs' fulfilling the conditions of letter of intent such as settlement of terms of foreign collaboration, and import of capital goods, if any, environmental and pollution clearance, wherever required, etc., the letter of intent is converted into industrial licence. The industrial licence is also valid for a period of two years within which the entrepreneur is expected to commence commercial production. The progress made by the entrepreneur is monitored by the Administrative Ministry concerned with the industry and on their recommendation extensions to the period of validity of letters of intent or industrial licences are granted depending on the progress made and on merits of each case. Detailed information on the progress of schemes from time to time is not centrally maintained. Where the progress made is found to be unsatisfactory, the letters of intent are allowed to lapse and the industries licences are revoked.

Request from Andhra Pradesh for development of coal resources

2226. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested his Ministry for development of coal resources in that State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this direction and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). For the development of coal resources in Andhra

Pradesh during the 7th Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 580 crores have been allocated. A coal production target of 24 million tonnes to be achieved by 1989-90 has been set. With this in view, Government of India have sanctioned Bellampalli opencast project, Manuguru OCP-II, Godavari Khani No. 10-A Incline and Srirampur No. 3 and 3-A Inclines in Andhra Pradesh. Advance action for Manuguru OCP-III has also been sanctioned. A number of other projects are also being appraised by Government for development during the 7th Five Year Plan.

Induction of Foreign Experts in Drilling Operation at Bodra in 24-Parganas (West Bengal)

2227. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN :
SHRI R. P. DAS :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the induction of American experts by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the drilling operation at Bodra in 24-Paraganas of West Bengal was avoidable and also resented by ONGC personnel of the project;

(b) whether the induction has created some problems in the project, if so, details thereof;

(c) how Government have solved that problem; and

(d) whether the induction has resulted in setback to the project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The assistance of American experts was considered desirable to resolve the technical problems encountered in drilling. No resentment has been reported by ONGC.

(b) No, Sir.

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

Excise Relief to New, Old and Sick Units in Cement Industry

2228. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to accord excise relief to new, old and sick units in the cement industry;

(b) if so, the details regarding the relaxation allowed to avail of the existing incentives and to evolve fresh mechanism for giving excise relief at different rates to new, old and sick units and for declaring units sick for a longer period than the present one year duration;

(c) whether some problems are also being experienced in revising the levy obligation formula; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Excise duty at the rate of Rs. 225 per tonne of cement is being levied on new, old as well as sick units. No decision to vary this rate has been taken. However, cement units which had gone into production after 1-1-82 and those which have been declared sick are required to give 40% of their actual production as levy cement as against 60% of actual production in the case of units which had gone into production prior to 1-1-82. For this purpose, 15 units have been declared as sick for varying periods as indicated in the attached statement.

(c) and (d). With a view to encourage the cement industry to improve utilisation of the installed capacity the level of levy obligation has been reduced in relation to production beyond 100% of the licensed capacity and upto 125% thereof. In regard to old units (those which commenced production prior to 1-1-82), the levy obligation would be 60% of actual production upto 100% of licensed capacity and 45% of actual production beyond 100% and upto 125%. In the case of new units (those which commenced production after 1-1-82) and sick units, the levy obligation would be 40% of their actual production upto 100% of licensed capacity and it would be 30% of

actual production beyond 100% and upto 125%.

Statement

Statement showing details of cement units declared as 'sick' for the purpose of relief in the form of levy quota

Name of the Plant	Period upto end for which sickness concessions recommended. (respective financial years of Companies)
1. ACC, Dwarka	1987/88
2. ACC, Lakheri	1989/90
3. ACC, Sindri	1986/87
4. India Cements, Sankarnagar	1987/88
5. Jaipur Udyog	1986/87
6. Kalyanpur	1985/86
7. Sone Valley	1986
8. Tamil Nadu, Alangulam	1987/88
9. Tamil Nadu, Ariyalur	1987/88
10. UPSCC, Churk	1987/88
11. UPSCC, Dalla	1987/88
12. ACC, Khalari	31-12-1986
13. ACC, Sevalia	31-12-1986
14. CCI, Charkhi Dadri	31-12-1986
15. Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Co. Ltd.	31-12-1986

Delay in Delivery of Mail between Trivandrum and Delhi

2229. FROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is considerable delay in receiving mail for Trivandrum to Delhi and vice-versa;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to obviate such delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Flaring of Gas in Bombay High

2230. SHRI D. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that gas is being flared at the platforms on Bombay High where crude oil is struck;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much gas is being flared daily on an average and the amount involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Associated natural gas is being flared in Bombay High for reasons such as inadequate compressions facilities offshore, inadequate infrastructural facilities downstream, failure of consumers to lift the committed offtake, safety factors, etc.

(c) The average quantity of associated natural gas that was flared in the year 1984-85 in Bombay High was about 5.19 million cubic metres per day. The total notional value of the gas flared in Bombay High during 1984-85, computed at the rate of Rs. 100 per thousand cubic metres, was Rs. 18.93 crores.

Allocation for Telecommunications during Seventh Plan

2231. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the projected expenditure during the Seventh Plan of the Department of Telecommunications is rupees thirteen thousands crores whereas the Plan-

ning Commission finally allotted only rupees four thousand crores; and

(b) whether with the above provision, Government will be able to meet the pending demands of new telephone and telex connections apart from the expected growth in the number of applicants during the next five years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

While the objective is to provide telex connections practically on demand by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan, it will be possible to add only 11 lakh Direct Exchange lines against the existing waiting list of around 8.29 lakh as on 31-3-1985.

Progress of Rangit Hydel Project in Sikkim

2232. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether work on Rangit Hydel Project in Sikkim has started;

(b) if so, the progress thereof and when it is likely to be completed; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project has been techno-economically cleared by Central Electricity Authority and can be considered for investment decision after clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been received.

Badli Industrial Estate

2233. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Industries, Delhi sanctioned Badli Industrial Estate in 1970 with 256 industrial plots;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of industrial units which have come into existence during the course of last fifteen years with sewage and power facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). According to Delhi Administration, 276 plots were allotted by them in Badli Industrial Estate Ph. I and Phase II between 1968-69 and 1983.

(c) As per survey conducted by Delhi Administration, 130 units have come up as on 31-12-1985. So far as providing of services like sewage is concerned, according to PWD, Delhi Administration, these are available to all in the Complex. So far as power is concerned, according to Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking, as on 19-2-1986, they have given 165 electricity connections to different industrial units in Badli Industrial Estate.

Opening of Public Call Offices and Sub-Post Offices in Dhule District of Maharashtra

2234. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new public call offices and sub-post offices opened in the Dhule district of Maharashtra which is the most backward tribal district of that state;

(b) whether Government propose to open new public call offices and sub-post offices in that district during 1986-87 and 1977-88; and

(c) if so, the funds allocated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDH) : (a) There

are 70 public call offices, 54 sub-post offices and 368 Branch Post offices on date in Dhule District. Of these 14 public call offices and 8 post offices were opened during 1983-84, 18 public call offices were opened during 1984-85 and 2 public call offices have been opened during 1985-86 so far. No post offices were opened during 1983-84 and 1984-85 due to ban on creation of posts.

(b) Yes, Sir. 10 public call offices are proposed to be opened during 1986-87 and 12 public call offices during 1987-88. No sub-post offices are planned for 1986-87. Programme for opening new post offices during 1987-88 has not been finalised as yet.

(c) Funds for setting up these long distance public call offices will be met from the lump sum grant given to the Circle during each year.

Implementation of Gas Turbine Projects

2235. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of State Electricity Boards that have submitted proposals for gas turbine projects which are envisaged as a buffer against the critical power situation;

(b) whether the Central Electricity Authority have approved these proposals; and

(c) if so, the reasons for delay in the implementation of these gas turbine projects?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The Electricity Boards of Karnataka (KEB), Tamil Nadu (TNEB), Orissa (OSEB) and Uttar Pradesh (UPSEB) have submitted proposals for setting up gas turbine projects and the Central Electricity Authority have, so far, accorded techno-economic clearance to the Bangalore proposal of the KEB and the Basin Bridge proposal of the TNEB. Firm availability of fuel oil for the proposals received remains to be established only after which investment decision could be considered.

**Generation of Power through
Solar Energy**

2236. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to State :

(a) to what extent the Government have progressed in introducing new technology for generating power through solar energy;

(b) whether Government propose to encourage private sector to go in for generation of power through solar energy with foreign collaboration; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal under consideration of Government in this behalf ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Power generation through solar photovoltaic technology has been widely demonstrated in the country. A few small solar power plants are in operation in some villages providing power for street lights, community lighting and television, water pumping etc. In addition more than 2000 street lighting units, water pumping systems, community lighting and community television systems have been installed as stand-alone systems. Solar power systems are also being used at special locations such as off-shore oil platforms, microwave repeater stations, railway signalling units etc.

Generation of power through solar thermal route is also being developed. A few small capacity solar thermal power units are being installed for collecting field performance data. A preliminary feasibility study has also been undertaken on a megawatt size solar thermal power plant.

(b) and (c). There is no specific proposal at present from the private sector for generation of power using solar energy with foreign collaboration. Such proposals when received will be considered on merits.

**Losses by National Small Industries
Corporation Ltd.**

2237. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the paid-up capital of the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. and the total loss suffered by it and the persons responsible therefor; and

(b) the extent of losses suffered by the said Corporation in the fields of hire-purchase, marketing, turn key projects etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The paid-up capital of National Small Industries Corporation is Rs. 20.80 crores and the cumulative loss as on 31-3-85 is Rs. 5.66 crores. The National Small Industries Corporation was set up as a promotional organisation for the growth and development of small scale industries in the country. The Corporation has earned profits continuously for the last three financial years as may be seen from the figures indicated below :

1982-83	Rs. 5.59 lakhs
1983-84	Rs. 32.63 lakhs
1984-85	Rs. 84.01 lakhs

It may be seen therefrom that the profits are increasing progressively.

The losses earlier were considered normal business losses of the Corporation.

(b) The cumulative losses incurred (till 31st March, 1985) relate to Hire Purchase activity only. However, since 1982-83 against this activity also, the Corporation is earning profits. The Hire-Purchase activity though termed as Commercial has considerable promotional input involved.

Issue of Commemorative Postal Stamps

2238. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received from Orissa for issuing commemorative postal stamps in the memory of notable personalities of Orissa, namely, Samant

Chandrasekhar known as Pathani Samanta, Pandit Nilakantha Dash, Jai Rajguru and 'Beeni Jagabandhu'; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this direction so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Representations have been received in respect of issue of Commemorative Stamps on S/Shri Samanta Chandrasekhar and Pandit Nilakantha Dash. No representations appear to have been received in respect of S/Shri Jai Rajguru and Beeni Jagabandu.

(b) Proposals in respect of S/Shri Samanta Chandrasekar and Pandit Nilakantha Desh were placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee but were not recommended. The proposals regarding S/Shri Jai Rajguru and Beeni Jagabandu will now be placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee in its next meeting.

Construction of Hydro-Electric Projects by N. H. P. C.

2239. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Hydro-electric Power Corporation has suggested construction of some hydro-electric projects in the country;

(b) the details of the suggestions made;

(c) whether the suggestions have been examined and accepted by Government; and

(d) the proposed location of the projects and the approximate time by which these will be constructed ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The National Hydro-electric Power Corporation had suggested the installation of 22 HE power projects with a total capacity of over 11,600 MW.

(c) and (d). The suggestions have been considered. Five Hydro-electric projects, namely, the Uri, Rangit, Dhauliganga, Nathpa Jhakri and Tehri projects, have been identified for implementation. The estimated period of construction is about eight years in the case of the Dhauliganga and Tehri projects, about seven years for the Uri and Nathpa Jhakri projects, and about five years for the Rangit project.

Subsidy on LPG in Rajasthan

2240. SHRI R. P. DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have identified some towns on the periphery of forest belts in Rajasthan for supply of LPG on priority basis to reduce the demand for firewood;

(b) if so, whether the supply will be made with subsidy in prices keeping in view the financial position of the residents; and

(c) if so, the extent to which subsidy is proposed to be given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The normal price for domestic consumers will be charged.

Supply of LPG in Sibsagar and Dibrugarh, Assam

2241. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to provide gas pipe lines for domestic use in the oil producing urban areas of Assam viz. Sibsagar and Dibrugarh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). ONGC have committed 5000 cubic metres per day

of gas to Assam Gas Company who will supply the gas to Sibsagar town by making its own arrangement. The quantity of gas would be increased to 10,000 cubic metres per day depending upon future demands.

LPG Connections in Bihar

2242. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of LPG connections provided so far in Bihar; and

(b) the number of LPG connections likely to be provided in Bihar during the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) About 2,99,000.

(b) Release of new connections in the country including in Bihar is made under the annual enrolment programme of the oil industry and is determined by augmentation in availability of LPG, bottling capacity, transportation and other infrastructure facilities.

[Translation]

Oil Drilling in Khambhat area, Gujarat

2243. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which drilling work is likely to start in the new oil bearing area discovered in Khambhat region in Gujarat;

(b) whether any estimate of oil and gas likely to be found in this area has been made; and

(c) the reasons for not finding oil in Ankleshwar area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Drilling is already in progress in Khambhat region in Gujarat.

(b) Gandhar field, in the region, is still in the assessment stage.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Creation of Post of Executive Director in Public Limited Companies

2244. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :

SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :

SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that a large number of public limited companies have created posts of Executive Directors;

(b) if so, the functions under the Companies Act, 1956 entrusted to these functionaries;

(c) whether Government's approval is required for the creation and appointment to such post; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (d). The approval of the Central Government is required for appointment of and payment of remuneration to the Managing Director/wholtime Director and Manager as defined in Section 2 (24) of the Companies Act, 1956 in case of public companies or private companies which are subsidiaries of public companies.

The expression 'Executive Director' has not been defined in the Companies Act, 1956.

Whereas some such companies have designated certain directors/employees as executive directors, Government do not have data regarding the number of such companies.

Services of Telephone No. 176

2245. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telephone No. 176 providing information service has been discontinued; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes Sir. Orders to discontinue Special Information Service '176' with effect from 15-2-86 have been issued.

(b) Special Information Service '176' used to provide information regarding programmes of Films, Exhibition, Results of sports, scheduled timings of Road, Rail and Air Transport and examination results for the University and other information of local interest. As the public media such as all India Radio, TV and the agencies like Railways, Indian Airlines, DTC etc. are already giving this type of information, and oftener than not, more promptly and more accurately, it has been considered desirable to discontinue this service by the Telecom. Board.

Indigenisation plan for enhanced target by Maruti Udyog Ltd.

2246. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Maruti Udyog is targeting for one lakh units of cars per year;

(b) if so, what is the import content in that target;

(c) whether any plan for indigenisation of the enhanced units has also been decided;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if there is no indigenisation plan for the enhanced target, the reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The project report of Maruti Udyog Ltd. envisages capacity of 100,000

vehicles a year by 1988-89 with an indigenes content of 95%.

(c) and (d). The Company has manufactured over 50,000 vehicles during 1985-86 compared to project report target of 40,000. The indigenisation level of the car has reached 36.92% in March, 1986 and is expected to rise upto 68.75% by March, 1987.

(e) Does not arise.

Provision of Spare Hot Line in Phone Junction Pillars

2247. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that even on main junction pillars of Telephone Department, there is not a single service line for the use of field telephone staff for communication with their exchanges leading to staff misusing other subscribers phones leading to over-billing;

(b) whether Government propose to provide a spare hot line at each phone junction pillar for the staff;

(c) whether Government will also ensure that an electric point or electric light is provided over every Junction Pillar to enable staff to work upto 8 P.M.;

(d) whether Government will also provide small overhead protection over Junction Pillars to enable staff to work during rainy season; and

(e) whether Government propose to create effective Advisory Committee for each large Exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There is no provision for service line in pillars. The staff use subscriber's lines for this purpose. The staff while making test calls are provided with credit slips to be issued to subscribers whose lines are used by the staff.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Electric points cannot be provided in the cabinet or pillar as it is hazardous. Linemen are provided with torches and petromax while on night duty.

(d) During rainy season tents and tarpulins are provided.

(e) One Telecommunications Advisory Committee for each State/Union Territory and one Telephone Advisory Committee for each Telephone District are formed. Sub-Committees at the level of Area Manager/Director (Telecommunication) are to be formed from the members of the Committee to associate them with the working of the telecommunications network.

Denotification of taken over Units in West Bengal

2248. SHRI ANIL BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken in respect of six industrial units of West Bengal already taken over by the Union Government and whose term is due to expire by 31 March, 1986;

(b) whether any such taken over unit in West Bengal has been denotified, in the meantime; and

(c) if so, the steps being considered to safeguard the interest of workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The periods of take over of industrial units, which are due to expire by 31st March 1986, are being extended to enable the State Government to decide on their future disposition.

(c) Does not arise.

Improvement in Telephone System of Haldia Industrial Area

2249. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the plan and programme of the Department of Telecommunications to improve the present telephone system of Haldia Industrial area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : At present 3 exchanges are functioning at Haldia i.e. Haldia Industries-500 lines, Haldia township-400 lines and Durgachak-200 lines. These are connected by UHF system with Calcutta. International subscribers dialling system has been introduced at Haldia on and from 15-2-86. Existing 20 lines telex exchange is proposed to be expanded by another 20 lines. There is a programme of expansion of Haldia township exchange by another 100 lines during the Seventh Plan period. A departmental building for Haldia township is planned to be constructed during this plan period.

Delivery of Mails in Villages and Remote Areas

2250. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether money orders, parcels letters etc. are delivered in the villages in atleast a fortnight's period;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to make quick delivery of these items in the villages and in the remote areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Over the last 10 years or so the Department has paid sustained attention to delivery of mail and payment of money orders in rural areas. The old system of village postmen visiting villages at weekly/bi-weekly/tri-weekly frequencies has been gradually replaced by daily delivery scheme under which a postal article or a money order received in a rural post office is taken to addressee's/payee's village on the same day wherever practicable. In order to make this arrangement possible, under the plan, up to 31-3-84, 28,707 delivery agents were appointed in rural post offices all over the country in addition to the normal delivere

establishment. Further the opening of over 23,000 new rural post offices during the period 1-4-1975 to 31-3-1985 has also led to a more compact delivery area under each rural post office and consequently speedier delivery of mail and payment of money orders.

(c) The mail conveyance and delivery work in rural areas (including expeditious payment of money orders) is constantly examined by the supervisory officers. Recently, this responsibility has also been entrusted to inspectors appointed by the Department under the Plan to monitor various developmental schemes. Apart from providing additional manpower as referred to in reply to paras (a) and (b) above, in order to expedite transmission of mail to rural post offices, runner lines are replaced by motor lines wherever feasible and advantageous.

On occasions, delays occur in payment of money orders in rural areas due to adequate funds not reaching rural post offices in time. In order to overcome this difficulty, recently, the Department has substantially increased the limits up to which funds may be remitted by different modes of transmission (Railway, Motor, Cycle, Foot-line etc.). Superintendents of Post Offices are also authorised to increase the limit of cash entrusted for payment purposes to a village postman/rural delivery agent from the normal limit of Rs. 600 up to Rs. 1,000 in all cases where such an increase is necessary for expeditious payment of Money Orders in rural areas.

Cross-Bar Telephone System

2251. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the operation of the telephone system has become more defective, ever since the cross-bar system has been introduced in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to eliminate the defects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. Crossbar system as such does not contribute to the defects in telephone system. Only some problems were faced with the imported pentaconta type of crossbar equipments due to some defects.

(b) The defects were identified and necessary corrective action was taken by modification in circuits and consequent upgradation of equipment.

Funds for Hydro-Electric Power Development

2252. SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state how much funds had been provided for hydro-electric power development in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SAHTE) : The approved outlay in the Seventh Plan for generation projects is about Rs. 21300 crores including about Rs. 6500 crores for hydel projects.

Delay in Indigenisation Programme by Maruti Udyog Ltd.

2253. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any warning has been issued to the Maruti Udyog against any delay in implementing their original phased indigenisation programme on the line of similar warnings issued to DCM-Toyota and Hero-Honda Groups;

(b) if so, when the said warning was issued and the result of the same; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and when it will be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Periodical revisions regarding indigenisation are conducted for various types of vehicles including light commercial vehicles, cars. Strategy of the Government is to take corrective steps rather than issue a warning.

STD Facilities in Districts of Kerala

2254. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of districts in Kerala which do not have STD facilities at present; and

(b) the steps being taken to provide these facilities there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Out of 14 district headquarters in Kerala only two district headquarters, namely Kasaragod and Pathanamthitta do not have STD facilities at present. Pathanamthitta is an auto exchange of medium size.

(d) It has been planned to automatise the local telephone exchange at Kasaragod which is at present a manual exchange. Reliable transmission media for linking Kasaragod and Pathanamthitta to the Trunk Automatic Exchanges have been planned to enable provision of STD facilities.

[Translation]

Power Generation Schemes in Himachal Pradesh

2255. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of power generation schemes in Himachal Pradesh in regard to which survey has been conducted and for which the Union Government have to bear the expenses; and

(b) the total amount Union Government propose to give to the State Electricity Boards during the Seventh Five Year Plan for completing these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The Chamara Hydro-Electric Project is under execution in the Central Sector by the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation. In addition, the Nathpa Jhakri Project is proposed to be implemented as a joint

venture of the Governments of India and Himachal Pradesh. Under the Seventh Plan, Rs. 518 crores and Rs. 90 crores have been allocated for these projects, respectively.

[English]

Laying of Underground Cables

2256. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether cables are being laid only 6 to 7 inches below the road surface against the norm of 3 feet result in cable breakdown frequently; and

(b) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to follow the norm and to improve the functioning of telephone services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The cables are laid generally as per standards. These have to be laid at a minimum of 3 feet depth. However, in certain cases due to constructional difficulties cables are laid at shallow depth with sufficient additional protection.

Breakdown do sometimes occur due to damage to cables by digging operations of public utilities despite these precautions.

(b) It is proposed to construct underground ducts to protect the cables from external damages on long-term basis for primary and function cables. Jelly filled cables are being used in distribution network to prevent breakdowns due to ingress of water.

Writs/Suits pending in Supreme Court and High Courts

2257. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of writs, civil suits and criminal cases pending till date in the Supreme Court and in each High Court in the country; and

(b) the steps being taken for their speedy disposal ?

as furnished by the Registries of Supreme Court and High Courts is given in Statement I given below.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Information

(b) Steps taken to reduce pendency are given in attached Statement II.

Statement-I

Name of the Court	Number of cases pending (As on 1-2-1986)
Supreme Court	
Admission matters	
(a) Special Leave Petitions	
(i) Civil	26,210
(ii) Criminal	3,549
(b) Art. 32 Petitions for preliminary hearings	
(i) Civil	7,289
(ii) Criminal	1,639
Regular hearing matters	
(a) Ordinary Civil appeals	25,253
(b) Constitution civil appeals	672
(c) Ordinary Criminal appeals	4,078
(d) Art. 32 petitions for final hearing	
(i) Civil	12,094
(ii) Criminal	195
Misc. Petitions	
(i) Civil	55,318
(ii) Criminal	1,863

Name of the High Court	Total number of writ petitions pending	Total number of civil suits pending	Total number of criminal cases pending
1	2	3	4
(As on 31-12-1985)			
Andhra Pradesh	31217	1	2521
Gujarat	12969	25	5127
Kerala	19793	2	7772

1	2	3	4
Orissa	9495	2	3484
Patna	12821	15	17072
Punjab and Haryana	9246	—	2816
(As on 30-6-1985)			
Allahabad	86972	7	51527
Bombay	26097	14956	6712
Calcutta	1241	9750	12912
Delhi	9159	4738	3978
Himachal Pradesh	1604	136	505
Jammu and Kashmir	6281	1575	2670
Karnataka	65508	—	1919
Madhya Pradesh	9063	—	13271
Madras	34065	2829	11335
Rajasthan	21501	—	11576
Sikkim	32	—	1
(As on 31-12-1984)			
Gauhati	5617	—	2642

Statement-II***Steps taken from time to time to
Reduce Pendency***

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the Supreme Court and High Courts :

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has 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 have been commended to High Courts and State Governments.
2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgement of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (vide Section 100 A).

3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.
4. The Judge strength of the Supreme Court has been raised from 13 to 17, excluding the Chief Justice with effect from 31-12-1977 by amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.
5. The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March, 1977 to 431 as on 1st March, 1986.
6. The Supreme Court has also taken the following measures :
 - (i) Priority is given to certain matters;

- (ii) Miscellaneous matters are fixed daily;
- (iii) Writ Petitions with identical question are grouped together and batches running from 50 to 100 matters are listed together for hearing;
- (iv) Other matters involving identical questions are also identified from time to time and put together and efforts are made to see that such groups are disposed of early;
- (v) The Supreme Court Rules were revised in 1966 providing for printing of records under its own supervision. As that was also taking quite some time, the Court, of late, has started wherever possible, dispensing with the preparation of records, and hearing the appeals on Special Leave Paper-Book itself, after the parties have filed their counter-affidavits and affidavits in reply;
- (vi) To save the Court's time, Honourable the Chief Justice of India is taking mentioning after Court's hours, which were previously taking at least about one hour;
- (vii) In Criminal Appeals, Counsel for the appellant is required to file cyclostyled records to save time in getting it printed, so that the matters could be heard early;
- (viii) The 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 to save the Court's time.
- (ix) Specialized benches are constituted to list particular type of matters relating to that branch of law in which

the Hon'ble Judges constituting the Specialised Bench are experts. This enable the Specialised Bench to dispose of such matters expeditiously.

- (x) The Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has recently directed that the Counsel in each matter must 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 to each side. The length of oral arguments by counsel of both the sides have thus been curtailed which results in the quick disposal of matters.
7. Apart from the above, certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases :
 - (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;
 - (b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;
 - (c) Dispensing with printing of records;
 - (d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts.
 8. The recommendations contained in the 79th report of the Law Commission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and High Courts, these have been sent to them along with the views of the Union Government and they have been requested to take necessary action.
 9. The Government have constituted an informal Committee of 3 Chief Justices to examine the problem of

arrears in High Courts and suggest remedial measures.

10. The Government have entrusted to 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;
- (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 matter for which Tribunals (excluding Service 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 forums 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 matter 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.

Recommendations of Vasudevan Committee on Explosion in IOC Plant at Delhi

2258. SHRI P. R. KUMARA-MANGALAM :
SHRI D. N. REDDY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that the Vasudevan Committee appointed after a major explosion in the Indian Oil Corporation Plant at Delhi in 1983 had made several important recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these recommendations have been fully implemented and are observed in practice by Indian Oil Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation; and

(d) whether a consumer organisation located at Ahmedabad has made a research study report which indicates total neglect and non-implementation of the above recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Vasudevan Committee made recommendations *inter-alia* on the following aspects of LPG Bottling Plants :

1. Location.
2. Size.
3. Cylinder filling and handling.
4. Layout and safety distances.
5. Fire fighting facilities.
6. Valves and Regulators.
7. Mode "of" transportation of LPG in cylinders, Bulk, by rail and road.
8. Distributor Godowns.⁷
9. Delivery equipment.
10. Control and Supervision etc.

(c) The recommendations of the Committee are being implemented in respect of the new Bottling Plants of the oil companies.

(d) Government are not aware of any such report.

Import of Computers for Oil Exploration

2259. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to import highly sophisticated geophysical computers from Soviet Union to process seismic information obtained in the exploration and operation of oil and gas fields; and

(b) if so, the number of such computers proposed to be imported and amount to be spent thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Three EC-1061 geophysical computer systems are being imported from the USSR at a cost of Rs. 12.97 crores.

[Translation]

Installation of Public Call Offices in West Delhi

2260. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of Public Call Offices in West Delhi is very small;

(b) if so, the arrangements being made to provide telephone facilities to the people of this area;

(c) the number of cases of installation of Public Call Offices pending in Delhi West Zone Telephone office; and

(d) whether Government would make arrangement for installation of these P.C.O.'s. soon and the order of priority thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY ON HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. There are more than 1030 Public Telephones in West Delhi.

(b) Efforts are being made to provide more public telephones in the area.

(c) About 400 requests for provision of Public Telephones are pending in West Delhi area.

(d) Public telephones are being provided progressively subject to technical feasibility and suitability.

[English]

Trunk Calls Booking and STD Services

2261. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are losing heavily due to inefficiency in booking of trunk calls;

(b) if so, the details thereof and corrective steps proposed;

(c) whether there is no regular checking and supervision even when complaints are made to senior staff; and

(d) whether Government are aware that there are hundreds of STD telephones in Khurshidlal Bhawan and other exchanges which are being misused for non-official purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) In view of reply at (a) question does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. A regular check is exercised by Supervisors and officers. When complaints are received on telephone by attendant or the Assistance position due action is taken by the concerned officer.

(d) There are not hundreds of STD telephone in Khurshidlal Bhawan and other exchanges. No specific case of misuse of STD facility for non-official work has come to notice. STD facility previously available on service telephone has been got disconnected except those for Directors and above ranks. Very few officers below the rank of Directors have STD facility on their telephone and in their cases, STD facility is required for maintenance, operational and administrative reasons and these are specifically authorised by General Manager case by case.

Ash percentage of coal from open cast project of Bharat Coking Coal Limited

2262. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the average ash percentage of coal from open cast project of Bharat Coking Coal Limited as supplied to the consumers,

facts in detail with project-wise break up for each month in 1985;

(b) the number of shale pickers engaged there to separate stones and shales from coal, facts in detail with project-wise breakup;

(c) whether normal shale picking has been eliminated to allow stones with coal to show inflated production figure; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reduction in Deliveries in Post Offices in Bombay

2263. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) in how many post offices in Bombay two deliveries have been recently reduced to one delivery system;

(b) the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that such reduction in the number of deliveries every day has resulted in piling of undelivered registered letters in Bombay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) In two posts offices deliveries have been reduced. In one post office (Bombay GPO) from two accountable article deliveries, one has been reduced without altering existing two ordinary article deliveries. In another office (Andheri West) from the then existing two ordinary and one accountable article delivery, one ordinary article delivery has been reduced.

(b) In Bombay GPO where there were two accountable deliveries large percentage was being returned because the first delivery was too early and the addressess' offices were not opened. By combining the two deliveries and increasing the number of beats a larger percentage of articles are being delivered in the first instance itself. In

Andheri West Post Office due to growth of new colonies to improve the service larger number of beats were required, and this could be found by re-organising the delivery system by reducing one delivery. In the revised system the delivery is quite regular and punctual.

(c) In the initial stage when the number of beats were changed in both these offices due to the revised system of sorting there were difficulties and sorting could not be completed. System in both cases had come to normal after a week. There is no accumulation of any undelivered registered letters in these offices now.

Balance between Hydel and Thermal Power Generation

2264. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the balance between hydel and thermal power generation has been shifting in the last few years towards thermal power generation and will continue to do so during the Seventh Plan;

(b) whether this is creating problems in meeting peak loads; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to correct this balance ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. While it is desirable to accelerate development of hydro potential so that peak demand is met by hydro plants, those plants have a long gestation period and environmental considerations. A number of hydro projects have been identified for external assistance with a view to increasing the share of hydro in the total capacity.

Import of Oil from Iran and Iraq at Higher than the Market Price

2265. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether crude is being imported from Iran and Iraq at a price much higher than the prevailing market price for petroleum;

(b) if so, the total loss suffered in these transactions during each of the last three years;

(c) the reasons for buying Iran-Iraqi crude at much higher prices; and

(d) if the answer to part (a) be in negative, the price at which crude is being purchased from these two countries and the prevailing crude price in the market, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). No crude oil is currently being imported from Iran and Iraq at higher prices than the prevailing market prices. The crudes of these countries required by us are also not actively traded in the International market in quantities needed by us from time to time. It is, therefore, not possible to precisely compute the notional value of loss, if any, in transactions during earlier years under contracts, whose long term advantages of security of supply far outweighed short-term price disadvantage, if any.

Accountability of officials for performance of Public Sector Units

2266. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government are taking for holding officials and others at a level higher than that of chief executives of public sector units in his Ministry, accountable for performance of units under his Ministry;

(b) whether such accountability has been applied uniformly at all levels including the Board of Directors, the chief executives of the units and higher officials in the Ministry; and

(c) if so, the details of punishment meted out to officials at all levels including officials higher than that of the chief executive of a unit in the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-

CHALAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Drug Production and Requirement of Medicines

2267. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the current worth of drug production in the country; and

(b) the estimate of national requirements of medicines and its worth by the end of 20th Century when the country is pledged to achieve the goal of "health for all by 2000 A.D." ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) During the year 1984-85 production of bulk drugs and formulations is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 377 crores and Rs. 1827 crores at constant prices.

(b) Government has not estimated demand of drugs by the year 2000 A.D. However Working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals for the 7th Five Year Plan have estimated total requirement of bulk drugs and formulation by 1989-90 as Rs. 1033.4 crores and Rs. 3775 crores respectively.

Availability of Kerosene Oil

2268. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government have been drawn to the news item captioned, "Atroli mein police ne kya nahin kiya" appearing in the Jan-satta of 9th February, 1986;

(b) whether kerosene oil is in short supply in most of the areas in the country; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure the availability of kerosene oil in the country with ease and without much difficulty in accurate weight and fixed price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, sporadic shortages in some areas cannot be ruled out.

(c) Kerosene requirements of various States/Union Territories are assessed by allowing a 5% growth over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, on a four-month-block basis and allocations are made accordingly. However, to meet the increased demand, allocation of kerosene for the Winter Block comprising the months of November, 1985 to February, 1986 and the Summer Block comprising the months of March-June, 1986 have been made after allowing a growth rate of $7\frac{1}{2}\%$ and 7% respectively.

While the overall allocation of kerosene is made by Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, its further distribution is done by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration in each States/Union Territory. To ensure availability of kerosene in the country with ease and without much difficulty in accurate weight and at fixed prices, the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been advised time and again to streamline the distribution system of kerosene and take stern action against those indulging in Black-marketing/hoarding etc. by invoking also, if necessary, the provisions of the relevant laws.

Assistance to Assam for Reopening Closed Industrial Units

2269. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether the Union Government have any proposal to render assistance to the Government of Assam for reopening some closed industrial units in Assam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : The Union Government would render all possible assistance to the Government of Assam in their efforts to reopen some of the closed industrial units.

Appointment of dealers by Maruti Udyog Limited

2270. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some dealers have been appointed by Maruti Udyog Limited during the last two years in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the rules, regulations and criteria for the appointment of dealers;

(c) whether it is a fact that criteria has been ignored in certain cases and if so, the reasons therefor and the names of such dealers where criteria have been ignored;

(d) the names, addresses and the status of the dealers appointed during the above period;

(e) whether Government are aware of the allegations made in allotment of dealership; and

(f) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL

DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main criteria for appointing dealers is ability of the party to :

(i) provide a standard of customer service in accordance with Maruti policies;

(ii) maximise the market share;

(iii) project and develop the highest possible image of the company.

Dealers are appointed by Maruti Udyog Ltd. on the basis of applications received after an open advertisement and evaluation of capabilities by the company.

(c) The company has denied having allowed any departure from criteria for selection of dealers.

(d) Details are given in the statement given below.

(e) Government have seen a report in a periodical.

(f) Normally it is for the Board of Directors of the company to look into it.

Statement

Sl. No.	Centre.	Dealers' Name and Address	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Ahmedabad	Ms. Cargo Motors (Gujarat) P. Ltd. 16-17, National Chambers, Near Dipali Cinema, Ashram Road, Ahmedabad-380009.	Activated.
2.	Bangalore.	Ms. Mandovi Motors, 28, St. Marks Road, Bangalore-560001.	Activated.
3.	Bhopal.	Ms. Pairdeal Marwar Garages P. Ltd. Lalghati, Nayapura, Bhopal.	Activated.
4.	Bhubaneshwar.	Ms. Rolta Motors Ltd., Near Khandgiri Junction, Bhubaneshwar-751030.	Activated.
5.	Bombay.	1. Ms. Enpak Motors P. Ltd., Shree Kunj, V. M. Road, Juhu Scheme, Bombay-400056.	Activated.

1	2	3	4
		2. Ms. Resham Motors P. Ltd., Garden Apartments, Ground Floor, Soin-Trombay Road, Chambur, Bombay-400071.	Activated.
		3. Ms. Vitesse Trading Pvt. Ltd., Turf View, Hornby Villard Estate, Nehru Planetarium Road, Worli, Bombay-400018.	Activated.
6.	Calcutta.	Ms. Machino Techno (Sales) P. Ltd, Jindal House, 8-A, Alipore Road, Calcutta-700027.	Activated.
7.	Chandigarh.	Ms. Pasco Automobiles, Pasco House, Industrial Area, Chandigarh-160002.	Activated.
8.	Delhi.	1. Ms. Competent Motors, 101, Competent House, F-14, Middle Circle, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001.	Activated.
		2. Ms. Ganga Automobiles P. Ltd., S-11, Green Park Extn. Mktg., New Delhi-110016.	Activated.
		3. Ms. Aganall Traders P. Ltd., 1-E/17, Swami Ram Tirath Ngr., New Delhi-110055.	Activated.
		4. Ms. Sikand and Co. 50, Janpath, New Delhi-110001.	Activated.
		5. Ms. Vikas Motors P. Ltd., 12-A, Shivaji Marg, New Delhi-1100015.	Activated.
9.	Gauhati.	Ms. Pimal Auto Agency, A. T. Road, Gauhati-781001.	Activated.
10.	Hyderabad.	Ms. Mahalaxmi Motors P. Ltd., Plot No. 4, Motilal Nehru Nagar, Begumpet Main Road, Hyderabad-500016.	Activated.
11.	Jaipur.	Ms. Alfa Automobiles, 4-A, Park Street, M. I. Road, Jaipur-302001.	Activated.
12.	Srinagar.	Ms. Ansari Motors, Sonwar National Highway, Srinagar (Kashmir).	Activated.
13.	Lucknow.	Ms. Anand Motor Agencies Ltd., 21, Vidhan Sabha Marg, Lucknow-226001.	Activated.
14.	Madras.	Ms. Anamallais Bus Transport P. Ltd. 102, Mount Road, Guindy, Madras-600032.	Activated.
15.	Patna.	Ms. Mithila Motors P. Ltd., Exhibition Road, Post Box No. 72, Patna-800001.	Activated.
16.	Trivandrum.	Ms. Popular Vehicles and Services Ltd., Killipalam, Trivandrum Capecomrin, National Highway, Trivandrum-695002.	Activated.

1	2	3	4
17.	Amritsar.	Ms. Swani Motors, 43, The Mall, Amritsar-143001.	Activated.
18.	Ambala.	Ms. Modern Automobiles Engineers, G. T. Road, Ambala.	Activated.
19.	Pune.	Ms. Sai Services, 889/90, Jangli Maharaj Road, Deccan Gymkhana, Pune-411004.	Activated.
20.	Nagpur.	Ms. Automotive Manufacturers Ltd., 108, Bazard Ward, Kurla, Bombay-400070.	Dealer appointed Yet to activate.
21.	Aurangabad.	Ms. Rama Automobiles, 15-A, Bombay Pune Road, Bhale Estate, Pune.	Activated.
22.	Vadodra.	Ms. Kiram Motors P. Ltd., 909/4, G. I. D. C. Makarpura Industrial Estate, Makarpura, Baroda 393019.	Activated.
23.	Tiruchi.	Ms. Union Co. Motors Pvt. Ltd., 2-C/3, Promenade Road, Cantonment, Tiruchi-1	Activated.
24.	Asansol.	Ms. Machino Techno Sales P. Ltd., Degaulle Avenue, Durgapur.	Activated.
25.	Mysore.	Ms. Mandovi Motors, 28, St. Marks Road, Bangalore-560001.	Activated.
26.	Vijayawada.	Ms. Mithra Agencies, Post Box No. 357, Buckinghampet PO, Vijayawada-502002.	Activated.
27.	Cochin.	Ms. Popular Vehicles and Services Ltd., Popular Automobiles, Banerji Road, Cochin.	Activated.
28.	Allahabad	Ms. Amit Deep Motors, Govind Bhavan, 37, Deo Charan Lal Rd., Allahabad.	Activated.
29.	Gwalior.	Ms. Radhika Automobiles. Amar Preet House, Maharani Lami Bai Rd., Gwalior.	Activated.
30.	Jamshedpur.	Ms. Parikh Engg. and Body Building Co. Ltd. Hindustan Building, Main Road, Biscopur, Jamshedpur-831001.	Activated.
31.	Jammu.	Ms. Kashmir Motor Corporation, Lakshmi Niwas, B. C. Road, Jammu-Tawi-180001.	Activated.
32.	Goa.	Ms. Chowgule Industries Ltd., Dr. Rebello Building, Chicalim, Vasco-de-Gama, Goa.	Activated.
33.	Meerut.	Ms. Pearey Lal and Sons (East Punjab) Limited, 120-A, Central Road, Rivoil Building, Meerut Cantt-250001.	Activated.

Installation of Biogas Plants in States

2271. **SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN** : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the State Governments have not rightly utilised the subsidy amount for the biogas plants and have committed irregularities in the allotment of cement for the plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof stating the State-wise achievement made with regard to the installation of bio-gas plants at the end of 1985 as against the target; and

(c) the remedial steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to c). No, Sir. The Directorate of Economic Research of Khadi and village Industries Commission (KVIC) has conducted a Census of 13,216 biogas plants in 14 selected districts of Bihar, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu covering plants constructed under the aegis of KVIC during the period 1974-75 to

1981-82 (before the period of launching of the National Project for Biogas Development). KVIC state that 826 plants which were under construction at the time of the survey were classified as non-traceable and re-verification is being undertaken to determine the final position. KVIC have also initiated appropriate departmental action in regard to a few cases relating to cement. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources (DNES) monitor the National Project for Biogas Development through receipt of Inspection Reports from the State Governments and KVIC, by conduct of survey by independent agencies, such as National Council of Applied Economic Research, etc., through field inspection done by its own staff with the Regional Offices, is in the process of establishing 7 Monitoring Cells in different parts of the country. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is continuing to strengthen its monitoring mechanism.

A statement indicating State-wise targets and number of biogas plants set during April to December, 1985 under the National Project for Biogas Development is attached.

Statement

State-wise number of family type biogas plants set up during 1985-86 (upto December, 1985)

Sl. No.	State/U.T./ Agency	Annual Target for 1985-86	Cumulative position from April to December, 1985	
			Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,0000	9600	6811
2.	Assam	1,000	480	39
3.	Bihar	6,400	3072	1215
4.	Gujarat	4,800	2304	4468
5.	Haryana	2,200	1056	1560
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	120	57	6
7.	Karnataka	7,000	3360	3571
8.	Kerala	2,400	1152	1145
9.	Maharashtra	35,100	16848	19753
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3,000	1440	878

1	2	3	4	5
11. Orissa		2,500	1200	1989
12. Punjab		1,600	768	802
13. Rajasthan		5,000	2400	3202
14. Tamil Nadu		13,000	6240	11900
15. Uttar Pradesh		20,000	9600	11249
16. West Bengal		2,800	1344	599
17. Himachal Pradesh		2,500	1200	2293
18. Pondicherry		100	48	27
19. Goa, Daman and Diu		100	48	24
20. Other States/UTs		380	183	11
21. Khadi and Village Industries Commission		20,000	9600	6970
Total		1,50,000	72,000	78,512

Opening of New Automatic Telephone Exchanges

2272. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether new automatic telephone exchanges are not being started despite their completion;

(b) if so, the number of telephone exchanges which have not been started even after their completion;

(c) the details thereof for the last three years and reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are taking steps to ensure that the telephone exchanges start functioning immediately after completion of their construction work;

(e) whether Government propose to take action against the officers found guilty, if any, for such delay; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) and (f). Question does not arise in view of reply at (d) above.

[Translation]

New Chemical based Industry in Tikamgarh (M.P.)

2273. SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up chemical based industry in Tikamgarh district in Madhya Pradesh which is an industrial backward area; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Location of a project is decided on merits taking into account various factors such as position about availability of funds, infrastructural facilities, availability of raw materials, and backwardness of the area.

[English]

Unimplemented Recommendations of Central Molasses Board

2274. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the recommendations made by the Central Molasses Board during the last three years in respect of molasses and alcohol industries have not been implemented by Government; and

(b) if so, the details of recommendations which have not been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCAEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The recommendations of the 3 Working Groups, namely the Working Group on levies on molasses and alcohol, Working Group on Storage of molasses and Working Group on capacity utilization, which were accepted by the Central Molasses Board in its meetings in 1984 and 1985 were commended to the States/Union Territory Administrations for implementation. Some of the recommendations were in the nature of guidelines. There are a few other recommendations desired to be implemented by the Central Government, but are still under consideration. It is expected that some of these may also get implemented after a new policy on molasses and alcohol is announced by the Government shortly.

Production of Coal by Singareni Collieries Ltd.

2275. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the additional quantum of coal produced by the Singareni Collieries Limited in the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The production of coal by Singareni Collieries Company Limited, during the period April, 1985 to February, 1986 is 141.64 lakh tonnes as against the production of 112.29 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period of last year. Thus the production of coal in Singareni Collieries Company Ltd., during this period is more by 29.35 lakh tonnes.

Super Thermal Power Station at Talcher in Orissa with World Bank Assistance

2276. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement between the World Bank and India for financing the first phase of the proposed 1000-MW Super Thermal Power Plant at Talcher in Orissa is ready to be signed;

(b) if so, its broad outlines; and

(c) how long will it take the super thermal power station to start production ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A 500 MW unit normally takes about 5 years for commissioning, after placement of orders for main plant equipment.

Allocation of soft coke to Orissa and other States

2277. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of wagons of soft coks allocated to different States in 1985;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the allocation of soft coke to Orissa and some other States in 1986; and

(c) if so, the total number of wagons of soft coke proposed to be allocated to Orissa and other States in 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Soft coke allocation to different States/Union Territories is made by the Department of Coal on a monthly basis for a period of six months at a time after discussions in a meeting which is attended among others by the representatives of the concerned State Government Departments. The allocations made during 1985-86 are given in the statement given below.

(b) and (c). The soft coke allocations are made based on the assessment made by the State Governments of their requirements and intimated to Department of Coal. The Coal Companies are making efforts to increase the production of soft coke in order to meet the increasing demands of States/UTs. The allocations for the first six months of 1986-87 will be made in the meeting to be held in the Department of Coal during April, '86, which will be attended by the representatives of State Governments also.

Statement

Name of State/U. T.	Quotas allocated for six month period (in tonnes)	
	April '85 to September '85	October '85 to March '86
Bihar	50,000	50,000
Delhi	8,000	8,000
Haryana	1,500	1,500
Himachal Pradesh	800	1,000
Orissa	2,300	2,300
Punjab	1,600	1,600
Rajasthan	1,600	3,000
U. P.	27,000	30,000
West Bengal	75,000	80,000
Assam	Nil	1,000
Sikkim	1,000	1,000
Arunachal Pradesh	—	100
Mizoram	—	250
Karnataka	—	220
Nagaland	—	500
Chandigarh	—	1,000
Tripura	—	500
Manipur	—	100
Meghalaya	—	100
Madhya Pradesh	—	5,000

(December '85 onwards).

Performance of Mechanical Coal Handling System of Tuticorin Thermal Plant

2278. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rs. 7.63 crore mechanical coal handling system of the Tuticorin thermal plant is yet to be tested for its installed capacity, even after nearly three years since the commissioning of the system;

(b) if so, the details regarding the highest discharge the system has so far achieved since its installation; and

(c) whether Government have received the report regarding its performance and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scheme for Refund of Rent for Dead Telephones and Overbilling

2279. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether arrangements regarding the refund of rent for dead telephones and overbilling have been introduced in Delhi, Ahmedabad and Bangalore and if so, whether these arrangements are to be applied throughout the country; and

(b) whether any refunds have been given for dead telephones and overbilling and if so, State-wise details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Instructions exist for grant of rebate on excess billing complaints and for rebate on rentals during the period of interruption in telephone service. These orders are applicable throughout the country.

(b) The information has been called for from all the units and will be placed on the table of the House as early as possible.

Execution of Nathpa-Jhakri Hydel Project in Himachal Pradesh with Assistance from World Bank

2280. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Himachal Pradesh has pleaded with the Union Govt. for the execution of Nathpa-Jhakri Hydel Project with financial assistance from World Bank or other International Agencies;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government on this request and the date on which the decision has been taken; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which a decision would be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Nathpa Jhakri Hydro-electric Project in Himachal Pradesh was posed to the World Bank for financial assistance in 1985.

Waiting List for New Telephone Connections

2281. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of intending telephone subscribers on the waiting list in each of the Metropolitan cities and State capitals as on 1st January 1986 in each category alongwith the dates of registration and upto which subscribers on the waiting list have been provided with telephones;

(b) whether any programme has been chalked out for wiping out the entire waiting list of subscribers in each one of these cities in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details of the programme alongwith the dates by which the waiting list for over (a) 5 years (b) 3 years and (c) 2 years would be wiped out in each category ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the units. It will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Waiting List of LPG in Metropolitan Cities and State Capitals

2282. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PRASHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting lists as on 1st January, 1986 for the supply of domestic gas connections in each of the Metropolitan cities and State capitals, separately;

(b) the time by which the waiting list for the past (i) five years, (ii) three years, (iii) two years and (iv) one year would be wiped off; and

(c) whether Government propose to increase the sanction of connections so as to ensure the connections on demand in the near future; and if so, when it would be possible ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) and (c). Connections to persons on the waiting list are being released in a phased manner under the annual customer enrolment programme of the oil companies which is presently at the rate of around 16 lakhs per annum. Release of connections is determined by augmentation in LPG availability, bottling capacity, transportation facilities and distributorship net work.

Statement	
Metropolitan Cities/ State/U. T. Capitals	No. of Persons on Waiting List
1	2
1. Hyderabad	11,590
2. Dispur	NIL
3. Patna	16,857

1	2
4. Ahmadabad	1,88,774
5. Chandigarh	63,078
6. Simla	3,450
7. Srinagar	34,200
8. Bangalore	1,566
9. Trivandrum	NIL
10. Bhopal	7,210
11. Bombay	62,364
12. Imphal	400
13. Shillong	1,620
14. Kohima	NIL
15. Bhubaneshwar	3,810
16. Jaipur	38,813
17. Gangtok	150
18. Madras	NIL
19. Agarthala	3,000
20. Lucknow	81,717
21. Calcutta	54,010
22. Itanagar	80
23. Delhi	5,07,021
24. Aizwal	1,470
25. Pondicherry	NIL
26. Panaji	2,900
27. Silvassa	625

Improving Productivity by IPCL

2283. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the steep increase in the wage bill of the Indian Petrochemicals Ltd. (IPCL) due to major wage settlements and inflation has resulted in a 20 per cent fall in the value added per rupee wage paid during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) is so, how far this has resulted in raising the wage bill of the undertaking; and

(c) the steps taken by Indian Petrochemicals Limited to improve productivity per employee and value added for per employee and per rupee wage paid and thus increase its output ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The increase in the average wages per man month in the terminal year (1984-85) of the Sixth Five Year Plan was 48% over a period of 5 years.

(c) IPCL is implementing various schemes for improving the added value by expanding capacity of Dimethyl Terephthalate, Xylenes, Linear Alkyl Benzene, Acrylonitrile, Polypropylene, etc. and reducing specific energy consumption.

Conversion of Bagasse into Dependable Source of Energy

2284. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any experiments of using bagasse, a byproduct of the sugar industry, have been made to convert it into dependable source of energy keeping in view the shortage of electric power in the country;

(b) if so, the results achieved; and

(c) if not, whether this potential source of power will be exploited ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). To encourage use of new technology and generation of surplus power, the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources has recently approved the setting up of a pilot plant for generation of 10 MWe in a cooperative sugar mill in Tamil Nadu. This will generate about 6 MWe surplus power for connection to the grid. It has been estimated that the sugar industry could generate about 200 MWe surplus power from bagasse during the crushing season if newer technology involving cogeneration with higher steam pressure and temperature conditions were to be adopted at the sugar mills.

Complaints of Disorder of Telephone in Howrah

2285. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephones in the district of Howrah;

(b) how many complaints of disorder were received last year; and

(c) how many of these telephones were set in order ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of telephones in the district of Howrah is 19188.

(b) The number of complaints of disorder was 135551.

(c) The number of telephones set in order was 135538.

Opening of New Telephone Exchange in West Bengal

2286. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) how many new telephone exchanges are going to be opened in West Bengal during the current year;

(b) how many telephone exchanges will be opened during the Seventh Plan period; and

(c) what Government propose to do for improvement of telephone system in Howrah district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) About 14 new telephone exchanges of small capacity are proposed to be opened in West Bengal during current year subject to requisite demand.

(b) About 96 telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened during 7th Plan period subject to availability of stores and resources.

(c) The information is given in the Statement given below :

Statement

Improvement Proposals for Howrah District :

1. Installation of one 6/1 channel UHF/VHF system between Jagatballavpur and Calcutta.
2. A new 4000 line main X-bar exchange is planned for 1986-87 at Shilbore and its expansion by 1000 lines during 1987-88.

Introduction of Automatic Telephone system in Nedumangad Telephone Exchange

2287. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce automatic telephone system in Nedumangad telephone exchange;

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

(c) the other proposals for the development of Nedumangad telephone exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A 200-lines Main automatic switching equipment has been allotted for the exchange under 1982-83 supply programme. The exchange is planned to be automatised subject to availability of land.

(c) The information is given in the statement given below.

Statement

Development Proposals for Nedumangad Telephone Exchange :

1. PCM system between Nedumangad to Trivandrum.
2. Group dialling with MAX-III type exchanges at Vilhura, Pachapalodu, Aryanadu, Peringammala and Kanya Kulangara after automation of Nedumangad exchange.
3. Inter dialling between Nedumangad and Trivandrum after procurement of junction cable.

Development of Telephones in Kerala

2288. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the details of the proposals for the development of telephones in Kerala during Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : The expansions of telephone systems in Kerala have been planned as follows in Seventh Five Year Plan period :

(Expansions planned)
in number of lines

(i) Trivandrum	4400
(ii) Calicut	2800
(iii) Ernakulam	7400
(iv) Other Towns in Kerala	94900
Total	109500

Development of Telephone Exchange at Kaniyapuram in Kerala

2289. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the development of Kaniyapuram telephone exchange in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kaniyapuram exchange has recently been converted and expanded from 150 lines RAX to 300-lines MAX-II type exchange. The station is also connected to Trivandrum.

Development of Chirayinkil Telephone Exchange in Kerala

2290. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the development of Chirayinkil telephone exchange in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Chirayinkil presently is 90 lines capacity MAX-III type-exchange. A 200 lines automatic switching equipment stands allotted for the station under 1982-83 supply programme. Search is on for a piece of land for exchange building. The installation of MAX-II type exchange would be taken up after land is acquired. There are also plans to augment the capacity by additional 200 lines.

Setting Up of Paper/Cement Industry in Kalahandi (Orissa)

2291. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up either a large-scale or medium scale industry in the district of Kalahandi, Orissa, and

(b) if not whether taking the economic backwardness of the district and the availability of raw materials into account, Government propose to set up either a paper mill or a cement plant there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Central Government have no proposal at present to establish a paper or cement plant in Kalahandi District.

Rural Electrification Programme in Kalahandi, Orissa

2292. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in socially economically backward tribal districts like Kalahandi in the State of Orissa the programme for rural electrification has not achieved the desired target; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the goal in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. The level of rural electrification in tribal districts like Kalahandi in the State of Orissa is below the State average.

(b) To give a boost to rural electrification and remove regional imbalance the programme of minimum needs has been revised. All tribal areas are included in this programme irrespective of the level of electrification. Wide range of strategies including liberalisation of norms for loan assistance have been evolved to give the benefit of electricity to these areas expeditiously.

Sickness in Public Sector Undertakings

2293. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4362 on 17 December, 1985 regarding sickness in public sector industries and state :

(a) whether any studies on the root cause of sickness are also proposed to be conducted for Engineering Project (India) Ltd. Coal India Ltd. Shipping Corporation of India, Cement Corporation of India and

similar other big public sector undertakings; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Studies have been made by Committees on the working of Engineering Projects (India) Ltd., as a result of which certain proposals have been formulated for restructuring of this company. Various aspects and implications of these are being studied. While there is no proposal at present to make a study of the working of Coal India Ltd. as a whole, two Committees viz. one under the Chairmanship of Shri K.S.R. Chari to enquire into the working of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. and the other under the Chairmanship of Shri A. N. Banerjee, to enquire into the working of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. have been set up. There are no proposals at present to undertake any studies on the working of Shipping Corporation of India and Cement Corporation of India.

The performance of the public sector enterprises is subjected to constant review and that any problems faced in their performance gets sorted out.

Oil Drilling, Exploration and Laying Oil Pipelines

2294. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of foreign companies which have been assigned for oil drilling, exploration and laying oil pipelines, together with the amount of the contract during the last three years;

(b) whether any domestic company has also been considered and found capable of doing the work; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and shall be laid on the table of the Sabha.

Excess Supplies of Drugs and Drug Intermediates in Violation of Capacity

2295. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the companies which have procured excess supplies of drugs and drug intermediates in violation of their capacities under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act;

(b) whether Government have issued any notice in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The Industries (Development and Regulation) Act does not lay any ceiling on the procurement of drugs and drug intermediates by a company.

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

Production of Newsprint

2296. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of newsprint in the country;

(b) the number of newsprint mills and their annual production;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are certain paper mills which are engaged to produce newsprint but are manufacturing white printing paper instead of newsprint;

(d) if so, the names of such mills and the action taken against them;

(e) whether the All India Small Paper Mills Association has offered to manufacture newsprint in view of its surplus capacity and low demand for printing paper;

(f) if so, the action taken by Government in this respect; and

(g) the other measures being taken by Government to produce more newsprint in the country to meet the increasing demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) The demand for newsprint in the country is met by indigenous production supplemented by imports.

(b) There are 4 newsprint mills in the country at present and their production of newsprint during 1985-86 (April, 1985-January, 1986) is as follows :

Name of the mill	Actual upto Jan., 1986
National Newsprint and Paper Mills Ltd.	55,144 tonnes
Mysore Paper Mills Ltd.	60,196 tonnes
Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.	65,846 tonnes
Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd.	42,663 tonnes

(c) and (d). No existing newsprint manufacturer is, according to the information available, currently using his licensed newsprint production capacity for production of other items. However, two of the existing newsprint manufacturers, namely, M/s. Mysore Paper Mills and Tamilnadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd., besides their newsprint capacity, are also licenced for manufacture of other varieties of paper.

(e) and (f). All India Small Paper Mills Association has made such an offer but subject to adequate support price, uninterrupted flow of inputs, provision of sufficient funds and guaranteed offtake of production. No Industrial Licence is required for investment upto Rs. 5 crores and any request for a larger project will be considered on merit.

(g) In addition to the existing installed capacity of 2.80 lakh tonnes, an additional capacity of 7.46 lakh tonnes has been approved by way of Industrial licences/Letters of Intent. These are under various stages of implementation.

Opening of New Post Offices in Orissa

2297. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post office working at present in Orissa;

(b) whether Government propose to open new post offices in Orissa during 1986-87;

(c) if so, the names of the places where these are likely to be opened; and

(d) the revised norms for opening of new post offices in hilly and tribal areas of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There are 7,539 post offices working in Orissa at present.

(b) There is at present a government ban on creation of posts. As opening of new post offices involves creation of posts, no programme in this regard has been finalised for the year 1986-87.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) above.

(d) There are no special norms for opening of new post offices in hilly and tribal areas of Orissa. However there are special norms for opening of post offices in backward and tribal areas which are of all-India application and indicated in the Statement given below.

Statement

Norms for Opening of Post Offices in Backward/Hilly Areas

(i) Post Offices in Gram Panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions :—

(a) There is no other post office with in the radius of 3 Kms. from the in proposed post office; and

(b) The proposed post office is expected to yield income to the extent of at least 10% of its estimated cost.

(ii) Post Offices in Non-gram panchayat villages may be opened subject to the following conditions :—

- (a) The village (or an integrated cluster of villages within a radius of 1.5 Kms.) should have a population of 1,000 or more.
- (b) There should not be another Post Office within the radius of 3 Kms. from the proposed Post Offices; and
- (c) The proposed post office is expected to yield income to the extent of at least 10% of its estimated cost.

Commissioning of Digital Electronic Exchanges

2298. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Digital Electronic Exchanges proposed to be commissioned in 1986-87;

(b) the names of the cities where Digital Electronic Exchanges are going to be set up in 1986-87; and

(c) which cities or towns in the country are expected to be entered into digital era by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 51 Digital Exchanges are proposed to be commissioned during the year 1986-87.

(b) These exchanges are likely to be set up in the following cities :

Agra, Armoor, Ambikapur, Alipurduar, Bombay, Bajpe, Betul, Balaghat, Bilaspur, Baripada, Calcutta, Chhaturpur, Delhi, Datia, Dhar, Dhenkanal, Dungarpur, Dhatav, Guna, Gazipur, Hamirpur, Kothagudem, Kodinar, Kalpatta, Kulu, Keonjhar, Lucknow, Madhubani, Mannar, Manmed, Naharlagon, Pune, Purnea, Ramachanderapuram, Shajapur, Shivpuri, Sultanpur, Sainthia, S.L. Puram, Trichy, Una, Yelwal.

(c) Apart from the cities/towns mentioned against para (b) the following cities/towns are also expected to enter into digital era by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan.

Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Allahabad, Bhind, Bangalre, Bhopal, Baroda, Bundi, Banda, Bhubaneswar, Chamba, Cuttack, Chandigarh, Dumka, Dehradun, Eranakulam, Fetehpur, Faridabad, Gauhati, Guntakal, Ghaziabad, Hyderabad, Hassan, Hajipur, Halflong, Indore, Jalore, Jaisalmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Jorhat, Jodhpur, Jabalpur, Koraput, Kathua, Khargone, Kanpur, Lalitpur, Ludhiana, Lungleh, Mandla, Mangaon, Madras, Mangalore, Mussoorie, Nagpur, New Bombay, Nawadah, Nahan, Noida, Orai, Phoolbani, Pauri, Pithorgarh, Pathankot, Patna, Rajkot, Ranikhet, Raipur, Ranchi, Swaimadhapur, Swaimadharpur (RS), Sirohi, Sriganaganagar, Srinagar, Surat, Sundergarh, Tikamgarh, Tonk, Visakapatnam, Varansi, Vijaywada.

Supply of Power from Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Farakka to Orissa

2299. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to make arrangement for power supply from Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and Farakka to Orissa to meet the power crisis in the State;

(b) if so, the total MW of power proposed to be supplied to Orissa through these States and Farakka; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). In order to increase power availability in Orissa, assistance has been provided to Orissa by the neighbouring systems of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and D.V.C. The quantum of assistance provided by these States/systems to Orissa during April, 1985 to February, 1986 are given below :

Andhra Pradesh	274.3 MU (discontinued since 13.11.85)
Madhya Pradesh	277.8 MU
Bihar	16.4 MU
D.V.C.	1.5 MU

Madhya Pradesh, Bihar/D.V.C. are assisting Orissa to the extent possible. For augmenting assistance from Madhya Pradesh, stringing of second circuit between Raigarh-Brajrajnagar line is being done. A 220 KV D/V line from Korba-Rourkela has also been sanctioned for this purpose. Orissa has been allocated a share of 75 MW from Farakka super thermal power station (3×200 MW). In order to avail of this allocated share of power from Farakka, Orissa would have to operate the system in parallel with rest of the Eastern Regional Grid. Efforts are being made to achieve integrated operation of the entire Eastern Regional Grid.

Setting up of New Manufacturing Units for Telephones Switching Equipment

2300. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up new manufacturing units in the Seventh Five Year Plan to produce the equipment required for the expansion of the tele-communication net work;

(b) if so, the number of telephones switching equipment and other equipment expected to be produced by those new manufacturing units.

(c) the outlay approved by the Union Government for those projects; and

(d) whether his Ministry proposes to issue bonds to raise resources to meet the cost of new plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAN NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Government have decided to create new/additional capacities in the existing units in the public sector undertakings under this Ministry.

They have also issued 128 letters of intent which have not yet been converted into industrial licence for the manufacture of various telecommunication equipment covering the areas of transmission, switching and subscriber terminal equipment.

(b) The new capacity in digital electronic switching equipment at Bangalore in Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) is proposed to be 5 lakh lines per annum. The capacities for production of telephone instruments will be enhanced to 5 lakh instruments per annum each at Naini and Bangalore Units of I. T. I. New capacity for M.A.R.R. equipment and digital transmission equipment is also proposed in the ITI.

(c) Government have approved an outlay of Rs. 335 crores during 7th Five Year Plan for capital investments by the I. T. I.

(d) Government have approved the proposal for floatation of bonds for Rs. 100 crores by I. T. I. during the current financial year to provide for the capital expenditure for their various projects.

Appointment of Monitoring Agency to Regulate Import of Mono Ethylene Glycol

2301. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited and National Organic Chemical Industries Ltd. the only two manufacturers of Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG) in the country are at present saddled with huge stocks for several months as most of the polyester filament yarn units, the main users of this material, have stopped lifting the chemicals from the two units;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take not to allow the free import of this chemical under OGL and instead encourage the use of local manufacture and clear the existing stocks held by the two units in the public sector; and

(c) whether Government also propose to consider the desirability of appointing a monitoring agency to regulate the import of this chemical ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The problems were discussed in a joint meeting taken by D.G.T.D. of the indigenous MEG producers *i.e.* Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited (IPCL) and National Organic Chemical Industries Limited (NOCIL) along with the polyster fibre and filament producers. It was agreed that all consuming units will lift the existing stock held by these two units within a stipulated period.

(c) No, Sir. However monitoring of allocation/lifting etc. by individual units will be done by the respective associations.

New Industries in Orissa

2302. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts of Orissa selected for setting up of new industries by the Union Government; and

(b) which industries are likely to be set up in those districts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The selection of location for setting up of an industry is made by the entrepreneur himself. Under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, a total number of 84 letters of intent and 54 industrial licences were granted during the years 1983 to 1985 for setting up of industries in Orissa. Out of these, 67 letters of intent and 21 industrial licences are for setting up of "new undertakings".

Details, such as name and address of the undertaking, location (including the name of district), item(s) of manufacture and capacity, etc. in respect of letters of intent and industrial licences issued are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. Copies of this publication are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

Global Tender Notice for Procuring Technology for Telecommunication Equipment

2303. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a global tender notice floated by a consortium of three public sector firms for procuring the technology for telecommunication equipment has practically drawn a blank;

(b) if so, the nature of technology bid; and

(c) the reasons for such a flop ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c). As per the information available in this Ministry, there is no consortium of three public sector firms for procuring the technology for the telecommunication equipments except that for Gas HBJ Pipe Line Project. In response to the global tender floated by the Gas Authority of India Limited for the work of construction of HBJ Pipeline, a consortium led by the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited had submitted a bid. As this bid was incomplete, it was not taken up for evaluation.

Petroleum product Storage Cover

2304. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the petroleum products storage cover will go down substantially from the present level by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor particularly in view of the increasing demand for petroleum products ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir. The cover is expected to come down by seven days requirement at 1989-90 demand,

(b) Owing to financial constraints during the 7th Five Year Plan period, it has not been possible to take up fresh proposals for augmentation of storage capacity, except as would be considered operationally necessary.

Setting up of New Washeries for washing non-coking coal

2305. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI SOMNATH RATH :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has suggested the setting up of 15 new washeries for washing 30 million tonnes of non-coking coal annually to improve its quality;

(b) if so, the number of washeries which will be set up in West Bengal, their capacity utilisation and their location; and

(c) how for this will increase the energy content of coal ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Closure of Mines by Eastern Coalfields Limited

2306. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI SRIHARI RAO :
SHRI V. TULSI RAM :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Eastern Coalfields Limited has suggested to the Government to close down at least 25 mines under the company;

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

(c) whether the workers/labourers engaged in the proposed closed mines will be absorbed in other mines;

(d) the purpose behind closing the mines; and

(e) whether closing down the mines would affect production of the superior grade coal and it would have to be imported for use by industries such as cement and glass ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (e) Eastern coalfields Limited has not suggested to the Government closure of any of its mines. An Expert Committee constituted by the Department of Coal to make an indepth study of the working of Eastern Coalfields Ltd. has observed, *inter-alia*, that some of the mines in which the cost of production of coal is very high and productivity is very low may be considered for closure. No decision has yet been taken by the Government on this observation of the Committee and no mine has been closed.

Corporate Liability in Controlling Pollution

2307. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the impediments generally faced by the industries in the implementation of pollution control measures;

(b) whether Government have considered the need for formulating a sound policy for re-location of hazardous industries in the context of the massive gas leak from Shriram Food and Fertilizer Plant in West Delhi, Bhopal Gas tragedy etc.; and

(c) whether there is any proposal for fixing corporate liability as a pollution control measure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Impediments faced by industries in the implementation of pollution control measures differ from unit to unit. Generally these pertain to financial constraints to instal pollution control equipment, lack of technical know-how and trained personnel.

(b) The need for relocation of hazardous industries by shifting them from congested areas is well recognised. With a view to encouraging hazardous and other industries to move out of congested areas, Govt. had announced certain fiscal incentives in the budget for 1983-84 which is applicable in subsequent year.

(c) Ministry of Industry have no such proposal under consideration at present.

Entertainment of Guests by Public Enterprises

2308. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the public enterprises are allowed to spend money on liquor when guests are entertained;

(b) whether any restriction is put on public enterprises to entertain guests.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Government have advised the public enterprises to exercise utmost austerity while incurring expenditure on entertainment. They are also required to restrict the number of invitees to the barest minimum. They have also been advised that no liquor should be served at any entertainment hosted by them even where the chief guest/principal invitees are foreigners.

Annual Allocation to Coir Board and Coir Goods Export

2309. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the annual allocations made to the Coir Board during the past three years;

(b) the total value of exports of coir goods during the same period; and

(c) the details of schemes for the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The annual allocations made to the Coir Board during the past three years are as follows :

Year	Total
(Rupees in lakhs)	
1982-83	176.30
1983-84	230.75
1984-85	254.75

(b) The total value of exports of coir goods during the Plan Period :

Year	Value
(Rupees in lakhs)	
1982-83	2,617
1983-84	2,434
1984-85	2,641

(c) The Plan provision for implementation of the development schemes under the coir industry has been substantially increased to Rs. 17.84 crores in the Seventh Plan as against the actual expenditure of Rs. 8.34 crores in the Sixth Plan. One of the major thrust areas in the Seventh Plan is accelerated development of brown fibre sector in the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa. The 'on going' centrally-sponsored schemes to co-operativisation of coir industry is being revised to provide for more liberalised pattern of assistance. Some of the other more important schemes included in the Seventh Plan are intensification of research and development for technology upgradation, training of coir workers, officials and others concerned with the development of coir industry, expansion of domestic market, augmentation of exports, assistance to organised sector, welfare measures for coir workers etc.

[Translation]**Import of high technology for Industry**

2310. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of agreements signed with various countries for import of high technology during the last two years; and

(b) the total amount paid under these agreements so far and amount which still remains to be paid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Government has approved 1776 foreign collaboration proposals during the last two years (*i.e.* 1984-85). Details of all foreign collaborations, showing the name of Indian and foreign firms, item of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published on quarterly basis by the Indian Investment Centre, as a supplement to its monthly News letter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

(b) For the years 1981-82 and 1982-83, for which statistics are kept, a total amount of Rs. 866.81 crores has been paid. No information on the amount remaining to be paid is kept.

[English]**Leakage of decision regarding Import Policy of TPA**

2311. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister to INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to leakage of the decision of the Ministry on the changed import policy regarding Terephthalic Acid (TPA) the main raw material for producing polyester yarn has resulted in the import of massive quantities of TPA by some firms/companies for their polyester yarn factories in Maharashtra before the order came into force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have investigated into the serious lapses on the part of the Ministry officials who had leaked out the information; and

(d) if so, the details of the findings and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (d). An enquiry has been ordered whether there was any leakage of proposed change in the import policy regarding Terephthalic Acid. The report of the enquiry is awaited.

Prices of Indigenous and Imported Newsprint

2312. DR. A. K. PATEL :
SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the selling prices of indigenous and imported newsprint three years ago and the increases during this period each time with dates from which effective;

(b) whether there is any difference in prices of news-print for small, medium and big newspapers;

(c) if so, the details thereof and how they have increased/decreased in the last three years each time; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to reduce or freeze the prices for sometime ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). A Statement is given below indicating the prices of indigenous and imported newsprint from time to time during the last three years is attached (Annexure). The price of imported newsprint is fixed on the recommendation of the Newsprint Price Fixation Advisory Committee on quarterly basis taking into account various factors like international price behaviour, c.i.f. cost, etc. There is no proposal at present to increase the prices of indigenous newsprint further. While a customs duty at the rate of Rs. 550 per tonne is leviable on big newspapers and Rs. 275 per tonne on medium newspapers, the small newspapers are exempt from the duty in respect of imported newsprint.

Statement*Prices of indigenous newsprint and imported newsprint from time to time.***Indigenous Newsprint**

Name of the Mill	Date	Price per tonne
1. National Newsprint and Paper Mills (55 gsm)	January, 1983	Rs. 5,200
	June, 1983	Rs. 5,600
	March, 1984	Rs. 6,400
	31-12-85	Rs. 7,860
2. Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. (53 gsm)	January, 1983	Rs. 7,000
	February, 1984	Rs. 7,100
	April, 1984	Rs. 8,000
	31-12-1985	Rs. 8,960
3. Mysore Paper Mills.	January, 1983	Rs. 7,225
	April, 1984	Rs. 8,000
	31-12-1985	Rs. 8,960
4. Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Mills Ltd.	June, 1985	Rs. 8,000
	31-12-85	Rs. 8,960

Imported Newsprint

	High Seal Sales	Ex-Buffer
	(per tonne of Standard newsprint exclusive of customs duty)	
January-March, 1983	Rs. 5900	Rs. 5950
April-June, 1983	Rs. 5900	Rs. 5950
July-September, 1983	Rs. 5690	Rs. 5740
October-December, 1983	Rs. 5350	Rs. 5400
January-March, 1984	Rs. 5350	Rs. 5400
April-June, 1984	Rs. 5750	Rs. 5800
July-September, 1984	Rs. 5750	Rs. 5800
October-December, 1984	Rs. 5760	Rs. 5810
January-March, 1985	Rs. 5940	Rs. 5990
April-June, 1985	Rs. 6330	Rs. 6380
July-September, 1985	Rs. 6595	Rs. 6645
October-December, 1985	Rs. 6745	Rs. 6795
January, 1986	Rs. 6980	Rs. 7030

Installation of Smokeless Chullahs in Villages

2313. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tamil Nadu Government has approached the Union Government with a definite plan to make life comfortable for people in rural areas with certain target for installing smokeless chullahs in the villages; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the scheme and the financial assistance, if any, provided by Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The National Programme on Improved Chulhas (also called Smokeless Chulhas) is a nation-wide centrally sponsored scheme. It is being implemented in Tamil Nadu by the Government of Tamil Nadu. A target of 20,000 chulhas was assigned to the Government of Tamil Nadu for the year 1984-85. The achievement was 79,751 chulhas. The target for the year 1985-86 for this State is 85,000 chulhas. Achievement until the end of January, 1986 has been 62,457. The programme is fully funded by the Central Government. The funding includes cent percent subsidy on the cost of hardware on fixed type chulhas and 75% subsidy to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes/Hilly areas towards the cost of portable chulhas. The subsidy for this type of chulha to other beneficiaries is 50% of the cost. Other costs of the programme, which include training, staff establishment and other expenditure are also fully borne by the Central Government. The Central Government released a sum of Rs. 14.60 lakhs to the Tamil Nadu Government for the programme during 1984-85. During this year 1985-86, releases up to date amount to Rs. 65.00 lakhs.

[Translation]

World Bank Loan sought by Oil India Ltd.

2315. SHRI HARISH RAWAT :
DR. B. L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil India Limited has sought loan from World Bank for the execution of its projects;

(b) if so, the amount of loans being sought for each project; and

(c) the World Bank's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A loan of approximately Rs. 200 crores is under negotiation with the World Bank *inter-alia* for exploration project in Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and North East Coast production improvement schemes in Assam, natural gas projects in Assam and technical assistance/training.

Integrated Energy Centres in Rural Areas

2316. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of integrated energy centres set up in the rural areas of the country so far; and

(b) the State-wise details thereof and the number of such centres Government propose to set up during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 19 village level integrated energy projects have so far been set up.

(b) The State-wise position is as follows :

(i) Andhra Pradesh	2
(ii) Delhi	2
(iii) Gujarat	1
(iv) Madhya Pradesh	1
(v) Maharashtra	1
(vi) Orissa	4
(vii) Tamil Nadu	1
(viii) Uttar Pradesh	7

The details of an enlarged programme during the Seventh Plan are being worked out and will depend on the financial resources that can be made available.

Approval of Hydel Projects in Uttar Pradesh

2317. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of these hydel projects in Uttar Pradesh for the construction of which approval has been accorded under the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and environment rules;

(b) the names of those projects for which approval is yet to be accorded; and

(c) the reasons for delay in according approval for the construction of those projects and the steps Government propose to take to approve the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Legal status for Lok Adalats and Nyaya Panchayats

2318. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether people have welcomed the setting up of Lok Adalats in various States in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that Taluka-wise Nyaya Panchayats will also be set up the country;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government propose to give the legal status on permanent basis;

(d) if so, the outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). There is no such proposal with the Government at present. However, the Law Commission has taken up this topic for study and the Commission has not crystallised its views.

Integral Digital Net Work System

2319. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in providing telecommunication facilities with latest technique in the districts selected under the Integrated Digital Network System;

(b) whether it is a fact that equipments and requisite material have not yet been received from foreign countries; and

(c) the time by which these modern telecommunication facilities are likely to be provided in the districts so selected and the scheduled programme thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Project estimates in respect of Kohima and Barmer secondary areas have been sanctioned. The remaining two in respect of Mathura and Nanital are under final stages of approval. Action has been taken for the procurement of indigenous equipments connected with the scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The telecommunication facilities are likely to be provided during the 7th Five Year Plan. The schedule of programme is being discussed shortly with Norwegian experts. Efforts are still on to resolve the frequency problem with Doordarshan.

STD Links in District Headquarters of Rajasthan

2320. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of district headquarters in Rajasthan which have not been linked with automatic electronic telephone system;

(b) the programme regarding linking these district headquarters with automatic electronic telephone system; and

(c) the time by which these districts are likely to be linked with STD service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) It is presumed that the Hon'ble Member's reference to link with automatic electronic telephone system means the link with trunk automatic exchange for STD. Out of 27 district headquarters, 21 district headquarters have not been linked with trunk automatic exchange network.

(b) It is planned to provide STD links from the remaining 21 district headquarters to the trunk automatic exchanges by automatising the manual exchanges wherever required and by providing reliable transmission media to link the district headquarters to the trunk automatic exchange network.

(c) The programme referred to in (b) above is planned to be completed during the 7th Plan period.

[English]

Fire in Oil Wells in Oil Producing States

2321. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of oil wells which caught fire during the last three years in the country and their number in each oil producing State;

(b) whether enquiry has been conducted to find out the causes; if so, the main causes of the fire at oil wells; and

(c) the steps being taken for the safety of oil wells in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) During the last three years 1983-84 to 1985-86, there have been two incidents of fire in oil wells; both in Gujarat.

(b) Yes Sir. A fire broke out at Sanand Well No. 65 on 30th May, 1984 when the well was being activated with the help of a compressor. The compressor caught fire due to failure of flange and consequent splash of oil and gas on the compressor. An enquiry has been ordered by ONGC to establish the cause of fire at South Kadi Well No. 53.

(c) The steps taken by ONGC include providing more dependable equipment for safety and fire fighting; suitable training of ONGC personnel observance of safety procedures as laid in the safety manuals.

Satellite Earth Communication Station at Kargil

2322. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) when the proposed Satellite Earth Communication Station is likely to be commissioned at Kargil; and

(b) the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The Earth Station at Kargil is proposed to be commissioned during 1987.

(b) There is no delay.

The installation work is being carried out as per schedule.

Integrated Rural Energy Centres at Khandia (Gujarat)

2323. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of Integrated Rural Energy Centres at Khandia near Baroda;

(b) whether it is a collaborative project between Gujarat Electricity Board and the Gujarat Energy Development Agency;

(c) whether the funding to these centres is being done with the aid of World Bank or by the Union Government; and

(d) what would be the total estimate therefor and how much energy would be produced therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The village level integrated energy project at Khandia near Baroda, has already been established.

(b) It is a joint project of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, Gujarat Energy Development Agency and Gujarat Electricity Board.

(c) The project has been fully funded by the Central and State Governments.

(d) The total expenditure on the project is Rs. 15 lakhs. It is estimated that the annual energy production/saving would amount to 300 tonnes of coal equivalent.

[Translation]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Azamgarh District (U.P.)

2324. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of telephone exchanges in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh which were converted or were proposed to be converted into electronic exchanges during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86; and

(b) the names of telephone exchanges proposed to be converted into electronic exchanges during the year 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). There are no proposals to install electronic exchanges in Azamgarh District.

Automatic Telephone Exchange at Mau (Azamgarh) U.P.

2325. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that land for an automatic telephone exchanges at Mau, district Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh, has since been acquired, but no work has been done at the site in spite of the fact that almost three years have passed since the project started; and

(b) If so, the reasons for delay in starting the work and the time by which construction work is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. The construction of the building for Telephone Exchange at Mau, District Azamgarh, U.P. was started in December 1984 and is expected to be completed by the end of March 1986.

(b) In view of reply in (a) above, the question does not arise.

Repair of OBRA Power Station Machines

2326. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether two 400 MW machines burnt in fire that broke out in Obra Power Station two years ago are still lying unrepared as a result of which power production has decreased to a large extent and it has become difficult to meet the power requirements of the State; and

(b) Government's reaction thereto and action being taken to repair these machines soon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir. Both these machines of 200 MW each which were

damaged on account of the fire have since been commissioned on 14-6-1985 and 14-2-1986.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

New Oil Reserves to Meet Growth in Demand of Oil

2327. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the growth in our oil consumption has risen to 8 per cent against the rate of 6 per cent as projected in the Seventh Five Year Plan; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to check this; and

(c) how far the new oil reserves in the Gulf of Cambay and in the Cauvery basin will bridge the gap ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The overall growth rate in Sales/consumption of petroleum products during the first year of 7th plan is estimated to be about 6.5% (as against annual average growth rate of 6.4% envisaged in the Seventh plan document.)

(b) Government have initiated several steps for containing the consumption of petroleum products.

These include recovery of waste heat, proper combustion of fuels, proper insulation, better driving and maintenance practices, development of fuel efficient stoves and other activities in the transport and Industrial sectors.

(c) It is not possible at this stage to indicate how far the recent oil reserves discovered in Cambay and Cauvery Basins will bridge the gap between production and demand as the areas are still in exploratory/delineation stage.

Payment for Import of Oil in 1986-87

2328. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and value of oil in terms of foreign exchange slated for import during 1986-87; and

(b) whether the import will be paid of foreign exchange reserves or out of our borrowings in the international capital market or adjusted against our exports as in the case of bilateral trade with the Soviet Union ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) A quantity of 15.6 million tonnes of crude oil is proposed to be imported during 1986-87. As the contracts for these purchases during 1986 are yet to be finalised, it is not possible to indicate precisely the value in terms of foreign exchange.

(b) Payments are generally made out of our foreign exchange reserves excepting those quantities specifically covered by bilateral trade arrangements.

Public Telephone Booths Manned by Handicapped Persons in Bangalore

2329. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public telephone booths attended by handicapped persons in Bangalore city;

(b) whether there is a great demand for public booths in many areas in Bangalore city, particularly in Jayanagar complex; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to open more public telephone booths manned by handicapped persons in various localities in Bangalore city ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The number of public telephones manned by physically handicapped persons in Bangalore City is 26 as on 3-3-1986.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Efforts are being made to open more public telephones manned by physically handicapped persons with the co-operation of City Corporation authorities for installing the booths at public places.

Safety Measures for Oil Pipes in Cochin Oil Refinery

2330. **PROF. K. V. THOMAS :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the safety measures taken for the pumping of the petrol and petroleum products from the oil terminal at Cochin;

(b) whether a complete check up is made to test the safety of the oil pipes from the terminal to Cochin Oil Refinery and to the storage tanks; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to shift the oil storage tanks in Cochin city to a far away place ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The safety measure taken include frequent pressure testing and monitoring of flow rates, augmentation of fire fighting equipment/capability and regular inspection and patrolling of the pipeline.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Setting up of a bench Supreme Court in South

2331. **SHRI D. K. NAIKAR :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up a bench of the Supreme Court in the South for convenience of the litigent public; and

(b) if so, the place selected for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). According to Article 130 of the Constitution, "the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time appoint."

No proposal has been received from the Chief Justice of India in this regard.

Allocation for Oil Exploration in Seventh Plan

2333. **PROF. P. J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount proposed to be spent on oil exploration during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount proposed to be spent on different areas which have been identified for exploratory work with break-up of each project;

(c) whether exploratory work has already started in the newly demarcated areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The tentative basin/area-wise outlay for the Seventh Five Year Plan is as follows :

Areas/Basins	Tentative outlays (in crores)
1	2
Onshore	
Cambay	410.0
Kutch-Saurashtra	17.0
Assam including Arunachal Pradesh	382.0

1	2
Rajasthan	108.0
Tripura	105.0
Nagaland-Cachar	194.0
Bengal	76.0
Himalayan Foothills and Ganga Valley	82.0
Krishna-Godavari	139.0
Cauvery	124.0
Mahanadi	10.0
Category IV basins	12.0
Offshore	
Bombay High	330.0
Kutch-Saurashtra	145.0
Kerala-Konkan	40.0
Krishna-Gonavari	250.0
Cauvery	48.0
Bengal	124.0
Andaman	151.0
North East Coast	87.0

(c) and (d). Exploration for hydrocarbons is a continuous process and no basins can be described as newly demarcated.

Tidal Power Project in Gulf of Kutch

2334. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the investments already made for producing electricity from tidal power in the Gulf of Kutch;

(b) the total outlay for this project; and

(c) the time by which it will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) An expenditure of approximately Rs. 3 crores has so far been

incurred on investigations and feasibility studies for the tidal power project in Gulf of Kutch.

(b) A total outlay of Rs. 4.38 crores has been made in the Seventh Plan.

(c) According to present assessment the feasibility report is expected to be available by March, 1988.

Complaints regarding Over-Billing Piracy of Phones

2335. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of subscribers have asked for STD barring facility to escape regular piracy of phones by telephone staff;

(b) the percentage of phones in four metro cities which have been so barred and the estimated loss of revenue; and

(c) the number of complaints received for such piracy and over billing in four metro cities during the last three years and action taken and refund permitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. Though a large number of telephones have been got STD barred by the subscribers, it is not entirely correct to say that this facility has been asked for to escape the regular piracy of telephones by telephone staff.

(b) The percentage of the phones in four metro cities which have been STD barred is furnished below :

Unit	Percentage
Bombay Telephone District	35.43
Calcutta	21.88
Delhi	53.71
Madras	43.08

There could be no loss of revenue on this account as the communication is established through manned trunk calls.

(c) The number of excess billing

complaints received in four Metro District during the last three years and also the amount of rebate granted is furnished is given below :—

Name of Unit	No. of Excess billing complaints			Amount of rebate granted (Rs. in lakhs)		
	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
Bombay	9,659	11,234	18,615	29.38	27.66	55.41
Calcutta	3,715	8,530	10,781	6.63	13.35	6.73
Delhi	11,402	14,757	15,078	138.79	181.52	212.46
Madras	3,681	4,666	5,089	3.94	8.63	16.95

The information regarding the number of cases of piracy if any, has been called for from the units and will be placed on the table of the House as early as possible.

Tie-Up Sales of Gas Stoves by LPG Agencies

2336. SHRI D. N. REDDY :
SHRI P. R. KUMARA-MANGALAM :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representation from Consumer Education and Research Centre regarding tie-up sales of gas stoves by LPG agencies; and

(b) whether Government propose to formulate policies keeping in view the experience and considered view of the consumer organisation to prevent restrictive trade practices of tie-up sales by the gas agencies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Apart from the stipulation that a notice to this effect should be displayed at their premises, LPG distributors are under instructions that customers are free to purchase an LPG stove from any source provided it bears ISI certification.

Postal Division at Kalahandi, Orissa

2337. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to declare Kalahandi, Orissa as a "Postal Division" during 1985-86; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to consider this taking into account the socio-economic backwardness of the area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). It is not proposed to declare Kalahandi, Orissa as a "Postal Division" during 1985-86.

Creation of a new Postal Division *inter-alia* involves creation of some new posts. In view of the existing of ban orders imposed by the Government on creation and filling up of post, it is not possible to create Kalahandi Postal Division at present.

Setting up of a gas based Factory in North India

2338. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to set up a gas-based factory in North India;

(b) if so, the time by which this factory is likely to be set up;

(c) the name of the place in North India where it is proposed to be set up; and

(d) the total expenditure that will be involved in the setting up of this factory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). It is not clear to which factory the question refers. However, five gas-based fertilizer units are being set up in North India as given below :

Location	Project cost (in Rs/crores)	Expected date of mechanical completion.	
1. Sawai Madhopur	699.50	Jan.,	1989
2. Jagdishpur	662.60	June,	1988
3. Aonla	732.00	Jan,	1988
4. Babrale	600.00	July,	1989
5. Shahjahanpur	Not finalised	Dec.,	1989

Plots in Badli Industrial Estate sanctioned without inviting applications from public

2339. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Industries, Delhi has sanctioned plots in Badli Industrial Estate without inviting applications from the public;

(b) if so, the details of the sanctioned plots and the persons to whom sanctioned; and

(c) the details of the action taken in each case with dates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). According to Delhi Administration, only one industrial plot has been allotted in Badli Industrial Estate—Phase III without inviting applications from the Public. The said plot No. 1 in Phase III of the Industrial Estate was allotted to M/s. K.C. Agro Pvt. Ltd. on 31.7.1985 on the recommendation of the Government of India in their effort to boost India's export of agricultural items.

Rebate in Rental for Telephones Remaining Interrupted for 30 Days or More

2340. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to grant rebate in rental when the telephone or other service of a subscriber remains interrupted continuously for 30 days or more; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the other facilities being extended in favour of subscribers in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Rebate in rental can be allowed when the telephone, telex, leased line, or junction line in case of a PABX/PBX of a subscriber, remains interrupted continuously for 30 days or more.

(b) No other proposal is under consideration of the Government in this regard.

Clearance to Schemes proposed by Bihar for Power Generation

2341. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Bihar have proposed a number of new schemes for clearance by the Union Government for power generation;

(b) the number of schemes cleared by the Centre; and

(c) the reasons for delay in clearing the remaining schemes proposed by the Government of Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Five new generation schemes from Bihar are under appraisal in the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the concerned authorities. Out of these, in one case, Bihar has been advised to resolve the inter-State aspects; in two cases, response to comments of Central Electricity Authority is awaited from the Bihar authorities. While all efforts are made towards early clearance of projects, the time taken for the same depends on the promptness with which the project authorities respond in the matter of supplying requisite information needed for processing the proposals.

Punishment for Power Theft

2342. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to make power theft a cognizable offence and to provide stringent punishment for it;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Electricity Act is proposed to be amended accordingly; and

(c) the amendments likely to be proposed in the Act ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Section 39 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 is proposed to be amended to make theft of electricity a cognizable offence.

Analysis on Oil Gas Reserves

2343. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PETROLIUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a detailed analysis has been made on the results of exploratory efforts and additions to oil and gas reserves since the discovery of Bombay High eleven years ago; and

(b) if so, the main features of this analysis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since the discovery of Bombay High field by ONGC, 89 oil/gas discoveries have been made. Of these 77 have been evaluated and have contributed to the addition of the following geological reserves as on 1-1-85

Oil 702.93 million tonnes

Gas 500 billion cubic metres.

Implementation of New Management Policy by IDPL

2344. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the comprehensive policy formulated for implementation by IDPL (Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd.) with reference to marketing, procurement and inventory of raw materials, man-power training and personnel management; and

(b) whether this will be implemented by all the units of IDPL of it is only for Rishikesh Plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). In-house task force was constituted in December, 1985 by IDPL to identify the constraints and opportunities and to come out with concrete plans for rehabilitation and revival. In order to catalyse the functioning of this team two consultants were associated by the Company with the task force on a part time basis. The task force has not yet completed its studies.

Performance of Public Sector Units

2345. DR. CHINTA MONAN :
SHRI P. R. KUMARA-
MANGALAM :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether public sector units are not performing well as per Government's evaluation; and

(b) whether it is a fact that this is partly due to restraints placed on the units by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) As per the public Enterprises Survey 1984-85, placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 27th February 1986, in 1984-85, 113 profit-making enterprises made a net profit of Rs. 2023.30 crores and 91 loss-making enterprises made a loss of Rs. 1094.73 crores resulting in an overall net profit of Rs. 928.57 crores against a net profit of Rs. 240.14 crores for 201 enterprises in 1983-84. It is thus seen that the overall performance has shown substantial improvement in 1984-85 as compared to 1983-84.

(b) The major constraints faced by these undertakings and the steps taken for performance upgradation are given in the Chapter 19 on "Productivity in Public Enterprises" in the Public Enterprises Survey 1984-85 Volume-I.

**Zone-wise Consultative Committee in
Bombay**

2346. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in Bombay Zone-wise Consultative Committees have been set up alongwith an open Advisory Committee with effective representation of consumer organisations;

(b) whether similar demand made for Delhi and elsewhere in the country has not been agreed to; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and corrective steps proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Sub-Committees consisting of two or three members of Telephone Advisory Committee of Bombay Telephone District have been formed.

(b) and (c). Government have issued instructions for formation of Sub-Committees at the level of Area Managers from the Members of a District Telephone Advisory Committee and at the level of Director (Telecommunications) from Members of State Telecommunications Advisory Committee to obtain greater involvement of the Members in the working of telecommunications services.

Damage to Underground Telephone Cables

2347. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether damage to underground telephone cables due to uncontrolled digging by various Government agencies is one of the most common causes for disruption of phones in Delhi and elsewhere; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make presence of supervisory telephone staff obligatory before any digging is done on public land ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. It is not practically possible to always deploy a supervisor before any digging. However, a number of steps have been taken to ensure this to maximum extent. Patrolling of cable routes, "Dial Before you Dig" service and Inter utility services Committees are some of the major steps in this direction.

Setting up of Oil Refineries Near Places of Consumption

2348. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has favoured oil refineries near the centres consumption of refined products rather than that of production of crude oil;

(b) if so, the preferred locations as per the Planning Commission;

(c) whether any Oil refinery has been set up in any such places; and

(d) if so, the names of those places ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

Statement**Regarding setting up of Oil Refineries Near Places of Consumption**

Oil Refineries are set up on the basis of various techno-economic considerations including production centres, consumption zones, transportation requirements, environmental aspects, etc.

The places where Oil Refineries have been set up are :

Sl. No.	Name of the Location	State
1	2	3
1.	Gauhati	Assam
2.	Barauni	Bihar
3.	Koyali	Gujarat
4.	Haldia	West Bengal
5.	Mathura	Uttar Pradesh
6.	Digboi	Assam

1	2	3
7.	Madras	Tamil Nadu
8.	Cochin	Kerala
9.	Bombay	Maharashtra
10.	Bombay	Maharashtra
11.	Vizag	Andhra Pradesh
12.	Bongaigaon	Assam

Supply of Gas through Pipelines

2349. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to states :

(a) whether Government propose to channelize the gas made available from Bombay High;

(b) if so, whether gas is proposed to be supplied to fertilizer units in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat through pipeline;

(c) whether it is also a fact that another pipeline will supply gas to Southern States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SRHI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The associated natural gas produced at Bombay High is already being supplied to various consumers in Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(b) The free gas that is proposed to be produced from South Bassein will be transported through the HBJ pipeline to eventually meet the gas requirements of the fertilizer units in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

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

[Translation]

Expenditure on Koel Karo Scheme

2350. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the date on which Koel Karo scheme was approved, the expenditure proposed to be incurred thereon initially, the amount actually spent on it so far, and the time by which it is likely to be completed;

(b) the quantum of power likely to be generated under this scheme; and

(c) whether the cost of this scheme will increase in case it is not started in time and if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Koel Karo Hydro-electric Project was approved at an estimated cost of about Rs. 440 crores. An expenditure sanction was issued in July, 1982. However, work on the project could not be started due to the resistance of the local people to the acquisition of land and their demand of land for land. Some of the affected land owners have also filed a writ petition before the Supreme Court and the matter is sub judice. An expenditure of only Rs. 4.75 crores has therefore been incurred on the project till January, 1986. The project is scheduled to be completed in 8 years after the land required is made available by the Govt. of Bihar.

(b) The estimated annual energy generation from the project is 1058 million units.

(c) The increase in the project cost will depend upon the date of commencement of the construction works.

[English]

**Sanctioning of Departmental Building
for Civil Wing Offices of
Bhubaneswar**

2351. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that because of lack of departmental office building for the civil wing offices at Bhubaneswar the work of the civil wing in that circle is being very much hampered; and

(b) if so, the time by which the departmental building will be sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The work of Civil Wing is not hampered on account of non-availability of departmental building. However, a departmental building has been sanctioned on 3-3-86.

**Posts and Telegraphs Civil Circle,
Bhubaneswar**

2352. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to declare the Posts and Telegraphs civil circle, Bhubaneswar as an independent circle from March, 1986; and

(b) if not, the time by which this circle will be declared as an independent circle ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) the issue of declaring a Civil Circle as Co-ordinating Circle is considered on the basis of requirement and merit.

Electrification of Villages in Tamil Nadu

2353. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages in Tamil Nadu electrified during the last three years; and

(b) the number of villages (alongwith the schemes and programmes therefor) that are proposed to be electrified during the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 89 villages were electrified in Tamil Nadu during the last three years viz. 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85.

(b) It is proposed to electrify 9 villages in the current financial year 1985-86, under the schemes sanctioned by Rural Electrification Corporation.

Assessment of Additional Oil and Gas Reserves

2354. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a detailed analysis has been made of the results of the efforts made during the last three years to assess the additional oil and gas reserves in the country;

(b) whether experts in the line from abroad have been consulted; and

(c) the finances involved in the exploration during the same period and the benefits envisaged therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The expenditure on exploration in three years ending 1984-85 was approx. Rs. 1000 crores. Reserves for 1985 are under evaluation. The addition to geological reserves of crude oil in the proceeding three years was about 250 million tonnes.

Assembly-based manufacture technology

2355. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to do away with the assembly-based manufacture technology in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to bring such changes in the industrial development of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c). Government's policy towards import of technology is selective and based on national priorities. Import of technology is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas in

expert oriented or import substitution manufacturing or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet efficiently, domestic requirements and/or to become competitive in the export market.

Industrial licences are generally granted subject to the approval of the phased manufacturing programme wherever required keeping in view the industrial development of the country.

Steps taken to Achieve Self Sufficiency in Crude

2356. SHRI V. TULSIRAM ;
SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a news item captioned "Self sufficiency in crude may arode" appearing in 'Economic Times' of 16 February, 1986;

(b) if so, the steps being taken be Government to overcome the deficiency in production of crude oil in the country;

(c) the extent to which such erosion will have an adverse effect on the consumption of petroleum products and how this will be met;

(d) the extent to which the exchequer will be burdened to import crude;

(e) the steps under consideration of Government to save the consumption of crude without affecting the transport and other uses; and

(f) the estimated shortfall in production of crude by the end of Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the steps are :

- (i) Intensification of exploration which may eventually lead to enhanced production;
- (ii) Intensification of work-over operations;
- (iii) Use of enhanced oil recovery techniques;
- (iv) Induction of advanced technology.

(c) and (d). The consumption of petroleum products is expected to increase continuously in a foreseeable future and the short fall is expected to be met through imports. Due to changing conditions in the International Oil Market it is not possible; at this stage, to assess the burden on the exchequer from such imports.

(e) Some of the steps contemplated are :

- waste heat recovery
- proper combustion of fuels
- proper insulation
- development of energy efficient equipment
- promoting better driving and maintenance practices
- development of efficient stoves
- ractification of pump sets.

(f) The target of production of crude oil for the Seventh Plan is expected to be achieved.

Generation Capacity of Srisaillam Hydro Electric Power

2357. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Srisaillam is the biggest hydro-electric power generating centre in the country;

(b) if so, the present generating capacity of the project and expected increased capacity;

(c) whether there is a proposal to instal such more projects in Andhra Pradesh

keeping in view the dire needs of electricity in the State to increase irrigational facilities for the crops; and

(d) the extent to which the project shall meet the requirements of irrigational/ industrial requirements of the State ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Srisaillam Hydro Electric Project is not the largest hydro-electric Project in operation in the country at present.

(b) The present generating capacity is 440 MW. This is expected to go upto 770 MW in 1986-87.

(c) and (d). There is a proposal to set up the Srisaillam Left Bank Power Station with 9×110 MW pump turbine units. The extent of benefits from the project, which is in the State sector, would be known after the project report has been finalised and approved.

Recruitment of Local People by ONGC in Eastern Region

2358. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Class I and Class II Officers in the Oil and Natural Gas Commission presently posted in the Eastern Region of the Commission and the total number of such officers having permanent residences in Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) whether recruitment for Class III posts in the Oil and Natural Gas Commission which was hitherto done locally has since been stopped ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The total number of Class I and Class II Officers in the ONGC presently posted in the Eastern Region of the Commission is 1892 and 758, respectively.

Information regarding the total number of such officers having permanent residence in Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland and

Arunachal Pradesh is being ascertained and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

Setting up of Wind Mills and Installation of Solar Pumps

2359. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether different State Governments have submitted schemes for setting up wind mills and installation of solar pumps with a view to conserving the sources of energy by diversifying to non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes indicating their cost and the extent of reduction in pressure on conventional sources of energy like hydro-electric and thermal power and petroleum sought to be effected thereby; and

(c) whether Central aid has been sought by the State Governments for these schemes and if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c). Under a Centrally sponsored scheme of the Ministry of Water Resources, based upon requests received, central assistance as 50% share of subsidy for installation of solar photovoltaic pumps and windmills was released to the following States during 1982-83 to 1984-85 :

**Total amount released
(Rs. in lakhs)**

1. Gujarat	5.00
2. Karnataka	4.74
3. Madhya Pradesh	1.44
4. Orissa	2.63
5. Tripura	1.97
6. Uttar Pradesh	6.231

Further, under the demonstration programme of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources being implemented in different States, over 300 solar

photovoltaic pumps and 1,300 windmills have so far been supplied. This programme has been implemented mainly as an initiative of the Central Government.

Solar photovoltaic pumps and windmills serve as useful devices for pumping water for micro-irrigation and drinking water supply, and in certain areas they already compare favourably with diesel for electric pumpsets.

Exploration in Deeper Waters by West German Firms

2360. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether West Germany has offered the latest technologies to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission for conducting exploration in deeper waters;

(b) if so, full details of the West German firm which will conduct exploration in deeper waters;

(c) whether any other firm of West Germany had also been conducting such task earlier; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and also the details of the agreement with the West German firm ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). In 1978, M/s. Prakala Seismos Company of West Germany under an agreement had carried out seismic surveys in the Krishna-Godavari Offshore area in the East Coast. The area covered was Nizampatnam base to Puri; total coverage was 4520 line Kms. with 24 Fold CDP surveys.

Agreement with this company was signed on 25-1-1978 to carry out surveys over a period of six months. The work was completed by them.

Introduction of new Postal Technology

2361. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to introduce new postal technologies in the country;

(b) if so, full details thereof;

(c) whether any foreign agency has offered its know-how in this regard; and

(d) if so, full particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the following areas new postal technology is proposed to be introduced :

- (i) Advanced meachanised sorting of mail;
- (ii) Introduction of computers in selected areas essentially involving behind the counter operations and operations in central offices.
- (iii) Introduction of Micro-Processor-based computer machines like booking machines weighing scales at the counters and electronic franking machines.
- (iv) Introduction of modern bag dedustry equipment.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) (i) For the mechanised sorting project Telecommunications Consultants India Limited have been entrusted with the task of preparing a feasibility-cum-project report and they are in turn engaging M/s. British Postal Consultancy Services U.K. as their consultants.

(ii) The Federal Republic of Germany has offered fellowships for training officers of the Indian Postal Department in Postal Mechanisation.

- (iii) An agreement for co-operation in the field of Posts and Telecommunication between the Governments of India and France was entered into in 1980 for a period of five years which included assistance in mechanisation of postal services, handling of international mails and marketing of post office services (agency functions).

Review of production programmes of automotive units ?

2362. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate General of Technical Development (DGTD) has recently reviewed the production programmes of automotive units in the country;

(b) if so, the outcome of this review; and

(c) to what extent the vehicle manufacturers and their ancillary suppliers will remove the increasing bottlenecks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Reviews are being conducted to indentify difficulties being faced by the vehicle and ancillary manufacturers in meeting the quantitative and qualitative requirements of new generation vehicles with a view to removing bottlenecks in indigenisation.

Supply of LPG through Pipeline

2363. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to supply LPG to the consumers through pipeline in the capital and other places;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The proposal is not economically and operationally feasible.

Duties of Senior Staff to Improve Telephone Service

2364. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints and information that even in the case of serious telephone breakdowns the senior staff never or seldom visit the field;

(b) whether Government propose to make it obligatory for an Asstt. Engineer to visit every Mohalla/colony by rotation every year and contact a local representative who may be nominated by the Department; and

(c) whether Government also propose to make it obligatory that Area Manager visits each area once a month and General Manager once in a quarter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, field officers while making routine inspections visit subscribers' premises at random.

(c) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration.

Proposal to Set up Oil Refinery in Assam

2365. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether the Planning Commission has decided for proposed Oil Refinery in Assam in the Seventh or the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether transportation of refined product would be as economical as transportation of crude through improved technology; and

(c) the Planning Commission's views in locating the said refinery and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (c). No formal proposal to Planning Commission has been made regarding the setting up of a new refinery in Assam.

(b) The economics of transporting crude relative to transporting products depend on several factors like location of the production and consuming centres and mode of transportation, etc.

Import of L.P.G. Cylinders from Brazil

2366. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY :
SHRI ANIL BASU :
SHRI AMAL DATTA :
SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH
GOSWAMI :
SHRI R. P. DAS :
DR. SUDHIR ROY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Business Standard of 12 February, 1986 regarding Durgapur LPG cylinder unit with 1,50,000 capacity lying idle for want of orders from the Indian Oil Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons for not giving orders to the firms apart from the general view of the alleged surplus capacity in the country thus creating regional imbalances and adding costs to the consumers;

(c) whether it is a fact that despite the alleged surplus capacity, Government ordered import of 8 lakh cylinders from Brazil; and

(d) What was the consideration for favouring import by denying indigenous industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). A cylinder manufacturing unit under the name of M/s, Bengal Tools Limited, about which an item appeared in the Business Standard, has been recently cleared by the Technical Audit Team of the oil industry for commercial production. This unit would be considered for placement of orders in terms of the policy from time to time for procurement of the requirements of the oil industry.

(c) and (d). Limited Import of cylinders was decided upon in 1983 in view of the continued shortfall in availability from indigenous manufacturers in the earlier years.

LPG Connections in Towns in Orissa

2367. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the towns in Orissa where LPG connections are proposed to be provided during 1986;

(b) when the connections are likely to be provided; and

(c) the criteria fixed for allotting LPG Agency after taking into account population figures of a particular area ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Apart from release of LPG connections in existing markets under the annual programme of release of new connections, such release will take place also through new distributorships to be commissioned from time to time at the following locations :

1. Bhanjanagar
2. Birmitrapur
3. Burla
4. Jaypore
5. Damanjore
6. Berhampur
7. Rourkela (II)
8. Bhubaneswar
9. Kulad
10. Jharsuguda
11. Talcher
12. Rajgangpur

The pace of release is determined by augmentation in availability of LPG, bottling plants, transportation facilities and other infrastructure including distributorships.

(c) Towns having a population of 20,000 and above and offering sufficient potential are generally included in the Annual Marketing Plan of oil industry, in a phased manner for allotment of LPG agencies

New Thermal Power Plants

2368. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of thermal power plants approved by the Union Government during Seventh Plan; and

(b) the names of States where such plants are going to be set up, their installed capacity and the amount required and allotted during the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). In addition to the Thermal Power Plants already approved for benefits during the Seventh Five Year Plan, the following projects have been approved during 1985-86 :

S.No.	Project	State	Installed Capacity (MW)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crores)	Approved Outlay in Seventh Plan (Rs. Crores)
1.	Tuticorin TPS Stage-II	Tamil Nadu	2 × 210	356.38	} 642.59
2.	North Madras TPP (approved in principal)	Tamil Nadu	3 × 210	547.79	
3.	Kahalgaoon TPS (Central Sector)	Bihar	4 × 210	884.16	150.00

Cards for Recording of Telephone Breakdown

2369. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has introduced a card for each Telephone listed in the Telephone Directory;

(b) whether Government are aware that the cards have not been used by the staff in almost every case nor has the record of breakdowns entered therein; and

(c) whether Government are aware that the official figures of monthly complaints per hundred phones have no relation to actual facts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The card is meant for recording the inspections done by the officials and not for recording the breakdown for which the record is kept at Fault Repair Service.

(c) Monthly complaints per 100 telephones are computed based on the actual complaints booked by the subscribers.

Pending Subsidy Claims under Drugs Price Equalisation Account

2370. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount available at present with Government and States Trading Corporation under Drugs Price Equalisation Account for distribution as subsidy;

(b) the claims for subsidy pending with Government for more than one month at present; and

(c) when the pending subsidy claims are proposed to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). Information to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Opening of Public Calls Offices in Mathura, U.P.

2371. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of public call offices in Mathura district (Uttar Pradesh) as on 31 December, 1985;

(b) the number of public call offices to be opened in Mathura district in the year 1986; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number

of public call offices in Mathura District, as on 31 December, 1985 is 86.

(b) Nil.

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

Savour Commission Report on Extra Departmental Employees

2372. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for delay in submitting the report of Savor Commission on Extra-Departmental employees in the Postal Department;

(b) when the said report is expected to be submitted; and

(c) how many Extra-departmental employees are serving in the Postal Service according to the latest estimate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Extension of the tenure of the Committee was approved because of the delay in receipt of responses to questionnaires circulated by the Committee and the processing and analysis of the replies by the Computer Agency. Besides, there was also a request from the Federation of National P and T Organisations that the Chairman may not submit the report before Pay Commission finalises its report in respect of regular Central Government employees.

(b) The report is expected to be submitted before 30th June, 86 or before finalisation of report of 4th Pay Commission, whichever is earlier.

(c) There were 3,00,851 (Three lakh eight hundred and fifty one only) Extra Departmental Employees in the Postal Department as on 31st March, 1985.

Demand for L.P.G. in Kerala

2373. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand for L.P.G. in Kerala;

(b) what percentage has been met so far; and

(c) how long it will take to meet the entire demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Barring occasional shortages caused by bottling plant problems, transportation bottlenecks, IR problems etc., the requirement of LPG consumers in Kerala has been met through supply of approximately 2,58,000 cylinders per month.

(c) While supply of LPG to existing consumers has improved over the past with the stabilisation of the facilities at the Cochin Refinery, release of new connection is continuing under the annual enrolment programme of the oil industry.

[Translation]

New Industries in Himachal Pradesh

2374. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licences sought by Himachal Pradesh Government for setting up of industries during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) During the Seventh Five Year Plan (up to 5-3-1986), 10 applications under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, for the grant of Letters of Intent were received from Himachal Pradesh Government undertakings.

(b) Out of these 10 applications, there proposals were approved and letters of Intent issued, five were rejected otherwise disposed of and the remaining two received

during 1986, were at various stages of consideration.

New Hydel Projects in Himachal Pradesh

2375. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals for new hydel projects sent to the Planning Department of the Union Government by Himachal Pradesh Government; and

(b) the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Six hydro-electric projects with a total installed capacity of 693.95 MW have been sanctioned by the Planning Commission and are under construction. In addition, two hydro-electric projects with a total capacity of 1320 MW have been accorded techno-economic approval by the Central Electricity Authority and four other projects are under their examination.

[English]

Telephone Services in Villages

2376. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that telephone service at the village level is negligible in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the number of villages which have so far been provided telephone facilities in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The departments objective is to make the Telecom. facility available within 5 Kms. of most of villages. About 50% of the objective has been achieved.

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

(c) 23,197 villages have been provided with telephone service upto December, 85.

Progress of Drilling Operations Krishna Godavari Basin

2377. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of wells taken up for drilling by Oil and Natural Gas Commission under Krishna Godavari Basin oil exploration on shore programme since 1977 and the amount spent on each well so far;

(b) the latest position of each well; and

(c) the inference drawn in respect of each well where drilling is completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) 18 wells have so far been taken up for drilling in onshore Krishna Godavari Basin. The cost of completed wells, where accounts have been finalised, ranges from Rs. 4 crores to Rs. 14 crore.

(b) Of the 18 wells, 13 have been completed and 5 are under drilling.

(c) Of the 13 completed wells, 7 proved to be gas bearing.

[Translation]

New Telecommunication Centres in Rajasthan

2378. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of radio system based micro-wave telecommunication centres in the country along with their number in Rajasthan; and

(b) the names of those areas/places where Government propose to set up new telecommunication centres (micro-wave) during the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The total number of radio system based microwave telecommunication centres in the country is 161 including 5 centres in Rajasthan.

Government proposes to set up 101 new Microwave Centres during the 7th Five Year Plan as given below in the statement.

Statement

Name of places where microwave centres are proposed to be set up during 7th Plan

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Jodhpur. | 24. Konda Pur. |
| 2. Bikaner. | 25. Kanchi Puram. |
| 3. Sikar. | 26. Pollachi. |
| 4. Jhunjunu. | 27. Udumal Pet, |
| 5. Nagaur. | 28. Homnabad |
| 6. Tundla. | 29. Bidar. |
| 7. Kapurthla. | 30. Virudh Nagar. |
| 8. Mainpuri. | 31. Sivakashi. |
| 9. Ferozabad. | 32. Bapala. |
| 10. Morena. | 33. Chirala. |
| 11. Gulbarga. | 34. Sattanapali. |
| 12. Kolar. | 35. Mandya. |
| 13. Mercera. | 36. Carnoor. |
| 14. Hubli. | 37. Pallani. |
| 15. Gadag. | 38. Serivelluputur. |
| 16. Bagalkot. | 39. Karim Nagar. |
| 17. Bijapur. | 40. Ramagundam. |
| 18. An na Road. | 41. Mancherial. |
| 19. Korataur. | 42. Kal Peta. |
| 20. Chikamanglur. | 43. Arsikero. |
| 21. Shimoga. | 44. Pallai. |
| 22. Davangere. | 45. Tirureveli. |
| 23. Uddipi. | 46. Khambabya. |
| | 47. Karwar. |
| | 48. Osmanabad. |
| | 49. Latur. |
| | 50. Surendra Nagar. |
| | 51. Dharengadhra. |
| | 52. Katni. |
| | 53. Mahuwa. |
| | 54. Ambika Pur. |
| | 55. Satta. |
| | 56. Chanda. |
| | 57. Chindwara. |
| | 58. Dhamtari. |

59. Jagdal Pur.
60. Godra.
61. Morvi.
62. Dewas.
63. Junagarh.
64. Manavdar.
65. Ratnagiri.
66. Cambay.
67. Narsingh Pur.
68. Botad.
69. Baramati.
70. Phaltan.
71. Sehore.
72. Porbandar.
73. Veraval.
74. Raniganj.
75. Durgapur.
76. Bhagal pur.
77. Mongher.
78. Mirzapur.
79. Dhenkenal.
80. Koraput.
81. Joy Pore.
82. Barabanki.
83. Faizabad.
84. Gonda.
85. Bardohi.
86. Jaun Pur.
87. Gangtok.
88. Adra.
89. Purulia.
90. Bolangir.
91. Biharsharif.
92. Chapra.
93. Bankura.

94. Gazipur.
95. Dadra.
96. Chirk.
97. Pipri.
98. Singhrauli.
99. Goal-para.
100. Bongai-gaon.
101. North Lakhim Pur.

L.P.G Connections in Delhi

2379. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that restriction
on new gas connections has been imposed
for the last few months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that
companies like Indian Oil Corporation etc.
sent letters to the consumers in Delhi whose
names had been on the waiting list for
5-6 years to take new gas connections in
their names and instructed the dealers not to
give gas connections to those persons; if so
the reasons therefor;

(c) when the persons possessing sanction
letters for gas connection for the last
3-4 months are likely to be provided gas
connections; and

(d) the number of new connection
proposed to be given during 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA
SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Indian Oil
Corporation and Bharat Petroleum
Corporation have restricted release of new
LPG connections in the last few months.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) As per policy in vogue, a consumer
can get the new connection anytime within
90 days of the date of issue of intimation
letter.

(d) Release of new connections in the
country including Delhi is made under the

annual enrolment programme of the oil industry and is determined by augmentation in availability of LPG, bottling capacity, transportation and other infrastructure.

Industries brought under Khadi Gramodyog Commission

2380. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of industries brought under the Khadi Gramodyog Commission and the number of persons who got employment as a result of these industries during the last three years; and

(b) the number of new industries proposed to be included in Khadi Gramodyog and the possibilities of expansion of these industries in Rajasthan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There are 26 village industries in addition to Khadi, under the purview of Khadi and Village Industries Commission. The number of persons who got employment under these industries during the last three years is as under :—

(in Lakh persons)

Year	Employment Khadi V. I.		Total Employment in Khadi and V. I.
82-83	13.61	20.73	34.34
83-84	13.59	21.92	35.51
84-85	13.05	24.84	37.89

(b) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission have submitted no formal proposal to bring new industries under the purview of Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act. Hence, the question of their expansion in Rajasthan does not arise.

[English]

Denial of Concessions under Liberalised Industrial Policy to Manufacturers of Inorganic Fertilisers, Drugs etc.

2381. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that under the liberalised industrial policy so far as MRTPL companies are concerned, no concession has been given to the manufacturers of inorganic fertilizers, drugs, newsprint, cement and four-wheeled vehicles (Motor cars); and

(b) if so, the reasons for which Government have excluded the above industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Recent liberalisations in industrial licensing policy such as de-licensing and redressment of capacity have not been extended to these industries for reasons of pollution control, conservation of scarce forest resources, infrastructure constraints, adequate capacity having been approved already etc.

[Translation]

Improvement in quality of Craft paper

2382. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India (F. C. B. M.) has expressed its concern over high cost and incompatible varieties of craft paper;

(b) whether Federation's Chairman, at its fourteenth conference held recently, has suggested that the manufacturers of craft paper should be asked to improve the quality and supply craft paper regularly on fair prices and that fifty per cent rebate in import duty should be allowed so as to make the import of craft paper more liberal till good quality craft paper is not produced; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government so far and other steps being taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Demands have been made by the Federation of Corrugated Box Manufacturers of India for reduction/abolition in import duty on kraft liner paper

and fluting media to enable the Industry to make available economical packages of internationally acceptable quality.

(c) Printed Cartons, boxes Containers and Cases falling under sub-heading No. 4818.12 of the Schedule to the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985 have been redefined and exemption granted from levy of excise w.e.f. 1.3.1986. The facility of duty free import of pulp, already allowed to the paper industry is also expected to contribute towards improvement in the quality of production of kraft paper and other varieties of paper by the Small Paper Mills who were hitherto mainly using un-conventional raw materials for production of these items.

[English]

Setting up of Industries in Hill/backward Areas

2383. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any industrial houses/companies have refused to set up industries in hill and/or backward areas during the past three years including the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, separately for each year and the action taken against; such houses/companies;

(c) whether there is any proposal to black list all those industrial house/companies who do not utilize their licences within three years of issue;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (e). The choice of location for setting up of an Industry is made by the entrepreneur himself. However, with a view to promoting industrial development of backward and hill areas, the Government has offered a number of incentives and concessions for setting up industries in these areas. If, subsequent to

his obtaining letter of intent/industrial licence, the entrepreneur finds it difficult to set up industrial unit at the location approved by the Government, he can seek approval for change of location. Such a request for change in location is considered on merits of the case in consultation with the State Government and the administrative Ministry concerned.

Ordinarily, a letter of intent granted for setting up of an industry is valid for a period of one year and an industrial licence is valid for a period of two years. If an entrepreneur, for some justifiable reasons, is not able to implement the letter of intent or industrial licence within the initially stipulated validity period, he can seek extension of time. Such requests for extension of time are considered on the merits of each case. Where Government is not satisfied with the progress of implementation of the project, the letter of intent/industrial licence granted for the said project is treated as lapsed/revoked.

Details, such as name and address of the party, location, item of manufacture involved and its capacity, in respect of the letters of intent and industrial licences issued are being published regularly by the Indian Investment Centre in their 'Monthly Newsletter'. This publication, copies of which are being sent to the Parliament Library regularly, also contains details of letters of intent treated as lapsed/cancelled and industrial licences revoked.

Use of Modern Technology for Locating Cable Faults

2384. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether large untrained staff including senior personnel are unable to cope with modern technology such as electronic digital exchanges and underground cables; and

(b) whether electronic cable fault locaters are not being used and instead old fashioned digging to locate faults is continuing leading to more damage to cables ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. Trained staff including senior personnel are associated with the introduction of modern technology of electronic telephone exchange and under-ground cables. The training is imparted to the staff periodically as and when required.

(b) Electronic cable fault locaters are being used in addition to other methods for the localization of underground cable faults.

Complaints regarding Excessive Billing and Dead Telephones

2385. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases field by consumer organisations and individual subscribers which are pending against the Telephone Department in different High Courts and Supreme Court in respect of telephone services in general and complaints of excessive billing and dead telephones in particular; and

(b) the action taken and proposed to be taken by the Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI

RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). The information has been called for from the concerned units and will be place on the table of the House as early as possible.

Indigenisation plan of Maruti Car, Van and Jeep

2386. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the initial import content percentage in the Maruti Car, Van and Jeep with details of machinery, colour and chassis of each category;

(b) the indigenisation plan of these items, item-wise details thereof; and

(c) achievements attained in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) The indigenisation plan envisages 95% indigenisation in the 5th year of production.

(c) While Maruti Udyog Ltd. has achieved projected indigenisation for in-house manufacture, there have been some short-falls in ancillary development. The cumulative indigenisation till March '86 is 36.92% for the car and 30.25% for the van. It is expected that targetted indigenisation by the 5th year would be achieved.

Statement

Category	1st year import content*	Engine Capacity and Horse Power	Colour	Chassis
1. Maruti-800 (Standard Car)	80.6%	796 cc 39.5 HP	White, Blue, Red, Brown and Green	Monocoque construction
2. Maruti 800 V/VT (Van)	77.2%	796 cc 37.5 HP	White, Blue, Red, Brown and Green	Chassis Integral with floor panel
3. Gypsy (Jeep type)	67.9%	970 cc 45 HP	White, Blue, Red and Green	Independent Chassis,

*N.B.—Excluding brief period of test production.

Setting up of Integrated Rural Energy Centres

2387. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has worked out a Rs. 500 crore plan for setting up integrated rural energy centres;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry is also proposing to implement the programme jointly with the Rural Electrification Corporation;

(c) whether the proposed plan aims to tap non-conventional energy sources; and

(d) if so, details of the programme that has been chalked out and by what time the same is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). The Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources is implementing a programme for village level integrated energy projects, based on non-conventional energy sources, and aimed at achieving energy self-sufficiency in villages. It is proposed to enlarge this programme in association with the Rural Electrification Corporation. The extent and phasing will depend on the financial resources that can be made available.

Yen Credit for Gas-Based Power Plants and Transmission Network

2388. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Japan has offered a special Yen credit for setting up gas-based power plants and transmission network in India;

(b) if so, the names of projects that will be assisted by Japan;

(c) to what extent the assistance will be provided;

(d) whether any agreement in this regard was reached recently; and

(e) if so, the details of the agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (e). A Press statement was issued on the conclusion of the Prime Minister's visit to Japan in November, 1985, regarding a package of economic assistance which includes a special credit of Yen 30 billion for a gas based power station at Kathalguri alongwith the transmission system for evacuation of power. A loan agreement is yet to be negotiated with OECF.

Deal for Soviet Technology transfer by Associated Cement Company

2389. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private sector has shown keen interest in the Soviet technology and the Associated Cement Company has negotiated a deal for technology transfer in cement manufacturing for their plants;

(b) if so, whether the Soviet Union has agreed to make available Soviet technology for the private sector;

(c) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has been reached; and

(d) the sectors in which Soviet technology has been provided to the private sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) to (c). A Foreign Collaboration proposal submitted by the Associated Cement Companies Limited with M/s. LICENS INTORG of U.S.S.R. for the manufacture of cement clinker at low temperature has been approved by the Government of India recently for which, the Associated Cement Companies have entered into an agreement with the Soviet Company.

(d) Details of all approved foreign collaborations showing the names of Indian and foreign firms, item of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published on a quarterly basis by Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its Monthly News Letter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to the Parliament library.

Industrial Progress of Orissa

2390. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the industrial progress in Orissa is very slow and the natural resources in that area have not been fully utilised;

(b) whether Union Government propose to pay special attention towards the development of industries in Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) On the basis of Annual Surveys of Industries, the latest available information about gross output and net value added in the factory sector units in respect of Orissa for the last five years is as follows :—

(Rs. Crores)		
Year	Gross Output	Net value added
1978-79	823.58	184.54
1979-80	941.54	229.58
1980-81	1024.21	198.15
1981-82	1306.20	231.03
1982-83	1253.88	361.08

Every effort is being made for fuller utilization of the natural resources of the State.

(b) and (c). The Union Government has been taking several steps for dispersal of industries and promotion of balanced regional development. The various measures taken within the frame-work of the Five Year and Annual Plans towards this end include location of public sector projects, industrial licensing policy, promotion of village and small scale industries, establishment of industrial areas and estates, infrastructural development, concessional finance, investment subsidy and transport subsidy, etc. As on 31st March, 1985, the investment in Central Public Enterprises in Orissa was Rs. 2997.74 crores, constituting 6.3% of the total Central Public Sector investment.

Development of Renewable Sources of Energy

2391. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to develop and promote new and renewable sources of energy in the country during 1985-86; and

(b) the number of villages to be covered under the integrated community rural energy centres in Uttar Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) As a result of intensive R and D activities and demonstration programme taken up in various areas of New and renewable energy sources, a number of technologies have been developed which have been found technically feasible for various applications including generation of electricity. Large scale Extension Programmes such as National Programme on Biogas Development, National Programme of Improved Chulha, Solar Thermal Extension Programmes have been launched throughout the country and are being expanded to the extent that financial resources permit. These are already providing and saving energy for lakhs of individuals and institutions throughout the country. Solar photovoltaic systems have been developed and are being increasingly deployed for electrifying remote villages and other small power needs. A programme for utilisation of wind energy for pumping and electricity generation is being implemented. Two wind farms for large scale electricity production have been set up and this capacity is being expanded. Projects relating to production, conversion and utilisation of biomass have reached the extension stage and biomass gasifiers for electric power production have also started to be commercialised. A number of energy self-sufficient villages have been set up and a programme initiated for a large number of villages, where energy for cooking, lighting and other needs of the entire village could be provided by locally available non-conventional sources of energy.

R and D activities have been intensified further to reduce the cost and improve efficiency of renewable energy systems,

(b) Village level integrated energy projects based on a combination of new and renewable sources of energy have so far been completed in seven villages in Uttar Pradesh. Such projects are under different stages of implementation in fifteen more villages in the State. It is planned to expand this further depending on the availability of funds.

New Technology in Electronics and Telecommunications

2392. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Institution of Electronic and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE) is planning expansion of its courses and has started new ones to meet the large manpower demands of new technology in electronics and telecommunications; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) IETE launched a correspondence Course for its Ganduateship Examination in 1981. It now offers Correspondence Course in 8 subjects in Section A of its Graduateship Examination. The Correspondence Course Unit of the IETE has plans for expanding its Course in the following manner :

- (i) The preparation of Study materials and imparting training through correspondence in 5 compulsory subjects of Section B of its Graduateship Examination.
- (ii) Starting a Correspondence Course for its Diploma Examination in 12 compulsory subjects.
- (iii) The IETE is also running a special evening course (Part-time) in the Advanced Level Computer Science.

Import of watch cases

2393. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether watch cases are imported although there is surplus capacity for watch-case making in the country; and

(b) if so, reasons for non-utilisation of the existing capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (b). Import of watch cases is permitted only on a selective basis after taking into account facilities/capabilities of indigenous watch manufacturers. It is mainly to meet the short fall in indigenous supply.

Transfer of Telephone System to a Telephone Corporation

2394. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to transfer the telephone system in some of the major cities in the country to a Telecommunication Corporation;

(b) whether Government intend to raise the resources for the proposed telecommunication Corporation by allowing foreign companies to invest in that Corporation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Government is setting up a Public Sector Corporation with its Registered Office in Delhi for managing the Telephone systems of Bombay and the Union Territory of Delhi. This Corporation will be under the Administrative control of the Telecommunications Board of the Government of India. The authorised share capital of this Corporation is Rs. 800 crores.

Closure of Industries in Faridabad due to Power Shortage

2395. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of industries are on the verge of closure due to power shortage in Faridabad; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to improve the position ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Power shortage in Haryana has affected the industries in the State including Faridabad.

(b) Haryana has been facing power shortage ranging from 6 per cent to 24 per cent during September, 1985 to February, 1986. The main reasons for power shortage have been low output at Faridabad and Panipat thermal power stations and short supply of its shares in Singrauli, Bairasiul and I. P. Stations. In order to improve the performance of Faridabad and Panipat thermal power stations, renovation and modernisation schemes for these stations have been approved and are being implemented. The Department of Power and the Central Electricity Authority have been making efforts to increase supply from Singrauli, Bairasiul and I. P. stations to Haryana.

Offer of Foreign Collaboration for Thein Dam

2396. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI
SHAKTAWAT :
SHRI P. M. SAYEED :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Punjab Government is considering the foreign offer to build the Thein Dam;

(b) if so, the name of the foreign collaborator;

(c) whether funds earmarked for Ropar Thermal Plant are being diverted for Thein Dam; and

(d) the total amount allocated by Union Government for Thein Dam ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The offers of assistance in regard to the Thein Dam

Project are being evaluated. The consortia of M/s. Impreglio—M/s. Kazima, and M/s. C. Itoh, M/s Shimizu, M/s. Hitachi have evinced interest in the Project.

(c) and (d). An outlay of Rs. 500 crores has been included for the Thein Project in the Seventh Plan. Funds have been earmarked separately for the Ropar Thermal Power Project.

Compulsory Energy Audit in Selected Industries

2397. SHRI G. M. BANATWALA :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal for introduction of compulsory energy audit in a number of selected industries; and

(b) if so, the names of industries selected therefor and other details of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Though the Government is trying to promote the monitoring of energy usage by industries, specially those which are energy intensive, there is no proposal at present to make energy audits mandatory. The energy intensive industries which have been identified, are iron and steel, textiles, chemicals, fertilizers, aluminum, cement, paper and collieries.

Rationing of Petrol

2398. SHRI G. M. BANATWALA :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposals are under consideration to curb consumption and induce more efficient use of petroleum products;

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

(c) whether there is any proposals to introduce rationing of petrol to individual consumer; and

(d) whether Government propose to consider preparing a national oil plan in all respects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Measures for conservation of petroleum products continue to be implemented in the country. Apart from instructions issued by Government for economy in non-plan expenditure, the Petroleum Conservation Research Association, set up by the Government in 1976, has been carrying out field studies in the organised sectors of industry and transport and education campaign in the unorganised transport, domestic and agriculture sectors. Besides, PCRA has sponsored development of fuel efficient equipment and devices.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The oil industry and Government draw up for every year an estimate of the requirements of various petroleum products together with a plan for meeting the same.

Functioning of New Electronic Telephone Exchange at Wadala, Bombay

2399. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the malfunctioning of the new electronic telephone exchange at Wadala, Bombay;

(b) whether a large number of telephones connected to the said '415' Wadala (Bombay) exchange generally go dead for anything between 15 to 30 minutes daily;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There is no malfunctioning of the new electronic exchange at Wadala. The exchange is functioning satisfactorily.

(b) It is not correct to say that a large number of telephones go dead for any time

between 15 to 30 minutes daily. Delayed dial tone was observed only on two days namely 10th and 11th February, 1986.

(c) The delayed dial tone observed on the 10th and 11th February, 1986 were due to specific hardware faults in the concerned equipment. These hardware faults were immediately identified and faulty printed cards replaced to remove the problem. The problem has not re-occured again.

(d) The hardware failure has been referred to the manufacturers to examine why such faults occur. The manufacturers are examining the matter. It may be said that in the initial stages after commissioning of electronic equipment, incidence of few hardware faults is not unusual.

Call for one day token strike by coal mine workers

2400. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal mine workers have given a call for a one-day token strike on April 9, 1986;

(b) if so, the demands of the coal miners;

(c) the reaction of Government to these demands; and

(d) the steps, if any, taken by Government to resolve the matter amicably and avert the said strike ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d). A Press statement has been jointly issued by five Central Trade Union representative calling upon coal workers to observe one-day strike on 9th April, 1986 in support of the demands mentioned in the said Press statement. The demands given in the statement given below are eleven in number and largely pertain to implementation of the National Coal Wage Agreement-III.

With a view to persuading the Trade Unions to abandon their move to organise the said strike, a meeting of the Joint

Bipartite Committee for the Coal Industry was held on 1st March, 1986 in which the Trade Union representatives were assured of the Industry's commitment to meet genuine demands of the workmen and were exhorted to maintain industrial peace. Another special meeting of the Joint Bipartite Committee for the Coal Industry has been held on 7th March, 1986 to further diffuse the situation.

Statement

List of Demand as submitted by Five Central Trade Union Representatives (INTUC, AITUC, CITU, HMDS and BMS) Calling upon Coal workers to observe one-day Strike on 9th April, 1986

1. Immediately restore the commitments unilaterally withdrawn by the managements such as providing jobs to dependents of employees died in harness and disabled permanently etc.
2. Implement the non-implemented welfare measures such as housing facilities, provision for drinking water, educational facilities, medical benefits and safety measures as per NCWA-III.
3. Ensure employment to dependent of retiring employees as per NCWA-III.
4. Immediate formulation of pension scheme for coal miners.
5. Finalise the uniform standing orders for the entire coal industry.
6. Increase ceiling of gratuity payment from Rs. 36,000 to Rs. 50,000 as per Central Government's decision.
7. Remove ceiling on bonus payment to coal workers.
8. Abolish contract system for jobs of permanent and perennial nature.
9. Finalise promotion policy providing for time bound promotion to all workers.

10. Withdraw all penal action against coal workers such as arbitrary deduction of 8 days wages, loss of lien and break in service.

11. Immediate finalisation of incentive scheme for coal miners.

Amendments to Advocates Act to debar practice by relatives of Judges in the same Court

2401. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Advocates Act to incorporate the code of conduct for the Advocates;

(b) whether the proposal will include prohibiting of practice by the Advocates who are close relatives of the Judges in the same Court; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Death sentence pending for confirmation by Supreme Court and High Courts

2402. SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases where punishment of death has been awarded and which come up for confirmation by High Courts and Supreme Court in appeal or revision; and

(b) the periods for which such cases are pending in the High Courts and Supreme Court (over one year, two years, three years etc.) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b). Information as furnished by the Registries of Supreme Court and High Courts is given in the statement given below.

Statement

Name of the Court	Number of Criminal Appeals and Special Leave Petitions (Criminal) Pending regarding punishment of Death :				
	Total	Less than one year	1-2 years	2-3 years	Over 3 years
(As on 5-3-1986)					
Supreme Court	7	7	—	—	—

Name of the High Court	Number of Confirmation Cases Pending, where punishment of death has been awarded :				
	Total	Less than one year	1-2 years	2-3 years	Over 3 years
(As on 31-12-1985)					
Andhra Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—
Gujarat	—	—	—	—	—
Kerala	3	3	—	—	—
Orissa	—	—	—	—	—
Patna	5	4	4	—	—
Punjab and Haryana	—	—	—	—	—
(As on 30-6-1985)					
Allahabad	2	—	2	—	—
Bombay	2	2	—	—	1
Calcutta	12	4	—	—	8
Delhi	—	—	—	—	—
Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—
Jammu and Kashmir	27	9	13	3	2
Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—
Madhya Pradesh	1	1	—	—	—
Madras	8	7	1	—	—
Rajasthan	3	3	—	—	—
Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—
(As on 31-12-1984)					
Gauhati	—	—	—	—	—

Price Hikes in Petroleum Products

2403. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that inflation was taken into account before price hikes in petroleum products were ordered recently as reported in the Indian Express of 28 January, 1986; and

(b) if so, the details of studies made in his Ministry in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). All relevant aspects including likely impact on general price level were taken into account while considering increases in administered prices, including that of petroleum products. The direct impact of recent price hikes in petroleum products on the wholesale price index is only marginal, on an analysis made in this regard.

[English]

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : rose.

(Interruptions)

PROF K. K. TEWARY (Baxar) : I have given a notice. We want a discussion on the powers of the Governor to accept resignations of Chief Ministers...

MR. SPEAKER : No like this...What is it ? Is it a 193 discussion ?...I will look into it. I do not know whether it is permissible or not.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you persisting ? I told you already that I will look into it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Unless I look into it, how is it possible ? It will be possible to permit only when I have looked into it. I shall consider it and let you know.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you sit down now when I have already replied to it once ? I have told you that I shall look into it. The matter is under consideration and if it is permissible I shall let you know.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have told you about it. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Chowdhary, listen to me. Why are you talking to him ? Please take your seat and you should address me. Mr Chowdhary, have you read that book.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : Yes Sir. In Haryana...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me. Have you written to me ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Have you read what is written therein ? About Governors it is stated...

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : If you tell me, I can move like that.

MR. SPEAKER : This is the book I have given you. You act accordingly.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam) : Yesterday in the course of his reply to the discussion on natural calamities our Minister of State for Agriculture, Mr. Makwana made an inaccurate statement with regard to my hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. He was making a statement stating that he telephoned to the house of the Chief Minister of my State and the PA of my Chief Minister said that he was sleeping. Actually it was an inaccurate statement. I want to say that there was no telephone connection at all in November. Actually it was disconnected on 23-10-85 and it was restored only on 7-1-86. It is an inaccurate statement made by the Minister,

MR. SPEAKER : You can give a notice under Direction 115. Further I want to make it very clear. What I mean to say is that sleeping is not a crime. Everybody in the world sleeps !

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : I suggest a discussion on Jammu and Kashmir should be allowed. Rajya Sabha had an occasion to do it.

MR. SPEAKER : We will do it....

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : We are always left behind the Rajya Sabha. This is very funny.

MR. SPEAKER : Who told you so, Sir ? There are certain subjects which we take up earlier. You cannot take up all at once. They also cannot take up all at once. It is not like an ordinance that we should follow them or they should follow us. They are equally important. They are equally authorised. They are equally responsible to discuss anything. So we do....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is a slur on the Parliament. I will not allow that. We are getting every subject discussed.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : But they get much more opportunities. I can show you the record.

MR. SPEAKER : Please show me. We discussed the price rise first and they discussed it later on. Do not have competition with the other House. They are equally responsible. They are equally our partners.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We have tried to raise, independently, here, but we have always been thwarted.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Who has prevented you ?

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I would take objection to that; I will pull you up for that.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, I have given notice.**...

MR. SPEAKER : No allowed. You cannot refer to it here. Mr. Kurup, you always do wrong things, at the wrong time and at the wrong place. It should not form part of the record. It is a wrong place; it is a wrong subject. It is the Assembly which has to take care of it.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot refer to it. It is the Assembly which has to take care of it. Sit down. Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)***

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. You are not concerned with it.

[English]

Why are you doing this ? It is my job to do.

Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

12.06 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Explosives (Amendment) Rules, 1985

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Explosives (Amendment) Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 511 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 1985 under sub-section (8) of section 18 of the Explosives Act, 1884.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2194/86]

**Delimitation of Council Constituencies
(Madras) Second Amendment
Order, 1985**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Delimitation of Council Constituencies (Madras) Second Amendment Order, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 868 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th November, 1985 under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2195/86]

Review on the working of Cycle Corporation of India Ltd. Calcutta for 1984-85, Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review on the working of Khadi and Village Industries Commission for 1984-85 and Statement for delay in laying these papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1984-85.

(ii) Annual Report of the Cycle Corporation of India Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General hereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2196/86]

(2) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working and Administration of the Companies Act, 1956 for the year ended 31st March, 1985 under section 638 of the said act.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2197/86].

(3)(i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay, for the year 1984-85 together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the Accounts of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the year 1984-85.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2198/86]

12.07 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : FORMATION OF A CORPORATION FOR BOMBAY AND DELHI TELEPHONE SYSTEMS AND ANOTHER CORPORATION FOR OVERSEAS COMMUNICATION SERVICE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :

I. Telephone Corporation for Bombay and Delhi/Mahanagar Telephone Nigam, Limited.

The Government have decided to entrust the management, control and operation of telephones, telex and other Telecommunication Services (excluding Public Telegraph Service) in the Union Territory of Delhi and in the areas falling in the Bombay Municipal Corporation, the new Bombay Corporation and the Thane Municipal Corporation to a Public Sector Company under the administrative control of the Telecommunication Board. This Company has been incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 and is expected to start functioning w. e. f. 1-4-1986. This new Corporation is designated as "Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited."

2. Two of the main objectives of the Corporation will be :

- (a) To establish, develop, provide, operate and maintain all types of telecommunication services including telephone, telex, telematics etc. but excluding the Public Telegraph Services.
- (b) To raise necessary financial resources for development needs for telecommunication services in the areas managed by the Company and also for the other parts of the telecommunication network in the country managed by the Telecom. Board.

3. By the close of the year 1985-86, the Bombay and Delhi Telephone Districts will have assets of the order of about Rs. 1200 crores. Rs. 600 crores will be treated as 'equity' and the balance as "loan".

It will have the authority to accept fixed deposits and resort to market borrowings through bonds etc. on terms and conditions and subject to annual limits as may be prescribed in consultation with the Government.

4. The telecom. services are a network service. A subscriber may make a call from a part of the network to any other part of the network as at present. A suitable formula will be formulated for sharing the revenue between the Corporation and the DOT, which will be reviewed from time to time according to the needs of the situation. The tariffs for various services including the new services, shall be fixed by the Corporation with specific prior approval of the Telecommunications Board. Similarly, the broad policy for introduction of new telecom. services and/or withdrawal of any existing service, will be subject to the approval of the Telecom. Board.

5. At present the Department of Telecom. is the sole authority for the operation of Telecom. Services in the country. The new Corporation will, therefore, be granted a licence under the Indian Telegraph Act for carrying out the business being entrusted to them. Under the Indian Telegraph Act and with suitable conditions in the licence, it would be ensured that the

operations can be taken control of by the Govt. in emergency conditions and also that the regulatory powers in the emergency conditions or in the interest of public safety now available to the Govt. will remain applicable to the network of the new Corporation.

6. The long Distance transmission systems will continue to be developed and managed by the DOT as part of the nationwide telecommunication network. Similarly, the planning and circuit allotment of Trunk Automatic Exchanges in Delhi and Bombay Metrocities shall remain under the control of the DOT.

7. The funds required for the proposed Corporation have been included in the Budget/Demands of the Department of Telecom. as per prescribed procedure. It is also proposed to give ways and means advances upto Rs. 25 crores to the Corporation to meet its immediate financial requirements.

II. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited.

The Government have since decided to convert the Overseas Communications Service, which is at present functioning as a Department of the Government of India, under the Ministry of Communications, into a wholly Government owned Public Limited Company. It will be called Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited, under the administrative control of the Department of Telecommunications. This Company is being incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 with its registered office at Bombay and is to start functioning with effect from 1-4-1986.

2. The main objectives of the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited will be :

- (i) to plan, provide, operate and maintain overseas telephone, telex and other telecommunication services to all parts of the World and from all parts of the country, through the national network wherever available according to its requirements; and
- (ii) to raise necessary financial resources for the development of overseas communications services of the country.

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha]

3. Since at present, the external telecommunications of the country are operated upon by Overseas Communication Service as a Department of the Government of India, the Company will be given a licence, under the Indian Telegraph Act for carrying on its business, with suitable conditions, on the pattern of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam. These would ensure that the operations remain under the overall control of the Government in emergency conditions and also that the regulatory powers in the interest of public safety now available to the Government remain intact.

4. By the end of Financial Year 1985-86, the approximate value of the assets of Overseas Communication Services will be Rs. 120 crores. Out of this, Rs. 60 crores will be treated as equity and the balances as loan to the new Company viz Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited.

5. The proposed Vote on Account for 1986-87 contains a provision of Rs. 6 crores for loan under Demand No. 13—Ministry of Communications (Capital Section) and Rs. 60.25 lakhs under Demand No. 14—Overseas Communications Service. The requirement of Rs. 6 crores is to meet the day-to-day working capital needs of the company for the initial months till they start generating their own revenues. This will form a part of the total working capital loan of Rs. 15 crores to be provided to the Company during the year 1986-87.

6. Vote on Account for Rs. 60.25 lakhs has been sought under Demand No. 14 of Overseas Communications Services for payment of salaries etc. to the employees of the Organisation for the month of March, 1986, payable on 1st April, 1986, from which date the conversion is to take place.

12.12 hrs.

STATEMENT RE : GRANT OF CERTAIN CONCESSIONS TO PENSIONERS

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC
GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI
P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, on the intro-

duction of the Liberalised Pension Rules, 1950, the Government servants, who were in permanent pensionable service on September 30, 1938, were allowed the following options :

- (a) coming on the new pension schemes i.e. to receive pension at 30/80 of emoluments plus death-cum-retirement gratuity; or
- (b) continuing under the rules in force on the 16th April, 1950 i.e. to receive pension at 30/60 of the emoluments; or
- (c) drawing pension under the rules in force on the 16th April, 1950 reduced by the Pension equivalent of the gratuity admissible under the new scheme and receiving in lieu of this reduction the death-cum-retirement gratuity as provided under this scheme.

2. In brief, the employees who chose (c) above, received the pension @ 30/60 (i.e. 50% of the emoluments) subject to having rendered the requisite qualifying service plus the death-cum-retirement gratuity, which was introduced for the first time under the Liberalised Pension Rules, 1950 with effect from 17 April 1950. They were however to receive pension reduced by the pensionary equivalent of the gratuity. This was a life-time commitment.

On the introduction of slab formula for computation of pension with effect from 1st April, 1979, the pension admissible to the employees has been increased for the first slab of Rs. 1000 to 50%, for the next slab of Rs. 500 to 45% and to 40% thereafter of the emoluments in addition to the facility of death-cum-retirement gratuity. The pre-1938 entrants who were low paid and are now very old—have been representing for discontinuance of the reduction in their pension by pensionary equivalent of the gratuity.

3. The Government have considered the matter sympathetically. I am glad to inform the House that the Government have now decided that the reduction of pension by the pensionary equivalent of the gratuity in such cases may be discontinued from the month of March, 1986 payable in April 1986 purely

as an ex-gratia measure to provide them much-needed relief. These pensioners would hereafter be entitled to full pension.

The affected pensioners will also be entitled to receive dearness relief on the full pension as admissible under the rules.

4. The Government have further decided that the past cases otherwise settled shall not be reopened. Recovery of pensionary equivalent of Gratuity where such a payment had been made consequent to revision of pension w.e.f. 1-4-1979, shall also be stopped, from the month of March, 1986 payable in April, 1987.

12.15 hrs.

STATEMENT IN EXPLANATION
OF HIS RESIGNATION FROM
THE OFFICES OF MINISTER
OF STATE IN THE DEPART-
MENT OF RURAL
DEVELOPMENT

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Nurg) : Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity for personal explanation so that my colleagues in the House, as well as my constituents and my countrymen at large, may know the correct facts. The matter is both serious and painful. It is serious because it affects the very sovereignty and integrity of our Motherland. It is painful because I have been mentioned in the charge-sheet relating to Ram Sarup's episode. The charge-sheet refers to me at two places. However, I am neither an accused nor a witness. In a way, this position itself establishes that there is nothing improper against me.

I understand that in the charge-sheet filed by the Special Police against Ram Sarup and other, my name was mentioned, though I was not an accused or a witness. Immediately I brought to the notice of the Prime Minister that in accordance with the best traditions of Parliamentary Democracy, I should tender my resignation as a State Minister of Central Government. The Prime Minister understood my feelings and accepted my resignation.

Sir, everybody in this House and outside knows of my journalistic careers, spreading

over thirty five years. This hazardous profession gave me opportunities to visit over hundred countries with different political persuasions—sometimes with eminent leaders like late Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, late Dr. Rajendar Prasad, late Dr. Radhakrishnan, late Shrimati Indira Gandhi and others; many times to World Olympics and Asian Games. I visited Taiwan also as a journalist and not as a Member of Parliament, along with other Indian journalists on the invitation of the Government of Taiwan, channelised through Ram Sarup, with whom I had neither any contacts before or thereafter. I am not associated with any of his society or Group or Committee or any such activities.

Sir, it is the duty of a Journalist to find facts and information and to report them to his newspaper for the benefit of the people of the country. It is a matter of considerable regret that Taiwan visit of mine, has been used to malign me as somebody associated with Ram Sarup. Even castle of sand would rest on a stronger footing than an accusation like this.

It is with some pride that I say before this august House, that all through my life, I have acted with honour and dignity, upholding the highest principles in private and public life. I had been closely associated with Mahatma Gandhi reporting his prayer speeches. Nothing would be more absurd than ever to imagine that I would even let down the country. I have never failed to uphold the honour and dignity of this House and of my country. I place my explanation before this august House to enable my colleagues to judge for themselves. Thank you.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : Sir, are we to be mute spectators ?

MR. SPEAKER : No. We have to do something about it. I really sympathise...

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Government must come forward with a statement on its own.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Sir, you promised that you will allow a discussion on this.

MR. SPEAKER : The only problem with me is that the case is subjudice. That is coming in my way. *(Interruptions)* I have received communications from other hon. Members of this House also. Unnecessarily, their names have been dragged in. It is paining me greatly. How can this thing go on like this ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : What is to be done ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Now they dragged in the names of the Ministers and they resigned. Tomorrow, if they refer to the Prime Minister, can you imagine what will happen ? This is a very dangerous situation. There was just a cursory reference and they had to resign and go !

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I recognise it. I value your views and I also share your views on this subject. That is what I told you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We have to find a way out. For that, I have to take your advice also. I want to settle this once and for all. This is something absolutely irrational.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Twenty first Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : I beg to move :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 10th March, 1986."

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That this House do agree with the Twenty-first Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 10th March, 1986."

The motion was adopted.

12.21 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

- (i) Need to check the underground water pollution caused by wastes released by Kanpur Chemical Works

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur) : There is urgent need to check the increasing pollution of the underground water caused by the chemical industries located at Kanpur city in Uttar Pradesh.

The effluents and other wastes of Kanpur Chemical Works in Anwarganj area of Kanpur are released over the ground and they are slowly seeping underground and mixing up with the underground water, thereby causing serious pollution. Due to this poisonous seepage, yellowish polluted water is oozing out of handpumps and wells in an area of 3 kilometres around the factory.

If immediate steps are not taken to check the seepage of these poisonous wastes underground, the entire Kanpur and the neighbouring areas are likely to be struck by epidemic and the underground water will be polluted. Therefore, the Government should immediately intervene and give clear instructions to the State Government to check the pollution of underground water.

[*English*]

- (ii) Provision of more airport facilities in Kerala

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : The Airport facilities in Kerala are absolutely inadequate in view of the increasing number of passengers who resort to air travel. At present, the State of Kerala has only two Airports, one at Trivandrum and the other at Cochin. It is indeed a pity that the major city of Cochin which is the industrial and Commercial Centre of Kerala does not have a civil Airport of its own. At Cochin, the Indian Airlines still use the Naval Air Base for operation of domestic flights in spite of the ever increasing air traffic.

It is, therefore, imperative to open a full-fledged airport at Cochin without further delay. So long as the airport at Trivandrum

is not declared as an international airport, it is doubtful whether this airport can cater to the multiplying need of passengers going abroad. Hence early arrangements may be made to declare Trivandrum as an international Airport.

Of course, an Airport at Calicut is under construction and the same may be expedited so as to serve the passengers from the Malabar area of Kerala. Kerala is the only southern State to which Vayudoot service is not extended. The socio-economic growth of Kerala can be accelerated by the introduction of Vayudoot services there at the earliest. The Government may please take necessary action in the matter.

(III) Need to increase the monthly and quarterly quota of Kerosene oil to Orissa

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : Kerosene oil is considered as one of essential rural commodities by the common man residing in the rural areas and urban too. But for last 3-4 months, the kerosene oil became scarce almost all over the country, especially in States like Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal etc. In Orissa, it is being sold at the rate of 5 to 6 rupees a litre, and that too, not available according to one's minimum requirement. It is understood that the Union Government is not supplying adequate quantity of kerosene oil to the State Government of Orissa according to their requirement, as sought by the State, which is one of the reasons for such scarcity. The second reason may be the utilization of kerosene oil in Diesel Pump Sets and Pump Sets run through purely in kerosene oil, used by the farmers and others, due to the increase in rate of High speed diesel oil. But the State is not provided with separate quota of kerosene oil to run the pump sets. The third reason may be defective public distribution system. The situation became worse due to shortage of power in the State, where the power cut is imposed more than 16 hours per day in rural areas, and 10 hours in urban areas.

I would request the Petroleum Ministry to kindly allot more kerosene oil to the State forthwith, to overcome this situation and increase the monthly as well as quarterly quota of kerosene oil, which has been reduced, as the State is facing acute shortage.

[Translation]

(iv) Necessary measures needed to ensure remunerative prices of agricultural produce to farmers

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL (Phulpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government to the plight of the farmers who constitute 80 per cent of the country's population. The Agriculture Prices Commission fixes the support prices for the farmers' produce. But, unfortunately, the agriculture produce is not purchased at fixed prices directly from the farmers. Most of the wheat and paddy is purchased from the traders at the procurement centres. Besides this, the farmer can produce paddy but he does not have the means of milling it himself thereby forcing him to sell his produce at cheaper rates. The Centre should therefore, order withdrawal of restrictions on the movement of foodgrains wherever they exist in any State. There is great resentment and disappointment among the farmers of Uttar Pradesh due to these restrictions. We are deeply pained when we see that great injustice is being done to the farmers and we are unable to safeguard their interests. The country is self-reliant in the matter of foodgrains today and even though we do not have sufficient warehousing capacity, there are restrictions on the movement of wheat and rice from one part of the country to another. A policy should, therefore, be formulated to enable free movement of foodgrains in the country. Due to the existing restrictions, the administrative machinery is constantly engaged in collecting money thereby depriving it of the opportunities to become more effective. Such restrictions should be immediately lifted to safeguard the interests of the farmers and to provide them much needed relief. Otherwise, the middlemen swallow the entire benefit and we are unable to safeguard the interests of the farmers. Lacks of paddy bags are rotting at the procurement Centres at present. We hope that the Central Government will seriously ponder over these important points and frame rules and regulations in the interest of the farmers.

(v) Need to set up branches of all Selection Boards for recruitment in Banks in Bihar

SHRI KUNWAR RAM (Nawada) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like

[Shri Kunwar Ram]

to draw your attention under rule 377 to the absence of an agency for recruitment to the banks in Bihar. There is widespread resentment among the people of Bihar over the delay in constituting a recruitment board, inspite of the fact that such a proposal has already been approved by the Finance Ministry. The youth in the State are unable to get suitable jobs in the banks. They have to face discrimination and favouritism. I, therefore, request the Finance Minister to issue instructions for opening branches of Selection Boards of all the banks in Bihar.

[English]

- (vi) Need to give assent to the Bill passed by State Government of Tamil Nadu regarding taking over of Madras race club

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): A Bill for the purpose of acquiring the business of the Madras Race club has been passed by both the Houses of Tamil Nadu Government on 23.1.86 and 24.1.86 respectively. The Bill was handed over to the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India on 27.1.86 for getting the assent of the President of India. Upto this day the Bill has not been assented to.

The Madras Race Club which is a company within the meaning of the companies Act 1956 is engaged in the business of running of horse races in Madras and Uthagamandalam including the business of intervene betting. The State Government were satisfied that the Madras Race club was being mismanaged and accordingly the State Government have decided to acquire the business of the conduct of the horse races so that the State Government or a corporation or company wholly owned by the State Government will conduct the business of horse race so as to subserve the interests of the race going public. The Bill was also modified by the State Government suitably so as to incorporate the views of the Government of India. But the assent of the President to the Bill has not been received so far that is from 27.1.86.

[Translation]

- (vii) Setting up of a Committee to look into the grievances of Small fisherman in Kutch, Mandvi and Budreshwar districts of Gujarat

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR (Kutch): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I give notice of the following matter under Rule 377 :—

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Members to an important matter. This matter is of utmost importance to me because I often get complaints from my electorate regarding it.

Sir, the big boat-owners are engaged in fishing in many parts of the country. In my constituency, big boat-owners are engaged in fishing in Kutch, Mandvi and Badreshwar and other Talukas thereby depriving the small fishermen of their livelihood. Due to this, thousands of small fishermen are setting poorer day by day and their standard of living is falling sharply. I had informed the local customs officials about it but they said that they could not stop anybody. Now-a-days, the Government are engaged in the upliftment of the poor and weaker sections of the society and are providing them assistance also.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to constitute a high level committee to look into it and find a solution to the problem immediately. I suggest that big boat owners should be allowed to catch fish only in water which is more than 45 feet deep thereby enabling the small boat owners to catch fish in water upto 45 feet deep. Or the Government should find other ways whereby the small boat-owners may be able to earn their livelihood properly.

[English]

- (viii) Need to give employment to land holders whose lands have been acquired in Ramgandam and Vishakapatnam in Andhra Pradesh for construction of National Thermal Power Station and Steel Industry

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): The Government is establishing industries in various parts of the country. Wherever they require land for

their heavy industries, they acquire the land through State Government. In the same way, in Andhra Pradesh, the Central Government undertakings have acquired land in Rangagudam for National Thermal Power Station for fertiliser factory of FCI and in Vishakhapatnam for the purpose of steel industry by the Steel Authority of India and for some other industrial projects. The land holders are losing their livelihood. So to avoid this, the Central Government have issued directions to the Land Acquisition Officer and the concerned industrial units to give employment to the persons whose lands have been acquired. But the policy is not being implemented in Andhra Pradesh by the management.

In view of the above, I request the Government to give clear directions immediately to implement the previous orders of Government to give employment to land holders in such industries upto the level of officer rank to save the situation and to provide the livelihood to poor land-holders to save agitations and frustration among the land-owners (in public) which led to police firing in Vishakhapatnam recently.

12.34 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET, 1986-87—
GENERAL DISCUSSION—
Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we take up further general discussion on the Budget (General) for 1986-87.

Shri R. Jeevarathinam to continue his speech.

[Translation]

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Yesterday I was saying that I am honoured to participate in the QUIT POVERTY programme of our dynamic Prime Minister. I would like to point that the indebtedness of Central Government is mounting up. As on 31.3.1986 the internal loans would be of the order of Rs. 80,642 crores and the external

loans Rs. 20,950 crores. With interest liability on both, the total indebtedness is likely to be of the order of Rs. 1,62,462 crores. If we calculate the per capita indebtedness, as we calculate the per capita income, then it comes Rs. 2321 per head. For paying the interest on foreign loan, the Government is taking loan from abroad. Our balance of payments is also not favourable. Not even 1% of the Gross National Product is earmarked for the repayment of internal loans. I want the Finance Minister to give thought to the loan repayment problem and do something imaginative in this regard.

The Government have invested Rs. 40,000 crores in public sector undertakings. Only the I.O.C is making profit and all other undertaking are incurring losses. The accumulated losses of National Textile Corporation are about Rs. 800 crores. The backbone of industrial development is the public sector undertaking. The Finance Minister must ensure the profitable working of public sector undertakings.

About 400 big undertakings and more than 80,000 small scale units in the private sector are reported to be sick. A sum of Rs. 4000 crores of public sector banks are blocked in these sick units. In these circumstances how can the Government augment its resources without increasing the taxes? If necessary, I suggest that the Government should not hesitate to auction these sick units in the private sector.

Sir, the Indian economy cannot flourish on the crutches of ever-growing subsidies. During the past three years, the subsidy amounts have gone up by 40%. According to the Finance Minister, in the 7th Plan the subsidy will be of the order of Rs. 40,000 crores. In order to ensure that the prices of essential commodities do not go up, the subsidy is given by the Government. At the same time, the Government have invested several crores of rupees in procuring foodgrains and stocking them for any eventuality like drought and flood. About 200 lakh tonnes of foodgrains are in stock with the Government. You can imagine the blocking of hundreds of crores of rupees in this. It is time that the hon. Finance

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil,

[Shri R. Jeevarathinam]

Minister plans to do something about the ever increasing subsidy that is crippling the economy.

According to the Finance Minister, in 1985-86 the collection of income-tax showed an increase of 36% and the reason for that is reasonable rate of income-tax. But in 1974-75 and 1975-76 the collection of income-tax shot up by 34% even without any reduction in the rate. But in 1976-77 the collection decline. It may happen similarly in 1986-87. The vigorous collection efforts launched in 1985-86 should continue in 1986-87 also. It is understood that huge amounts of income-tax is due from public sector undertakings like BHEL, IOC, ITI etc. Similarly, a sum of Rs. 1000 crores is due from private sector companies and industrialists. The collection of income-tax should be intensified.

Sir, the hon. Finance Minister has raised the standard deduction of Rs. 6000 to Rs. 10000. But the price-rise has offset this benefit. Hence I suggest that the income-tax exemption limit should be increased from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 20,000. By this, the revenue is not going to be very much affected. I welcome the increase in the rate of interest on Provident Fund to 12%. I take this opportunity to suggest that the interest rate on savings bank accounts should also be increased from 5% to 8%. The interest rate of 8% on one-year Fixed Deposits should also be increased to 10%. This will incentives for savings among the common people.

The unemployment among educated young men is increasing in alarming proportions. There is widespread frustration among the graduates who are unemployed. The Government must curtail its expenditure substantially. The extravagance of public sector units should be curbed. Through incentives and inducements, the black money should be put into productive use. The savings attitude of the people must be encouraged. By setting up industries in rural and semi-urban areas, employment opportunities must be generated fast. The younger generation have reposed their faith for prosperous future in the dynamic Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Their hopes should not be belied.

Before I conclude, I would refer to the recurring rumours about the impending closure of small Services Industrial Institutes in southern region. When the Finance Minister in his budget has given fillip to small industries by setting up a separate fund in I.D.B.I. At this juncture it will be unwise to wind up these Institutes. I demand that they should not be wound up at any cost.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI SUNIL DUTT (Bombay North West) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand before you, in all humility, overwhelmed with the feeling that on this sacred place stood, before me, those great leaders, thinkers and patriots who have moulded Indian history.

Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me to air my views on the Union Budget 1986-87.

And I am more happy for it is going to be my maiden speech since I become a Member of Parliament. For one year, I was silently and patiently sitting in this great House, listening to my worthy colleagues and senior parliamentarians, expressing their views towards building a great India, a great country. I request all my colleagues, to bear with me the same way, as I did for them the entire year, because my speech is a little lengthy.

We have heard so many Members speaking on this subject. Learned Members have enlightened the Assembly with their expert views.

Sir, it takes months for the best brains in the country, drawing richly from our previous experiences, to produce a well defined, balanced budget—which at least to them appears to be better than the last one—yet they come now here near to producing a perfect one, acceptable to all classes of our country.

Can any one produce a budget which does not affect any class of people and still run a country? We have to run the country, and taxes are our mainstay. Only a magician

could produce the kind of budget some of our Members want. Magicians are famous for creating illusions and that is what they are good at. They make a poor show when it comes to reality. Sircar and even the great Houdini made a living not from the currency notes that they produced on the stage, but from the humble helpings that they made into the pockets of people who come to them to be charmed.

No Finance Minister can make a Budget which does not, in some way or other, in some measure or other, goes to the pocket of the people, which does leave all classes of people untouched.

Therefore, our conceptions of a good Budget have to shed some of its myths, some of its frills. Its focus should be on the welfare of a country, especially the poor and downtrodden. Wrap it in the long range policies of the Government, but only properly, judiciously.

By all means, go for their pockets. But tax collection should be more selective. We should be very firm on which class to hurt most. It should be done with a delicate hand. You should know how far to go and when to stop. Feed the cow so that she gives you more milk, but never whip her to get more milk out of her.

During my recent visit to Bombay, a hoarding caught my eye. It was an advertisement for a popular brand of butter and the message was clear. I quote :

“STOP V. P. ING (WEEPING)
ABOUT THE BUDGET AND SING”
‘Un-Quote’

Unfortunately, Sir, you won't allow me either to weep or sing in this Great House. But you will certainly permit me to speak, and to speak on a subject which has not even found a mention in the Hon'ble Minister's Budget Speech. He cited all classes of this great country—from the richest to the poorest; he voiced his concern for the commonest of common people; he named almost all trades; industries; products from cigars to cigarettes and cheroot, but sadly, not the film industry.

The Indian film industry which is one of the largest in the country...*(Interruption)*

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : It is very similar to our profession.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT :...employing ten lakhs people on permanent and other basis, with an investment of Rs. 2,150 crores, and which shells out nearly Rs. 500 crores in the shape of different taxes to the Government treasury every year, is a non-entity. No mention in the budget. No relief.

But the hon. Minister did not really surprise me. I knew it was coming. I knew it at the time I watched him on TV when he advised his beloved wife how to get over the price hike and suggested her not to go to the movies that she was doing once in a week, and save Rs. 6 which she can use in other household needs, forgetting that how the hon. Finance Minister was going to tackle the deficit of nearly Rs. 400 crores in the revenue of State Governments (which they raise as entertainment taxes directly) which they would naturally seek from the Centre. The hon. Minister, however, did not suggest not to take alcohol, cigarettes, tobacco—which are clearly health hazards.

I am not trying to divert the attention of this august House from more pressing matters before us to the plight of film industry which some may call trivial. But the film industry has volumes to tell, bitter experiences, stories of woes.

I am making a plea for the existence of an industry that has given so much without taking any. Which media generates so much warmth and goodwill, spreads art and culture of our country abroad ? Who brings so much prestige and laurels for the country from the international forums with very little efforts from the government ? Who could ignore the contributions made by the doyens of Indian films of yesteryears, people who nourished the industry with their life-blood and faded away into oblivion, stars that still glitter on the firmament of Indian filmdom—Mehboob Khan, Sohrab Modi, Hamansu Roy, Devki Bose, S. S. Vassan, A.V.M. Chettiar, Prithvi Raj Kapoor, Moti Lal, Chander Mohan, Uttam Kumar and lately Sanjeev Kumar ? Others who came in the footsteps of the pioneers have done equally well; brought honours for the country—Shanta Ram, Raj Kapoor, Satyajit

[Shri Sunil Dutt]

Ray, Mrinal Sen, M.G. Ramachandran, hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, N. T. Rama Rao, hon. Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Shivaji Geneshan, Rajkumar of Karnataka, Prem Nazir of Kerala and many more.

A name stands out—the greatest patron of Indian Cinema : Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. At an age, when cinema was considered an evil, its artists held as outcaste, shunned by the society, looked upon with scorn, it goes to his vision for his discovery of this great medium; of its importance, its sheer power and vitality to project social and national issues effectively; to entertain and educate the illiterate masses of his beloved country.

Panditji, our greatest parliamentarian, with the true passion of a reformer, took the artists into his fold, instilling a new life to the moribund small group. He publicly solicited the company of film artists—radical and iconoclast that he was—when the industry was only emerging from its birth blues. He nurtured, pampered and guided the weakling, sick child, all the way till it attained the respect and prestige it enjoys today. It was during his term in office that a delegation of Indian film industry was sent to Moscow, way back in 1952. And rest is history. For the next 30 years Russians hummed Indian film songs.

A similar delegation was sent to USA, Middle East and Africa. Africans today learn Hindi to sing Indian songs. The great cultural thrust that our country made in the 50's could be rightly attributed to the films of this period and what Panditji had done for it. If Indian film industry is what it is today, it owes to this great man. If I stand before you as 'one from the film industry' addressing this august House, the credit goes to his great vision.

I pay my glowing tributes to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. And the people of Film industry never forgot him; they never lost sight of his dreams of a Great India, Secular India, United India and Progressive India.

Cinema has contributed richly towards national integration. If Hindi is understood throughout the length and breadth of this country, it owes partly to Hindi cinema. If

people croon Hindi songs in the unheard of places, it owes it to nothing else but Indian Cinema. In the lore of Indian cinema, some need special citation. Films which tamed such social ills, dowry, widow re-marriage, untouchability, the plight and rehabilitation of our hapless sisters who languish in brothers. These films told it a hundred times more eloquently than any other media.

Nothing gladdens the heart of a jawan, tired and war-weary, as the sight of the lovely heroine of silver screen, performing, crooning and dancing: just for him, only a few metres before him in all flesh and blood. Only a soldier could tell you how he must have felt. The sense of belonging, caring, the boost of morale that enthused him to take up arms and fight for the defence of motherland. We had done it every time our jawans donned their combat gears and went to the borders.

In the times of natural calamities film industry stood with and shared the misery of the people who became the victims of nature's fury. They raised money vital for the rehabilitation of the poor people uprooted from their habitats and belongings, to rebuild their devastated fields, to sow new seeds, to begin new life, new hope.

I want the hon. Minister and respectable Members to shed their notions, prejudices about the film world—of the glamour, flash lights, lavishly mounted settings, VIPs basking in the reflected glory of bejewelled ladies—whatever they are, and please listen to me with an open heart. I want you to take a journey through the backyards of film industry, the lacklustre, dark alleys which you have not known; the seamy side of this world which was kept away from you all the time by the blinding glare of flood lights. You won't see there only Ashok Kumar, Dilip Kumar, Dharmendra and Jitendra. They are not the film industry. They are the products of the film industry.

You will see there thousands of employees who sweat out behind the camera for a living. You will see the clapper boy; the light boy; cameramen, dance, costume, make-up, set, sound, stunt, light assistants; extras; dialogue writers; sound recordists and scores of others who work away patiently, as hard as anywhere else, to eke out a living for themselves and their families.

Life in the film industry is not all that rosy as it is painted in the media; the glow and glitter that catch our eyes in the glossy magazines. Inside the Showbiz is a grim story, a different story, far different.

Scores of people, brilliant stars, unsung artists perished here. Perhaps you don't know, Motilal and Chander Mohan, two great stars of yesteryears, died as paupers. Take the case of our great artist Meena Kumari. Her car and flat were auctioned by the Income-tax Department to recover her taxes, after her death when her flat should have been declared as a memorial of that great tragedy queen of Indian Cinema.

Now just look at the facts how big is the Film Industry which did not even find a place in the Budget speech :

1. No. of films produced in 1984	833
2. Box office collection during the year	Rs. 451.79 crores
3. Entertainment taxes collected	Rs. 330 crores
4. Other taxes (Approx.)	Rs. 100 crores

This Industry employs 3 lakhs people on permanent basis, 20,000 on casual basis and 5 lakhs in other places associated with film industry. It provides living for 10 lakhs of them, some in such unlikely places like cycle-stands, pan-cigarettewallahs, hawkers outside Cinema Houses all over the country; bill stickers, printers, publicity agents and hoarding makers, including the rickshaw puller who drops a couple after a night show—the poorest of the poor.

And the number of cinema theatres spread over the country (as on 31-3-1985) is 12,448; the number of people who make a beeline for these theatres is an incredible 1.3 crores—every day.

Compare this 1.3 crores of people to the less than 1 crore of people who travel by the great Indian Railways every day. A work-force of 17 lakhs wait on them round the clock. They have a full-fledged Ministry for long. Government has put an impossible 10,377.3 crores in this sector. This Depart-

ment has the best means of income in the country. Yet for all its mammoth size, frills, last year they brought to the exchequer exactly 270.10 crores—as compared to the 500 crores that film industry had contributed to it during the same year with no financial involvement of government, the whole of 2,150 crores of investment in the film industry (1,600 on theatres and 550 on others) having been raised entirely by the private sector over the years.

I know my comparison is not good, but it is not absurd either. I only wanted to drive my point to you—of the Government's apathy to this industry.

Some more statistics if the story of film industry has started to amuse you :

1. Film production cost Rs. 250 crores 1984-85
2. Import of feature films 100 Nos.
3. Import of raw cine films (canalised imports) Rs. 9.10 crores.

The number of film magazines are a staggering 500 in all languages. Did anybody doubt our literary? Apart from that, magazines, newspapers devoting a page to films are about 1,800. These columns are very popular. So the 500 magazines dealing exclusively on films provide jobs to thousands more—the staff, writers, photographers, printers, bookshops etc.

Apart from the above, there are over 60,000 video parlours/theatres and about 30,000 video libraries in the country, who also depend heavily on film industry, though illegally. Believe me, but it is true. A plastic case anything 3 × 7 inches in size, weighing anything 150 grams is tolling the death of a giant industry.

An astronomical sum of Rs. 1,000 crores is involved in the video piracy racket. Video shops are money minting centres. They operate everywhere in the country and generate a glut of black money.

The pirate racket is draining the country's economy profusely. If this Rs. 100 crore is funnelled into the legitimate earnings of film industry to which it rightly belongs, just reckon the size of revenue the government could pocket.

[Shri Sunil Dutt]

Besides, the pirate network is nailing the coffin for over 12,000 cinema houses across the country, which are doing legal business; and the lakhs of people they find employment.

A few of you might know, Annuity is a scheme introduced by the Government same time back to channel the earnings of film professionals into nation building efforts. This was also a ploy neatly disguised to mop up black money from this sector of professionals. Under this scheme a producer deposits portion of remuneration payable to the artists direct into the LIC where it is funnelled off into for development activities of our government. We are only glad. And when the money is repaid at the end of a term it is duly taxed. We have no grudge. All fair and iustice. Law of the land. But that was in the beginning. Taking inspiration from a most unimplied implication from a Supreme Court case CWT (Orissa) vs. V.R. Badrinarayan Moorthy Raja (1985), they have started happily taxing the annuities, *i.e.*, the outstanding remuneration. Their logic: they think the outstanding remuneration in the annuity scheme amounts to one's wealth.

I am not going into details. The case in question is very familiar to the Government. There have been many petitions to the Government, and from Government, some tart, evasive replies.

But is it right to tax a wealth which is no wealth, which has virtually of no use to the owner? Once the money is thus parted, it goes for good. The owner does not see it again until the money is due for repayment years later. During all these years the owner of the money has no right on this money, no use whatsoever. He can't raise a loan on it, no bank would give a loan on the surity of this co-called wealth. On the contrary, if he owns a house, a car or jewellery, he can do all these and more. These are his wealth, rightly.

13.00 hrs.

Similarly, the film industry has been pleading for the last 20 years for a reduction in the exorbitant excise duty levied on release prints of feature films but to no

avail. The more prints you take, the higher climbs the excise duty. It can reach upto Rs. 30,000 per print which far exceeds even the cost of the print. Reduction in excise duty is essential to enable the producer to make more prints to recover his investment and to face the threat posed by video pirates.

In the new Budget, the custom duty on raw-stock has been increased. Similarly, the excise duty on exposed film has also been increased which together entails the film industry an additional tax burden of over Rs. 8 crores. If that is what the Central Government is doing, our State Governments are not doing any better for the film industry at their ends. In some States, the entertainment tax is as high as 180% of the value of ticket. Entertainment tax constitutes the largest single chunk of a ticket's cost. So, who is getting hurt? Who is being exploited? It is the poor—for whom cinema is the only source of entertainment.

Millions of rupees are spent from the national exchequer for the people's health, welfare, sports and education. If health and education are important, so is entertainment. Why do they deprive the poorest of the poor his only means of ready entertainment? Why do they rob him off his joy, a respite from all worldly troubles, sorrows, fatigue; a refreshment for his aching body and mind which he so looks forward to with much relish? Here I am reminded of a saying of the eminent philosopher Bertrand Russell: I quote

"Leisure is an important of development and the development of leisure leads to development of economy itself." 'un-Quote'

In a nutshell, film industry is the most heavily taxed, most cruelly ignored and very badly misunderstood in the country today. Her plight is like that of a cliff-hanger we used to see in so many films of the past.

There was this lovely damsel hanging on to the cliff-edge, her strength straining, hands about to give away, gasping out her S.O.S! But who cares? The hero who if supposed to help her is engaged in a fierce fight to the end with the villain. But all the time we knew pretty well that the hero will overcome

the villain, fling him over the cliffside and rescue his lady just in time.

But hardly did the film industry know that one day she would be made to hang on to such a fate in real life. And while she is hanging, our hero, i.e. the hon. Finance Minister is looking the other way unconcerned.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I am listening to your speech this way.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Daga is patiently listening to the whole speech.

SHRI SUNIL DUTT : Sir, film industry today is a cliff-hanger. Will she lose her grip, she is near to that, a deep gorge beckon her from far below from where there is no return. Does anybody listen to her heart-breaking cry of despair ?

Dear hon. Speaker, hon. Deputy Speaker, hon. Ministers and my hon. colleagues, I stand before you not as a film industry's spokesman but on behalf of lakhs and lakhs of people for whom the industry's downfall may spell doom. For a while, I have donned the cloak of a captain of this big beautiful ship, fast sinking. Somebody has to do the job. I plea for its rescue, like the legendary Moses who stood in the Court of the Egyptian Pharaoh to plead for his clans. I believe, it is providence that brought me to this high court of citizens of our great country so that I can plead for my people, who are not strictly the people of Indian film Industry but the entire people of the whole country, the poorest of the poor, the commonest of the commoner amongst them.

Kindly don't see this as a passionate stage act put up by Sunil Dutt. My heart wrings as I say this. I am pleading for an industry, profusely bleeding, fast slipping away to grave—to sing the requiem which none of us like.

My pleas are :

1. Give this industry a status of industry so that banks are empowered to grant loans for its projects.

2. Abolish wealth tax on Annuities of film actors and other film professionals. They should be treated at par with doctors, advocates, architects etc.
3. Excise duty on release print should be reduced so that producers could take as many prints as they want, to defeat video pirates.
4. Initiate a dialogue between Centre and States for fixing a reasonable rate of entertainment tax.
5. Formulate stringent laws for eliminating the video piracy racket from the country.

My plea is only for a change in the attitude, in the approach. A little more goodwill, encouragement for its sustenance and to keep it in place. Like in the last, most gripping scene of THE DAY AFTER, the grave, chilling voice filling the frightful silence and darkness, I put this question across to the conscience of this great Assembly of Indian democracy. An SOS from the Indian film industry :

"Anybody there ? Anybody at all ?"
Film Industry needs another Jawaharlal
Nehru

[Translation]

*SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH WALIA (Patiala) : Sir, the Finance Minister has tried his best to prepare the budget in accordance with the slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' but the whole budget is urban biased. The rural people, the agriculturists and the farmers have been completely ignored. We used to import foodgrains worth crores of rupees but now we do not have to do so. The farmers of Punjab have given a lead in this regard. They are the pioneers. They have produced foodgrains in such large quantities that India is now self sufficient in food. It is a bad precedent to announce taxes and levies before the budget. You have increased the prices of petroleum products, cooking gas and other essential articles at a time when their prices in the international market are going down. You have increased the prices and you claim that it will not add to inflation.

[Shri Charanjit Singh Walia]

But the impact of these prices will be felt after 4 or 5 months when they will shoot up by at least 20 or 25%. You have not thought of the farmers of Punjab and India. The Akali Dal and Sikhs of Punjab depend on agriculture and 80% of the people of India are engaged in cultivation. You have weakened the farmers of Punjab and crushed the farmer of India. You should have given more incentives to the farmers. You should have reduced the prices of his inputs, given him remunerative prices for his produce and also offered him incentives for diversification of crops.

13 07 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

In my opinion this is an urban biased budget. For a long time we have been hearing that the Government wants to introduce ceiling on urban property. Agricultural reforms are a good thing. You have introduced ceiling there but I do not know why you have not taken the most radical and progressive decision for erradicating poverty; that is to put ceiling on urban property. For this you should bring legislation at the earliest. I would submit to the Finance Minister that if the Prime Minister is sincere, if the Government is sincere, if the ruling party is sincere, the ceiling must be introduced. You should do this for the welfare of the people of India. Specially if you want to shatter black money and parallel economy, you must impose a ceiling on urban property and distribute all the money and property among the poor and needy people.

I think that our Government exercises discrimination against many sections and Punjab is the worst victim. Punjab has ushered in agricultural revolution. Now we are trying to generate as much power as we can. Punjab has exhausted all the hydropower potential. After that Punjab has set up two thermal plants but they are very expensive because the coal is too far away from Punjab. That is why what we need most now is atomic power plants. In July 1982 a central team had gone to Punjab to survey the feasibility of setting up atomic power plants and had recommended the

setting up of one atomic power plant at Patna in Patiala district and one at Chamkaur Sahib in Ropar district. I want to ask the Government why no action has been taken. Action should be taken in this regard at the earliest and the atomic power plants should be set up in Punjab.

Punjab has been a victim of a long chain of discrimination. You know what type of conditions are prevailing in India these days and what type of conditions were created in Punjab by the previous Government during the last 3 years. Sir, you know that a peaceful morcha was going on in Punjab in a constitutional manner. History and past record will bear me out that ever since the Akali Dal came into being in 1921, many morchas were organised for the freedom of the country and for the rights of Punjab and all these morches have been peaceful and non-violent. The present morcha was also non-violent. It is our principle and belief that there should be no violence of any kind. We have not indulged in any violence. The Government should appoint a commission to probe as to how extremism has been created and how terrorism has been generated. Some influential and political persons belonging to the previous ruling party and some other people created such an atmosphere which led to terrorism. Sikhs are neither extremists nor terrorists at all. For the freedom of the country we have made sacrifices which are greater compared to our numbers. When democracy was wiped out from India, the Akali Dal and the Sikhs fought vigorously to revive it. It was as a result of the Akali Dal morcha that democracy was restored. If today we are sitting here, hon. Member are sitting here, this is the result of the sacrifices made by the Sikhs and the Akali Dal. Whenever there was a foreign attack, whether it was from China or Pakistan we have fought and died and shed the last drop of our blood for the freedom of India. I want to assure you that we shall continue to fight for the freedom, unity and territorial integrity of India till our last breath and till the last drop of blood. But in spite of all this we are painted as extremists and patriots like us are dubbed as traitors of India. In the last Lok Sabha elections, the ruling party and our Prime Minister contested the elections on the basis of our Anandpur Sahib resolution and

created a type of atmosphere which they should not have.

We want that more autonomy should be given to the States. The two most powerful countries of the world, USA and USSR which have a federal character, have given more autonomy to the States and in spite of that they are very powerful countries. If India gives more autonomy to the States, how India can become weak. On the contrary, India will become strong and as powerful as those two countries. I would therefore submit that the States should have a greater federal character and greater autonomy. We should all make the States strong and by doing so make our country strong. It is possible if more autonomy is given to the States and I would request the Government to ask the Sarkaria Commission to submit its report at the earliest. After that, our Prime Minister who has initiative and dynamism and who is energetic but is surrounded by a powerful lobby, should take initiative in order to improve the atmosphere. He signed the Punjab accord as well as the Assam accord but they have not been implemented. He says that he is sincere and he will implement them. But I think that he is failing in his job. He is the only person who can get it implemented.

We have paid a heavy price. Our President who had signed the accord had signed it with his blood and had made a great sacrifice so that the atmosphere in India and Punjab could remain cordial. But now the whole responsibility rests on our Prime Minister who is the survivor of that accord. On 26th January Chandigarh was not transferred to Punjab and this is the greatest non-implementation by him. The more this matter is delayed, the more vitiated the atmosphere will become. Hundreds and thousands of innocent people are still in the jails. They are languishing in the Jodhpur and Ajmer jails. Simaranjit Singh Mann is in jail. Prof. Darshan Singh Ragi is still in jail. So long as these things are not rectified, you cannot win the confidence of the sikhs. I think that the ruling party and the Government should win the confidence of the minority. This will be a good thing to do. The ruling party is losing the confidence of minorities day by day.

Every day the law and order situation in Punjab is talked about. We suggest that you make a survey of all the States of the country, get the statistics, get the facts and then compare them. You will find that it is not worse in Punjab as compared to other States. There should be no killings, no political murders. But is there any State where killings do not take place? I don't justify it. But why Punjab is isolated? It should not be like that. When these incidents took place in India special laws were made for the sikhs, special courts were set up for them and the Evidence Act was changed. Is it not discrimination against the sikhs? Our hon. Prime Minister Madam Indira Gandhi was assassinated. It was a very bad thing. It was condemnable. No body on earth can appreciate it. But after that thousands of people were killed and butchered like anything in Delhi, Kanpur, Bokaro and all other parts of the country. May I ask FIR's against how many people were registered by the Government? How many people were convicted?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH WALIA : Sir, I am the only member speaking on behalf of my party. How many people have been arrested? Every guilty person is roaming about freely. No law has been made to deal with them and if at all any person was arrested under the law, no action has been taken. Is it not discrimination? These conditions can improve only if our Prime Minister implements the agreement made by him, I am surprised that some responsible persons close to him issue statements every day and are complicating the matter and putting the Prime Minister in an awkward position.

At the time of the Asian games all the sikhs were not angry but by insulting decorated generals, high officials and women on the way all the sikhs were made to feel angry. I would therefore request the Prime Minister to break the vicious circle of such persons, ask them to keep quiet and implement his own accord sincerely and in right earnest.

[Shri Charanjit Singh Walia]

We are being discriminated in the matter of water and industries. You have given 4 or 5 projects and you say that they will create employment opportunities but not even one percent Punjabis are being employed in the Central projects. Will the Government do something in this regard?

I request the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister that they should win the confidence of the sikhs. We have been great patriots, even today we are patriots and in future also we shall remain patriots. Even the last drop of our blood will be shed for the freedom of the country and we shall continue to fight for its integrity and unity. Have faith in the sikhs. Consider them as patriots and do not doubt their *bona fides*. Our President Longowal Sahib has sacrificed himself in an effort to make the atmosphere in the country genial. The Prime Minister should implement the accord in all sincerity and smash the vested circle both administrative and political, which is coming in the way of implementation. With this request I oppose this Bill.

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (Katiyar) : Sir, at the outset, I would like to congratulate the Finance Minister for the commendable attempt which he has made in the present circumstances and if he is not appreciated for that, it would be injustice with the Finance Minister.

The budget is of course a balanced one, but along with that it is aimed at the achievement of the objectives about which our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, had made a commitment to the poor people of the country during the last elections. It is a step in that direction. We especially appreciate the Finance Minister that he has tried to touch every section of the society that has remained backward due to one reason or the other and that could not get opportunity to live in the society with the prestige and dignity that they had expected.

Especially, the increase effected by the Finance Minister in the allocation for the anti-poverty programme by 65 per cent indicates that the Government do not merely raise the slogan of removing poverty, they are really committed to the achievement of

this objective. Our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had given the slogan of 'Garibi Hatao' and had started programmes to achieve this goal. I am thankful to the Finance Minister for laying more stress on those programmes and for taking steps and making allocations for their speedy implementation.

Alongwith that, under the 'Indira Housing Scheme', meant for the Adivasis and Harijans who have been shelterless for years together, a provision of Rs. 125 crores has been made. It is a very important step to benefit a large number of people by this Scheme.

Another new scheme has been introduced by the Finance Minister for riksha pullers, washermen, barbers, hawkers and other people who are economically weak, who are hard-working but are unable to do anything due to lack of resources. Under that scheme, subsidised loans would be presided to them which will prove to be very useful for them. By this scheme it will be possible to reduce unemployment in the country to a certain extent.

In our country, the small sector is an important sector. Whereas we are starting big industries under the public sector, the small scale industries are like the back-bone of the country. We are increasing our exports through the small scale industries, opening the doors for industries and avoiding concentration of capital in a few hands. The Finance Minister has granted concession in excise duty by which approximately 85 per cent of the small scale industries in the country will be benefited.

It has been said that our Government have been paying more attention to the private sector and have been sympathetic towards them. This budget has proved as to how we had started the public sector and how we have been strengthening our public sector since independence of the country. In the present budget, an increase of 20.5 per cent investment in the public sector indicates that we want to strength this sector.

Besides, infrastructure is essential for the development of any country. If we have ample infrastructure, we can easily make

progress in the field of industrialisation and in other fields. Energy, Railways, transport, etc., are the basis to strengthen the infrastructure of our country. Taking these things into consideration, this budget has been presented and there will be an increase of about 23 per cent in our infrastructure. It is a useful step for the progress and development of our country.

We also find that the children of the capitalists, politicians and of the privileged class people can study in the Public Schools and receive good education. But the poor living in the backward areas have no means to provide good education to their children. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister for introducing a new scheme of opening Model Schools for imparting education to the children of the poorer sections of the society and allocating Rs. 25 crores for this purpose.

In our Seventh Five Year Plan, special emphasis has been laid on Human Resources which includes education, health, women's welfare, culture and broadcasting. About 40 per cent more funds have been allocated for this purpose. All these things clearly show that the present budget is a balanced one and efforts have been made therein to benefit the poor and the backward people of the country.

In the end, I would like to give one suggestion. The hon. Minister has exempted the bulk drugs from excise duty. Its purpose, I think, is to help the poor who are unable to afford medicines, but it appears that this will not be helpful to the poor to the desired extent. You have exempted about 41 bulk drugs from excise duty but have raised excise duty on other drugs by 2 per cent. You have exempted excise duty only on the life-saving drugs which are not commonly used. The life saving drugs are rarely required by the people in life, whereas the medicines of daily use for minor ailments like fever, cough, cold, etc., are generally needed by the poor people and they face difficulties in purchasing them. Hence, I would like to request the hon. Minister to exempt the medicines which are of daily use for small ailments from excise duty so that the poor may be able to afford them.

With these words, I once again congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for presenting such a budget and I thank you also.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT (Kannauj) : I rise to support the Budget presented by the Government for the year 1986-87 and to specifically congratulate the Finance Minister for having produced a budget with an anti-poverty thrust which will translate the resolve of this Government to eliminate poverty. The hike in allocation by 65 per cent of funds to the anti-poverty programmes (which were frozen last year) *i. e.* IRDP, NREP and RLEGP and the like is a very heartening feature. Government's commitment to the improvement of the lot of the rural poor and strengthening of rural infrastructure towards better growth of agriculture has been assuringly and adequately reflected. Another major worry which was exercising the brains of many was the fear of the possibility of collection of adequate resources to fund the Plan. This also has been belied as the Central Plan is to be stepped up to Rs. 22,300 crores, *i. e.* by over 20 per cent. Yet another area of concern and doubt was the quantum of assistance to States, specially by our worthy colleague in the Opposition. This also has been provided for by a 21 per cent hike in assistance for Plan Outlay to States.

What is most reassuring is the fact that the new and revolutionary direction given to the nation's Fiscal Policy last year, continues. There is no retreat from the liberalisation and rationalisation of fiscal measures initiated and announced last year.

Lowering of tax rates for better compliance and tightening of tax administration has obviously paid. Figures estimate rise in revenue by 24 per cent in 1985-86, the largest ever rise, I believe in a single year. Income Tax collections too have registered a 36 per cent increase. For both, the Finance Minister needs to be applauded.

Taxes for collection of needed revenue have been rightly imposed on luxury items like cars, air-conditioners, etc. On the other and needed concessions have been announced to give relief to and a boost for the growth of small scale units and the crucial handloom

[Shrimati Sheila Dikshit]

sector. Industry and business have been given relief by way of simplified levies and production inducing incentives besides concessions in Wealth Tax and computation of capital gains.

All this apart, the budget also reflects a strong emphasis on industrial growth with special reference to public sector performance, a concern and a commitment which has so often been voiced by the Prime Minister.

Several suggestions come to mind. But I would like to put forward for the serious consideration of the Finance Minister, a request to ensure to evolve mechanisms that all programmes and schemes launched in the name of IRDP, RLEGP and NREP are well conceived, well-planned and well chosen right from the district level. Above all, it must be ensured that projects are faithfully and actually implemented. Funds released for projects must not be allowed to enter the market as just money supplies. Tangible and real assets must be created. One of the major causes for non-implementation, non-creation of assets, besides other several well-known ones to all of us, is the delay in the release of funds. March descends upon districts like anemesis, funds are suddenly released for the various projects and schemes, but what is more absurd, these funds are required to be spent before the D-Day, i.e. 31st March. Suddenly targets are to be fulfilled, to be achieved and they are, but on paper! The Finance Ministry must ensure a steady and continuous release of funds and their reaching the target well before the deadline. Attention must also be paid to local availability of adequate infrastructural services and conditions to complete projects.

In the area of indirect taxation, the Finance Minister has correctly taken measures to stem the cascading effect of taxation. The introduction of MODVAT is laudable. But its relief must not be nullified by its mechanism. Its benefit must reach where it is intended to, i.e. to industrial units under the small scale sector and more importantly to the consumer. An innovative and pragmatic approach ensuring these two objectives as applied by you, Hon. Finance Minister, to direct taxation is called for in indirect taxes also.

The withdrawal of the benefit under Section 80M of Income Tax Act is causing some misgivings. It must be carefully examined to ensure that investments specially by medium scale industries do not get diverted from the priority sector where returns are normally low, to non-priority high profit yielding areas. The same vigilance, I believe, and would like to suggest should be exercised in the operation of the Funding Scheme. The temptation to make full use of the scheme of deposit with the IDBI first before investing may slacken the pace of growth. The absence of an urgency to invest and instead avail of concessions could result in slowing investment into industrial ventures.

Whilst every effort has to be made by the Government to collect taxes and create an atmosphere whereby evasion is considered a genuine and inescapable crime, there is need for combining firmness with tact. In this context, I would like to suggest for the consideration of the Finance Minister the recruitment and involvement of women officers in this thankless job specially trained for the purpose. I am confident, women officers will exercise and give to the raids and other similar exercises officers just that touch of the special talent which combines sagacity with resolve.

In conclusion, I would like to say that last year's budget created a prelude to rapid growth with savings. An unpremeditated and phenomenal boom in investments involving and attracting even those sections of society which had hitherto never concerned themselves with purchase of shares and investment in industry was witnessed.

Given the will, I reiterate the will this enormous potential can and will turn our economy into a sustained growth of output and employment, based on a just, social and equitable order.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO (Berhampur).
Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Central Budget is not a mere statement of Receipts and Expenditure, but an instrument of economic growth. Viewed in this context, the Budget of this year is a continuation of the Budget of the previous year and a projection of the Budget of the next year. Our economy was strengthened by a series of Five Year Plans and it become self-reliant and self-

generating. We are able to raise the resources—the interant resources—for our plans though to some extent marginally, we have relied on foreign aid. So, the responsibility is now greater on the people of India to contribute their mite for the successful implementation of the Plans. Sir, the revenue collections last year have been phenomenally higher. There was an increase of 37 per cent collections, highest in the recent decades. That shows with the tax structure which has been amended or modified last year, has borne fruit. But at the same time, raids are being carried out on suspected persons, businessmen and tax-evaders I welcome this. But in this process some indiscrimination also is being shown and without proper care, searches are made.

I know of a case where District Court Lawyer in a mofussil was also searched. He is nothing when compared to smugglers or blackmarketeers or tax-evaders. The search revealed only a sum of Rs. 3,000 in the House. Therefore, I say that more care should be taken when information is received by the Department about such persons.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : May I inform you that we are doing an exercise of laying down the ground rules for such instances. We are coming with the ground rules and we are making this exercise.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : You said that yesterday. Thank you, Sir, I don't suspect the motives of the Department, but only bound to be...

(Interruptions)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : We are taking care of that.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : Sir, last year, I think the Finance Minister said, payment of Rs. 10,000 or more, should be by way of cheque and not in cash. I would like to know if the Income Tax authorities while scrutinising the returns of assesseees have been able to find sums beyond Rs. 10,000 which were received by the assesseees by way of cheque or in cash? There are leading professional people, such as Doctors, Lawyers, Consultants, Architects and so on in metropolitan cities. I would like to know whether the raids are conducted in the

premises of these big professionals and that would give us the clue whether the condition imposed last year by the Finance Minister is being followed or not.

Sir, agriculture is the base of our economy. It has done very well—exceedingly well. I remember the days in the 60s when everything was in short supply. It was an era of shortages. Agricultural production has now doubled, or even trebled. The credit goes to Punjab and Haryana. But other States have not increased their production to that extent. They have not even doubled it, not to speak of trebling. Steps have to be taken to see that all the States become self-sufficient and are able to create surpluses for their own purposes.

I can understand that during natural calamities the States can draw on the Centre for help. We are undertaking huge irrigation and river valley projects. I would suggest that unless they are multi-purpose projects like irrigation and power, hereafter our attention should be on minor irrigation such as tanks, open wells and so on.

I remember there was a scheme called the Small Farmers Development Agency about seven years ago, wherein for an open well with 20' dia., a subsidy was given to the persons. That well was able to irrigate ten acres of land. Four or five persons nearby can benefit from it, and loans can be shared by all of them, so that in India everyone will become a small or marginal farmer, and there will be no big farmer. Unless projects are there in the pipeline or in an advanced stage of sanction, hereafter stress should not be laid on big irrigation projects, because they are time consuming and require long gestation periods. Minor irrigation projects would minimize the delays, and the beneficiaries would get immediate benefit, i.e. within six months or one year.

Industry has also done well. We are now among the ten leading industrialized nations of the world. But while industry is doing well industrialists are becoming healthy, the units are made sick. This process should be reversed. I do not mind industrialists becoming sick, but not the industries. I think some steps have already been taken to prevent this sickness. Hereafter I believe

[Shri Jagannath Rao]

that with the modified instructions that have been issued already, things would improve.

The public sector is another headache. Though some have turned the corner, much remains to be done. Some are still in the red; and I do not know when they will break even and generate surpluses, so that they can be ploughed back into the industries, without much burden on the other resources of the country. This has to be borne in mind.

Our export growth is sluggish. It is not growing. Our import bill has gone up, apart from the oil bill, so that we have to see that exports increase, so that our balance of payments position will not be as it is today. Oil imports are, of course being reduced. But the consumption last year has been. I think, 60% more. That is why there were the additional imposts on petroleum products, diesel oil etc.

But with regard to traditional items of export, *viz.* coffee, tea, cardamom etc. we will find it difficult to export them, because there is a big competition in the world. There is also a recession in the world, and the protectionist policy followed by the developed countries. That is a big handicap. It is a big challenge I do not know how Government is going to meet this challenge.

One way is to cut down on imports. We have given so many incentives to the exporters in respect of imports. They can import raw materials even upto 50%. For example, the foreign price of caustic soda is Rs. 700 per metric tonne, whereas in India, the price is Rs. 2700. That is why they are imported. So, we have to revise the import policy, and see that the foreign exchange resources are not drained away. We should have a second look on such things.

The anti-poverty programme is the essence of the Budget. We have been able to wipe out the tears from the eyes of millions of poor people all these years. A few million people have been covered by the IRDP; about 15 and odd million people have been covered by other anti-poverty

programme, but many more million of people are there whose tears have to be wiped out. If these programmes are implemented sincerely, then certainly we can succeed by the end of the plan to bring every one above the poverty line, but they will be poor.

Now the poor are put in four categories by the Rural Development Department. These are destitute, very very poor, very poor and poor. Therefore, if all these four categories come to the level of the poor, they cross the poverty line, but, still they will be poor. It takes time for them to rise above the poverty line, because necessary infrastructure has been built, some economic strength is given to them so that they can feel that they are going up. Therefore, the successful implementation of these projects depend on the education, sincerity and honesty not only of the officials but popular representatives, in panchayat raj institutions, who should also involve themselves in the implementation of the programme, because it is a social obligation on every one in the villages or the blocks to see that poverty is vanished from these areas. Therefore, everyone has to play vital role in implementation of these programmes; simply pointing out defects will not do. Therefore, this anti-poverty programme is the main essence of the Budget. I rely more on part (a) of the Finance Minister's speech, not on part (b) which deal with additional imposts. There are bound to be additional imposts. It is criticised by the opposition that is pro-rich and pro-monopolists budget. The only favour that is shown to the rich people is that the price of the automobile has been increased, the price of the petroleum products has been increased; so also kerosene. I do not know how the opposition says that it is a pro-rich and pro-monopolists budget. No concession has been shown in this budget for them.

Therefore, if you look at it objectively you will find that this is a good budget and it is a precursor for the next budget so that we grow from strength to strength; not only economic growth is there but social justice is also there; that is the essence of our plans and that was the essence behind dynamic five year plans drawn by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Therefore, I welcome the budget and I support it.

SHRI K. MOHANDAS (Mukundapuram): This year's budget, it is true, has not evoked sharp reaction from the public. The Finance Minister has not imposed tax on many items of mass consumption through his budget. He had already done that through a Government Notification. This was a clever way of collecting money from the public without taking recourse to the budgetary levy. In fact there was no need for any fresh levy after the increase in the administered prices.

The increase in the administered prices of the petroleum products by government's own admission, will push up the prices of all commodities of mass consumption. The Government says that it wants to control the consumption of petroleum products and that is the reason why it has raised the prices. In fact this assertion by the government was denied by the oil companies which have said that the consumption has risen only marginally. Then 60 per cent of petrol and diesel is being used by the Government Departments, undertakings, etc. I went to ask the government whether they have made any real efforts to reduce the consumption by the government. If so, let us know what has been the result? Anyway, the prices are going to rise and the burden on the common man will rise. The life of the people belonging to fixed income group and the poor living in huts and on the pavements will become more miserable.

Having said this I must say that the budget has certain good features. First of all, I would like to thank the hon. Minister for giving some relief to the income tax payers belonging to the fixed income group, by raising the standard deduction from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 10,000. In fact the inflation has made the life of this section really miserable. We were hoping that the Finance Minister would raise the basic exemption from the present level of Rs. 18,000 to at least Rs. 25,000. Although that has not been done, I am happy that some relief has been provided to this section.

I must also say a word of appreciation for the larger allocations made in respect of anti-poverty programmes. These programmes will go a long way in raising above the poverty line the large number of poor people. What is required is honest implementation.

Now I come to certain problems of my State of Kerala. Kerala is one of the very few States which face acute financial problems in meeting the Plan target. We are always in need of the Central assistance. But our complaint has always been that, being located far away from the capital, Kerala has not received adequate attention. When almost all the States got a higher Plan allocation for the annual Plan, Kerala's allocation is a clear reflection of the attitude of indifference of the Centre towards Kerala and its problems. Kerala, as you know, Sir, spends much more than the national average on health education and other welfare measures. The percentage of literacy in Kerala is 70.4 whereas the national average is only 43.36. Similarly, the health care in Kerala is the best in the country. There are 134 beds for one lakh of population which is the maximum in the country. Mortality rate is the minimum with six per thousand. The rate of infant mortality is just 25 per thousand whereas it is 125 per thousand at the national level. So it is because of the excellent health services as well as the greater emphasis on education that we could achieve this. But the Centre while allocating resources does not give any importance to these aspects. Therefore, I would request the Government to raise the allocation for the State.

Sir, Kerala's economy depends largely on coconut and spices. So, naturally the decline in the prices of these commodities will put the economy out of gear. This is exactly what has happened during the last year. There was a crash in the prices of coconut and its products. A coconut which was selling at Rs. 4 in 1984 is available at 90 paise to one rupee. There has been a steep fall in the price of coconut oil. Loss of hundreds of crores of rupees has occurred and the farmers had been ruined. Although the centre has asked the NAFED to procure copra, it has not resulted in any improvement. The downward trend in prices continues. All attempts to persuade the Government to declare a floor price for the current coconut have failed and the coconut growers of Kerala, a majority of whom are small farmers owning one or two acres are suffering. So, I would emphatically demand that a floor price for coconut be announced immediately.

[Shri K. Mohandas]

The same is the case of spices which earn us valuable foreign exchange. This year the price of cardamom has touched an all time low with the price coming down to Rs. 125 per kilogramme. Again, all attempts to get an effective intervention of the Government has failed and the decline in the price of cardamom continues. I would request the Finance Minister to formulate a short term as well as a long term strategy to boost the export of cardamom and other spices and maintain the prices at a reasonable level.

Sir, Kerala is an industrially backward State. This State is one of the very few which have got a very negligible Central investment. The State on its own, cannot mobilise enough resources as the resource base is very small. Due to industrial backwardness, unemployment among the educated persons has increased. Today educated boys and girls from Kerala migrate to the metropolitan cities and take up jobs for a meagre salary of Rs. 400 or Rs. 500 per month. If Kerala could provide them job opportunities in the State, their manpower and skill could have been utilised for the building up of the economy of the State. Therefore, industrialisation is the only way out. The Centre, I request, should come forward to invest in Kerala for rapid industrialisation. This alone will solve the problem of unemployment.

14.00 hrs.

Finally, I want to say a word about the power generation in Kerala. According to present estimates, Kerala is going to face a power famine in the near future. We entirely depend on hydro-electric power in the State. It is too risky a situation. If the monsoon fails, then there would not be any power in Kerala. The whole life will come to a standstill. This is not an imaginary condition. It had happened a couple of years back and we are only too well aware of the consequences of such a development. A demand was made for an atomic power plant. But like other demands from Kerala, this too has not been considered by the Government. I would request the Central Government to set up an atomic power plant to meet the growing power requirements of Kerala.

Kerala is a small State lying at the south most part of the country. The physical

distance has often created a psychological distance. An impression prevails that whatever happens in Kerala is no concern or of less concern to the rulers in Delhi. This attitude has proved very costly to us as a nation as is evidenced by the emergence of divisive forces in different parts of the country. When a young person like Shri Rajiv Gandhi is the Prime Minister, the people expect a radical change in the attitude of the Government towards the development of less developed regions in the country. I hope that such an approach will be forthcoming and a State like Kerala will receive its due share of attention from the Centre.

SHRI P. A. ANTONY (Trichur) : Sir, this is a Budget which taxes the rich and spends the revenue to eradicate poverty and to raise the standard of life of the ordinary people. Allotting 65 per cent more money as compared to last year's Budget, for anti-poverty programmes, shows that it is an anti-poverty Budget. A subsidy of Rs. 2250 crores for wheat, rice and kerosene will clearly help the common man.

The expenditure on Defence, interest payment of existing loans, subsidies on foodgrains, agriculture, etc., they are equal to the revenues mobilised by the Government. Hence for developmental plans, the only way out is to borrow money from within the country and outside also, to collect more taxes and ask the public sector to make more profits. In this respect, I have to congratulate our Finance Minister for collecting 24 per cent higher revenues from Income-tax, which is 36 per cent higher than the Budget estimates of 1985-86.

Financial stability of the nation is the need of the hour. First year of the Seventh Five Year Plan showed better results in revenue collection, general production of agriculture and industrial goods. Keeping this base in view, we are aiming at the development of the nation on a time bound programme. The Plan formulations for 1986-87 started with a long term fiscal policy which is to accelerate the development in major sectors like agriculture, houses to the poor, drinking water facilities, communication, etc.

This is a Budget which is really meant for the poor, taking the country ahead on

the path of development, providing financial stability, giving encouragement, to small scale sector and also giving fillip to the foreign exchange reserves in the country. No doubt, this is a balanced budget to a greater extent, still there are some imbalances in it which are quite apparent. For example, last year, steel was used to be sold at the same price throughout the country, whether it is Cochin, Calcutta or Madras. But this year, it is not so. Earlier it was decided that to bring about integration, steel would be sold at the same price throughout the country. But now, one has to pay freight charges from Calcutta to the consuming point. It has to be changed as before.

One of my friends said that Kerala is the most advanced State in the matter of education—higher education, university education, etc. So, naturally, the unemployment among the educated is higher in Kerala than in any other State. Kerala is stated to be advance in many fields—in education and other social services—and the Government is spending more money to help education, social services, etc. Since unemployment among the educated in Kerala is the biggest problem, the Centre has to see whether it can be industrialised so that the educated unemployment can be stopped. There are fields in Kerala where we can utilise the educated people, the skilled people, such as, fishing and tourism. Tourism can be encouraged because Kerala is one of the beautiful States in India. Similarly, fishing can also be encouraged because it is a source of foreign exchange earning.

Sir, you know that Kerala is producing a lot of coconuts. Thanks to the Finance Minister for withdrawal of cess on copra, but, Sir, crushing is done only of two per cent of the coconuts produced in Kerala. The Central Government can start a crushing plant in Kerala in the public sector so that the price of the coconut oil can be reduced and it could be supplied through the Civil Supplies Corporation in Kerala.

There is a shortage of power in Kerala. We depend upon hydro-electric projects for producing power. So, a thermal power station is highly necessary in Kerala to meet the power shortage.

In India, there are nearly 436 districts and out of these, 92 districts are declared

as very very backward. I am very thankful to the Finance Minister for providing Rs. two crores to each district for its infrastructure. But as far as my information goes, in any of these 92 districts which are declared backward by the Government of India, there is no public undertaking.

14.08 hrs-

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Also, the money allotted to these poor districts on an average is only Rs. two crores. If you want to improve the condition of these 92 districts, out of 432 districts, Rs two crores are not enough. The Government has also to think about starting public sector undertakings in these 92 districts. This is necessary in the general interest of the country.

This time I congratulate the Finance Minister who has done a lot, especially in the matter of implementation of income-tax laws. There are many enemies personal to the Finance Minister now because he has unearthed the black money in the interest of the nation. I, therefore, request this august House and the officers to give more moral support to the Finance Minister than they have given at any time before, and I also request the hon. Minister to continue his efforts.

Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government has declared to eradicate poverty in the Seventh Five Year Plan but there is a group of people who never gets the benefits of our country's national income and that group is of those who are very aged, who cannot work hard, who do not get any pension, who do not have any property. All our poverty eradication programmes are meant only for those people who can work, but those who are nearing 65 years or 70 years, those who have no assets, those whose sons or children are not prepared to support them, are really starving. Even among the rich people when the father gives all the money to the children at the age of 70, these people do not get even a single paisa for a cigarette or a bidi. This is the condition. In this condition, as ours is a Welfare State, I request the Finance Minister to consider declaring pension to all people who are aged 70 and above. You should not see whether they are financially sound or not, whether they

[Shri P. A. Antony]

are income-tax payers or not. Irrespective of that, you should declare pension for them who are over 70. Even though he may have some other source of income you can very well add this pension to his income and tax him. Only ten per cent of these people live in their income; near about 90 per cent of the people over 70 are in difficulties for money. I request you to consider giving pension to all those who are above 70 since ours is a Welfare State. I support the Budget which has been presented by the Finance Minister. It is a highly balanced Budget and it aims at the eradication of poverty in the country. With these words I conclude.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI (Bhadrak) : Sir, I rise to support the Budget presented by our hon. Finance Minister. I personally congratulate him for presenting a budget which is commendable on all aspects. The budget is growth-oriented and progressive. It aims at the welfare of the poorer sections of our society. This budget aims at increasing employment and it provides incentive for small scale industries for rapid growth and also for eradication of poverty. He has set apart Rs. 52,860 crores for that. It provides 65% increase in the allocation for RLGP, NREP, IRDP programmes, in order to eradicate poverty, by giving employment through developmental work. In respect of these schemes like RLGP, NREP and IRDP it is our experience that due to faulty implementation of the scheme the results have not been achieved. The IRDP scheme raises income of the poorer sections of the people who are living below the poverty line. This scheme is no doubt extremely good. But the system for implementation is faulty. The benefits intended for the poor masses are not reaching them. The quality of implementation is so poor that it is very difficult for us to say positively that it has really helped the rural poor. This implementation takes place in three ways : One is selection of the beneficiaries; Provision of bank loans and continuance of the proposed trade by the beneficiaries. This is the practice today. But generally in selection of beneficiaries we feel that this is done in a most haphazard way. In the first stage when the selection of beneficiaries takes place, the most

important agency, i.e., the financing agency, is not involved; even if their involvement is asked for, they are not in a position to attend due to shortage of manpower or they shy away or they do not want to participate. So, the selection of beneficiaries will definitely play a vital role in the success of this IRDP because when this target is fixed at block levels, this is fixed on a yearly basis. But I would suggest that this planning should be on a two-year basis at the first stage and one year planning should be done full one year ahead subsequently. Thus, this will avoid selection of the beneficiaries at the fog end of the year and that will improve the quality. The selection process should be in such a way that the beneficiary should himself be impressed in a scheme instead of the scheme being thrust upon him as at present. As most of Indian rural poor are illiterate, they may be unaware of various schemes and various types of activities. They should be educated in this direction by calling meetings of the would be beneficiaries at the village level from time to time. They should also be given training on all aspect of the schemes that have to be undertaken under IRDP. So, this target for a particular year should be decided two full years ahead, that is, in the early part of the previous year. Monthly targets should be fixed and in case a particular month target is not achieved due to certain reasons, the next month's target may be added by 10 per cent only and let the quality of implementation not suffer only to achieve the target. If the target is not achieved, let the administrators look into the deficiency and let the guilty be punished accordingly.

Another factor is provision for bank loans. As this is the most vital part of implementation of this scheme and part of the public money is utilised to finance the scheme, only due to poor quality of lending, the non-recovery is mounting up day by day and in lending for anti-poverty programmes so much time and energy is necessary that probably bank management is not realising the difficulty. So I would request that in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India this manpower planning should be done in such a way that there should not be any inadequate staff pattern at the branch level.

Again about continuance of the trade by the beneficiaries, it is generally felt by the borrower that the subsidy which he has got, he will get whether he repays the loan or not. At present the procedure of adjustment of subsidy while purchasing the assets is resulting in some malpractice. So, the subsidy should be used in such a manner that the beneficiary should be lent with the full amount from the bank and the subsidy should be kept in a separate account, interest on which will be earned by the borrower at the same rate as he takes the loan. Sir, the day he repays instalment, simultaneous and proportionate adjustment from subsidy should be made. The adjustment of subsidy should be only in relation to the principal and any amount of repayment received from the borrower will go first to adjust the interest. In case this procedure is adopted, I am sure, the beneficiary will always be induced to repay the loan as that alone will adjust the subsidy. In case of default or misutilisation, the subsidy can be adjusted only if there is no recovery possible and this should be allowed at the discretion of the certifying officers.

In order to remove regional imbalance. Sufficient attention should be paid to the backward States, more-over to backward districts. Our State, Orissa is a backward State. Time and again we are approaching and requesting for two major projects, i.e. super thermal power projects in our State. We are facing acute power crises and the power cut on an average is 60% now. The power cut on the household is 75%. 90% of the small scale units are at the verge of closing down. We are approaching for this Ibvally super thermal project and Talcher super thermal project. But these two project do not figure in the budget whereas you have included other super thermal power projects for different States. So, I request the hon. Finance Minister to see that these two projects are at least included in the next supplementary budget.

With these words, I once again support the Budget.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH (Surendranagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the outset, I do compliment the hon Finance Minister for his very deep and keen acumen shown in fiscal matters. Many people have

spoken about the various implications of the Budget. But I would like to concentrate only on two subjects—population and environment.

When you talk of a Budget which is geared towards ameliorating the conditions of the poor, how can we tackle poverty when we do not focus attention on population explosion? The two are synonymous. When you talk of a budget which is for the poor, a good allocation should be given to the family planning programmes. But a good amount is not provided there. After all, it is the family planning which will bring about the amelioration in poverty.

As far as environment is concerned, if you want to improve the quality of life and health of land, you have to give attention to environment. I am only going to repeat certain questions which are asked in Parliament. I do not want to make any ambitious statement. On the 18th of April last year, I had asked a question, namely, what is the birth rate, death rate and increased rate of population during the last 10 years and what are the targets achieved.

After adjusting birth rate and death rate, the rate of natural increase in population, as per the answer, is:

For 1977—	18.3 %
1978—	19.1 %
1979—	20.70%
1980—	21.1 %
1981—	21.4 %
1982—	21.9 %

Now also, the percentage is the same. That means, because of our steep fall in the death rate, the net increased rate remains higher than what it was earlier. When this is the situation, I have made a proposal for giving specific incentives. Even disincentives were suggested. Even a notice has been given for introduction of a Private Member Bill on the floor of the House. I do not know when it will come through because of the ballot system which is more or less like a lottery. I have suggested four incentives and four disincentives for population control,

MR. SPEAKER : You can give a notice under Direction 115. Further I want to make it very clear. What I mean to say is that sleeping is not a crime. Everybody in the world sleeps !

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : I suggest a discussion on Jammu and Kashmir should be allowed. Rajya Sabha had an occasion to do it.

MR. SPEAKER : We will do it....

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : We are always left behind the Rajya Sabha. This is very funny.

MR. SPEAKER : Who told you so, Sir ? There are certain subjects which we take up earlier. You cannot take up all at once. They also cannot take up all at once. It is not like an ordinance that we should follow them or they should follow us. They are equally important. They are equally authorised. They are equally responsible to discuss anything. So we do....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : This is a slur on the Parliament. I will not allow that. We are getting every subject discussed.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : But they get much more opportunities. I can show you the record.

MR. SPEAKER : Please show me. We discussed the price rise first and they discussed it later on. Do not have competition with the other House. They are equally responsible. They are equally our partners.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : We have tried to raise, independently, here, but we have always been thwarted.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Who has prevented you ?

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : I would take objection to that; I will pull you up for that.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, I have given notice.**...

MR. SPEAKER : No allowed. You cannot refer to it here. Mr. Kurup, you always do wrong things, at the wrong time and at the wrong place. It should not form part of the record. It is a wrong place; it is a wrong subject. It is the Assembly which has to take care of it.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. SPEAKER : You cannot refer to it. It is the Assembly which has to take care of it. Sit down. Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)***

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. You are not concerned with it.

[English]

Why are you doing this ? It is my job to do.

Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

12.06 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Explosives (Amendment) Rules, 1985

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Explosives (Amendment) Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 511 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 25th June, 1985 under sub-section (8) of section 18 of the Explosives Act, 1884.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-2194/86]

conservation programmes. Because that is the only way that you can tackle this problem on a long-term basis....

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I just want to make one clarification. This point has been repeated very often that the international prices have gone down. One basic fact should be kept in mind. Even after the price of international crude is reduced, it is still costlier than the Indian crude. That basic fact is there. Last year we imported 20% of our consumption of crude. In the current year we are importing 33% of our required consumption. When the costlier crude is coming in the higher proportion, the average rate of crude is going up.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Anyway this is a suggestion.

I have just three more questions and then end. Talking of environment, a specific proposal was made. A specific inclusion was made in the Budget of 1983 for giving allowance to any industry which wants to shift out of the congested city on environmental ground or air pollution or on health hazards. Then that land falling vacant as well as the building or machinery which is not being used could be sold and that would attract no capital gains tax provided that money is re-invested in another industry outside the city. Now I asked a specific question whether since that provision was made any 1983 Budget has any industry availed of it. The answer is in the negative because there is no co-ordination between the Industry Ministry and the Ministry of Environment to see that these measures are implemented.

I will just draw attention to one more thing. The Ministry of Environment has made a specific proposal of setting up of an Environmental Management Institute. On the 5th March the Minister replied saying that no provision has been made in the Seventh Plan for setting up a National Environmental Management Institute because of constraint of resources. The same thing applies to mining laws. You know that is happening in mining operations, specially in open cast mining. During the operations the land gets eroded and the only way you tackle it

is to impose a specific tax on mines so that with that money the land can be restored. This was on the anvil for the last 4 to 5 years to amend the mining laws. A specific question was asked on 10th March, that is, yesterday and the reply is that it is not possible at this stage to indicate any date by which the mining laws will be amended.

I made certain other suggestions also to the hon. Minister for giving concessions to all manufacturers of hardboard, cardboard and corrugated board whereby wood is not used for packaging of various products, specially, agricultural products such as fruits. If concessions are given to those manufacturers who supplant wood in the packaging of various goods, then to-day it means a loss of no revenue because today nobody produces that kind of product which would replace wood. But if the incentives are given and technical know-how is available and such products are made, then wood will be replaced such and such products. It means loss of revenue. Why not the Government give the facilities to such prospective entrepreneurs who can make such products thereby reducing the pressure on our wood resources which today is fast eating up our forests. I thought I could club these two points together.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : I will straightway come to the poverty alleviation programme I think for the last one year I am hearing in this House that our Government and the Finance Minister making fun of the poor people of this country. I will now take up National Rural Employment Programme. Out of 300 million mandays jobs only 200 million mandays, on an average, hardly a million and a half families will get work for hardly Rs. 300 to 400 per year. Then there is the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme. The only thing is that you have allotted some 60 per cent more—there are 264 million mandays. Out of this hardly a million people will get Rs. 500 to 600 per year. The third is Integrated Rural Development Programme. In that the amount is Rs. 428 crores and hardly about 15 lakh families will get Rs. 300 for their development. If you calculate all this, the Poverty Alleviation Programme which is discussed in this House by the Treasury Bench, hardly about 300 to 400 million poor people of this

[Dr. Datta Samant]

country are going to get Rs. 400 to Rs. 500 per year. Sir, how they are used? What is the infrastructure. That is a different thing. But assuming that all this money is given to the poor people, only three to four million people—I think I am not going to define the Poverty Allevation Programme—out of 300 million poor people will get benefit. Assuming that it has all gone to the poor, not even 1 or 2 per cent poor people of this country will be benefited. Moreover, as per this Plan whatever programme is there, those which are there in the Sixth Plan, they will be given more money. One to two per cent of the poor of this country are getting this benefit.

Secondly, Sir, what is the infrastructure? I was the Member of the Maharashtra Employment Guarantee Scheme. They used thumbs; left thumb is used. Children's thumbs are used. The dead people's thumbs are used. Forty such types of cases were enquired. I am sure, out of all this money, not even 50 per cent of this will go to the poor.

Another thing is you are giving small loans to sweepers, cobblers, washerman and the barbers—say Rs. 400 or Rs. 500. Are you really interested to do something for such people. I do not think. This Government is not doing this. For the last one and a half year, I am hearing in this House; we are talking the person and corporate taxes are reduced. De-licensing and Pre-licensing are done. We are saying that the MRTP and FERA ceilings are increased. We never talk of ceiling of the land. We never say that the big landlords should have some restriction on the income tax. Do the Government and the Treasury Benches bother? You are talking of only 5 per cent of the high class society in this country and 90 per cent of the people are just dying. Nobody is bothered about this. You all talk about concession in this budget. But I am sorry to say that the way the Government thinking not even a single poor man is going to benefit; on the contrary poverty is going on the increase. I appeal to the Government of India let us have a Committee of Members of Parliament and let us make a study of it. They have used a very good word. True, Sir, the size of our country is very big. Only 5 per cent of the workers are benefited. You have increased the bonus limit. But the formula

remains the same. Now you have increased the rate of interest of provident fund for the workers. I will say that 30 to 40 per cent belong to labour class. Think of their lot in this country after 40 years of independence—if the particular employer earns certain profits what will be the share of workmen? 30 to 40 per cent of the population of this country is labour, and the Government is silent, is sleeping over it. Where is the law to decide the share of the workmen? I am putting it before the House again. Last year also I had raised it. About 50 per cent of the population of this country is labour—contract or casual or badli or trainee or apprentice. You are only discussing corporate taxes, concessions, import duty, export duty, and so on. When are you going to decide the share of 30 to 40 per cent of this country's labour? Are you developing the country only for big industrialists and business people? What about the unorganized labour? We have the farm labour, the construction labour, the powerloom labour, all types of labour. Fifty per cent of the people living below the poverty line are these people. You guarantee their wages and fifty per cent of the poverty will be removed. Giving the landless labour only Rs. 3 per day and some road work cannot be called a poverty-alleviation programme. It is only some starvation-avoiding scheme which you are implementing. These people can never be brought up to the standard line by being given only some grains and some road work. If the Government is really serious, they should guarantee their wages, they should implement the minimum wages for these people. Then 50 per cent of the poverty of this country will be removed.

Last year about 100 districts were put in the Budget for being covered by the accident insurance scheme. The poor are dying. You are not implementing the minimum wages, but when somebody dies, you are going to give somebody else some concession. Nobody is interested in the poor. I want the Government to reply as to how many poor people have been given this benefit in the last one year.

If the factories are closed, the Government says that workers will be the first beneficiary. But not a single worker, in the last one year, has been given this concession.

I am making a categorical statement because I am dealing with lot of people.

About Rs. 3,600 crores or 9 per cent of the capital of the banks are blocked in 90,000 sick industries. What are you going to do about that? For getting a revenue of Rs. 2,000 crores, you have increased the prices of petroleum products and other commodities. But an amount of Rs. 3,600 crores is blocked and swallowed by the employers and the Government is not prepared to do anything in that regard.

Then I come to the revision of D.A. from 1.30 to 2.60. It is maintained in the Budget. But what about Bharat Petroleum, Mazagaon Docks and other Bombay units? They were getting more D.A. You are now reducing their D. A. and saving that amount.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : There are only two or three points more which I would like to mention in the House.

There is a steady devaluation of the rupee in relation to the currencies of other countries. From 1981-85, the value of the rupee has gone down by 39.5 per cent in relation to the U.S. dollar. I have got the details. In relation to Japanese Yen, the value of the rupee has gone down by 48.78 per cent in the last five years. In the last 14 months, upto February, the value of the rupee has gone down by 27 per cent in relation to Japanese Yen. Even in relation to pound, the value has gone down. What is your economic position in this world? We are becoming day by day a poorer country. I am afraid, you are going to devalue the rupee when the time comes.

Regarding indirect taxes, the Government is totally silent. In 1983-84, if you see the total production, the total excise collection should have been Rs. 16,000 crores, but the actual collection was Rs. 8,000 crores. The indirect taxes are short by Rs. 8,000 crores because of the adjustment of the employers with your Department. Such a big money or revenue is not being considered by this Government.

MODVAT has been introduced. But nobody knows about it. I enquired in Bombay. Nobody knows. I am asking a categorical question; by giving concession to the ancillary or primary producer, do you think he is going to pass on the benefit to the consumer? On the contrary, what has happened in the automobile industry? The price has gone up. Whatever concession is given to the ancillary or primary producer, he is not passing it on to the big factory. Therefore, your tax remains the same. This has caused a lot of confusion.

I am from Bombay. The Prime Minister came to Bombay on the 13th December in connection with the Congress Centenary Celebration and assured the people in the Azad Maidan meeting that for slum repairs Rs. 100 crores would be given and the Woshi-Belapur.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): It was the Centenary anniversary of the Congress.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : From that hundred crores, the Railways will be benefited. We are prepared to give money from the Maharashtra Government. After going through this budget, it seems whatever the public assurance was given by the Prime Minister as a sort of privilege—now the Government is going back from that. From Bombay you are collecting Rs. 300 crores.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : For slums hundred crores has been provided. For the Railway bonds, the Maharashtra Government.....

DR. DATTA SAMANT : For Bombay slums hundred crores has not been provided.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : We have agreed to provide.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : It is not given in the Plan.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : It won't be in the Plan. It is coming under the Non-Plan.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : In how many years will it be done?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : Within four years.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : A clarification came in Bombay that the hundred crores is not exclusively meant for slum clearance and improvement. Please check up the records.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I don't know who said it. But that is our understanding.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Of course, the Finance Minister's assurance is the final one.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Hundred crores is not there; but if you are saying that hundred crores will be given in four years, it is good.

Regarding Railways, we are prepared to give money from the Maharashtra Government.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : We have agreed to the Maharashtra Government's plan.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : You have given only Rs. 10 lakhs in the Railway budget.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister says it has been agreed to.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Therefore, Sir, this budget is only for the 5% of the affluent people, for the big people the industrialists and the poor people are going to remain the same. Therefore, I protest and oppose this budget.

[*Translation*]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my views in support of the budget for the year 1986-87 presented by Our Finance Minister in the House. The people at large have shown a favourable reaction to this budget and all the newspapers have clearly said that this budget is a balanced one and will go to improve the economic condition and increase production. I, too, agree with this view that this year's budget is better than that of the previous

year. It is better in the sense that the process of improvements initiated during 1985-86 has shown good results. Whether it is the long-term fiscal policies or the simplification of taxation system or the collection of more revenues by introducing the policy of lesser taxation, these policies have shown positive results in the form of more tax collection made during the current financial year for which I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister.

He had embarked upon a new experiment by simplifying the tax-structure to which the people at large have reacted favourably and better results have been achieved in the national interest.

Our friend Shri Datta Samant was saying that no worthwhile work had been done under the anti-poverty programmes. I would like to draw his attention to the fact that he was also a member of Seventh Lok Sabha and during Question Hours and on other occasions it had been pointed out that under N.R.E.P., I.R.D.P., and R.L.E.G.P. not in lakhs but more than that number of people had benefited and the people living below the poverty line had also benefited. The figures consolidated by the National Survey and the study group also speak of this fact. About 150 crores of people have been benefited in the Sixth Five Year Plan under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Lakhs of people have been provided jobs under N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P.

My colleague has also expressed doubt about whether any positive results would emerge by making more provision for anti-poverty programme. The hon. Finance Minister has earmarked about 1851 crores for the next Financial Year for implementing Anti-Poverty Programme and Rural Development Programme. This allocation is 50 per cent more than that allocated last year. I would like to draw his attention to the fact that it is proposed to benefit about two crore people under I.R.D.P. Although a sum of Rs. 428 crores has been allocated for it yet he should know that this amount is in the form of assistance and grant only. This is in addition to the loan given by the nationalised banks under I.R.D.P. for self-employment scheme. I am sure that there will be a provision of Rs. 5000 crores in the

form of grant and another Rs. 5000 crores or more in the form of loans from the nationalised banks in the Seventh Five Year Plan. This amount will be available to the rural people, Harijans, Adivasis and the others living below the poverty line under these programmes. Instead of having a pessimistic view of these schemes, we should see them in the national perspective and in the national interest. These programmes are meant to benefit those poor people for whom the Central Government have formulated them. All of us have to make collective efforts in this direction.

Our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had given to priority to the Rural Development Programme and the Anti-Poverty Programme. Our young Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, is laying great emphasis on these schemes and wants to implement them in the remote rural areas through this innovative budget. He deserves congratulations for this.

So far as the industries and the public sector industries are concerned, it is clear from the speech of the hon. Finance Minister that in the Seventh Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 1,80,000 crores, which is the largest amount, has been allocated for the core industries in the public sector, which is related to the people at large, whether it is heavy industry, power, steel, cement or other industries connected with transport. The larger allocation made in the public sector or in the core industries coming under it shows that the hon. Finance Minister had made this allocation keeping in view our basic policy of development and industrialisation of the country.

I would like to refer particularly to the surface transport and tourism for which less allocation has been made in the Budget. If we want that the means of transport in the country should be developed with a view to maintain unity and integrity of the country or with a view to exploit the potentialities of tourism then we will have to make more allocation for Surface Transport and Tourism Departments. In my view the funds allocated for these sectors will fall short of the requirements in the coming years.

In the end, I would like to raise some points in regard to the banks. Mr. Poojary

is present here. The allocation for the self-employment scheme has definitely been raised in the 1986-87 budget. The allocation of Rs. 65 crores for self-employment scheme made in the previous Budget has been increased to Rs. 103 crores in the budget for 1986-87. I would like to express my thanks for it but there is still some scope for improvement in it. A number of task forces have been constituted under the chairmanship of the General Managers of the District Industries Centres which are not functioning smoothly. The candidates selected by us do not get finance from the nationalised banks when they approach them. They have to make several rounds of the nationalised banks for the purpose. I would like to suggest that since lead banks have senior officers in the task force, so there should be no need of review of the applications for loans by the nationalised banks. They should get loans from the nationalised banks on priority basis.

I would also like to say something regarding the crop insurance. The crop insurance scheme has proved to be a boon for the farmers but it has been implemented in one hundred districts only. Since natural calamities like drought, excess rainfall, hailstorms continue to occur in a predominantly agricultural country like India, the crop insurance scheme should be implemented in all the districts.

With these words, I would like to thank the hon. Finance Minister for making greater allocation for Kalapakkam and other fast breeders in the field of science, technology and atomic energy and for giving priority to it.

SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN (Saidpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the budget. From the budget that has been presented, it appears that more attention has been paid towards the poor people living below the poverty line, to whichever part of the country they might be belonging. Whether they are living in the rural areas or the urban areas, schemes have been formulated by him to lift them above the poverty line. But, I would like to give a suggestion on the basis of the experience gained so far. The Government provide sufficient funds for the benefit of the poor but actually that money does not reach the

[Shri Ram Samujhawan]

poor intended beneficiaries. The intermediaries, whether they are in the blocks or the banks or elsewhere, grab most of the funds. Therefore, it should be ensured that the intermediaries do not grab the funds meant for the poor.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to my area. The eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh, namely Gazipur, Jaunpur, Ballia, Azamgarh, etc, are quite backward. No developmental work has been done there. In 1962-63, Patel Commission had visited that area, carried out study and made some recommendations. My constituency Saidpur consists of Gazipur, Jaunpur and Banaras. When people of my area ask me as to why no development work has taken place there and why no industry has been set up there, I have no reply to give to that. I would request the hon. Minister to either appoint a commission or a committee which may visit that area and see how backward that area is and what steps should be taken for its development. We find that a lot of developmental work has been done in Sultanpur, Pratapgarh and Rai Bareilly which are adjacent to our area, but the people of our area say that after all their area is also represented by a Member of Parliament then what are the reasons that not a single factory has been set up there. When they put such questions, I have no reply to that. No developmental work is being undertaken there. The township in

15.00 hrs.

Saidpur and Vahariyabad has sufficient population but it is situated at the distant of 20 kilometers. Although roads have been constructed yet the people have to cover a distance of 100 kilometers to have contact with each other as there is no bridge across the Udanti river falling in between them. I think the cost of constructing a bridge will not be more than Rs. 1 lakh. So, I would request that a bridge should be constructed across that river to facilitate development of that area. Similarly, if a bridge is constructed across the Gangi river in Paharpur, that area can develop.

You know that floods occur in that area every year. In our district, the Gomati and

the Ganga rivers ravage the areas on both sides every year when they are in floods. The people of that area who are already poor, face great destruction because of the floods. The means of irrigation are not as good as they should be. Last year also, I had requested you to construct a bridge across the Gomati river at Keracut. This year also I am making the same request. Besides, erosion is taken place there with great speed but no action has been taken to check it. This area is very poor and backward and its population is also very high. The people from that area go to Calcutta, Bombay and to other places for earning their livelihood. As I have already said, this area is a Harijan dominated area and has three reserved Assembly constituencies. For the development of that area I have been constantly appealing to the Government and today also I want to request the Government that they should prepare a development scheme for that area and should find out the reasons for its backwardness and see what can be done for its development.

So far as the Harijans are concerned, even today they are trying their best to come above the poverty line. The Government, of course, gives assistance to them but they should see this also as to what extent they are being exploited. In that area electrification has been done to facilitate the Harijans but if you tour that area you will find that at the entry point of the village three poles have been installed and it is shown on papers that village has been electrified.

So far as the question of school buildings in that area is concerned, 80 per cent schools in that area are such where studies are done under the shade of trees. On the day when there is storm, etc., children are asked to go home. The Government do provide sufficient funds for the allround development, but that money is not utilised properly. Therefore, it is necessary to construct school buildings in the villages so that the children in the villages may progress with the country and they may also develop.

With these words, I support the development-oriented budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister and request that he should pay some attention to my area Saidpur also.

15.06 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the chair*]

*SHRI R. ANNANAMBI (Pollachi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on behalf of my party the A.I.A.D.M.K. I wish to say a few words on the 1986-87 General Budget.

I welcome the 65% increase provided by the Finance Minister for anti-poverty programmes in 1986-87 Budget. The Government of Tamil Nadu under the enlightened leadership of our Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.R. are implementing with verve and vigour the anti-poverty programmes and the 20-Point Programme. For the year 1984-85, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra occupy the first place in this regard. For such States, the Central Government should allocate more funds for anti-poverty programmes.

It is said that by the end of 7th Five Year Plan all the villages in the country would have drinking water. In 1985-86 a sum of Rs. 298.83 crores was provided, but only a sum of Rs. 167.01 crores had been spent. The Centre has the unspent balance of Rs. 131.82 crores. Why should it be so? What happened to this balance of Rs. 131.82 crores? Why has it not been spent on drinking-water programmes? The hon. Finance Minister should reply to this point. In 1985-86 31,370 villages were planned to get drinking water, but only 17,128 villages got drinking water supply. That is due to non-allocation and non-spending of the specifically allotted money for this scheme. If such a negligent approach is adopted for such a vital scheme, then even by the end of 7th Plan all the villages will not have drinking water. This important scheme must be paid its due attention by the hon. Minister.

I welcome the increased allocation and added importance given to agriculture in 1986-87 Budget. Due to Cauvery water dispute, the agricultural production in Tamil Nadu is jeopardised. Though the World Bank has promised assistance for modernising Cauvery delta, this scheme could not be undertaken due to this dispute. The Central Government should intervene and ensure early resolution of Cauvery water

dispute. From 1974, for the past 12 years the farmers of Tamil Nadu are in great distress. I demand that the good offices of Centre must be exerted in the resolution of Cauvery water dispute.

In India the per capita availability of surface water is 0.14 mcft. In Tamil Nadu it is just 0.03 mcft. In 1978 Government of India appointed a Committee to go into the question of utilising the waters of west flowing rivers, which have surplus water of 218 TMC. All this water goes waste through Kerala into Arabian sea. For supply of drinking water to southern districts of Tamil Nadu, we require only 17 TMC of water. The National Water Development Agency should go into this question and formulate plans for execution in respect of making available 17 TMC of water from west-flowing rivers. Even the 1972 Irrigation Commission has referred to this important issue.

Next to water, electricity is the most important think for agricultural development. In 1989-90 Tamil Nadu will require 3300 million units of electricity. In 1994-95 the requirement of Tamil Nadu will be 10,200 million units. Tamil Nadu has fully exploited all the hydel potential for generating electricity. Only Thermal Power stations can be thought of in Tamil Nadu. But for that, coal supply must be ensured. Even the existing Thermal Plants are suffering for want of adequate supply of quality coal. The Central should permit the State Government to import substantial quantity of quality coal for Thermal Stations. One more atomic unit must be set up in Tamil Nadu. Koodangulam in Tirunelveli district was selected by a Panel of Atomic Energy Commission for this purpose. This place was chosen because of the proximity of Heavy Water Plant at Tuticorin. In 7th Five Year Plan the target is to produce 10000 mw of atomic power. If an atomic station is set up in Koodangulam, it will solve the power problem of Tamil Nadu.

The benefits of planning have not reached the rural people; they have no shelter, no primary medical facility, no education facility and though we have achieved self-sufficiency in foodgrains production, yet they do not get nutritious food—I am not saying these thing. These have been stated by the senior

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

[Shri R. Angnanambi]

Minister Shri Narasimha Rao in his Convocation Address to Roorkey University. Even after 6 Five Year Plans, this is the position. I do not know how many more Five Year Plans would be required to provide basic amenities for the rural people in the country. Mahatma Gandhi used to repeat that India lives in villages, but these villages are being neglected now.

Our Chief Minister Dr. M.G.R. wants to convert these villages into small towns. Before the elections to local bodies, he provided Rs. 1 crore for each Panchayat Union under the Self-Sufficiency scheme, i.e. for construction of houses, small bridges, good roads, school buildings, drinking water supply etc. Today the villages in Tamil Nadu look like small towns. If villages die, can India survive? If India is to survive, then the Central Government must provide basic amenities for all the villages in the country.

If the backwardness in southern districts of Tamilnadu is to be removed, then Sethusamudram canal project must be taken up for implementation. Even in the last meeting of National Development Council, our Chief Minister has referred to this. The southern shores will also get the necessary protection from this scheme. During the past 20 years several feasibility reports have been given about this. During the recent visit of Naval Chief to Madras, our Chief Minister has apprised him about the strategic importance of this Sethusamudram Canal project. This scheme must be taken up by the Central Government without further delay.

The other day our Minister of State for Agriculture, Shri Makwana made an incorrect statement in this House. He said that when he contacted the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu about the cyclone relief measures, the Chief Minister's PA told him that the Chief Minister had gone to bed and he could not be disturbed. The PA wanted the Minister to tell him everything so that he would convey the same to the Chief Minister later. This is a wrong information. From October last year to January this year, the phone of PAs in the residence had been disconnected. At that time, the Ramavaram House of Chief Minister had been flooded

and the Chief Minister was staying in Connemara Hotel. It is not fair that the Minister of State should make on the floor of this House such incorrect statements. When the Government of Tamil Nadu is standing first in the implementation of flood relief measures and 20-point programmes, it is not proper for the Minister to make such allegations against the Chief Minister on the floor of this House. I would condemn this kind of remarks against a distinguished Chief Minister of a State.

With these remarks I conclude my speech.

DR. SANKTA PRASAD (Misrikh) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, the objective of the Congress and our Government is to take this country towards socialism and self-reliance. The budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister for the year 1986-87 is a firm and bold step towards that direction and I would like to congratulate the Finance Minister for this.

Sir, agriculture is the mainstay of the people in our country and 50 per cent of the income of the nation comes from agriculture. 75 per cent of the people of the country either do farming or are dependent on it for their livelihood. Much has been done and much more is required to be done for advancement of agriculture. We have become self-dependent in the matter of foodgrains and we do not have to import foodgrains any more whereas several countries of the world have not so far achieved self-reliance in the matter of foodgrains. It is a matter of pride for us and for this I praise the Government of India.

Our country has become self-reliant in the matter of foodgrains as a result of the untiring efforts of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, but in spite of this, much still needs to be done in this field. Even now we have to import commodities like oilseeds and sugar. Sufficient provisions have been made in the budget to increase the production of those commodities, along with oilseeds, in the country which we need so that self-reliance is achieved in them. In spite of all this, much more is still required to be done in this field.

Although we have enforced land ceiling laws strictly yet even today the big people hold agricultural lands in the names of different persons. Lakhs of acres of land is still in their possession which should otherwise have been given to the poor. I, therefore, request that the land ceiling laws may be enforced still more strictly so that production in the country could be increased....(Interruptions)..... I know that even today lakhs of acres of land is in the possession of the land grabbers in the names of persons whose whereabouts are not known. I want that the land should be given to the tillers, whereas today the cultivable land is with those who do not till it and are forcibly keeping it in their possession. Due to these land-grabbers, the land is not being properly utilised.

Sir, our Government have distributed a lot of land to the poor and have also issued leaseddeeds for these lands but the possession of the land has not been given to many poor people so far. Firm steps should be taken for providing possession of such lands to those poor people. For this, the Government of India should write to the State Governments that the lands for which leaseddeeds have been issued to the poor should be given possession of to them.

Sir, sufficient funds have been provided in this budget for the weaker sections of the society which will provide much relief to these people next year and they will be able to make progress. Similarly, adequate funds have been provided for providing employment to the people of the backward classes. But, Sir, out of the loans etc. given to these people by the banks, a large portion is swallowed by the intermediaries. I, therefore, request the Government that along with the provision of loans, arrangements should also be made for Central monitoring thereof. If such arrangements are not made, then the money will not be properly utilised and 25 to 30 per cent of the amount will pass on to other people. Therefore, Central monitoring system should be introduced.

Sir, the Finance Ministry and the Finance Minister have started a campaign against the hoarders and blackmarketeers, which is a bold step. Blackmarketeers and hoarders are running a parallel economy, because of which prices increase and the country's economy

suffers. If these hoarders and blackmarketeers are checked from indulging in such activities and concealed money is unearthed then our economy will be strengthened and the prices will stabilise which will provide relief to the common man.

Sir, 70 per cent of the crimes committed in our country and the society are economic offences. To check these economic offences, there is only one way before us and that is that we should strengthen the socialistic pattern in the country. With the strengthening of the socialistic pattern, these 70 per cent economic offences will be on the wane gradually. If you cannot do this, these economic crimes cannot be stopped. Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had said in 1936 at the Lucknow session of the Congress :

[English]

I quote :

"I see no way of ending the poverty, the vast unemployment, the degradation and the subjection of the Indian people except through socialism that involves vast revolutionary changes in our political and social structure, the ending of vested interests in land and industry. That means the ending of private property except in a restricted sense and replacement of the present profit system by a higher ideal of cooperative service. It means ultimately a change in our present habits and desires. In short, it means a new civilization radically different from the present capitalist order."

[Translation]

The history of the Congress and the country is witness that whenever any big issues or problems have arisen before the country, the Congress has faced them with firmness. Whether it was zamindari abolition, privy purse abolition, bank nationalisation, Bangladesh war or any other such important issue, the Congress Party and the Government of India always took steps with firmness. Even if we had to divide the party to safeguard the interests of the country, we did it. We remained undeterred by anything. Our leadership did everything to strengthen and develop the country.

[Dr. Sankta Prasad]

I would like to tell the Opposition Members, who often interrupt us here, that we divided our party on the basis of a number of issues in the interest of the country. Other parties are formed and they disintegrate but the history of our party is the history of nation-building. There is no doubt that the Congress Party has progressed and is on the path of progress. With these words, I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister and support this budget.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the budget proposals of the Finance Minister.

While presenting the last year's budget, the Finance Minister had made announcement of a number of measures to promote savings and the positive results thereof are before us which have encouraged me to thank him. Although a number of proposals in this budget are unpalatable yet, on the whole, it is a balanced budget and so I congratulate him for this.

I welcome the issuance of another series of bonds of the public sector enterprises on which tax free interest is payable. I also welcome the open discussions that the Finance Minister has invited on the obstacles that are created by financial and non-financial elements in the developmental activities and on how to reduce the administrative expenditure.

The improvements made in the direct tax structure in the last budget resulting in increase in tax collection by 22 per cent and in personal income tax collection by 36 per cent are commendable. The proposals to spend more on the eradication of poverty, drinking water supply, electrification, power generation, etc., in the rural areas and on Defence in the current budget, are also welcome. The rebate in excise duty, particularly on medicines, is also a welcome step.

In his budget speech, the Finance Minister has invited views on how to check the generation of black money, effect economy in expenditure, mobilise resources for the Plan without adding to inflation, strengthen the economic structure of the public sector, encourage exports, and to have a favourable balance of trade and I would like to dwell on a few points.

So far as black money is concerned, although the campaign against black-marketeers, smugglers and tax-evaders has been intensified, raids have been conducted and fear instilled in them yet I do not think that it has checked the generation of black money or that any significant achievement has been made in this regard. I do not think that you will be successful in fulfilling your commitment to root out this evil because the generation of black money depends mainly on the real estate, immovable assets, stock exchange transactions and you have not paid sufficient attention to them. Government should pay special attention to these aspects. The Revenue Department has made an announcement that the Government can purchase any property at 15 per cent more price than its declared price. I would like to ask the Finance Minister as to in how many cases properties have been purchased by paying 15 per cent more than their declared price? Otherwise, what is the use of having such provisions in the law?

There is a general impression that the officers today have amassed a lot of black money. It should be made obligatory for them to declare their assets and then searches should be made of their premises.

There is large scale evasion of sales tax also. I think the sales tax should be withdrawn and an alternative should be found out which may enable imposition of tax at production stage itself. Imposition of taxes at different stages leads to greater tax-evasion.

Some scheme should be announced whereby black money may be declared and that may be allowed to be utilised for production and developmental activities. Earlier also, the Government had announced such schemes many times. There is such a scheme in Italy where the Government there have allowed the black money to be utilised for constructing houses.

Government should also consider ways of reducing their administrative expenditure. On the one hand the Government says that the petrol and diesel prices have been raised to curb their consumption but on the other hand, new cars are being purchased every day for Government departments and the officers are being allowed to make use of

them. The economy measures should first be implemented in the Government departments. If the consumption of petrol and diesel is to be curbed, then all the cars at the disposal of the Government officials should be withdrawn and sold in the market. The officers at all levels should be given car allowance, as is the practice in the private sector.

Sir, as soon as you ring the bell, I forget what I have to say...*(Interruptions)*

The workers and fixed income group people have been badly affected by inflation. Income of the workers has not risen in proportion to the hike in prices. Inflation has created inequality in income and wealth distribution. The rich have become richer and the poor, poorer. Inflation has of course benefited the traders and the Government but it has badly affected crores of agricultural labourers, marginal farmers, workers, pensioners and unemployed people. Under such circumstances, it becomes obligatory for the Government to take effective steps to curb inflation.

The losses in the public sector industries are also a matter of concern. We should invite capable managers from the private sector to set things right in the public sector. Besides, responsibility should be fixed on the managers of big industries under the public sector in case of losses so that mismanagement could be remedied.

Special attention should be paid towards augmenting our foreign exchange reserves. We have seen what happened in 1984-85 when we had a deficit of Rs. 5263 crores which is a matter of concern. More attention should be paid towards liberalisation of imports and such other matters...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI PARAG CHALIHA (Jorhat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me to participate in this Debate on the Budget.

Sir, I happen to come from a State which in the recent past became the subject of much concern in this House as also in public forums elsewhere. The concern was more in dismay, and expressed more in animosity and vilification, than in proper and sober

appraisal in true perspective. More often than not, a whole people was unduly maligned. Thanks to the perseverance of our people and the statesmanship and political sagacity of the Prime Minister, the Assam Accord was signed and truth steadily coming to establish itself.

A country's Budget reveals the state of its economy. The Central Budget for 1986-87 envisages a continuing fight against poverty, providing relief to the common man, strengthening the public sector, strengthening self-reliance, boosting small scale industries etc. thereby opening vistas for a better tomorrow for our teeming millions. Without going deep into the intricate complexities of the economic objectives of our fiscal policies, I would like to lay bare certain aspects of the situation in Assam especially in economic spheres, so that the people at large may care to know and ponder why the N.E. region is so volatile. How could a country really prosper when regional imbalances are so deep-rooted, acute and vivid ?

The Assamese people proudly share the country's age-old glory and rich heiritage in art, culture, civilisation, mythology, religion, language, etc. Though coming last under British hegemony Assam contributed not insignificantly to the country's struggle for independence and the country's first salvo against the Britishers was fired from Assam in 1830 A.D. Scores of people laid down their lives in the different phases of India's freedom struggle; hundre were maimed and thousands suffered imprisonment and made sacrifices in various ways. This new colleague of yours takes legitimate pride in introducing himself first as a freedom fighter and then as one, who had to suffer very heavily in the 6 years old movement for preserving Assam's identity. The most unfortunate part of the sad story with us is that interested quarters here and elsewhere, have found fault with Assam and the Assamese people and have gone even to the extent of branding our recent movement as parochial, chauvinist, secessionist, anti-national and seditious. Here is before you an India, who would like to proclaim with all the emphasis at his command that he considers himself as no less Indian—certainly no less nationalistic—in feeling and in spirit than anybody sitting under the roof of this sanctimonious House and he would never countenance anybody

[Shri Parag Chaliha]

else calling himself as a better Indian. Sir, while I am proud to be called an Indian, I do not see anything wrong if I introduce myself as an Assamese in as much as what is India but a conglomeration of a number of territories having distinctive linguistic, religious and ethnic groups who can be justly called sub-nationalists unequivocally identifying what India exemplifies the ideal country having established Unity in Diversity.

While propagating the ideals of swaraj in course of our struggle against the Britishers, we raised high hopes of a bright future for everybody in India—including of course Assam—that our vast resources will be harnessed for peoples, welfare, that economic and other modes of exploitation will be ended, that the days of hardship and misery will be over. And what have the people got? The history of 38 years of Assam in independent India is replete with chapters of deception, denial, deprivation, degradation, dejection and even decimation. Here is the peculiar case of a State, endowed with Nature's benign bounty, crying hoarse to get rid of undue exploitation, still keeping millions of its own citizens to rot in ruin and perish in misery and grope in prevailing darkness. Of Assam's 780 tea gardens, not even a tenth belongs to planters of the State. Nay, not even seventy managers of these 780 gardens belong to the State and not even seventy Assistants and Engineers out of a total of about 2000 such officers in Assam's Tea Gardens belong to Assam. Under the Britishers, at least the clerical staff came from the tea growing area, but in Independent India, these Gr III staff have been gradually replaced by recruits from outside the State. The Central Government—and curiously enough, the West Bengal Government—get more than what Assam gets in the form of varied levies, such as Excise duty, customs duty, income-tax, entry and exit permits etc. etc. In the ever growing Oil industry in Assam, not only almost the entire top brass but more than 75 per cent of Class I—and even Class II officers—belong not to Assam. Millions of cubic metres of natural gas are burnt out daily in hundreds of Oil and Gas wells in Upper Assam. Petro-chemical complexes and varied gas based ancillary industries could have been gainfully established by now, as has been done in Bombay or Gujarat, but

not in Assam. Millions of cubic feet of valuable timber have been daily felled—at times illegally also—and varieties of finished products have found the export market also. But who gains and at whose cost? The pattern of exploitation is the same as in Tea. When Oil was first struck at Digboi, about a hundred years back, the Britishers could set up a full-fledged Refinery at Digboi itself. But when fresh oil fields were explored in Upper Assam by the newly established ONG Commission and Oil India Limited, Assam's oil was designed to be taken 800 miles away to Barauni to be refined by a new Refinery, built-up there on purely political considerations. To appease the agitating people of Assam, a toy refinery was set up at Gauhati with an initial refining capacity of just 7.5 lakh tonnes against Barauni's initial capacity of 3.00 million tonnes—since raised to 6 million tonnes against Gauhati Refinery's recently raised 1.00 million tonnes. Royalty on Crude oil has remained a bone of connection for almost a decade now thereby adversely affecting Assam's strictly limited budgetary resources. Perennial floods bring untold misery to the people of this riverine territory. The State's resources are simply inadequate to tackle constant ravages by floods; but the Central Government's concern in this basic welfare sphere has so far been lukewarm. The Brahmaputra project has virtually been put in cold storage. Even the normal plan requirements of Rs. 150 crores asked for by the State Government for undertaking unavoidable flood basic control measures has been slashed by more than 50%.

Assam had to bear the brunt of the tragedy of partition. Lack of communication and other related factors for economic development warrant proper utilisation of the State's vast and varied resources locally. In the case of precious raw materials like oil, tea and timber they have been systematically taken out of the State for setting up economic centres outside the State. The single Railway-cum-road bridge which serves as the only link with the rest of India is the result of a long drawn movement. Same is the case with the Railway B.G. line which now extends only up to Guwahati, leaving most other parts of Assam totally untouched. The outdated meter gauge line was aligned to serve only the British tea planters. Railway travel in Assam is a traumatic

experience. Assam's only heartline remains suspended frequently during the monsoons. My people have for long been demanding extension of the B. G. line to Dibrugarh linking the District and sub-divisional towns like Nogaon, Golaghat, Jorhat and Sibsagar, which now remain excluded from the Main Railway line. Posts, telegraphs and telephones have become means of testing people's perseverance. This Member has to thank the Heavens if a letter from his home—a District Headquarters—reaches him within a week. Only in February, as many as six lightening calls over the phone booked from Delhi to Sibsagar had to be cancelled because the line was out of order. All this had a natural bearing on the people of Assam to feel that they are neglected.

To contribute to this feeling was the utter apathy of the Central Government and the national leaders to the menace posed by an unending influx of foreigners into Assam continuing unchecked—at times even lured and patronised by vested interests—ever since, and even earlier to the vivi-section of our country.

Assam, as we all know, is a small State with hardly 2 crores of population. One can at once imagine the effect if and when as many as 40 to 50 lakhs of people from across the border came and settled there. Not only the demographic pattern is affected but the entire edifice of language, culture, administration and political system is threatened. If this is the logical consequence of a national problem due to partition, why should Assam alone be driven to the gallows? And why should people tend to forget that behind this systematic influx is a sinister political design? It is not for nothing that Maulana Bhasani, who had his initial settlement in Assam, used to gloat that his dream of Pakistan would remain unrealised if Assam is not included into its fold. People also tend to forget that the British Cabinet Mission proposed to tag Assam to form Group C states with what is now known as Bangladesh. Had it not been for Gandhiji's blessings and a mass movement by the people of Assam, our State would have been long lost. The Movement against the foreigners was, for all intents and purposes, a demonstration of the people for maintaining Assam's identity and India's integrity. Interested politicians, with mean selfish designs, how-

ever made if a partisan and worse still, a communal issue. They were more concerned with their votes than with the fate and future of a resourceful and integral part of Mother India.

A peaceful upsurge was sought to be quelled with lathis bayonets and bullets. As many as seven hundred youngmen and women who were all participants in a non-violent democratic protest were butchered. Hundreds of young girls and housewives became victims of mass rape. Not a drop of tear was shed in this august House, Why? In Assam's long history, the period from 1979 to 1985 will ever remain as the darkest chapter of the murder of democracy. We hear of midnight knocks by Hitler's Gestapo. This colleague of yours had to hear a hundred knocks in course of the last six years. Instances galore can be cited of school going lads killed from behind by police rifle-shots, groups of simple villagers herded together like cattle at night to be felled by firing squads, old women shot at the courtyard for just refusing to answer police queries, college going youth shot dead from behind by police and his father asked to carry a heavy load on his head while going to see the son's dead body. It was the last Congress (1) Ministry in Assam and the previous Government during the President's rule which infused the venomous virus of communalism and sectarianism into the body politic of our State. The entire atmosphere has been vitiated with considerations of caste, creed and community. Human values have been thrown to the winds.

Sir, my Party, the Asom Gana Parishad upholds national unity and solidarity. We fought the elections under the banner of unity, peace and progress. We want our great nation to prosper and with that end in view, we want every region of this great country to prosper and for that matter, we want Assam to come out of its present morass of economic backwardness and political oblivion.

[Translation]

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you that you have given me an opportunity to express my views on the budget.

[Shri R. P. Suman]

Sir, this is a welcome budget. The main thing is that it is a balanced budget and it will take the country ahead towards the path of development. The direction of this budget, its targets, objectives and resources are all balanced. It will help the common man, the poor man, to make progress.

In the real sense there is nothing in this budget for which this can be criticised. When our friends in the Opposition did not find anything to criticise, they started making noise because they to criticise it. It appears to us that they are criticising it for the sake of criticism only.

Sir, in this Budget, provisions have been made for all the sectors. Measures have been proposed to strengthen the public sector; initiatives have been taken to speed up the programmes for eradication of poverty and adequate efforts have been made for taking the country towards the goal of self-reliance. In order to provide relief to the general public, initiatives have been taken for effective implementation of the self-employment scheme which was originally initiated by Shrimati Indira Gandhi in 1983. For this scheme, a provision of Rs. 130 crores has been made. It clearly shows how much the Government are alive to this scheme and they are working honestly, wholeheartedly and with integrity.

Sir, Rs. 100 crores have been allocated for expanding the khadi and rural industries, whereby the Government propose to set up a network of small scale industries. Government propose to set up these industries in those rural areas which do not have any industry and funds have been allocated for this purpose. Here, I would like to say that the rate of our population growth is very fast and that is why the progress being made by us is not having any impact on the people, although our country is making much progress. Hence the Government should pay special attention towards the population control programmes and more funds should be allocated for the purpose. Until and unless the population growth is checked, we cannot achieve the desired results in any field and we shall not feel the impact of the development. Therefore, it is necessary to adopt effective measures in this direction.

Although the Finance Minister has paid attention towards improving the health services yet quite insufficient provision has been made for them. Health is quite an important aspect. The fate of the nation is interlinked with the health of its people. It is, therefore, necessary to allocate more funds for health improvement measures. Adequate funds should be allocated for them separately so that the people may remain healthy and make the nation also healthy.

Sir, the Government have taken initiatives in the field of education and the new education policy will be before us shortly and adequate provision has been made in the budget for that, but we have to make it clear to the people that this amount will be utilised in a proper way in the rural areas and backward areas for the spread of education. Although some facilities have been provided there yet they are not sufficient. Our officials and other people do not pay due attention to them. Therefore, I request the Government to ensure that the State Governments utilise this amount for providing facilities in the rural areas and provide the people in the rural areas more and more educational facilities so that those people may be benefited by this scheme.

Besides, I would like to suggest that whenever there is any proposal to set up a new industry, it could be set up in those areas which are quite backward and far-flung and which are ridden with the problem of unemployment so that the people there may be benefited thereby. Now-a-days all the new industries are confined to those areas where a number of industries already exist.

Secondly, I would like to say that the Centre allocates funds for various projects but they are not completed within the scheduled time which creates many problems. In this connection, I would like to give an example of my own constituency where the work of Tanda Thermal Power Project is in progress at Faizabad in U.P. One unit of this Project was scheduled to be commissioned in 1984 and its total estimated expenditure was Rs. 159 crores. But Sir, you will be pained to know that that unit has not been commissioned as yet due to negligence. Now its estimated expenditure has increased to Rs. 300 crores and it appears that its one

unit will probably will be commissioned in 1987. By the time this Project is completed, its expenditure will increase from Rs. 159 crores to Rs. 400 or 500 crores due to sheer negligence. Sir, had this Project been completed according to the schedule, only the original estimated expenditure would have been incurred on it and with the amount of the escalated cost, another project of the same capacity would have been completed. Therefore, I request you to sanction full amount at the very first stage for such projects which are undertaken by the State Governments so that their work may proceed unhindered.

Sir, I would like to say about the Tanda Thermal Power Project that last year Rs. 63 crores were allocated for this Project but out of it only Rs. 11 crores were released upto the 31st December, 1985 and the remaining Rs. 52 crores were not released due to which this work remains incomplete so far. Therefore, I request you to accord top priority to such projects and sanction the funds immediately so that progress could be achieved.

Sir, the Government have introduced Accident Insurance Scheme for Railway Porters and sweepers of Municipalities which is a good step and the hon. Minister deserves appreciation for that. Personal Injury Insurance Social Security Scheme was implemented in 100 districts which has now been extended to cover 200 districts. I would request you to implement this scheme all over the country so that all the people in the country may be benefited thereby.

The people belonging to the schedule castes and schedule tribes are facing acute housing problem. I congratulate the Government for starting the Indira Housing Scheme to solve that problem and allocation therefor has been raised from Rs. 100 crores to Rs. 125 crores, but it will be useful only if it is implemented according to a time-bound programme and completed within the prescribed time. Then only these people can get houses and can be benefited.

Sir, it was said by the Finance Minister that the question of giving more powers to the Income Tax Officers was under consideration which is a welcome step. It is, of course, necessary to give them more powers.

But, at the same time, it is also necessary to have a check on them lest having unrestricted powers they should start harassing the people. At some places this has happened that powers have been misused by them for harassing the people. Such a thing should not occur again.

So far as blackmarketing is concerned, an extensive survey should be conducted regarding it because it is growing very fast. To check this evil, it is necessary to unearth black money and, for that purpose, raids should be conducted. Only then black-marketing can be checked and the condition of the country improved.

Sir, there are no two opinions about it that our country is developing very fast. One thing I would like to say about our farmers and that is that whatever programmes are started for the farmers, they are not implemented properly. It was said that the paddy purchase centres would be opened but they could not be opened and as a result of that the farmers were cheated and they had to sell their paddy at a very low price. Now I request you to open wheat purchase centres because wheat crop is about to reach the markets, so that the farmers are not cheated and their problem is solved.

With these words, I again welcome the budget and would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the difficulties being faced by the people on account of the increase in prices of kerosene oil and diesel. It is a fact that the people have been very badly affected due to this increase and they are facing difficulties. I, therefore, request that the enhanced prices of these items may be reduced so as to provide relief to the farmers and other people. In the end, I welcome the budget and convey my thanks to you.

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi) :
Mr Chairman, Sir, the budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister is being discussed here. This budget has been prepared with great care, prudence and wisdom. It will benefit the poor and the middle class people. It will help India progress rapidly. I rise to support it. This Budget has given relief to the small farmers, poor labourers, petty shopkeepers, small factory owners, Harijans, landless farmers and to all others.

[Shri Bharat Singh]

I would particularly like to say about agriculture. Our Government have given subsidy to the tune of Rs. 1950 crores on fertilizers. The benefit of this subsidy will go to those people who are poor and purchase rationed flour and also to the petty shopkeepers.

A crop insurance scheme has been introduced for the farmers. Fruits have also been covered under it. This scheme will benefit all the farmers, whether they are fruit growers, vegetable growers or wheat or rice growers. But the farmers will face some difficulty in this regard. The crop of only those farmers will be insured who take loans from the banks and not of the others. I would like to say that all those small farmers should be covered under this scheme whose holdings are not more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 to 5 acres. Crops of all such farmers should be covered under this scheme.

A subsidy of Rs. 1750 crores has been provided in case of items of daily use. This will benefit the poor and if the poor become strong, India will naturally become strong.

This discussion pertains to the villages. I belong to Delhi. Under the 20 Point Programme, the Gram Panchayat allotted one acre land to each landless labourer by passing a resolution to this effect. Government have installed tubewells in those areas where 8 to 10 acres of land have been allotted to the poor. This has helped them to irrigate their land in this way they are growing enough foodgrains for their own use.

In Delhi, a residential plot is sold at the rate of Rs. 500 to 600 per sq yard but in our villages free plots are allotted to those Harijans and landless labourers, irrespective to their castes, who have no house to live in. The Panchayat has to incur Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 on them. This is all being done under the 20 Point Programme.

The subject of education has been discussed at length in the House. There are no two opinions about it that the illiterate are also being imparted education now-a-days. A larger number of schools are being run. Encouragement has been given to education. A sum of Rs. 221 crores was

allocated for education in the previous budget which has now been increased to Rs. 352 crores in this budget. I would like that the increased allocation for education in the budget should be utilised in the villages and in resettlement colonies to the maximum, where poor people live. Buildings should be constructed there for schools. Maximum efforts should be made for providing education to the people in a better way.

There is no college of agriculture in the villages of Delhi. The villagers and the Pradhan of the villages are prepared to offer land free of cost for agricultural college. If such a college is opened in the villages, more and more students will get education there and in this way their knowledge in the field of agriculture will increase.

16.00 hrs.

Lakhs of people live in the resettlement and unauthorised colonies. They do not get electricity connection for their small tenements. So, they use electricity by putting across a wire whereby the same expenditure is incurred. If they are provided electricity connections on regular basis by installing meters, the Government will earn revenue and the people will get electricity. Persons belonging to Haryana, Rajasthan, U.P. live in these unauthorised colonies. Besides, the drivers and conductors of D.T.C. also live there. I think they should be provided with the facilities of electricity and water in such colonies.

The condition of the resettlement colonies in Delhi is quite deplorable. The people who came from outside and settled in Jhuggi-jhonparis are living there. The late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had once said that they would be provided with roads and drains. A large number of landless and people of weaker sections live in these colonies. There are large tracts of land lying unused there. If industries are set up over that land, the poor will get employment and they will not have to go for jobs in the congested areas of Delhi. They will get jobs in those very areas.

You know that the population of Delhi is increasing and as a result thereof difficulties arise in providing facilities of

electricity, water and transport for them. I would suggest that responsible officers should be posted in the resettlement colonies and in the districts who may guide the people about the jobs that are available to them near their homes and about the means by which they can earn their livelihood there. If such arrangements are made then they will not have to come to Delhi and they would get jobs at their doorstep.

The D.T.C. fares have been increased. We can reduce its impact by other means. It would be better if jobs are provided to the poor people within 10 kilometres of their places of residence. In this way, they will have to pay less fare and there will be no need of reducing the fares. The poor can get relief only when we pay attention towards them.

It is often said in the House that the rural areas should be developed. Today, subsidised loans are provided to the carpenters, blacksmiths, potters and to others. Loans to the tune of lakhs of rupees are provided to the beneficiaries in Delhi alone. I would like that the banks should provide loans to the owners of small scale industries, petty shopkeepers, artisans, labourers, mill-owners and vegetable vendors so that they may be able to raise their standard of living. You know that our young Prime Minister also tries to see how the poor people can be uplifted and how work can be provided to them so that the country may become strong.

I have another suggestion to make. Our area is a rural area and some training schools should be opened there so that as soon as the young students come out of the schools they may be able to get training in different trades there. Thereby, they will be able to stand on their own feet.

In the end, I thank you for the time that you have given to me to speak.

16.05 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the Chair*]

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAI SI (Hyderabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, every year budget is presented and every year on the budget eve the people of the

country pass through a time of suspense regarding the outcome of the budget, because every year taxes are being enhanced. Hardly there was any year when the taxes were not enhanced. With the tax enhancement, the prices also rise which causes hardships to the people, but every year it is said that such and such provisions have been made for the poor and when we analyse the statistics we find that the poor are becoming poorer and the rich are becoming richer. But now, a new method has been evolved whereby the people should not get shocking news all of a sudden. In accordance with that new method, one month before the budget, the prices of petrol, diesel, kerosene oil and cooking gas were increased and the argument given for this price rise was unique. It was said that petrol consumption had increased and that was why its price was increased. It means that on the one hand the prices were increased to curtail consumption but on the other hand prices are increasing and due to this the poor people are facing difficulties. Then, your argument becomes laughable when we see that the motor vehicle industries are being expanded and the number of motor vehicles is also increasing. In such a situation we are unable to understand as to what the correct thing is.

In the budget you have should a deficit of Rs. 3,650 crores which will increase inflation and create problems for the people. Prices had increased considerably during the last year and if this process continues, where will it stop? Meanwhile, we will have to pay Rs. 445 crores more.

Today, if we compare our country with those nations which got independence after the Second World War, we find that Atom bombs were dropped in Japan, Germany was divided, Chinese were said to be opium-addicted, but in comparison with these countries what is our development even after so high budgetary provisions? I do not say that we have made no progress. What I mean to say is that in our car industry we are manufacturing cars but after six months all parts of the cars start deteriorating except their horns. This is the state of our progress. If we ask the manufacturer he simply says that after paying so many taxes how a good car can be produced.

[Shri Sultan Salahuddin]

Then, I have also seen the theme of your speech, major part of which was related to the political issues. It appeared that a major part of the budget speech was related to your party manifesto and could not be part of the budget, although you made it a part of the budget. You should have brought all those things under the Plan. You said that such and such provisions were made for the schedule castes and schedule tribes. I agree to it and I too have sympathy with them, but your speech appeared to be like a manifesto for political purposes. Had you brought all these things under the Plan, the time of the House would have been saved.

Then another question arises. When you mentioned all these things, there remains the most important aspect of this country and that is of the minority, which I think, in the strict sense cannot be called minority. Have you said anything about the minority in the budget speech? Have you said anything about the well-being of the Muslims whose number is in crores? You should have proposed some programme for their well-being and for raising their living standard. Will your speech bring about integration in the country or create differences? Such a speech will tend to affect their minds because these poor people have been deprived of everything. Only one thing remains with them and that is that when they get up in the morning they hear the news of riots and destruction of lives and property caused somewhere. Have you any scheme to stop all these things? Every morning it is heard that such and such mosque has been snatched away. Babari mosque had been seized and there was strong reaction to that all over the country. Have you any method of checking all these things? Have you done anything to stop all these things? It seems that you did nothing to check such happenings in the country and every day 500 years' old matters are being revived that the mosque was built by Babar 500 years back but it is not there now. You may please tell me what is all this? Were the Central Government or the U.P. Government, where your party is in power, unable to do anything to check all this? Government should come forward to prevent such things from happening and maintain law and order.

Here I would like to say one thing more. Nothing has been done for the development of Hyderabad after Nizam's rule. At that time, the total population of Hyderabad was three lakhs and two tanks were constructed to meet their water requirements. Today its population is 20 lakhs and the people pine even for a drop of water. When the people open the taps they find the water just trickling. I want that the hon. Minister should pay some attention towards Hyderabad also. You at least provide funds so that water supply could be arranged there and other necessities could also be provided. Drainage system is not there. When you are allocating Rs. 100 crores for Bombay and for other big cities also assistance is being provided.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN
OWAISI : Here I have been reminded of an urdu couplet of Iqbal :

*Yeh dastoore zubaan bandi kaisi hai
teri mehfil main*

*Yahan to baat karne ko tarsti hai
zubaan meri.*

I would like to say that this increase in taxes has now become unbearable. I can recall that incident when Nadir Shah had ordered a massacre of the people in Delhi. When all the people were being murdered in Delhi, then Asif Shah Abbali went to Nadirshah and recited a persian couplet, which meant : "O Emperor, all the people have been killed and if you desire that I should kill more people, then you have to first revive all the dead ones and then kill them." That is exactly the condition of the poor people today. Time is short and whatever was said on T.V. that I would not like to say here. Differences are being created within the country. However, please think over all these things. There are so many problems in Hyderabad. There is no industry there. There are some areas there which perennially suffer from famine and they are pining even for a drop of water. Unemployment is there and poverty is there. You are requested to pay attention to that so that the people are saved. Today morning itself I was informed on telephone that the people there are pining for a drop of water, and now water will be supplied to them after two days so that nobody could

have even tears to weep. Now the condition is like this :

*Beharhal ab inse shikwa kya karen
Jab tawakko hi uth gai Galib
Kyon kisi ka gila kare koi*

We expect that you will pay attention towards them otherwise the conditions will become from bad to worse.

The problem of drinking water is acute in Hyderabad. I have received a message on telephone today that water is available there once in two days and that too for two hours only. The water pressure is low like the tears of a widow. It comes just in drops. No timings have been fixed to enable the people to know when the water will be available. The water flow from taps is whimsical. Sometimes water comes in the taps at two o'clock in the night just for two hours. If the people stand in the queue for water in the night up to 4 o'clock, they will have no energy left to go for work in the morning. These are the conditions prevalent there.

Sir, we see in the films how a hero comes across a heroin and falls in love with her, then they sing a song and marry and then a child is born to them. But the films are confined to a period of five years of life only. Since I like films, I think things must be probably happening like that in life. But this is not so.

However, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the time is very short so I would speak only on the important issues.

Many things have been mentioned in the budget, and all of them are important, but I would like to draw the attention of the House particularly to the anti-poverty programmes and the agriculture. 50 per cent more allocations have been made in this budget for poverty eradication programmes which is a welcome step.

Sir, so far as the poor people are concerned, money is of course needed for the eradication of their poverty but the success

or failure of these programmes depends also on how far the people through whom these programmes are being implemented are performing their job effectively in the rural areas. The agencies which are working at present in the villages, whether they are B.D.Os, Gram Sevaks or Primary Health Centres, it seems that they are not working properly. It has been my experience that 75 per cent of the employees working in the Primary Health Centres do not remain on their seats and they somehow manage to remain away to other places or absent themselves from their place of working.

Our family planning programme is the most important programme and it the employees who are supposed to implement it do not remain in the villages then how it can be successful.

Sir, labour intensive programmes should be undertaken to eliminate poverty in the villages. Such programmes can be taken up in my State on a large scale. Rajasthan is a backward State in India and the maximum wasteland can be found there. I have got figures with me which show that the most serious problem of soil erosion is there in Rajasthan. According to the all India figures, 998.76 lakh acres of land is facing the problem of soil erosion, out of which Rajasthan accounts for about 172.65 lakh acres of such land, which is larger than that in any other part or State of the country. The number of Maharashtra is the second and that of Madhya Pradesh the third amongst the States which are suffering from the problem of soil erosion. Our Government have started a number of anti-soil erosion works to combat the problem of soil erosion on which work is being done. But so far only 12.56 lakh acres of land has been covered. The hon. Finance Minister has introduced a new programme of Waste Land Development. In regard to that I would like to say that the work on that should be done with a greater speed. Not only that, according to the Farm-Forest standard ratio there should be 33 per cent of forest land and the rest should be the farm land. Against this, in Rajasthan there are forests in 9 per cent area only. Actually, even that 9 per cent cannot be called forests although the area is of course that of the forests. If we see the forest area of Rajasthan we shall find that it does not come

[Shri Jujhar Singh]

to even 10 per cent of that. You can imagine the magnitude of the problem from this. I think if priority is given to programmes pertaining to forests in the poverty eradication programmes, it will give employment to more people and there will also be growth of forests in Rajasthan.

I represent the south-eastern part of Rajasthan which traditionally abounds in forests but today that area contains the maximum ravines. It is said that there is pressure on jungles due to the shortage of fuel, and as fodder is to be provided to the cattle so it results in the destruction of forests. But, Mr. Chairman, Sir, my experience is that the cause of the denudation of forests is not grazing or the need for fuel. Most of the forests are in fact being denuded due to the collusion between the contractors and the officials of the Forest Department. The timber forests are not being denuded for fuel and so far as the wild life is concerned, the poor man never kills animals. The way in which destruction of wild life and timber is taking place in the south-eastern Rajasthan, that shows that all this is taking place due to the connivance. It is an admitted fact that no one fells timber trees for fuel. The officials of the Forest Department and the smugglers are in league with each other and it is they who fall such trees. Prompt action is needed to check soil erosion in eastern Rajasthan. There are ravines in that area. By undertaking afforestation programmes that area can definitely be developed. In my opinion, the social forestry or the plantation programmes are by themselves no doubt proper but insofar as traditional forests are concerned, by mere fencing or putting up enclosures or by not allowing the movement of cattle a lot can be achieved. There is no need to spend much money on that because seeds are already there in the soil which are sufficient to germinate. Only supervision is needed for the growth of trees. So, I would like to request that instead of undertaking new programme, we should carry out proper supervision and then only we can stop the destruction of the forests.

Sir, Rajasthan is supposed to have forests in 35,891 square kilometer area, but

actually there are degraded forests in 22,891 kilometre area or there are bare hills devoid of any trees. There is not a single bush in 11,500 square kilometre area. Under the Waste Land Programme, which is in operation in Rajasthan, attention should be paid towards the growth of forests there. Only then it will yield some good results.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, you are asking me to conclude my speech so I would not take much time. I have been told that destruction of forests has taken place in Rajasthan during the recent years at the rate of 540 acres per day. This itself is a serious matter particularly in a State where there is already a dearth of forests. All these irregularities have been mostly due the officers. The major flaw in the functioning of the poverty eradication programme and other development programmes is the negligence on the part of the officers. It is due to their negligence that these rural programmes have not been implemented properly. If these officers do not give attention towards the implementation of these programmes, it would never be possible to implement them. So, I would request you that instead of looking at these programmes in terms of funds, efforts should be made to get these programmes implemented by these officers. Some way should be found out to make these officers capable of implementing these programmes. Then only the country can be benefited by them.

Sir, the most important person in a district, who is responsible for the implementation of these programmes, is the collector. But, Sir, now-a-days experienced persons are not appointed as Collectors and instead the I.A.S. officers are appointed as collectors, who have little knowledge about the district concerned, its problems and its people. Moreover, they do not bother to acquire such knowledge. So, only such persons should be appointed as Collectors as have experience of the rural areas, as understand the people of the district concerned, the problems of the villages of that district and as may be interested in solving their problems. If such persons are not appointed on this key post, the implementation of these programmes will not take place. I would again request that suitable persons should be appointed on this

district level post for implementation of these programmes.

***SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHVAN** (Palghat) : Sir, I rise to support this Budget. This is an important step which will take us towards the 21st century. This budget envisages a total income of Rs. 48767 crores and an expenditure of Rs. 52862 crores leaving a deficit of Rs. 4095 crores. It is estimated that the receipts from fresh levies will be of the order of Rs. 445 crores. Thus the real deficit will be Rs. 3650 crores. Last year the total deficit including the amount of Rs. 1628 crores which was given to the States by way of medium term loans for meeting the over draft problems, was of the order of Rs. 6118 crores. Thus we find that compared to last year the budgetary deficit for 1986-87 is much less. However, the Govt. should bear in mind one important thing. Last year the original budget deficit envisaged in the budget was Rs. 3316 crores which went upto Rs. 4490 crores according to the revised estimates. That is to say the deficit had gone up by 1174 crores. The fact is that in spite of 22% increase in the tax revenues the budget deficit increased. Therefore, I request the Govt. to see that the deficit is not allowed to grow and get out of control and inflationary pressures are not generated.

This year's budget is a budget in favour of common man particularly the middle class and people belonging to the fixed income group. This will be clear from the reliefs given by the Finance Minister in the budget. First, the relief on account of income tax is very welcome. It is the people belonging to fixed income group who are hit hard by inflation and price rise. Therefore, I support this measure whole-heartedly. In this context I want to make a request to the hon. Minister. Government pays dearness allowance to its employees from time to time. This is meant as a cushion against price rise but it is unfortunate that they should be asked to pay income tax on this amount also. I understand that in some cases the employees had to pay twice as much amount as tax as they get as A. D. because the income slab changes by getting a few instalments. Then where is the relief ?

Therefore, my request is that the entire D.A. should be exempted from income tax. If that is not possible at one go at least 50% of the D. A. should be exempted from income tax.

Another speciality of this budget is that it has provided 65% more in terms of allocation for anti poverty programmes like IRDP, NREP, RLEGP etc. This shows the Government's commitment to the eradication of poverty, and unemployment and thus to improve the living conditions of weaker sections. The allocation for NREP has been raised from Rs. 230 crores to Rs. 443 crores. The allocation for RLEGP has been raised from Rs. 400 crores to Rs. 633 crores and for IRDP from Rs. 283 crores to Rs. 428 crores. Similarly, an amount of Rs. 125 crores has been provided for housing construction for the benefit of the scheduled caste and scheduled tribes, and bonded labours. From this it is clear that the basic approach adopted in this budget is to ameliorate the living conditions of the poor. The late lamented Indiraji, had always strived to help these poorer sections. It was a dream to see these sections leading a decent life. This budget is aimed at fulfilling that dream. I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the hon. Finance Minister for this.

The MODVAT scheme is a new experiment in the tax sector which is meant for reducing excise duty on many commodities and thereby giving relief to the consumers. Similarly, the finance Minister has made an announcement that a direct taxes code which will remove the deficiencies in the present tax system and rationalise it, would be introduced by June 1986. This is a welcome announcement. This is an indication of the attractive innovations which are going to be introduced in this sector. Thus I can characterise this year's budget as a budget of reliefs and concessions.

Sir, the budget gives us the total picture of the developmental efforts. Its aim should be all round development of different regions in the country. For that reason it. If discussion of the problems of the State has great relevance in a debate on the budget.

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam.

[Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan]

Therefore, I would like to present some of the problems being faced by my State of Kerala before this august House. Sir, if you determine a poverty line for the States Kerala perhaps would be one of these who remain below that poverty line. It is a State which always faces financial problems. It is facing problems in finding resources for completing the various plan projects. Even the Central assistance and the money collected from within the State are not enough to meet the requirements. The Planning Commission is not favourably disposed towards the States. In such a situation the State can somehow meet the day to day expenses, and it cannot meet the requirements of new plan projects. This is the reason why industrial development has not taken place in Kerala and the problem of unemployment has become acute. We must find an immediate solution to this problem. What is required is an increase in the plan outlay. Therefore, I would request the Government to raise the annual plan outlay of Kerala.

The sharp decline in the price of coconut has ruined the economy of Kerala. The coconut which was selling at Rs. 4 per nut in 1983-84 is selling at below Rs. 1 today. The request made by the Govt. of Kerala that a floor price should be fixed for the coconut and it should be declared as an oil seed has not been accepted by the Centre. If these two steps are taken we would be able to provide relief to lakhs of coconut growers in Kerala. Therefore, I request the Central Government to take an immediate decision in this matter. Steps should also be taken to increase the internal consumption of coconut oil.

Now, I come to the question of industrial development in Kerala. In the third fourth and fifth five year plans no central investment worth the name has taken place in Kerala. That is why industrial development has not taken place in that State. How can a Government which struggles hard to meet the day today administrative expenditure invest money in industries? Therefore, what is immediately required is substantial central investment in the central sector in Kerala. After the Government headed by Shri K. Karnakaran came to power there has been peace in the industrial sector. Today

there is a very congenial climate for investment in industries—I hope that the Central Govt. will take suitable steps in this regard.

Sir, the Government has made the provision of Rs. 139 crores for the development of tourism in the 7th five year plan. This amount is 93% more than the allocation made for this purpose in the 6th five year plan. I am happy that the Govt. is preparing a comprehensive plan for the development of tourism which earns us large amount of foreign exchange. In this context I want to say a word about the vast potential for tourism development in my constituency that is Palghat. Many areas in this district have immense potential. A demand was made some time back that a tourist complex linking important tourist centres of the district like Malampuzha, Parampikulam, Nelliampati and silent valley should be set up in the district. But no decision has yet been taken in this respect, I take this opportunity to reiterate my demand. I hope that the Government will take appropriate steps to meet this demand.

Sir, the House discussed the drought situation in the country a few days ago. On this occasion I would like to bring it to the notice of the House that many areas of my constituency, Palghat are in the grip of a severe drought. Most of these areas lie under the rain shadow region of the Western Ghats. Therefore, these areas are prone to recurrent drought. There is no drinking water available in many affected areas. Large number of cattle have died depriving a large number of people of their only means of livelihood. The farmers who took loans from the bank find it difficult to repay them. In these circumstances Central assistance is absolutely necessary, to save people from starvation. I request the Central Government to take immediate steps to save the people of Palghat from drought. I would request that a Central team may be sent to Palghat to study the situation and suggest relief measures.

Sir, the Kuriarkutty-Karapara multi-purpose project is an important project which is pending clearance by the Central Government. I take this opportunity to request the Government that at least the irrigation part of the project may be cleared

so that the drought prone areas of Palghat would get water.

Finally as I have already said this is a budget of reliefs and concessions for the common man. I once again congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for presenting a budget in favour of the poor people of this country.

[English]

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU (Madras North) : Mr. Chairman, at the outset I want to say that the Government should forthwith dispense with the practice of pre-budget taxing. It is against the democratic principles. Even after increasing the administered prices which will yield to the Government Rs. 2,00 crores our budget has a deficit of Rs. 3,650 crores. In the anti-poverty programme the Finance Minister included the urban disadvantaged population, like Rickshaw pullers, porters, cobblers washermen, barbers, cart pullers, etc., and he has brought some relief measures for them.

The Tamil Nadu Government under the leadership of Dr. Karunanidhi took many progressive measures almost fifteen years back. He abolished the man-drawn rickshaws and introduced the cycle rickshaws, A Slum Clearance Board was established and a sum of Rs. 40 crores was allotted for constructing houses for the down-trodden. His distribution of spectacles to the poor was highly appreciated by many people then. He has created a beggars rehabilitation scheme also to look after the welfare of the people. We have implemented all these measures fifteen years back.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Untold story !

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : But our Finance Minister is now at the introduction stage.

A legal luminary, Mr. Palkiwala quoted Prof. Raj Krishana saying that "anti-poverty programmes have a tendency to degenerate into pro-party programmes". Loan melas are made as party functions. As far as Madras city—my constituency—is concerned, the North Madras District Congress President and South Madras District Congress President were given 10,000

loan forms each. Why not our District Party Secretary be given some loan forms ? In the loan melas even the names of concerned MPs are not printed in the invitation. By spending public money, the loan melas are converted into mere party functions. This should be avoided.

The Finance Minister lays great emphasis on the National Rural Development Programme. This programme generated employment to the extent of 265.66 million mandays in 1985 as against 264.22 million mandays a year before. The amount of fund utilised for the programme in 1985 was Rs. 439.67 crores as compared to Rs. 409.08 crores in 1984. Here I have to say that the step-up in anti-poverty programmes implies high proportion of revenue expenditure. Poverty can be eradicated effectively if supplies of wage goods at all micro levels, are abundant, if employment rises faster than labour supply is growing and if prices of wage goods are lower or at least stable. But the prices of essential wage goods like foodgrains, sugar, edible oils, kerosene public and utility transport charges, are soaring sky high. In 1976 one kg. of rice was sold at Rs. 2.20 and now it is sold at Rs. 5.20.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : On a point of order. In which State rice is sold at Rs. 5.20 ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not a point of order. You can reply to him when your turn comes.

SHRI N. V. N. SOMU : Coconut oil was sold at Rs. 10.60 and now it is sold at Rs. 27, pepper was sold at Rs. 17 and now at Rs. 60, gingili oil was Rs. 9.50 and now Rs. 19, refined oil was Rs. 7 and now Rs. 20, sugar was Rs. 3 and now Rs. 6.50, chillies Rs. 8.40 and now Rs. 16, turmeric, which womenfolk apply on their face daily, was Rs. 14 and now Rs. 60. The purchasing power of the people is getting crippled day by day. The Government should immediately take drastic steps to stop this steep price increase.

The Finance Minister in his Budget speech announced that he was abolishing the excise duty on kerosene stoves. But he has already increased the price of kerosene. This way, you are pinching the child as well as rocking the cradle.

[Shri N. V. N. Somu]

With regard to oil policy of the Finance Minister, when the price of oil is coming down in the world market from about \$ 36 per barrel to \$ 15 per barrel, which is less than half the price, why the Finance Minister is thinking of spending Rs. 4600 crores on import of oil as against Rs. 3500 crores last year. This is an avoidable expenditure. Instead of that, he should concentrate on oil exploration and extraction especially in the east coast of Tamil Nadu, which is full of oil. The price hike did not leave the newspapers also. The latest massive price hike is about Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 1,600 in respect of Nepa mills with effect from December 1985 in violation of the assurance given by Shri Veerendra Patil, the erstwhile Industry Minister that the industry would be consulted before any price escalation is allowed. This will undoubtedly shatter the viability of the newspapers. This will force them to increase the selling prices of newspapers and advertising rates. Thus, the newspapers, the readers and the advertisers are going to be penalised for the inefficiency and the very high cost of operations of the indigenous newsprint mills. At the end, it is only the newspaper employees, who are awaiting the Wage Board's recommendations, who will be the final sufferers.

A recent study made by the Economic and Science Research Foundation showed that if there had been no delays in the implementation of the plans, the national income would have increased by Rs. 1,20,000 crores annually, exports would have risen by nearly Rs. 9,600 crores annually, annual production of foodgrains would have been higher by 54 million tonnes, 40.4 million jobs would have been created, per capita income would have increased three-fold. So, the Congress Government is responsible for all these drawbacks.

Before I conclude, I quote Mr. Palkhiwala. He said: "The world 'progress' is almost the exact opposite of Congress".

[Translation]

SHRI JAIPRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandi Chowk): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to congratulate the Finance Minister for presenting a budget which is in the in-

terest of and beneficial to the poor, peasants, workers, small scale industries, wayside hawkers and ricksha pullers. He has, under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, given a new direction to Shrimati Indira Gandhi's policy of poverty alleviation from the country.

I want to congratulate the Finance Minister that he has not imposed any duty on cotton and manmade fabrics of value upto Rs. 50; has increased exemption on shoes upto Rs. 40 and removed excise duty on knives, combs and umbrellas. The funds provided for small scale industry in IDBI will provide impetus to the industry. The enhancement of ceiling in investment from Rs. 20 lakhs to Rs. 35 lakhs will go a long way to benefit the small scale industry. The people are happy that the excise duty on 41 medicines have been withdrawn.

The small scale industry will face a little difficulty due to this budget. The exemption limit which was Rs. 20 lakhs for the small scale industries have been reduced to Rs 7.5 lakhs which will result in difficulties in running the business and also more harassment would be caused by the inspectors. You have made it compulsory for the small scale industries with Rs 7.5 lakh investment to register themselves. This will create difficulties for them because many of them come under the non-conforming areas where they cannot get licence. The excise licensing limit should match the exemption limit. The exemption which was available to the industries with 49 workers or 2 HP electricity run small industries should be restored. Many small scale industries are located at different places. In such units where atmosphere is not proper, there can be difficulty in expanding the business. I appeal that factories should be constructed for the small scale industries in the same way in which you are constructing houses for the poor, so that they are able to run their business properly.

Now I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the toy industry. There about one thousand small scale industries engaged in this trade whose turnover is about Rs. 50 crores. Earlier there was exemption upto Rs. 20 lakh on small scale industries manufacturing toys but now duty has been imposed on them and that too

between 5 per cent and 15 per cent. On the raw material for small plastic toys, there is already 30 per cent duty imposed. The refund on material will be given only to those who purchase raw material directly from the manufacturers. Industries with more than Rs. 5 lakh turnover will have to get themselves registered with the Excise Department. This will cause difficulties to the small scale industrialists.

I want to draw your attention towards one thing. There is duty on 'Baby-walker' but there is no duty on 'Tri-cycle' which is also used by the children. Similarly, there is no duty on sports goods. The toys which are used by the children should also be free from duty.

I want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to leather industry. Earlier duty was levied on the leather cloth of the manufacturer *ad valorem* but now it has been raised and imposed on per square metre. This has resulted in 491 per cent increase in duty on the cheap cloth and 65 per cent decrease in duty on the fine cloth. Earlier there was duty of Rs. 1.75 per metre of cloth whose rate was Rs. 5 per metre. Now it has been increased to Rs. 10 per metre. But duty on the finest leather whose rate was Rs. 100 per metre and on which duty was Rs. 35 per metre has now been reduced to Rs. 12.5 per metre.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to submit two or three points about exports. The people engaged in exports are facing many difficulties. There are many incidental expenses which they have to bear. If you want that the exports should increase then the rate which has not been fixed at 10 per cent should be increased to 15 per cent. Cash incentive quota should be given on items.

[English]

The interest on pre-shipment credit should be 'Minimum' or it should be 'Nil'.

[Translation]

In Pakistan no interest is charged on pre-shipment credit upto 160 days. If we want to earn more foreign exchange then

there should be no tax on it for 3 to 5 years. Cash incentive rate in Pakistan is 28 per cent; in China it is 40 per cent but in India it is only 5 per cent. If we want to increase our exports then we should increase our cash incentive rate.

[English]

SHRI SALAHUDDIN (Godda) : Sir, credit must go to the Finance Minister of India for presenting such a balanced and optimistic Budget for which I am most thankful to him.

Sir, so far as the GNP is concerned, it touched an all-time peak in the economic history of India and it has set up a new record. In the same manner, in the case of industrial development, we have reached a new record, an increase of 50% over the figure of the previous corresponding year. I think that this is a very remarkable achievement. I think that this Budget symbolises a watershed in the economic history of our country. The Finance Minister is very courageously taking this risky step in the greater interest of the country. This Budget will boost up our financial control, financial administration and financial discipline because a new economic atmosphere is created. Various steps are envisaged to curb hoarding and blackmarketing.

Food and fertilizer subsidies have now reached the figure of Rs. 3,700 crores, an increase of 40 per cent per annum. This is a very good symptom in a developing country like India. It is no doubt a good subsidy, but there should be some criterion for granting the quantum of subsidy. I mean to say that the criteria should be different for different persons. If a millionaire is getting the same amount of subsidy as the poor man gets, I think this is not justified. In the case of rice, wheat, petrol and other products the poor are getting the same amount of subsidy as the millionaire is getting. I think there must be a progressive system or criterion for grant of subsidy that should be adopted by the Finance Minister of India. This is my suggestion and I think the Finance Minister will give weightage to it.

In the same manner, in the current year we are likely to pay nearly Rs. 1100 crores

[Shri Salahuddin]

more for oil imports, thus the net foreign exchange outlet makes it Rs. 4,600 crores. This is the expected amount out of our imports. It is my suggestion to the Finance Minister that the small scale sector should be given more concessions and more facilities. There are handships and restrictions on the small scale industries so far as the export trade is concerned. Liberalisation of export policy particularly in favour of small scale trader, I think, will give a new life to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI SALAHUDDIN : I will finish my speech within two minutes.

I come from an area which is the most backward tribal area of Bihar. I want to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to Santhal Pargana which is situated in the interior of Bihar. The tribals of that area have not been provided with the facility of television so far. I want to propose to the hon. Minister that in Santhal Pargana a television transmission station should be installed immediately and the tribals of the area be provided with television facility.

It is a matter of regret that in spite of such a long period having passed after independence no rail line network has been provided in the tribal belt of Santhal Pargana and even in its headquarters, Divisional headquarters there is no rail station.

Alongwith it I also want that in the budget separate provision should be made for the development of the tribal belts. The reason for this is that when you provide money to the States, as you have yourself conceded, they spend the money on other works and projects and the development work in the tribal belts lags behind. I appeal to the hon. Minister that for different projects of the tribal belts separate funds should be provided project-wise, specifically. I am of the view that the State Governments are not providing us the funds earnestly which are allocated for the projects meant for us. Sir, as I have stated, just now—

[English]

the fruits of independence do not always reach the poorest classes.

[Translation]

It is a very good step that you have increased the funds by 65 per cent for these people. Every one will agree with it and I also am of the same view but I would like that instead of computer programmes, first we should adopt character programmes. Unless we adopt the character programmes with utmost earnestness, we shall not be able to provide 65 per cent amount to these people.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, I want to submit that in our district a criminal gang has sprung up who is always after the money given to the poor under different programmes. The moment the money reaches the district that gang becomes active. Sir, the way vultures surround a dead animal and eat it away mercilessly, likewise this gang also swallows the money given to the poor for their upliftment. That is why I would submit that arrangements should be made that this money reaches the poor. Only then the people in our country will be benefited in the real sense. I am thankful to the Finance Minister that he has presented a positive and balanced budget for the country and I feel that this Budget will be very helpful in building India of shri Rajiv's dream. Lastly, I would like to say—

[English]

That will be an adding factor for the new era for the country of new and modern India.

17.02 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I whole-heartedly support the budget presented by the Finance Minister. This progressive budget will be helpful in taking the country forward with the same speed as the Hon. Prime Minister wants. The Hon. Prime Minister finds time from his busy engagements to go to farflung areas to meet the Adivasis and see their condition with a view to take the country ahead. He talks to them and asks them about the benefits that they have got from the development of the country

and also about how many of their problems have been solved. In this manner he is evaluating these things by going there so that he can assess the situation and see how much funds will be required for spending in future. The figures presented today show the extent to which success has been achieved in lifting them above the poverty line after the money so far spent for their development, so that these people do not lag behind and march forward when the country enters into the 21st century. Special schemes are being undertaken in those areas to remove their backwardness so that they may not remain behind and march forward along with others. That is why he is finding time from his busy programmes and touring those areas. But, on the other hand, there are some people who are trying to cause hindrances in his programmes and working against his wishes. I would go to the extent of saying that there are some people in the planning commission also who want to bring tardiness in the speed with which the Hon. Prime Minister wants things to be done.

'Nav Bharat Times' dated 5th March carried a news which said—

"Afsarshahi ki neend danke se nahin tutegi" (The bureaucracy would not wake up merely by making announcements). It further says, "Howsoever big public pronouncements about removal of poverty the Finance Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh, might make but when it came to implementation, the scheme announced by Shri Rajiv Gandhi for district Bastar involving Rs. 500 crores was in the doldrums due to redtapism."

There are some offices at the centre who do not care to implement the developmental schemes prepared by the Central Government. During his visit to Bastar, the Prime Minister had announced to provide Rs. 500 crores but here also they are resorting to evasive methods and they people to allocate this amount out of Rs. 7,000 crores allocated for the State for the Seventh Five Year Plan. The State Government is not at all in a position to take out Rs. 500 crores out of this fund. Under these circumstances, this schemes seems to be in the doldrums. The people of the area are also thinking that if this scheme is put off, they will be compelled

to request the Centre to include this scheme in the central sector. If the Central Government do not make provision for this scheme and of Rs. 500 crores, as announced by the Prime Minister are not given, the people of that area will feel otherwise. I would request that the Central Government should arrange to provide this additional fund of Rs. 500 crores so that the State Government may not face difficulty in this matter.

About 10,000 houseless people have been benefited under the scheme for houseless people started earlier. Those who did not have their houses have now constructed them by doing hard work. The scheme that has been sanctioned in this year's budget and is going to be launched in the name of Indiraji should be implemented on the pattern of Bastar. A Patwari of the Revenue Department in that area adopts a village and constructs 10 houses; R. I. adopts another village and constructs 15 houses, a Tehsildar adopts another village and constructs 20 houses. They get full cooperation in this endeavour from all concerned agencies. They construct houses on the same pattern and the people live in them. If some other agency is entrusted with the task of constructing houses within the same amount, I am sure, the houses so constructed would not look like the other houses in the villages and our Adivasis and Harijan would not live in them. So, such houses should not be constructed. The houses in those areas should be constructed by the Adivasis and Harijans themselves according to their requirement so that these houses are not unlike their life-style. Therefore, cooperation of the Government is needed in this regard.

Today, the Forest Department is the main obstacle in the development of that backward area. The coordination of the Forest Department is totally different from the coordination of other departments. They are not cooperating. They are creating hindrance even in the small schemes, such as construction of road to link two villages, construction of a school or digging of soil etc. Thus, the Forest Department is coming in the way of all developmental works in that area. The Act that has been enacted by the centre for the development of such areas should be fully enforced. Forests have been the source of their livelihood and if hindrances are created in the way of their

[Shri Mankuram Sodi]

development, they will never come up and it will give birth to a feeling of hatred in them. Therefore, no hindrance should be allowed to come in the way of development of the tribal areas. The offices responsible for creating hindrance should be dealt with sternly. There should be coordination so far as the development schemes are concerned. With these words, I support this Budget.

[English]

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : I rise to appose the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister.

This is the second budget which hon. Minister, Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh has presented to this House. In the Budget, it appears to me, he has tried to demonstrate the concern which the Government has for the poor. I would like to ask the hon. Finance Minister why he did not have the same concern during the months of January and February when he enhanced the administered prices of almost all the essential commodities in our country. Does the hon. Finance Minister know the reaction of the Indian people? I am sure if not we, at least the members of the opposite side also feel what we are feeling. They must have been briefed by now the reaction of the people.

I have been here for the past one month. I have ascertained from many of the families of Delhi, the middle class people. The impact of the price increase in Delhi—of course, I have not yet gone to my constituency of Bangalore—is that the family budget of a middle class family has increased by Rs. 150 to Rs. 200. I am not exaggerating. I am prepared to give the figures. I can give the break-up of the family budget. The prices of food articles, the DTC fares and everything have been increased. Why did not our hon. Finance Minister show the same concern for the poor whom this price rise affects the most.

Whom does this price affect? Prices of petroleum products have been raised. He gives a great concession for the kerosene stove but at the same time he goes on increasing the price of kerosene required every day.

Another effect of this increase in the administered prices is what should happen to the States which are giving food articles at subsidised rates like Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh? We have been giving rice at Rs. 2 per kg which is being sold here at Rs. 2.75. What should happen to the budget of the States? At the same time, the States also will lose their legitimate share of the excise duty because the administered prices of some of the articles which are subject to excise duty have been increased. If only you increase the excise duty, the States would have got a share. I strongly oppose the made by the hon. Finance Minister. This shows that it is only an eye-wash. I know in the Budget he has provided more funds. He has increased the allotment for anti-poverty programmes by 50%. I do not grudge it. But it is neutralised by this increase in the administered prices.

Sir, I know I have a very limited time at my disposal. I represent a hundred per cent urban constituency. I would like to ask through you the Government of India. Till this date, even after nearly 40 years of independence, we do not have a national urban development policy. I know a lot of things are being done for rural development. It is necessary. I welcome it and I quite realise that India cannot prosper if our rural areas do not prosper. But at the same time to the problem of urban areas the Government has not given even a thought at all. Just a few minutes before when Dr. Datta Samant was speaking about the Bombay city, the hon. Finance Minister stood up and said, that Bombay is getting Rs. 100 crores for the slum clearance. Our Prime Minister, when he was in Bombay, announced that. I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether he is aware of the problems of the great metropolitan cities like Madras, Bangalore. Sir, in my constituency, there are 500 slums. One lakh families are residing in slums in miserable conditions. I would like that the Government of India must have a national policy on all these things.

Sir, just now my hon. colleague from Hyderabad spoke about the discouraging water condition in Hyderabad. In my constituency. Sir, in Bangalore city, it is still worse. People do not have water even on alternate days. Though the Government is

doing its best, we are not able to cope up with the problem. Two of the reservoirs completely dried up, which used to give water to Bangalore. We have been asking the Government of India to sanction the Cauvery thirly stage. We require no grants. We have asked for a loan from the World Bank and the L.I.C. Even that is not forth-coming from the Government of India. I strongly urge the hon. Finance Minister to see that aid is immediately given to the Government of Karnataka by the World Bank and the L.I.C. In this connection I would like the hon. Finance Minister to note the feelings of the 4 crores of Kannadigas. What is their reaction to the General Budget and the Railway Budget ? So far as Karnataka is concerned, it has drawn a blank in these two budgets. As far as Railway is concerned, greater injustice has been done to Karnataka than it was done during the last year. So also the dream of Karnataka which gave such a massive mandate to the Ruling Party 24 out of 28 Members were elected on the Congress Party ticket has remained a dream. What is the reward they have got ? No new project, which was promised, has been implemented. I am happy that Rs. 700 crores has been provided for Vishakapatnam project. Sir, what have you done for the Vijayanagaram Steel Project. The Foundation was laid 15 years back by our late Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Only yesterday I asked the Steel Minister whether he has shelved it or he is going to set up the project. Let the Government have the courage to say that they are not going to take up that scheme forget about it. We know how to treat them afterwards.

Now I come to another important project *i.e.* the Mangalore oil Refinery. Last time during the budget it was assured that it would be included in the Seventh plan. Even that does not find a place in the budget. Then there is another important matter *i.e.* about the Electronic Digital Trunk Exchange Project. It was originally decided by the Expert Committee to locate it in Bangalore. For political reasons, it was shifted to U.P. and the late Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi had promised the second Unit of this Project will be located in Karnataka. But even that does not find a place in the budget of our Hon. Finance Minister Shri V. P. Singh.

Sir, I must tell the Finance Minister that the people of Karnataka—let him please ascertain it from his own party members and I need not tell him have been disappointed. Even now I say that it is not too late. They have still another four years left in the Seventh plan. Let the Government re-consider and see the dreams of Karnataka people come true.

Sir, I would like to say one word about the Public Sector. I am unable to understand what is the policy of the Government. On the one hand they take of economic independence and self-reliance; at the same time they go on giving O.G.L. very freely to everybody. Sir, all the machineries which are manufactured by the prestigious project like HMT all over India, such machineries are now included in the O.G.L. I quote only one example. I have sent a letter to Shri V.P. Singh, yesterday. This is about a Defence Project. The Project is coming up at Tiruchirappalli. For that project, HMT, Kerala Unit, is prepared to supply all the machineries required. But the Defence authorities are getting it imported from West Germany. The machinery is worth about Rs. 26 crores. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to spell out in this House the correct policy of the Government.

With these words, Sir, oppose the Budget and thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM RATAN RAM (Hajipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to heartily support the budget presented by the hon. Minister. While welcoming the budget, I would like to say that this year's budget is a progressive budget and it points towards the steps that we are taking to achieve our objective of establishing socialistic pattern of society. During the course of his budget speech, our Finance Minister had said that the Government would bring parity in the matter of development. The Prime Minister has also expressed the view that there would be economic justice for all. Our budget allocation this year, particularly for the rural areas, has tremendously increased as compared to the previous year.

[Shri Ram Ratan Ram]

Last year, a provision of Rs. 230 crores was made under N.R.E.P. for the development of the rural areas and this year it has been raised to Rs. 443 crores which is 93 per cent more than that of the previous year. The provision for R.L.E.G.P. last year was Rs. 400 crores which has been raised to Rs. 633 crores this year, thus registering an increase of 58 per cent. Under I.R.D.P., as against the provision of Rs. 283 crores last year, Rs. 428 crores have been provided this year which means an increase of 51 per cent. Similarly, as against the provision of Rs. 100 crores last year for housing for the scheduled castes and bonded labour, a provision of Rs. 125 crores has been made this year. This too is 25 per cent more than the amount provided last year. A provision of Rs. 317 crores has been made for rural water supply this year. A provision of Rs. 165 crores was made last year for the Harijans under the Special Component Plan. As against that, a provision of Rs. 175 crores has been made in this year's budget.

The budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister is aimed at achieving the objective of socialistic pattern of society. But, in spite of this, if we all and our Government are unable to achieve the objective then, I think, there is no other party which can accomplish this task. That is why all of us should dedicate ourselves to the work of nation-building as well as development and cooperate with the Government.

- So far as our programmes aimed at removing poverty are concerned, I would like to say that we must be cautious lest the poor should be removed instead of poverty and our programmes should remain on paper only. There is no doubt that we want to achieve the targets fixed in respect of rural development; we prepare our budget for the good of the poor; we are striving for the removal of poverty, but are the Government officers and the capitalists prepared to extend their cooperation in this endeavour and if not, what steps our Government are taking to tackle such elements so as to remove the poverty of the poor without any impediments?

We set up Boards everywhere, we set up Corporations and Public Undertakings, we make provision for reservation of jobs and

implement the programmes for the welfare of the poor, but are these Boards, Corporations and Undertakings protecting the interests of the poor Harijans, Adivasis and the people belonging to the backward areas? They are not protecting their interests to the desired extent. The result is that there is frustration among the people. The Harijans and others belonging to the backward classes and the Adivasis knock at the doors of the Government, but when no one listens to their grievances, they approach us to get justice. Therefore, I would like to say that if we want to move forward to achieve our objectives, we shall have to tackle these elements. Otherwise, the poor will be removed and not the poverty.

I would like to say something about the land reforms. Although the land has been distributed, yet have the poor Harijans been able to actually get the land? No. You can see it yourself throughout the country. I invite you to my State Bihar to see how the distribution of land has taken place. Have the Harijans actually got the land there? No. Therefore, I would request you to pay attention to the land reforms.

So far as the question of water resources or rural water supply is concerned, the papers of the Government do show that water supply has been ensured to the poor and the Harijans, but if you happen to go to their localities you will find that actually water has not been supplied there. We make provision for them in the budget, but the funds so provided go into the pockets of the officials. I would like to say that we shall have to be cautious about the elements which create obstacles in our objective of socialism.

Now I want to say a few words about my constituency of late, our Prime Minister has paid attention to the pollution of river Ganga and has allocated crores of rupees to control pollution, but you should also make some arrangements in Bihar State, especially in North Bihar, to drain out water from the land which remains water-logged so that it could be made cultivable. Thereby our agricultural production will increase. You should remedy the pollution of the Ganga, but, the same time, in our area lakhs of people are living and at least bridges should be constructed for them. Our area Radhapur Dimra is facing this problem.

I would like to say about means of transport that in Bihar very few highways have been constructed. Means of transport are very important for national development. Unless you provide means of transport in our State, no progress can be made by us. Means of transport are the first necessity for the development of any country. I would, therefore, request you to provide us with the means of transport.

I thank you once again for presenting this budget for the eradication of poverty which is a step in the right direction, but, in addition to it, it is also necessary to pay attention towards small industries in order to help the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and downtrodden and the poor in setting up such industries. Only then we can take the poor towards progress and achieve the goal of socialism.

[English]

SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN (Tiruppattur) : Respected Deputy Speaker Sir : I rise to support the budget proposals for the year 1986-87. At the outset I would congratulate the Hon. Finance Minister for his dynamic approach in the budget particularly on many of the programmes for the welfare of the poor and the needy.

After our great leader Madam Indiraji's sad demise, the country saw a ray of hope in the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The people, by and large, supported Congress Party and its leader—our beloved Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Our Finance Minister gave more and more importance to the anti poverty programmes. That shows our commitment and guidelines given by our beloved leader Smt. Indiraji which is effectively pursued by our beloved Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

The Finance Minister has given more importance to IRDP, NREP and RLEGP. For all these programmes, a total sum of Rs. 1509 crores has been earmarked for this financial year, i.e. 1986-87. We also notice that Rs. 1988 crores have been allotted for welfare programmes. This clearly proves that the Government is really serious about the socio-economic development of

the weaker sections of the population. Low cost rural houses for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given importance by allotting Rs. 125 crores which is an all time high.

We find from our personal experience that in the handling of the anti-poverty programmes by the State Governments, there is no proper coordination and effective monitoring to see that the programmes are implemented effectively. This year, our Finance Minister is pleased to double the amount so that persons living below the poverty line can be brought up. So, I would urge upon the Government and in particular the hon. Finance Minister to appoint a monitoring committee at State and block levels. The committee may comprise MPs, MLAs and prominent social workers so as to ensure proper checking, monitoring and effective implementation of these programmes.

I would further urge upon the Finance Minister to increase the limit of the loans for self-employment schemes from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 50,000 so that the unemployed youth may get enthusiastic options to start various types of industries.

At the same time, I would like to bring one factor to the notice of this august House. In Tamil Nadu, the State Government is not allotting loans for trade or business purposes. Even for industries, we have to wait many years for getting the required power. Hence, the Government of Tamil Nadu may be instructed properly to sanction the self-employment loans for trade and business purposes.

I welcome the measures taken by the Finance Minister to narrow the gap between imports and exports. But the All India Small Scale Leather Manufacturers and Exporters are facing a crisis due to the introduction of second revision of 1979 which was a failure even according to the reports of the Government. Due to this revision, more than one thousand small leather manufacturing units all over India closed their factories and more than 2.5 lakh Harijans workers were retrenched. For the past six months, they are on the streets for want of jobs. This matter has been brought to the notice of the Commerce Minister,

[Shri A. Jayamohan]

but so far no action has been taken. At the same time, the present policy of allowing the second revision made the country lose considerable foreign exchange. The export of finished leather goods has come down to the tune of 30 per cent. This second revision was brought back at the instance of big export houses to knock down the entire fruits of small leather export traders. At this juncture I would like to urge upon the Finance Minister and also the Commerce Minister in particular to reconsider the third revision was introduced in the year 1981. This third revision may be reintroduced now to safeguard the interest of the small tanners and exporters.

Finally, for the past 30 years my constituency, i.e. Tirupattur in Tamil Nadu is totally neglected. It is an industrially neglected constituency. The taluks of Tirupattur, Chengam and Poolur are set the most backward areas and not even a single industry is existing there. Hence, I urge upon the Government to start a public sector industry in my constituency.

On the whole, these budget proposals will further the interests of the common masses and long term benefits will accrue to our people. I once again congratulate and support the Finance Minister.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR (Kutch) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I extend my full support to the budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister. It is totally wrong on the part of the Opposition Members to say that no relief has been provided for the poor in it and that it will serve the interests of the rich people only. The hon. Finance Minister has made provision in it for various programmes for the poor and a huge amount of 46 per cent of the budget has been allocated for these programmes. Such a big amount was never allocated for the poor so far. Hence, I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for this.

Sir, our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi always gave priority to the upliftment of the poor and, to realize this dream, she had started the 20-Point-Pro-

gramme. Our present Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi is fully determined to successfully implement this programme.

The late Indiraji had formulated a housing scheme for the poor and many shelterless people could get houses under that scheme. Much more is still required to be done in this direction and that is why the hon. Finance Minister has made provision for Indira Gandhi Housing Scheme. Under this scheme, the Government propose to provide houses to the maximum number of poor people. This programme will be the real tribute to Shrimati Gandhi and the poor people will get the maximum benefit from it.

Sir, under the 20-Point Programme, the people in the rural areas are getting considerable benefit because Gram-Panchayats distribute land to them free of cost and they also get the Government grant easily, but in small cities, our poor brethren are facing difficulties in this regard. Although Slum Clearance Boards are doing some work for them but not to the desired extent. In order to make it more effective, the Government should make laws whereby they Municipalities and development authorities may provide sufficient land for this purpose and the Government grant may also be made available easily as per their requirements.

The Opposition Members are saying that the enormous deficit left in the budget will increase inflation. These hon. Members might be knowing that not only in the developing countries, but in the developed countries also like the USA, France and Britain, surplus budget is never prepared.

Sir, now I would like to mention here some of the problems of my constituency Kutch and my Gujarat States.

This year Gujarat is facing acute famine conditions. The people of that area are, therefore, facing the serious problems of their livelihood, fodder for their cattle and of drinking water. The Gujarat Government are trying their level best to deal with the situation. The Central Government had sent a committee to Gujarat to provide assistance to the State Government. That committee was required to study the situation there and to suggest as to what assistance the Central Government could provide to the

State Government to combat the situation of famine. That committee has submitted its report to the Government. I would, therefore, request the Central Government to provide immediate assistance to the State Government for famine relief programmes.

Sir, in the drought-stricken Gujarat, there is acute scarcity of drinking water. I request the Government to take necessary steps to provide drinking water to the drought hit areas of Saurashtra and Kutch from the Narmada Project. Due to lack of funds with the Gujarat Government, completion of various important projects has been delayed. The Government should provide sufficient financial assistance for such projects.

Sir, in my area of Kutch there has always been shortage of water, famine or no famine. To meet this situation, small and medium sized dams are erected, but there is one difficulty in it and that is that because of the limit of acreage at a particular site, more expenditure has to be incurred and water cannot be stored to the desired extent. Sir, the late Indiraji had inaugurated there a dam named Lakkad-Vant and laid foundation stone of it but due to this reason, its work could not be started so far. There are so many other dams from which the people could not be benefited so far. So, I request that the per acre limit may be removed and necessary funds may be provided to start the work of the dam immediately. Moreover, the State Government should be instructed to complete this work soon.

Sir, the Ganga is the holiest of our rivers and the project formulated by the Government to clean it is quite appreciable. I request the Government to pay attention towards the other rivers also because, for the inhabitants of those areas who live far away from the Ganga, small rivers flowing near their villages are also holy and important. Government have to pay attention towards their problems also. For example, the waters of the small rivers carry soil with the currents which gets deposited in the river beds creating problems of silting. Government should formulate plans for desilting of such rivers.

Sir, sometimes saline water of the sea enters into the rivers at the point where the

rivers fall into the sea which causes harm to the inner land. In order to tackle this problem, some plan should be formulated to erect embankments at the points where the rivers fall into the sea to prevent inflow of saline water.

Sir, in my constituency Kutch, work has been undertaken to produce electricity from the sea-waves and provision has also been made in this budget for that. I request the hon. Finance Minister that in view of the shortage of electricity all over the country, priority should be given to such schemes to speed up the work of such projects and sufficient funds should be made available for them.

The Hon. Prime Minister has given an assurance that one industry would be established in every district. This assurance has given us a new hope for the development of our area. I request the hon. Finance Minister that in view of the availability of minerals in our area, some projects for the production of soda ash and aluminium may be started there. Small industries are the backbone of big industries. Therefore, small salt and soda ash industries may be set up in our area whereby other small industries will also get relief in respect of transport and other problems.

My area Kutch is contiguous to the border of Pakistan and, therefore, the development of this area is essential from the national security point of view also. A sense of awakening and prosperity of the people can strengthen the national security. For this purpose, children's education, adult education and women's welfare are most important things. For the women and children, the Central Government have opened social welfare centres but the grant given for them is not sufficient as a result of which out of nine Tehsils, only six tehsils of Kutch are benefited under this scheme. It is necessary to cover the entire area under this scheme.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi took keen interest in the women's development programmes. I know that our young Prime Minister and our Government are also alive to the need of women's welfare. They will, therefore, encourage such programmes by

[Shrimati Usha Thakkar]

giving more grants which are meant for the welfare of the rural women and children. The programmes started by the Social Welfare Boards have greatly benefited our rural women and children.

Sir, I would also like to give one suggestion to our hon. Finance Minister for the benefit of the Government employees. There is a provision for savings to get exemption from the payment of income tax, but a Government employee cannot subscribe more than his basic pay toward his G.P.F. For saving more, he has to adopt other methods of saving, such as N.S.C., C.T.D., etc. If the Government removes the ceiling on the G.P.F. savings, it will facilitate the employees to make savings.

I once again support the budget which the hon. Finance Minister has presented in the interest of the farmer, labourer, poor and the common man. The time allotted to me is short, so I conclude.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this budget has been presented after careful consideration. I would call it a supplementary budget because all the proposals which are required to be made in the budget have already been implemented and thereafter this budget has been presented. However, I would like to raise some points before you. Our economy is passing through a great crisis. Due to the capitalistic system being followed by the Government, unemployment has increased and the abject poverty rampant in the country has become a greater curse for the country.

Now I shall speak on the economic situation. During 1981 to 1983, our national income increased by 13.5 per cent. In 1983-84 it increased by 5.5 per cent and in 1984-85 by 7 per cent. But, inspite of this increase in the national income, even the industries like steel, engineering, power, what to speak of textiles and jute, have faced crisis resulting in the lock-out on a large scale. The severity of the crisis in the industrial sector can be gauged from the fact that 80,000 large and small industrial units, are sick today. The hon. Minister has beautifully said in his speech that small scale industries are the backbone of large

industries, but we should get reply to our question.

As a result of the new textile policy, the closure of the "non-viable" mills by the mill-owners and their modernisation means more retrenchment. In the name of modernisation, they have laid more emphasis on the man-made fibres instead of cotton which will not only meet the needs of the mill-owners but lakhs of handloom weavers will also lose their means of livelihood. You will have to think about it also.

The agricultural production declined by 4 per cent in 1982-83, it went up by 17 per cent in 1983-84 and in 1984-85 by 1 per cent. The production of wheat and rice has gone up considerably but the production of coarse grains has declined considerably. The production of oilseeds has been stagnant.

Inspite of the claim made in the Economic Survey for 1984-85 that the economy is in a reasonably sound condition, the uncertainty prevailing on the industrial and agricultural fronts can create problems in the coming years. We have already warned the Government about it.

The main area of tension is the price front. The wholesale price index increased by 7.3 per cent in 1982-83, by 8.3 per cent in 1983-84 and in 1984-85 it has already increased by 5 per cent. The price index has further increased by 5.7 per cent after March. During the last four years, the All India Consumer Price Index for the working class has increased from 446 to 650 which means an increase of more than 36 per cent. It is, therefore, not surprising that the value of rupee has declined to 13.2 paise.

The price increase has taken place at a time when we had bumper crops for two years and the production of this year has reached to the level of 15.10 crore tonnes. There has been record procurement of foodgrains. We have 300 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in the public sector warehouses even though there has been no expansion of the public distribution system. The consumption of fertilisers has declined from 14 lakh tonnes to 11 lakh tonnes and from this you can understand what the purchasing power of the poor is.

Unemployment has also increased two—told during this period. According to the survey conducted in 1981, there were 170 lakh unemployed persons registered in the employment exchanges, whose number has now increased to 250 lakhs.

When the people were groaning due to the impact of price increase, the Government have burdened them with the increased taxes. In the budgets of the last four years taxes to the tune of Rs. 4,800 crores have been levied on the people. In the Railway Budget also a sum of Rs. 1950 crores has been levied as taxes. From this you can see how socialistic this budget is.

The deficit is also increasing. There was a deficit of Rs. 3985 crores in the budget for 1984-85 and in the budget for 1985-86, it is Rs. 3349 crores. Although tall talks have been made in regard to "Garibi Hatao", yet no effort has been made to remove poverty in the rural areas, with the result that the poor have become poorer. Had you allotted me some more time, I would have dwelt at it at length.

The condition of banks is no good either. I have received two letters in this connection. One letter is from Faizabad block. I would like you to get it investigated.**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please sit down. Nothing will go on record, whatever he says, nothing will go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, if anyone is unhappy with this budget, it is the Opposition. The Opposition Members are trying to catch at some aspect of the budget on the basis of which they may be able to criticise it. Whichever Member of the Opposition stands to speak he says that in has been presented in a very clever manner. But on going through the budget I have found that the Finance Minister and the Hon. Prime Minister have made efforts to mobilise funds through taxation from those people who have

the capacity to pay and to spend them on those who require it most, in accordance with their requirements. This is the best principle of taxation.

I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for the way he has presented this budget. Our country is so big that if we want to make provision for every part of it, we would fail in our effort howsoever large provision we may make in the budget. However, attention has been paid to those areas which require it most. The only way to take the country towards socialism and to lift the people above the poverty line is to give priority to the public sector and that has been given. Moreover, 53 per cent of the funds have been allocated to generate employment opportunities and the rest 47 per cent are for the public sector. I would like to ask the Opposition as to what more they expect under the present circumstances. Here attention is required to be paid to one aspect. Very heavy investments are being made in the public sector, but the Opposition parties are organising *bandhs* daily. We do not know what they want to achieve for the nation by organising *bandhs*. On the other hand, we have laid down some norms for the bureaucracy which are required to be reviewed. They do not have any experience of running the industries. The qualification of I.A.S. or I.P.S. is the only criteria for heading industries in the public sector. When we are making huge investment in the public sector, a separate technical cadre should be created to run industries more efficiently in this sector. Efforts should be made to bring efficiency in the public sector like the private sector.

Another thing is that great efforts have been made to identify the backward districts. A number of committees have suggested the names of such areas which should have been included in that category. If they had received the same facilities then the private sector would also have been attracted towards them. Knowingly or unknowingly, the eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh like Gorakhpur have been discriminated against in this respect. Therefore, the backward areas ought to be identified once again. A commission should

[Shri Madan Pandey]

be set up for the eastern parts of U.P. on the pattern of the commission being appointed for the hilly areas or for Bundelkhand. Provision of infrastructure will have to made first for the industrialisation of the backward districts of Uttar Pradesh.

The Railway Budget of this year has also disappointed me. Most of the backward areas of U. P. and Bihar are divided by Bari Gandak river. It is the most turbulent river after the Kosi river. There was a bridge across it which was washed away in 1922 and such was the fury of the waters that its girders were found at a distance of 8 or 10 Kilometres. Since then the eastern Uttar Pradesh and the Western Bihar remain affected by the fury of that river. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to use his good offices and get the scheme for a new bridge sanctioned from the Railway Ministry. The late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had laid its foundation stone in 1974. I would request that attention may be paid towards it.

No major industry has been set up in the eastern districts, particularly in Gorakhpur where previously a coach factory was proposed to be set up, which is now proposed to be set up in Punjab. We have no objection to that, but we want that some major industry should be set up in each eastern district of U. P. Only then that area could be developed.

The bell is being rung so I would request the hon. Finance Minister to bring improvements by paying attention to the matters which I have raised here. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to assess the budget in the light of the planned development, commitment towards the public sector, continuity and relativity of policies, and the efforts made for the achievement of the objects of self-reliance and social justice.

I am happy that despite various economic constraints, Rs. 22,000 crores have been earmarked as plan outlay.

18.00 hrs.

For the State plans, a provision of 29 per cent more funds has been made this year as compared to the last year. About 48 per cent of the plan outlay will be spent on the core sector. The outlay on the public sector has also been increased by 20 per cent as compared to the last year. I think everybody will welcome it.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Rawat, you can continue tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11 A. M.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 12th March, 1986/Phalguna 12, 1907 (Saka).