

LOK SABHA DEBATES **(English Version)**

Eighth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXIV contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price ; Rs. 6.00

CONTENTS

[*Eighth Series, Vol. XXIV-Eighth Session, 1987/1908 (Saka)*]
No. 8, Wednesday, March 4, 1987/Phalgun 13, 1908 (Saka)

COLUMNS

Oral Answers to Questions—

*Starred Question Nos. 103, 105, to 107, 109, 111 and 114	...	1-31
--	-----	------

Written Answers to Questions—

*Starred Question Nos. 104, 108, 110, 112, 113, 115 to 122	...	31-48
---	-----	-------

Unstarred Question Nos. 1114 to 1117, 1119 to 1177, 1179 to 1193, 1195 to 1249 and 1251 to 1322	...	48-280
--	-----	--------

Papers Laid on the Table	...	283-294
--------------------------	-----	---------

Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions—

Twenty-ninth Report— <i>Presented</i>	...	294
---------------------------------------	-----	-----

Joint Committee on Offices of Profit—		294
---------------------------------------	--	-----

Fourth Report—*Presented*

Matters Under Rule 377—	...	295-301
-------------------------	-----	---------

(i) Need to ensure proper allocation of funds under N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. Schemes to various divisions of Uttar Pradesh Shri Harish Rawat	...	295
--	-----	-----

(ii) Demand for a large Industry in public sector in 'Kanpur Rural' for its industrial development and to provide employment opportunities to the unemployed youth Shri Jagdish Awasthi	...	296
---	-----	-----

* 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.

(iii)	Demand for financial assistance of Rs. fifty crores for supplying drinking water to Jodhpur city from Indira Gandhi Canal		
	Shri Virdhi Chander Jain	...	296-297
(iv)	Need to ensure all round development of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra		
	Shri Vilas Mattemwar	...	297-298
(v)	Need to implement the recommendations of Expert Group on Archaeology regarding strengthening of the Horticulture Department		
	Shri Chintamani Jena	...	298-299
(vi)	Need to bring parity between the pay scales of Station Masters and Yard Masters and to give running allowance to Station Masters		
	Shri Ajoy Biswas	...	299-300
(vii)	Need to declare 'Ugadi' festival on 30.3.87 as a closed holiday for all Central Govt. Offices in Karnataka.		
	Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer	...	300
(viii)	Demand for reviewing the present licencing policy pertaining to Vanaspati industry and for granting letter of intent for Vanaspati Projects in Orissa		
	Dr. Krupasindu Bhoi	...	300-301
	Railway Budget, 1987-88-General discussion—	...	301-404
	Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty	...	302-314
	Shri Chiranjil Lal Sharma	...	314-322
	Shri Sharad Dighe	...	322-327
	Shri Kadambur Janarthanan	...	327-331
	Srimati Kishori Sinha	...	331-336

COLUMNS

Shri Balkavi Bairagi	...	336-343
Shri Ajoy Biswas	—	343-350
Shrimati Prabhawati Gupta	...	350-355
Prof. Chandra Bhanu Devi	...	355-358
Shrimati Kesharbai Kshirsagar	...	358-363
Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav	...	363-369
Shri Vir Sen	...	369-374
Shri Shanti Dhariwal	...	374-378
Shri S. G. Gholap	...	378-382
Shri Bhadreswar Tanti	...	382-385
Shri Jagdish Awasti	...	385-389
Shri A. Jayamohan	...	389-391
Shri Mankuram Sodi	...	391-394
Shri Mohd. Mahfooz Ali Khan	...	394-401
Shri I. Rama Rai	...	401-404

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 4, 1987 /
Phalgun 13, 1908 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the
Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Development Schemes for welfare of Scheduled Tribes in Orissa

+
*103. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD
SETHI :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-
NAIK :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Orissa has the largest
population of tribals vis-a-vis other States;

(b) whether the schemes implemen-
ted so far for their welfare have yet to
uplift their socio-economic standards;

(c) if so, whether any special sche-
mes have been formulated by Union
Government or State Government with
Central assistance for the welfare of
these tribals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR.
RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a)
No, Sir,

(b) While there has been some im-
provement in their socio-economic condi-
tions, a lot more remains to be done.

(c) and (b) A statement is given
below.

Statement

Schemes and Programmes under Tri-
bal Sub-Plan are being implemented in
Orissa with emphasis on socio-economic
upliftment of tribal population since the
5th Five Year Plan. Besides, Centrally
Sponsored Schemes, aimed at alleviation
of poverty, have also been extended to
cover the tribal population of the State.

Since the beginning of 6th Plan and
upto January, 1987 about 7 lakh tribal
families have been economically assisted
under various economic beneficiary Cen-
trally Sponsored Schemes and special Cen-
tral Assistance. About 7,000 families
among 12 identified primitive tribal groups
have also been assisted under special
Micro Projects so far. Under first pro-
viso to Article 275(1) of the Constitution
the Government of Orissa formulated.

(a) eight special schemes for resettle-
ment of shifting (Podu) cultivators,

(b) Mobile health unit and

(c) scheme for sickle cell anaemia
disease.

Total investment in Tribal Sub-Plan
areas is as follows :

Expenditure during the 202.4 crores
5th Plan :

Expenditure during the 648.43 cro-
6th Plan : res

Expenditure during the
7th Plan :

(Continuing)

1985-86	199.70 crores
1986-87	232.97 crores (anticipated)
1987-88	274.08 crores (Projected)

The above figures include flow from States Plan, and Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Special Central Assistance.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : The Hon Minister in her reply to (c) and (d) parts of the question has said that the schemes and programmes under tribal sub-plan are being implemented in Orissa with emphasis on socio-economic upliftment of tribal population and till January 1987 7 lakh tribal families have been assisted economically under various economic schemes. The expenditure also is mentioned for this tribal plan till January 1987.

In this connection I want to know categorically from the hon. Minister, when seven lakh families have been assisted under various schemes, whether they have improved their socio-economic condition. I also want to know categorically whether any study has been made in this regard to know whether proper implementation of the schemes is done and whether these seven lakh families have crossed the poverty line till March 1987.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : I have told that seven lakh families have got the benefit of the scheme. I have not said that they crossed the poverty line. The report is also that all of them have not crossed the poverty line. But there is improvement in their economic condition and there are on-going schemes by which we hope that there will be further improvement.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Is there any study made in this regard to know about the implementation of the programmes properly ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He wants to know, to review the performance whether any study has been made.

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : States are asked to conduct survey. Monitoring is also done from time to time.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Hon. Minister be kind enough to tell us the total central plan outlay in the 7th Five Year Plan under different schemes for different States for the development and welfare of Scheduled Tribes and the total funds provided from the beginning of the 7th Plan till January 1987 ? I would like to know whether it is a fact that the money provided for has not been spent by some States due to non-commitment to the programmes and the schemes. If so, the names of those States and the total amount kept unspent and if not, will the Minister conduct a survey in this regard to know about the proper implementation of the Schemes ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : As far as our report is concerned, all the States have implemented our schemes. It may be that some States are not upto the mark. As the Hon. Member has said, we can go for the survey of the schemes to know which are properly implemented and which are not.

At present I have not got the statistics to tell which are the States lagging behind.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : What about Orissa ?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : I have already said that in Orissa, the scheme is implemented; but there is scope for more improvement.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHNAIK : The total percentage of tribal population in the State of Orissa is 22.3 per cent. There are 62 distinct tribal groups. The scale of development also differs from place to place and tribal group to tribal group. Keeping this in view whether

any systematic survey has so far been undertaken to make a comparative assessment of the level of development of different tribals living in different ecological system with different general and character. Has any survey in particular been made of the district of Kalahandi which the Deputy Minister in the Ministry of welfare, Shri Gomango visited and said that it is the most backward area having scheduled castes and scheduled tribes population. Is any special attention or special programme being made for the upliftment of the social and economic conditions of the tribals of that district?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Sir, the tribal development programme is there and Kalahandi district is specially looked after. We all know that the social and economic conditions there are quite backward and special attention is being given to that area.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : I would like to know whether Government has taken any steps in respect of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes who have migrated from the State of Orissa to Assam and other States? What development programmes and other action has been taken to recognise those people as scheduled castes and scheduled tribes?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : Those people who have migrated from Orissa to other States and especially to Assam tea gardens are included in OBC i.e. "Other Backward Classes" and they are getting the treatment as backward classes under the poverty alleviation scheme. They are not treated by the State Government as tribal people.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether the percentage of education among the tribals is much less than that of the general castes? If so, whether there is a large number of drop out in the schools and colleges and whether the State Government of Orissa has formulated a scheme and submitted to the Centre for financing the construction of hostels in schools mainly for the tribals? I would also like to know whether the Centre has

allocated any funds in the Seventh Plan as well as in current year for construction of these hostels in the school premises?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : The Central Government has allocated funds for the hostels but this year we have not received any plan or proposal from the Orissa Government especially for girls' hostels. We hope that will be coming and we will be looking into that.

[Translation]

SHRI D. P. YADAVA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there cannot be two opinions regarding the fact that tribal areas are being provided with ample resources by the Centre. But in order to utilise these resources, there is a need to create social awareness among the tribal people for the development of tribal belt. Are there any schemes in this direction?

DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI : The hon. Member has asked a very good question. It is not possible to make progress without creating social awareness and consciousness among these people. I think the representatives of the people can make good contributions to it.

[English]

Guidelines on acquisition of immovable properties under Income-tax Act

*105. **DR. B. L. SHAILESH :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down for acquisition of immovable properties under the newly introduced provisions of Chapter XXC of the Income tax Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b)

The Question seeks information on a matter which is pending adjudication in the writ petitions filed against the orders of purchase made by the Appropriate Authorities before the High Courts of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras. A transfer petition in respect of these writ petitions has also been filed in the Supreme Court of India under Article 139A of the Constitution of India. The matter is subjudice.

[Translation]

DR. B. L. SHAILESH : I want to know how much property has been acquired till now under this Act and the details in this regard in metropolitan cities of Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras ? How this legislation made any impact on the buying and selling of immovable properties and have the people started making registrations of properties at their actual price ?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, so far, as per the information received by us, 85 properties have been purchased. Out of the 85 properties in our metropolitan cities, the people who have been aggrieved have filed in 70 cases writ petitions in four High Courts.

So far as the black money involvement in these transactions is concerned, I will give some of the examples. In one case of purchase in Madras, the apparent consideration at which it was purchased by the Central Government was Rs. 1,40,00,000 lakhs. The prices at which it was sold in the public auction was Rs. 2,60,25,000. There was an increase of 185 per cent. The Government was able to get 185 per cent more than the price which was shown in the purchase. Like that, we have got some transactions. I will furnish figures of all the transactions if the honourable Member so desires. It is a measure to curb the black money menace in the country.

[Translation]

DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Sir, it has appeared in today's 'Hindustan Times' that

the Supreme Court has granted a stay against the acquisition of such properties by the Government and has called for all such cases pending before the High Courts. I would like to know in this connection whether the Government is prepared to deal with the Constitutional implications arising out of this situation and if so, to what extent ?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, it is true that on 2.3.87, the Supreme Court stayed the proceedings in the High Courts. Till the disposals of the petition, filed under Article 139(A) of the Constitution, all these proceedings pending in the High Courts are stayed.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Sir, you have said since the matter is *sub judice*, these guidelines cannot be disclosed. May I say that guidelines were issued under the Income-tax Act ? Therefore, they are a statutory part of the law and they are the law of this country. I would like to know whether the House, which represents the people of this country, is supreme or only the house which we create only to interpret the law is supreme so that this vital information of law is not disclosed to us. This is the law of the land. It should be told to us.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : There are in-built guidelines in the provisions of the Act itself. The rules also contain some of the guidelines. We have also issued some guidelines. These guidelines have been challenged in the High Court as also in the Supreme Court. When the matter is *sub judice*, we would not like to make any comments.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Since the matter is *sub judice*, I would not allow any further supplementaries.

Rupee term loan to companies with NRI interest

+

*106 SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently granted permission to the Indian financial institutions to give rupee term loans to Indian companies with more than 40 per cent non-resident interest;

(b) whether simultaneous permission under FERA has also been granted to Indian companies for acquisition and export of shares, debentures by or to NRI investors;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) how far it will be beneficial to the Indian businessmen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) to (d) A Statement is given below.

Statement

Rupee Term Loan to Companies with NRI Interest

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Reserve Bank of India have granted general permission in November, 1986 under Section 26(7) of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1963 (FERA) to Financial Institutions to grant Rupee Term Loan for development purposes to Indian companies with more than 40% non-resident Interest.

- Simultaneous permission under Section 29(1) (b) and 19(1) (a) of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act are also granted for acquisition and export of shares/debentures to NRIs investors while granting permission under Section 19(1)(d) of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act to Indian companies.

(d) As a result of these general permissions, the procedure has been simplified and avoidable delays cut down.

[Translation]

SHRI PARKASH CHANDRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the industrial policy of the Central Government has been for quite a long time to encourage small and medium industries and to discourage multinationals. The indigenous industries have earned a good deal of profits due to this policy and lakhs of people have got employment. Now the Government is encouraging foreign capital in Indian industries. For example, several large, medium and small soft drink units have been set up in the country recently, which have given employment to lakhs of people.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please do not read the question.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we have come to know that the Government have granted permission to a foreign soft drink company to enter the Indian market with Indian collaboration. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state as to what would be the future of the existing soft-drink units and the lakhs of people employed therein ?

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will not allow questions like that. You cannot prepare your questions and just read them in the House.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what would be the future of the existing soft-drink manufacturing units and what would happen to the employees working there ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I can say only this much that their future would be very bright.

SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this issue is connected with the Government policy of allowing 40 per cent share to the non-resident Indians in the Indian companies. In the past the D.C.M. case had come to light in which the so-called non-resident Indians were allowed to have large number of shares as a result of which they flourished and started displacing those who had been associated with this company for a long time but had a smaller percentage of investment. What is the future of such people who are being replaced by Indians living abroad? If this trend continues, then what would happen to the Indian companies? May I know what the Government is thinking in this regard?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : In this connection, the Government's policy is to invite foreign capital and technical know-how, and the non-resident Indians are being encouraged for this purpose. However, so far as the management and control is concerned, it will not be handed over to outsiders.

[English]

DR. DATTA SAMANT : How many Indian companies have received such financial aid from the non-residents so far and what is the amount? More than 600 big factories employing 3000 to 4000 workers each, such as textile mills, jute mills and other factories especially in Maharashtra and Bengal are sick. More than 50 lakh workers are out of employment and 5000 crores of rupees bank money is involved. By amending the FERA Act, will the Government make special efforts with regard to these non-resident investors and see that money is invested in the sick units and make them viable? Although the Sick Board is already formed, it is not functioning at all because of financial constraints.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The hon. member has raised a very relevant question. In the new NR Investment Scheme 100 per cent investment is allowed on non-patriable basis in any partnership, proprietorship, joint stock company, excepting those dealing in real estate. In the

sick industries to which the hon. member has referred, this policy will help revival of the sick industries.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : I want to know from the hon. Minister how many companies had come up and how much money was invested in them after the relaxation was given?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, it is not a question of companies. The matter concerns the investments of the non-resident Indians. Since we have simplified it, the investments have increased. I want to tell that the total investment as on 31st March, 1983 was Rs. 85.47 crores which rose to Rs. 183.83 crores on 31-3-84 i. e. after one year. On 31-3-85, it stood at Rs. 288.74 crores and increased to Rs. 597.50 crores on 31-3-86. On 30th September, 1986, it increased to Rs. 801.14 crores. The later figures are provisional although the trend is very good.

[English]

SHRI MURLI DEORA : The question pertains to NRI loans. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that the Government receives two types of loans under this NRI—(1) FCNR—Foreign Currency Non-resident Account; and (2) NRER—Non-resident External Rupee Account. While there is a very heavy increase in the inflow, nearly to the extent of Rs. 7000 crores this year under the first heading, i. e. FCNR, there is a decline in the second one to such an extent that the total rupee currency loans is just Rs. 114 crores. Recently, the hon. Minister Shri Brahma Dutt has circulated a note that the credit-worthiness of Government of India has gone up considerably in international market. I do not understand why we are borrowing this money from the Non-residents at such a high rate. In Europe, America and in other countries, the Non-residents are borrowing at a lower rate of interest say at 4 or 5 or 6 per cent interest and are depositing it at 7 per cent or 8 per cent. Today, we are borrowing nearly 700 crores of rupees, losing about Rs. 200 crores in

foreign exchange as interest difference. Will the Minister clarify this ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : First of all, I would like to submit very humbly that this question does not relate to loans which we are taking from the NRIs. The question relates to whether the Government has recently granted permission to the Indian financial institutions to give rupee term loans to Indian companies with more than 40 per cent non-residents. So, the question is the other way. About the general thing which the hon. member has raised, these are deposits and are not loans. We want that the non-residents Indians earning money abroad should deposit their money in India.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : Should it be at such a higher rate than the international rate ?

Difficulties faced by stock exchanges

[Translation]

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

(a) whether at an open house meeting held at New Delhi on 15 December, 1985 the representatives of stock exchanges brought to his notice the difficulties faced by them in their working;

(b) if so, the nature and details of the difficulties faced by stock exchanges; and

(c) the steps proposed to resolve their difficulties ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

In the Open House meeting on Stock

Exchanges and Capital Issues held on 15th December, 1986 in New Delhi, where various matters were discussed, and the representatives of the Stock Exchanges also highlighted some of the problems and difficulties faced by the Stock Exchanges and their members. The main issues raised by them in the meeting related to : (i) the requirement of date stamping the share transfer forms under the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 1956, (ii) provision of adequate advances and over-draft facilities to stock-brokers against shares and debentures by the commercial banks, (iii) exemption for the income of Stock Exchanges from payment of tax under the Income-tax Act, and (iv) provision of adequate finance for construction/acquisition of modern buildings for the Stock Exchanges.

Certain amendments in the Companies Act, 1956, covering, *inter-alia*, the provisions relating to transfer of shares, are under consideration of the Government. As regards advances against shares and debentures, Reserve Bank of India have issued certain guidelines on the subject on 24th October, 1986, which permit such advances/overdrafts subject to certain norms and conditions. The Central Board of Direct Taxes have released a Press Note on 15th January, 1987 in the matter of seeking exemption from payment of income-tax by public charitable and religious trusts, associations and societies. Eligible Stock Exchanges can seek exemption in terms of the Press Release. The Ministry of Finance had advised the public financial and investment institutions on 30th December 1985 to consider extending financial assistance to Stock Exchanges for enabling them to acquire/construct modern premises for housing the Stock Exchanges. Extension of such assistance would depend upon the merits of each proposal and availability of funds with the institutions for such lending.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : I want to know whether the Government have taken any steps to improve the conditions of the stock-brokers the problems and difficulties of whom were brought to the notice of the Government in the open

house meeting? I want to tell the hon. Minister that unless there is knowledge at the personal level about the difficulties of the small investors and stock-brokers, there cannot be any dealing with them. Hence, the difficulties faced by the small investors in investing their small capital should be solved. The Government also want to encourage the share market business. This could be possible only when the Government sets up its own agency in the Stock Exchange or allows the Stock Exchange to set up its own agency so that the small investors do not face any difficulties while purchasing shares. The small investors in large numbers will invest their capital only when they are convinced that there is no need of any acquaintance or influence in the Stock Exchange for buying shares. Is the Government giving consideration to the problems which the small investors have to face while investing their savings properly?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : So far as the small investors are concerned the Government has been sympathetic towards them. There are also several other schemes for them. As regards the question of Stock Exchange we are considering as to how uniformity could be brought about and an agency created which would manage and control it properly. The suggestions given by the hon. Member will be considered.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : I have another supplementary to ask. The odd lot shares are mostly with the small share holders and they are harassed by the brokers. When they go to buy this share, the price is quoted at Rs 75 and when they want to sell it off, they have to sell it at Rs. 70. Due to this practice of the brokers, the small investors are at a loss. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government would ensure a proper price to the investors for selling and buying of shares? Similarly, I would also like to add that selling and buying of shares is confined to big cities; such transactions do not take place in rural areas. Is the Government formulating any scheme to make the buying and selling of shares possible in the rural areas as well? A dispute is going on between two rival

groups about the opening of a stock exchange in Jaipur...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Dhariwal, you put the question. If you go on explaining like this, then I cannot allow. If you go on explaining like this, how can other hon. Members ask their questions. You put your supplementary and don't explain all these things.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : If I do not ask this question, then what should I ask? The former Finance Minister had said that the Chief Minister would be made the arbitrator and whatever decision he took would be acceptable. What happened to that proposal? That is what I am asking. I have not gone beyond the subject of stock exchange.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : So far as the small investors are concerned, I would advise them that they should not involve themselves in it. As regards Jaipur stock exchange, the former Finance Minister had made efforts; I too had an opportunity to go there twice and I also said that it should be made into a good stock-exchange with our combined effort. We shall provide all help in this direction but we cannot force it on anyone

[English]

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister, whether the Government has considered the Patil Committee recommendations on stock exchange reports? If so, how many of them have been accepted and whether these recommendations will help and ease the position of the stock exchanges?

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I am submitting that we are trying to improve the functioning of the stock exchanges and various measures are under consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that stock exchanges can help in a big way in the capital investment and industrialisation of the country which is essential too. Just now hon. Shri Shanti Dhariwal asked about the stock exchange at Jaipur. I think one way would be to split up the large exchanges and open new exchanges in places where sources for capital investment exist. But the progress in the matter is too slow. I would cite the example of Jaipur. Have you any intention of opening the stock-exchanges and encouraging them? You tell us as to which are the areas from where demand was received and which are the places under consideration for the opening of stock exchanges and when are you going to take a final decision regarding stock exchange at Jaipur?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would begin by answering the last part of the hon. Member's question first which is in regard to our decision about Jaipur. We cannot take any decision. It is the people of Jaipur who are to take the decision first. If such demands come to us, we shall consider them. We want that the stock exchanges should function properly. Our policy is to give encouragement and we are thinking of taking certain measures in this regard. Most of the suggestions which were given in the meeting with the representatives of the stock exchanges were on these lines.

[English]

Fall in foreign exchange reserves

*109. **SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign exchange reserves have been showing a downward trend during last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether they stood at rupees 7243 crores at the end of March, 1985 equivalent of about 5 months imports at the level of 1984-85?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The foreign exchanges reserves (including Gold and Special Drawing Rights) Increased from Rs. 4781.5 crores as on 31.3.1983 to Rs. 7820 crores as on 31.3.1986.

(c) Yes, Sir.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : The foreign exchange reserves are equivalent to about five months of imports. Does not the Minister consider this an alarming situation? On the top of it, if we look at the figures, the import for 1985-86 showed an increase of 15.1%, whereas the export fell by 7.1% during the same period. Does not the Minister consider this an alarming situation; and what does he propose to do about this?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I don't think it shows a very declining trend. Slight variations are there; seasonal variations are there. If anything specific is asked, I would answer.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : I read out the figure also, supplied to us. The imports during the year 1985-86 increased by 15.1%, whereas the exports fell by 7.1%. That is the present situation. Therefore, the foreign exchange reserves are going to the deeply eroded in course of time. So, that being the case, does not the Minister consider it a serious situation where he should reverse the policy decisions, and also help improve the export trade?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : This Government has put forward many new measures to improve the position of exports and decrease the imports. This year, in 1986,

we have seen that : the exports are growing at a higher rate, and the imports are growing at a lower rate.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) : I may like to add that I had given this year's figures in the Budget. Exports have grown by 17%, and imports have only grown by a little over 1%—1.4%. So, the corrections, whatever were required, have been made. They have not only been made, but they have been effective.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : At this point, may I point out to the Prime Minister that in the report which was furnished to the House, viz. the Economic Survey 1986-87, it was stated that the balance of payments data for the full fiscal year 1985-86 are not yet available. It has not been made available to the House itself.

And in what circumstances it has not been provided to us. That is one thing which has got to be taken notice of. The other thing which I would like particularly to bring to the notice of the Prime Minister is that there is a conspicuous fall in the import of edible oil finished fertilisers sugar etc; whereas there is a conspicuous increase at the same time of capital goods, steel, precious and semi-precious stones, etc. So, whatever is required by the people in general, that has come to decline and due to liberalisation policy, this is happening. Does not the Minister think and the Prime Minister consider that there is a necessity for stopping it and re-examining the matter afresh?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The import and export policy as constantly under review. If the trends are not in our favour, we constantly review it.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : If I may add, that is the deliberate exercise on our part. Import of capital goods is not something which is not for the people; it is very much for the development of the country and for the people. About edible oil, we have deliberately tried to reduce the import of it because it was a very

heavy burden and it is being replaced by edible oil produced within the country. It is a programme of improving our self-sufficiency in edible oil. The gems that you talked about are almost entirely for our export; they are worked here and they help cottage industry and the very weaker sections who work on those gems.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : In the previous intervention by the Prime Minister, he has reminded the House that during his Budget speech he had indicated that our exports have increased by 17 per cent and import has increased only by 1.4 per cent. But, at the same time, in that very speech, he has also admitted that the trade gap still continues to be more than Rs. 8000 crores; and, of course, he is not happy about it. He has said that it is reduced by Rs. 1000 crores. But that is neither here nor there—Rs. 8000 crores or more than that is still a very big trade gap. In the context of these figures which he himself has mentioned as the Finance Minister, in his Budget speech, I would like to ask a pointed question. Is that a fact that we are depending upon very heavy import, as far as sophisticated defence equipment is concerned? Is it a fact that after 40 years of freedom, we have not been able to manufacture in any substantial quantity any sophisticated defence weapons, and as a result of that, our self-reliance is almost negligible in the field of defence? Will he take note of that and try to improve this situation and remove distortion so that that is the best way to reduce the trade gap and see that our foreign exchange position is actually improved?

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Sir, the hon. members is totally mis-informed. Our defence production and our defence research is not negligible; it is very substantial and it is very sophisticated and it is right upto the front line very close to what is happening in developed countries in the world. We are well ahead of any other developing country. Let me assure the hon. member that there is no shortcoming, as far as R&D effort on defence is concerned; and the R&D effort that had taken place in the past two years which was based on the foundations which were laid by Indiraji from 1980-85, is very very substantial and it will stand our

defence in good stead. Defence is a key sector. There are a lot of imports in defence. But the hon. member will appreciate that all the requirements for defence cannot be converted to total indigenisation. Even if we attempt to do that, we will fail; almost no country is able to meet all its own defence needs by total indigenous R&D and production. In a country like India, which is a developing country, we have to concentrate on those areas which are strategic and essential and which are not available to us from other countries easier or cheaper in the intervening period as we go to total self-sufficiency. In the intervening period, we are faced with a situation where a very large arms sale is taking place, has been taking place in the past and is likely to take place in the future. One is one of our neighbours and we have to match that by whatever means is available to us. There can be no reduction in our defence preparedness. And I would request the Hon. Member not to try and subvert the country by trying to reduce the defence preparedness of the country.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Just a minute, because this is a very important national issue. I think his allegation of information, misinformation, has arisen out of his misunderstanding of my question. I am aware of the fact and I congratulated during the debate on the Defence Budget last year that actually our Research Department is doing very good work in the field of Defence. I was not referring to Research and Development in the field of Defence. I was talking about the actual manufacture of sophisticated weapons for which we have to rely on the foreign countries and I am going on the basis of your document. It is not my misinformation; unfortunately, Mr. Prime Minister, it is your misinformation. I have only suggested that you should correct your misinformation and try to have better manufacture not only in the field of research and development but better manufacture of sophisticated weapons. That is what I am suggesting. Please correct your misinformation.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : That is where he is a little misinformed. There is

better manufacture through our own R&D taking place now than there has ever been in Defence.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Next question. Dr. Rajhans.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Something we would prefer not to tell you.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : SHRI Ram Pujan Patel.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That is the trouble. Planning Commission and Defence are treated as holy cows. They do not reveal how much milk they give.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI : Let me assure the hon. member that Defence may be a holy cow but when it is called upon to give, milk, three or four times in the life of this country it has delivered the milk.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : The Planning Commission also is a holy cow in the sense that it gives milk to the whole nation in the form of economic growth.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I will lay the information on the Table next time.

Payment of loans to beneficiaries under poverty alleviation programmes

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

(a) the steps proposed to arrange for direct payment of bank loans to beneficiaries under the programmes undertaken by Government for lifting the poor above the poverty line; and

(b) the outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (c) A statement is given below :

Statement

The banks have been providing loans under poverty alleviation programmes to the persons living below poverty line for undertaking productive ventures. At present, the amount is paid directly to the supplier of goods/assets so that the assistance is not utilised for any other purposes. As an experimental measure a scheme for direct cash payment, of loan plus subsidy, to the beneficiaries under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) has been started from the current financial year in 22 selected development blocks of the country. After receiving cash from the bank, a beneficiary can purchase the assets/goods. If he acquires animals or an item of a standard make/brand, he has to submit a receipt for the purchase. In other cases relating to purchase of sundry goods under the Industry, Services, Business Sector where cash disbursement is restricted to Rs. 3,000—, the beneficiary has to submit a utilisation certificate.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon Minister has given a detailed reply to the question. According to his reply, 22 development blocks have been selected under the IRDP programme in which beneficiaries get direct cash payment of loan plus subsidy. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether the same scheme would be implemented all over the country ? It has been seen till now that the poor beneficiaries are not able to get the entire amount of the loan. At least 40 per cent of the amount is pocketed by others. We increase the budget allocations for all these schemes every year, so that the poor people could be brought above the poverty line. But it has been seen that the money does not reach them. Secondly, there is a discrepancy between Government figures and what is actually happening in the rural

areas. Hence, it is our responsibility to keep a watch over such things. Therefore, the hon. Minister should make such arrangements which could benefit the poor. Thirdly, has there been any survey to identify the percentage of people who have been brought above the poverty line ? Besides, what is the reason that the Government figures and the actual situation in the villages differ ?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, the scheme has been introduced recently and we have evaluated the performance for the last six months. In some blocks it has been successful and in some blocks the report says it is not successful. Let us wait for some time and further evaluate the performance. Whether to extend to other blocks or not, we will take a decision after a full examination. And so far as assistance that has flown to the weaker sections is concerned, under IRDP during the Sixth Five Year Plan we have been able to give to the weaker sections to the extent of Rs.3,101 crores, and IRDP through the banking sector and in the Seventh Five Year Plan the target is that we should give Rs. 4,000 crores as against Rs.3,000 crores in the Sixth Five Year Plan.

In addition to that, a sum of Rs.2,358 crores will flow a subsidy from the Central and the State Governments.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, what I wanted to know was something else. I know that the Government is paying enough money and that the hon. Prime Minister has increased the allocation this year. But the question is whether the beneficiaries get the loans or not ? The figures provided to us here are different, but when we go to our constituencies, we find that thousands of people are arrested for non-payment of loans. I want to know that if the beneficiaries are not getting the money, then what programmes could be

started or what policy should be formulated so that the beneficiaries could get the loans? We do not trust those to whom we are lending money but we trust those employees and officials.....

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has already said that some evaluation has been done.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : What you are saying is true. But I want to say that a system should be evolved by which the amount of loan upto a certain limit could be deposited in the banks and the beneficiaries could draw the money from time to time according to their need and, I think, then only it would benefit the poor. Will you devise such a system?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : As the hon. Member is aware of the fact we have introduced a new scheme under which the cash flows to the weaker sections directly. That experiment is being conducted. In the Sixth Plan we have been able to give assistance to 1.64 crore families as against the target of 1.5 crores. We do not say that there is no deficiency. Deficiencies are there. We are trying to improve upon it. But that does not mean that the poorer sections had not got the benefits under this scheme. This scheme has been very beneficial to the weaker section. In the Seventh Plan we are going to give second dose of assistance in order to improve further the economic conditions of those people who have been helped during the Sixth Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : The hon. Minister has himself admitted that there are some shortcomings in the distribution of loans. You are having two types of schemes for this purpose. One is direct cash payment and the other is payment in kind. I want to know

whether any survey has been conducted to find out if the people are benefited more when payment is made in kind or when it is made in cash as has been introduced recently in some selected 20 development blocks? So far as I understand, the situation in my constituency and for that matter in the Constituencies of other hon. Members is not satisfactory. If some beneficiary is to get Rs. 3,000 as loan, out of it Rs. 2,000 is pocketed by officials and other intermediaries and the poor people and Harijans are not able to get anything. Has any survey been conducted to find out whether there has been any improvement after the cash payment system was introduced? If the situation improved, then it should be encouraged.

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The evaluation which has been done recently show that the assets found intact in 22 blocks were 66 per cent as compared to nearly 70 per cent in the old pattern of lending. This is the evaluation of six months. Let us watch the performance for some more time. We will come to a decision after seeing the performance after a longer period.

[Translation]

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is only one significant poverty alleviation programme, namely I.R.D.P.—the Integrated Rural Development Programme—which was introduced by late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, and our present Prime Minister has carried it forward. It cannot be said that the rural areas are not getting any benefits out of it. They are getting benefits. But the point is that the money goes to the States, and is distributed to the people by the various branches of the banks. Many agencies are involved in the distribution simultaneously. They include the banks, the blocks, the Village Level Worker, and the revenue collection agency which together create all the mess. It is not that the loans are not distributed, but we see in the rural areas that every one feels harassed. So there must be one agency. Your funds are allocated from here. Let

these funds be distributed by the banks; blocks and other agencies should not be involved in it. There should be a technical person in the bank itself who could give the money straightaway. This technical expert could examine the project which the beneficiaries want to start, whether it is sheep rearing or setting up of an industry, and he should advise accordingly. Thereafter, it should be watched whether the beneficiary is implementing the project or not. The payment should be made to him so that he is satisfied that he has received the amount. Then it should be ensured that the money is not misused, people do not demand a share out of it or bribes are not taken...

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Do not make a speech in Question Hour. Ask the question straightaway.

[Translation]

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA : My question is whether the Government will make arrangements to ensure that there is no corruption in the distribution of loans under the IRDP and the amount is paid directly to the beneficiary and only one agency is involved in disbursement of the loans ?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, all the suggestions that have been made here by the hon. Member and others, inside the Parliament and outside the Parliament, will be kept in view at the time of taking the decision. In order to educate the people and to see that it directly reaches the weaker section and also to see that there is no element of corruption, we are holding the Credit Camps throughout the country, and in the presence of the people we are giving direct assistance to the people. That is why public functions are held.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Sir, I appreciate the stand taken by the Government in the poverty alleviation programme. For all these programmes, such as, IRDP,

RLEGP and NREP, you are actually allocating more funds. With regard to IRDP, you have fixed some target. The target is one crore fifty lakh families by the end of the financial year. This target you want to cover and even you want to achieve more than the target. Some of the States are doing better work whereas in some of the States the funds allocated for IRDP are not being utilised for the purpose for which they have been allocated. Some States are doing better; if the target fixed for them is 100 per cent, they are achieving even 150 per cent. Take Tamil Nadu, for example. They are doing the work more than the target. So, I would like to know whether the funds given to those States which are not utilising them, will be given to those States which are doing more work.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, the target fixed is not that which has been stated by the hon. Minister. I have stated that the target was that one and a half crore people were to be given assistance during the Sixth Five-Year Plan. During the Seventh Five-Year Plan, two crores people will be covered under this programme. A sum of Rs. 4 000 crores will flow from the banks and the cooperative banks, in addition to Rs. 2,358 crores as subsidy.

So far as the performance of some of the States is concerned, particularly during this Plan period, in some years their performance is dismal and in some years they pick it up. The target is for the entire Seventh Five-Year Plan and earlier it was for the Sixth Five-Year Plan. We will congratulate those States which have gone ahead and crossed the targets which have been prescribed. So far as the fund is concerned, fund is available. So far as the programme is concerned, allocation will be there. In this year, for your information, a sum of Rs. 543 crores has been fixed as the target and this will go as subsidy on 50:50 basis. So, if they are going to cross this target, then we will examine.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has come to our

notice that even after the names of the beneficiaries are recommended and sent to the banks for sanction of loans and even after they are sanctioned loans, disbursement is not made. In this way, the targets which are fixed are not achieved. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he would order an inquiry into cases where sanction has been given but disbursement has not been made and where the targets have not been achieved? Will he examine such cases at the personal level?

[English]

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, the DRDAs have to identify the beneficiaries, and after identifying the beneficiaries, they have to submit the applications to banks for sanction. It is the duty of the bank to process the application and sanction, and then the disbursement will take place. Now, this sanctioning should take place within fifteen days and if it is not done and if there are any instances which could be brought to our notice, we will take action.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that poverty alleviation programme of the Government of India has not had the desired effect on account of large scale corruption in various agencies dealing with loaning and subsidy, like, banks, revenue agencies and development agencies in the Districts and Block. It is the element of subsidy, from 25% to 75% in different schemes, which encourages people to indulge in corruption and forces farmers and other weaker sections to give illegal gratification. Has the Government considered the suggestion given more than three years ago by the then Agriculture Minister that instead of subsidies being given for various development schemes, interest free loans should be provided to farmers for development purposes so that all this business of subsidy does not result in cuts at various levels and the people in weaker sections are not forced to pay money to obtain loans?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : This suggestion has been considered. The

feed back given to us and also the suggestions and recommendations from some of the State Governments and also coming from various quarters have gone to the extent of saying that the present system is better.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him finish.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Various suggestions have been considered. We are examining further to eliminate subsidy element and directly to give loan (principal amount) without any interest. This is also being considered.

[Translation]

Inquiry into working of Gramin Banks

+

*114. **SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :**

SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any inquiry into the working of Gramin Banks to find out if these are serving their objectives;

(b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry; and

(c) the follow up steps taken in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

Government had set up a Working Group to examine the suitability of the existing structure of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs), taking into account the role assigned to them and to suggest appropriate measures for improving their overall capabilities. The Working Group has come

to the conclusion that RRBs have catered successfully to the credit needs of their target group in the rural areas and has suggested that these banks should be retained as independent entities.

Government have decided that Regional Rural Banks should continue to function as a separate credit window for the rural poor. Follow up action on recommendations of the Working Group relating to management structure, refinance facilities and improving of viability has also been initiated.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : In the statement laid on the Table of the House, the Minister has admitted, as in the previous questions which were put by my worthy colleagues, that there are lapses and there are complaints and solid proofs of officers in the Gramin Banks asking for bribery while disbursing loans to the poor and weaker sections. My simple question to the Minister is : how many cases were detected, how many employees were punished and what type of punishment was given ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The question does not specify for which act action has to be taken. But we have taken action so far as the bribery is concerned. The exact figure is not available. For the benefit of the House I am to state that whenever these people are living beyond their means, we have raided their houses. We have taken action. Now, so far as the frauds are concerned, which includes this type of acts also, I have got the figure, and if the hon. member requires that figure, I am prepared to supply. The figures that you require are not available with me and I shall supply these to you.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Licences issued to electronic units in Kerala

***104. SHRI K. MOHANDAS :** Will

the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of new licences issued for electronic units in Kerala during 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : During the year 1986, 5 Industrial Licences, 3 Letters of Intent and 10 registrations have been issued to various electronics units in Kerala

Restoration of commuted value of pension

***108. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :**

CHOWDHRY AKHTAR HASAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have accepted the decision of the Supreme Court in regard to the restoration of commuted value of pension;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) I am glad to inform the House that the Government have decided to implement the judgement of the Supreme Court. Orders will be issued shortly.

Vehicular pollution

***110. DR. G. S. RAJHANS :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any plans to

instal smoke analysers throughout the country to check increasing air pollution;

(b) whether the increase in number of vehicles using mobil oil with petrol is responsible for air pollution; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to control such air pollution?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) No, Sir; however, smoke analysers have been installed in some of the metropolitan cities.

(b) Yes, Sir; it is one of the causes of air pollution.

(c) The steps taken include the following:

- (i) Emission standards for different categories of vehicles have been prescribed;
- (ii) The State Governments have been advised to enforce the standards under the Motor Vehicles Act; and
- (iii) Campaigns have been launched for public awareness.

Use of animals for smuggling on Indo-Pak border

*112. SHRI MANIK REDDY :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale smuggling activities on Indo-Pak border by using four legged-couriers are still continuing;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to check such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The Indo-Pak border continues to be vulnerable to smuggling activities. Intelligence reports received confirm the usage of animals as couriers for smuggling. However, the reports received by the Government and the seizures made do not indicate that this modus operandi is used for large scale smuggling across the border.

The total value of contraband goods seized on the Indo-Pak border during the last three years are furnished below :

Year	Value of seizures (Rs. in crores)
1984	5.60
1985	15.60
1986	25.00

(c) The anti-smuggling drive on the Indo-Pak border has been intensified. The enforcement agencies deployed in the region have been strengthened in terms of man-power and equipment. Close co-ordination is maintained with the concerned Central and State Government authorities for taking appropriate remedial measures.

Bank frauds

*113. SHRI THAMPAM THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of bank fraud cases detected during 1986; and

(b) the amount involved in such bank frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) According to the Reserve Bank of

India, the public sector banks have reported to it 1822 suspected bank fraud cases in India during 1986 as compared with 2157 cases in 1985. The amount involved was Rs. 44.42 crores in 1986 as compared with Rs. 53.49 crores in 1985.

**Emphasis on development of
land and water**

*115 SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Science Congress at Bangalore has recommended shifting of emphasis on defence and nuclear power and concentrating on development of land and water ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) The final recommendations of the 74th Session of Indian Science Congress held at Bangalore in January 1987 have not yet been received by the Government. However, we have seen the draft recommendations presented at the 74th Session. These recommendations deal with the inputs of science and technology to resources and human well-being, and do not contain any mention of shifting emphasis from defence and nuclear power.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortage of Forest Officers

*116. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a shortage of trained and experienced forest officers in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken to make up this shortage as well as to meet the growing requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The steps taken include :

stepping up of recruitment to the Indian Forest Service to 175 per year.

introduction of Forestry courses in Agricultural Universities to broaden the base for recruitment of Forest Officers.

revision of the syllabi for training of Forest Officers at all levels and

organising one-week refresher courses for the Indian Forest Service Officers every year to bring about the necessary attitudinal changes.

Wasteland Development

*117. SHRI V. SOBHANADRE-ESWARA RAO :

SHRI P.M. SAYEED :

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

(a) the land area identified as wasteland by each State/U.T. Government as on 1 January, 1987;

(b) the extend of land identified as degraded forests by each State/U.T. Government as on 1 January, 1987 and the area reforested during the year 1985-86; and

(c) the land given to rural poor with usufruct rights by each State/U.T. during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) and (b) The State/U.T. Govts.

had been requested to identify wastelands. So far only Haryana, U.P. and Kerala have sent information which indicates that Haryana have identified 122,000 ha., Kerala 68,600 ha. and Uttar Pradesh 8,72,000 ha. Some other States have initiated action but the process is likely to take time using traditional methods and the data may not be too reliable.

The National Wastelands Developments Board has initiated in November, 1986 a National Wastelands Identification Project in 147 Districts with the help of the Deptt. of Space.

A Statement showing the estimate of wastelands in non-forest areas and of

degraded forests as presented to the National Land Use and Wastelands Development Council in February 1986 is given below.

Approximately 1.5 million ha. was brought under afforestation during 1985-86 through wastelands development and afforestation programmes.

(c) The Department of Rural Development, Government of India issued guidelines to the State Government to formulate schemes for giving tree paths to rural poor with usufruct rights. Some States have formulated their schemes only in 1986-87. Therefore, the information in respect of 1985-86 is 'nil'.

Statement

Estimates of Wastelands and Degraded Forest Lands in India

(Hectares in Lacs)

States/U.T.	Non-Forest Degraded (Wastelands) Area	Forest Degraded Area
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	76.82	37.34
Assam	9.35	7.95
Bihar	38.96	15.62
Gujarat	71.53	6.83
Haryana	24.04	0.74
Himachal Pradesh	14.24	5.34
Jammu and Kashmir	5.31	10.34
Karnataka	71.22	20.43
Kerala	10.53	2.26
Madhya Pradesh	129.47	71.95
Maharashtra	115.60	28.41
Manipur	0.14	14.24
Meghalaya	8.15	11.03
Nagaland	5.08	8.78

-1	2	3
Orissa	31.57	32.27
Punjab	11.51	0.79
Rajasthan	180.01	19.33
Sikkim	1.31	1.50
Tamil Nadu	33.92	10.09
Tripura	1.08	8.65
Uttar Pradesh	66.35	14.26
West Bengal	21.77	3.59
Uts	8.89	27.15
Total	936.91	358.89

Proposal for rural development

*118. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Gujarat Government has submitted a proposal to the Planning Commission for rural development in the State during the year 1986-87;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal;

(c) whether some other State Governments have also sent such proposals and if so, the names of those States;

(d) the action taken by the Planning Commission to clear those proposals; and

(e) the details of other proposals under consideration of the Planning Commission for the Development of rural areas of the country particularly Adivasi areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (e) No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Gujarat or any other State Government for the development of rural/

adivasi areas. However, annual plan proposals of the State Governments including those for rural development are received within the framework of the Seventh Plan which are examined, discussed, finalised every year in the Planning Commission.

Check on expenditure of Central Ministries

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

(a) whether there is any institutional mechanism to monitor and keep under check the expenditure of different Central Ministries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) The Government has been continuously making efforts to control expenditure with a view to optimum utilisation of resources and curtail inessential expenditure. The institutional arrangements in this regard are (i) Integrated Financial Adviser system under which Financial Advisers are attached to each Ministry/Department to advise on incurring of expenditure on day to day basis, (ii) detailed examination of

budget for provision of funds with reference to available resources and (iii) departmentalisation of accounting arrangements with an accounts organisation functioning in each Ministry/Department to monitor progress of expenditure and accounting thereof with Secretary of the Chief Accounting Authority. Besides these, Planning Commission looks into the requirements of expenditure on various schemes of the Ministries for allocation of plan resources and scrutiny of schemes is also carried out through the mechanism of Public Investment Board/Expenditure Finance Committee/Committee on Non-Plan Expenditure. Monitoring of expenditure is also proposed to be intensified by introduction of quarterly budgeting and zero based budgeting approach.

[Translation]

Implementation of special component plan

*120. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU

DEVI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where special component plan has been implemented fully; and

(b) the names of the States where this plan has not been implemented properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) Most of the States where SCP is in operation, have implemented the SCP in 1985-86, almost fully.

(b) Each State/U.T has tried to evolve suitable schemes and strategies to meet the problems in its area. A statement giving the allocations and expenditure on SCP as also the relevant percentage is given below.

Statement
Allocation and Expenditure of Special Component Plan (State-Wise)

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	State/UT	% of SC population	State Plan outlay 1985-86	SCP outlay 1985-86	% of SCP to total	Expd. on SCP	% of Expd. to outlay
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14.87	104460.00	12064.00	11.55	10565.00	87.57
2.	Assam	6.24	19897.12	1044.00	5.25	386.67	37.03
3.	Bihar	14.58	85100.00	6727.00	7.90	5621.00	83.56
4.	Gujarat	7.15	80437.00	2587.00	3.22	2492.73	96.36
5.	Haryana	19.07	48000.00	3033.00	6.32	2911.00*	95.97
6.	Himachal Pradesh	24.62	17700.00	1949.10	11.01	1949.10*	100.00
7.	J & K	8.31	26000.00	956.49	3.68	956.49*	100.00
8.	Karnataka	15.07	65056.00	6793.08	10.44	6717.43	98.89
9.	Kerala	10.02	36642.72	2958.00	8.07	2885.85	97.56
10.	Madhya Pradesh	14.10	11054.33	6332.00	5.73	6340.42*	100.13
11.	Maharashtra	7.14	27558.55	4237.00	15.56	6232.78	145.39
12.	Manipur	1.25	7008.00	142.37	2.03	142.37*	100.00
13.	Orissa	14.66	20132.00	3651.00	18.11	3885.56*	106.42

14.	Punjab	26.87	50639.00	2187.00	4.32	1776.00	81.21
15.	Rajasthan	17.04	43000.00	6647.00	15.46	6647.00*	100.00
16.	Sikkim	5.78	4100.00	46.68	1.14	46.68*	100.00
17.	Tamil Nadu	18.35	96000.00	12616.00	13.14	12616.42*	100.00
18.	Trlpura	15.12	5412.95	755.00	13.95	686.69	90.95
19.	Uttar Pradesh	21.16	175000.00	17267.00	9.86	17582.53*	101.83
20.	West Bengal	21.99	34824.40	6542.00	18.79	6541.72*	99.99
21.	Chandigarh	14.09	665.00	198.00	29.77	198.05*	100.00
	Delhi	18.03	33500.00	1643.00	4.90	1583.23	96.36
23.	Goa, Daman & Diu	2.16	6400.00	83.00	1.30	63.85	76.92
	Pondicherry	15.99	3300.00	520.27	15.77	478.05	91.84

*Figures are provisional.

[English]

Central assistance to Karnataka

*121. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central assistance has been allocated to the State of Karnataka for the Seventh Plan on the basis of the principles embodied in the modified Gadgil formula as decided by the National Development Council in 1980;

(b) if so, whether Karnataka State has also been provided additional general assistance for the externally aided projects approved for the State Plans; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Karnataka State has also been provided with Central assistance for externally aided projects.

(c) Details in respect of (a) and (b) for the Seventh Plan period are indicated below :

(Rs. crores)

1. Normal assistance under modified Gadgil Formula.	767.72
2. Adjustment of Advance Plan Assistance for Relief works.	(—)7.99
3. Central assistance (net) (1—2)	759.73
4. Additional Central assistance for externally aided projects.	114.00

5. Central Assistance total (3+4)

873.73

[Translation]

Implementation of 20-Point Programme

*122. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the implementation of the 20-Point Programme in the country has been satisfactory; and

(b) if not, the steps taken for its proper implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The implementation of the 20-Point Programme in the country has been improving. The number of items in which the performance was 80% and above of the target has increased from 17 in 1982-83 to 18 in 1983-84, 24 in 1984-85 and 24 in 1985-86. For the year 1986-87 information on all the items will be available only after the year is over. However, according to the information available for the 10 months' period for the year 1986-87 (April '86 to January '87), out of the 21 items covered in the Monthly Progress Report, the number of points under which performance was above 80% is 17.

(b) As a follow-up of the Monthly and Quarterly Progress Reports, the concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments are addressed bringing out the points/items in which performance is not satisfactory and they are requested to take suitable steps to see that the performance improves.

[English]

Reservation of jobs for handicapped in Gazetted Posts

1114. SHRI R. M. BHOYE :
SHRI D. L. BHATIA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to reserve Gazetted Officers' jobs for physically handicapped persons particularly in Group 'A' and 'B'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Persons brought above poverty line

1115. CH. RAM, PRAKASH : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons brought above the poverty line during the last two years upto 31st January, 1987;

(b) the details of allocations proposed to be made for poverty alleviation programmes to each State in 1987-88; and

(c) the amount asked by each State, particularly Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The poverty estimates at the national level are based on NSSO Survey, which was last carried out in 1983. No specific study for the persons brought above the poverty line during the last two years upto 31st January, 1987 has been done.

(b) and (c) A Statement giving the amount asked by each State, including Haryana, for poverty alleviation programmes, viz; IRDP, NREP, for 1987-88 and the allocations tentatively approved for inclusion in the respective State Plans is given below.

Statement

Statewise proposed and approved tentative outlays for 1987-88 for IRDP & NREP

(Rs. lakhs)

States	IRDP		NREP	
	Proposed outlay	Approved outlay	Proposed outlay	Approved outlay
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	2457.50	2062	2270	2300
Assam	1170	845	650	482
Bihar	4480	4161	4400	4000
Gujarat	1486.50	1367	800	792
Haryana	405.16	337	237	224
Himachal Pradesh	170	202	138	144
J & K	371	298	302.50	178

1	2	3	4	5
Karnataka	1113	1713	1080	1109
Kerala	900	779	1000	906
Madhya Pradesh	3330	2784	2335	1996
Maharashtra	2364.50	8688	2000	1919
Manipur	154.05	72	60	80
Meghalaya	180	140	80	37
Nagaland	138	106	41.10	29
Orissa	1700	1662	1140	1060
Punjab	542.25	358*	350	238
Rajasthan	1346	1370	1000	938
Sikkim	40	37	30	19
Tamil Nadu	1897.56	2006*	1811	1895
Tripura	266	109	120	80
Uttar Pradesh	5536	5315	4500	4215
West Bengal	1785	2315	1974	1813
Total States	31831.52	36726	26318.60	24454

* Not yet finalised.

Marine archaeological expedition programme undertaken by National Institute of Oceanography

1116. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

DR. B. L. SHAILESH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether marine archaeological expedition programme has been undertaken by the National Institute of Oceanography;

(b) whether any discovery has been made by the above Institute during the last one year; and

(c) if so, the details of archaeological discovery made by the fifth marine archaeological expedition team of the National Institute of Oceanography ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) provided logistic support.

(b) and (c) A team has undertaken expedition programme under a DST funded project on "Marine Archaeological Studies in Indian waters". They discovered two submerged in-situ walls of massive stone blocks assignable to 14th century B.C. at 8 mt water depth. The other walls at 4.5 mt. water depth have also been found and these are believed to be of 100 A.D. on ceramic evidence. Five perforated stone anchors found are reported to be similar to those in use in Syria and Cyprus in 14th to 12th century B.C. Other finds include a ship wreck, copper vessel, stone blades and shell bangles.

Public participation in public undertakings

1117. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have recently been laid down for public issues of equities in the public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) names of the companies in the public sector which have so far offered more than 30 per cent equity shares to public and whether there is any ceiling envisaged upto which such equity participation is allowed; and

(d) the considerations which have weighted with Government in resorting to the public participation in public undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d) No guidelines have been issued by Government for public issue of equities in public sector undertakings. In view of the important role played by the public sector in economic development and the need to provide additional resources for its growth, Government introduced a new scheme for floatation of bonds by public sector undertakings, primarily in the infrastructure fields and high priority areas.

Opening of branches of Regional Rural Banks in H.P.

1119. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has ensured the early opening of branches of the Regional Rural Banks for which licences have been issued under

the new Branch Licensing Policy (1985-90);

(b) if so, the names of the branches for which the licences have been issued till date in Himachal Pradesh and the names of such among them as have since been opened; and

(c) the likely date by which the licences in respect of the remaining identified centres would be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Wasteland development

1120. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total area of wasteland in the country which is neither used for agriculture nor for afforestation;

(b) what is the area of wasteland proposed for afforestation;

(c) in how many phases the scheme of afforestation will be completed; and

(d) what is the total area of wasteland in Andhra Pradesh likely to be utilized in this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) As per the statistics of the Ministry of Agriculture, the total unculturable wastelands in the country are 21 million ha., while pastures (13 million ha.) culturable wastelands (17 million ha.) and fallow lands (23 million ha.) are also degraded to the point where they are not under cover and their productivity is very low.

(b) A total target of 5 million ha,

(including wastelands) of afforestation per year has been set.

(c) Total afforestation from 1951-80 was 3.56 million ha. and the Sixth plan 4.65 million ha. The achievement in the first 2 years of the Seventh Plan is 3.2 million ha. It is hoped that an annual rate of about 5 million ha. would be achieved by the end of the plan period.

(d) According to one estimate, Andhra Pradesh has 76.82 lakhs ha. of non forest degraded area and 37.34 lakhs ha. of forest degraded area, totalling 114.16 lakhs ha. The aggregate afforestation in target for Andhra Pradesh in 1986-87 was 45,000 ha. and the target proposed for 1987-88 is 57,000 ha.

Setting up of Regional Rural Banks in Karnataka

1121. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMAHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up one Regional Rural Bank in each district in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) At present there are 13 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in Karnataka which cover all the nineteen districts. Seven of these RRBs are covering one district each and the remaining six are covering two districts each. There is no proposal to have a separate RRB for each district.

Goods seized at International Airports

1122. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of goods seized at all the four International Airports in India during the period April to December, 1986 and the value of the goods seized;

(b) details of arrests made; and

(c) the manner of disposal of the confiscated goods ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The value of contraband goods seized during the period April to December, 1986 at the following four major International Airports in India is given below :—

Airport	Value of goods seized (Rs. in crores)
Bombay	13.41
Calcutta	1.31
Delhi	4.87
Madras	2.46

The principal commodities seized are gold, watches, synthetic fabrics, electronic goods, drugs etc.

(b) During the period April-December, 1986, 1942 persons were arrested under the Customs Act including those arrested at the international airports throughout the country.

(c) Confiscated trade goods are sold through auction/tender. Confiscated consumer goods are sold to the cooperative societies approved by the Central and State Governments and duly registered under the Co-operative Societies Act including National Co-operative Consumers Federation and State Co-operative Federation, military and para-military canteens etc. Confiscated gold and silver are deposited in the mint and foreign currencies are credited to the Reserve Bank of India. Heterogenous and miscellaneous goods seized in small lots are directly sold to public through customs retail shops.

Shortage of trained manpower for computer industry

1123. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of trained manpower to cater to the rapidly growing computer industry in the country;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) measures proposed to remedy the position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE

IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The estimated number of computer professionals required in the 7th Five Year Plan is about 80,000. Out of this, the number of personnel at the level of Programmers is 35,000 and at the level of Operators is 30,000. The balance about 15,000 personnel will be required for production, maintenance, training, R & D and management etc.

The estimated requirement of various levels of computer manpower in the 7th Five Year Plan and output from the existing programmes are as under :—

	Ph. D.	M. Tech.	B. Tech	DCA	DCE	MCA	Vocational Courses.
Estimated Requirement	450	6000	6000	30000	3000	8000	30000
Output from the existing programmes.	80	2500	4000	10000	500	2500	7000

In order to reduce the gap of availability of manpower, Department of Electronics has initiated a number of programmes jointly with University Grant Commission/Ministry of Human Resources Development/Director General of Employment & Training/State Governments. The main programmes are as under :

(i) 1 Yr. Post Graduate DCA :

This programme is being carried out jointly with UGC. Already 48 universities have been covered under this programme.

(ii) One & Half Yrs. Post Polytechnics DCA :

This programme is being carried out jointly with Ministry of Human Resource Development. The programme has so far been initiated in 37 Polytechnics.

(iii) One & Half Yrs. PG DCA (Hindi Medium) :

So far 8 centres have been supported under this programme.

(iv) B. Tech :

So far over 30 centres have been initiated to conduct B. Tech. course in computers.

(v) M. Tech :

22 centres have already initiated M. Tech. programme in computers.

(vi) 3 Yrs. MCA Programme :

The programme is jointly supported by Department of Electronics/University Grant Commission/Ministry of Human Resources Development. 27 centres have

already been covered under this programme.

(vii) Vocational Courses :

This programme at the level of ITIs (Industrial Training Institutes) provides one year/six months courses in applications of computers. This is a joint programme with Director General of Employment and Training (DGE&T). Already 20 institutes have been covered. Another ten centres will be initiated under this scheme shortly.

In addition to the the above, Department of Electronics has supported Teachers' Training Programme, Diploma in Computer Engineering/Maintenance Engineering, Instruction Material Development. A programme called Continuing Education has been initiated at 6 centres which will have quick turn around and provide training specific to the needs of the trainees.

The above programme will be expanded to more centres in the following years.

It has been recognised that Government educational institutions providing formal education will not be able to meet the entire demand because of the shortage

of teachers. While Department of Electronics is taking steps to restrain teachers through various schemes for faculty development programmes, it has also decided to involve public and private sectors in providing computer training in order to bridge the gap. This scheme will be operational from the year 1987-88. Department of Electronics has also decided to set up a chain of four Indian Institutes of Information Technology (IIITs) in each of the regions of the country and respectively affiliated institute in each of the State Capitals.

Loans to weaker sections under DRI scheme

1124. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total amount advanced during the last three years, year-wise to weaker sections under the 'differential rate of interest' scheme and the number of beneficiaries particularly in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Public Sector Banks' advances under the Differential Rate Interest (DRI) Scheme for the country as a whole and for the State of Orissa in particular, are as under :—

(No. of accounts in lakhs)

(Amount in Rs. in crores)

Year as at the end of December	All India		Orissa	
	No. of Accounts	Amount outstand- ing	No. of Accounts	Amount outstand- ing
1983	37.44	367.99	2.18	15.53
1984	42.72	441.38	2.71	18.68
1985	43.18	462.70	3.03	20.10

(Data are provisional)

Securities against advancing of loans to companies

1125. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of MINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the normal practice followed by overseas branches of the public sector banks in obtaining securities against advancing loans to companies;

(b) the total outstanding loans advanced by the overseas branches of the public sector banks; and

(c) names of public sector banks having branches abroad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) As reported by Reserve Bank of India the overseas branches of public sector banks while advancing loans to companies take into account the securities available from the companies such as stocks, bills of exchange, properties, deposits shares etc. A "charge" is created in favour of the bank in the form of pledge, lien, mortgage, assignment etc. and the documents are executed by the proponent company evidencing the "charge" in favour of the banks, besides detailing rights and obligations of the parties to the documents. Personnel guarantees from promoters/directors are also obtained in certain cases. In addition, in most of the company advances, as a standard practice, banks also obtain :

(i) Memorandum and Articles of Association,

(ii) Certificate of incorporation, and

(iii) A resolution passed by the company for borrowing.

(b) As reported by RBI, as on 30th June, 1986, the total outstanding advances to non-bank customers (including bills

discounted) at the foreign branches of Indian public sector banks aggregated to Rs. 8180.42 crores. .

(c) As on 31st December, 1986, the following 12 public sector banks had foreign branches :

1. State Bank of India
2. Bank of India
3. Bank of Baroda
4. Indian Overseas Bank
5. Indian Bank
6. UCO Bank
7. Syndicate Bank
8. Canara Bank
9. Punjab National Bank
10. Central Bank of India
11. Union Bank of India
12. Punjab and Sind Bank.

Setting up schools and junior colleges

1126. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Atomic Energy has set up a number of Schools and Junior Colleges all over India;

(b) if so, whether the teachers employed in these schools were promised the terms and conditions of their counterparts in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(c) if so, whether Pension, Gratuity and P.F. benefits are still to be introduced for such employees; and

(d) if so, reasons for the delay ?

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

The Department of Atomic Energy has set up 16 Schools and 3 Junior Colleges at 10 locations in the country.

(b) The terms and conditions of the Teachers are generally comparable to their counterparts in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

(c) and (d) P. F. Scheme has been introduced with effect from 1.4.1986. Details of Scheme for introduction of Pension, Gratuity and Family Pension are under process.

Assistance to small and cottage industries in Kerala

1127. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of units started in Kerala during 1986 to promote development of small and cottage industries in rural areas with financial assistance from commercial banks under the NABARD refinance scheme; and

(b) whether repayments by such units are regular ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that it provides refinance to the Scheduled Commercial Banks for their lendings to cottage, tiny and village industries in rural areas. Under this refinance facility, 404 units were provided loans to the extent of Rs. 12.219 lakhs. NABARD has further reported that repayment in respect of NABARD refinance has not fallen due so far.

Juvenile prisoners in jails

1128. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of juvenile prisoners in the different jails;

(b) the state-wise figures of the juvenile prisoners in different jails all over the country;

(c) the main reasons for their high number; and

(d) the measures taken to reduce this high incidence of juvenile delinquency ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Juvenile prisoners have been kept in jails owing to the shortage of facilities for their lodging outside jails under the Children Acts.

(d) Several measures have been taken up for reducing juvenile delinquency. A uniform law—Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 has been enacted to provide special care, protection and treatment to the neglected and delinquent juveniles. Financial assistance is proposed under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for prevention and control of juvenile social maladjustment.

Opening of new stock exchanges

1129. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of stock exchanges in the country, (State-wise) ;

(b) the names of places where there is a proposal to open new Stock Exchanges ;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a stock exchange at Cuttack ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a)

There are 15 recognised Stock Exchanges in the country. The number of Stock Exchange (State-wise) is given below.

State/Union Territory	Number
Maharashtra	2
Gujarat	1
West Bengal	1
Tamil Nadu	1
Delhi	1
Andhra Pradesh	1
Karnataka	2
Kerala	1
Uttar Pradesh	1
Punjab	1
Assam	1
Bihar	1
Madhya Pradesh	1
	15

(b) Government have received proposals for opening Stock Exchanges at Rajkot, Jaipur, Chandigarh and in Haranya and Orissa which are under consideration.

(c) Government do not set up Stock Exchanges.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Amendments in electronic policy

1130. SHRI P. A. ANTONY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to make any changes in the present electronic policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) & (b) In high-technology areas like electronics, policies are continuously monitored to be in line with the changing techno-economical environment and to make appropriate changes from time to time as and when required.

Replacement of soiled Notes by banks

1131. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had issued directions to nationalised banks to replace the soiled notes ;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of the nationalised banks are not following the directions ; and

(c) if so, the action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have stated that all the nationalised banks have been following the instructions issued by them. However, whenever complaints are received from the public, RBI takes up the matter with the Head Office of the concerned bank branches for suitable action. The Chief Executive of all the public sector banks have also been advised by RBI to ensure that their branches extend the note exchange facilities to the public to the maximum extent.

[Translation]

Opening of Bank branches

1132. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of branches

of nationalised banks opened during 1986, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Reserve Bank of India has reported that as per the information so far received, the 28 Public Sector Banks have opened 128 branches in different States/Union Territories during 1986 as per details given below :

Name of State/ Union Territory	No. of branches opened
Andhra Pradesh	3
Assam	9
Bihar	14
Gujarat	4
Haryana	4
Himachal Pradesh	1
Karnataka	1
Kerala	4
Madhya Pradesh	10
Maharashtra	24
Nagaland	1
Orissa	3
Punjab	1
Uttar Pradesh	19
West Bengal	23
Arunachal Pradesh	2
Delhi	4
Mizoram	1
Total ;	128

[English]

Income tax raids from January, 1987 onwards

1133. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of total number of

Income-tax raids conducted at Delhi, Kanpur, Calcutta and Bombay-based business and residential premises from first January, 1987 ;

(b) the total revenue recovered from such raids ; and

(c) the nature of business against which the action has been taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The Income Tax Department has conducted 236 searches at Delhi, Kanpur, Calcutta and Bombay during January, 1987 wherein prima facie unaccounted assets such as cash, jewellery and other worth approximately Rs. 290.93 lakhs have been seized besides a large amount of incriminating documents. Keeping in view the large number of searches, it is not practicable to give the details of each type of business searched.

Raids in 1986 by Enforcement Directorate

1134. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of private industrialists and businessmen whose establishments and/or residences have been raided by the enforcement directorate during 1986 ;

(b) the number of persons against whom prosecution has been launched ;

(c) the present status of the cases ; and

(d) the value of the undeclared assets and foreign exchange involved in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) During the year 1986, the Directorate of Enforcement conducted 4186 searches resulting in the seizure of Indian currency totalling Rs. 509.48 lakhs, and foreign currency worth Rs. 283 lakhs. In some

cases, Show Cause Notices have been issued and in other investigations are in progress. During the same period, prosecution against 649 persons were launched under the provisions of the F.E.R. Act. However, no separate list of private Industrialists or businessmen is maintained by the Directorate of Enforcement. If the Hon'ble Member can specify any particular case(s) in respect of which the information is required, the same will be collected and furnished.

Seizure of gold from a British aircraft in Delhi

1135. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence has seized gold biscuits worth Rs. 70 lakhs from the toilet of an Aircraft recently at Indira Gandhi International Airport ;

(b) if so, how many persons have been prosecuted in this connection giving details thereof ;

(c) whether the investigation has revealed any link of an international gang of smugglers ;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) steps taken or proposed to be taken to check smuggling activities particularly at the various International Airports in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) On 11th February, 1987, in pursuance of an information, the officers of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Delhi, checked at Delhi Airport a British Airways aircraft which arrived from London via Dubai. As a result, 240 gold biscuits of foreign origin of 10 tolas each were recovered from the panels of one of the toilets of the aircraft. Gold valued at Rs. 70 lakhs (market value) has been seized under the Customs Act.

(b) In this connection, two persons namely Sarvashri Net Ram and Chander Singh, employees of British Airways were arrested on 11th February, 1987 and were remanded to judicial custody. Prosecution proceedings would be launched against those involved on completion of investigations.

(c) and (d) The investigations into the case are still in progress. In the interest of the effective investigations, it will not be expedient to disclose further details at this stage.

(e) The drive against smuggling activities at our international airports has been intensified.

A separate set of Air Intelligence officers are posted in the airports to discreetly watch the movements of passengers and their luggage. Further, anti-smuggling equipments such as metal detectors, X-ray baggage scanners are also used to prevent and detect concealment of contrabands on person/inside baggage/cargo.

Suitability of Metkem Poly Silicon for solar cells, etc.

1136. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Electronics and the Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources have finalised their reports regarding suitability of Metkem Poly Silicon made in India for solar cells and electronic applications; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in the matter ?

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

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Progress of hilly and tribal area

1137. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :
Will the Minister of PLANNING be
pleased to state :

(a) whether since 1980 it has not
been possible to construct roads and lay
telephone and electricity links in the hilly
and tribal areas;

(b) whether this has hampered pro-
gress of hilly and tribal areas; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to im-
prove the situation in these areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI
SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir. Infrac-
structural facilities like construction of
roads, laying of telephones and electricity
links have been provided even after 1980
as would be evident from the illustrative
statement I to III given below.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Question does not arise.

Statement I

**Progress of construction of roads during the Sixth Plan (1980-85) in the Hill
States/Areas**

(In Kms.)
Achievement during
1980-85

A-Hill States/Union Territories :

1.	Himachal Pradesh	2639
2.	Jammu and Kashmir	1157
3.	Manipur	512
4.	Meghalaya	977
5.	Nagaland	1600
6.	Sikkim	235
7.	Tripura	556
8.	Arunachal Pradesh	1646
9.	Mizoram	637

B-Designated Hill Areas :

10.	Assam (Two Hill Districts)	913
11.	Uttar Pradesh (Eight Hill Districts)	2316
12.	West Bengal (Three Sub-Divisions of Darjeeling District).	285
13.	Tamil Nadu (Nilgiris District)	121

Statement II

Progress of Telephone links in Hilly and Tribal Areas from 1-4-1980 to 31-3-1986

S. No.	Name of the tribal/hilly area	Addition in switching capacity (lines)	U.H. F. and links	Microwave links	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Jammu & Kashmir State	About 5900	Srinagar-Gulmarg	(i) Srinagar-Udhampur (ii) Jammu-Udhampur (iii) Srinagar-Baramulla	(i) 190 Telex lines added (ii) Satellite Station at Leh.
2.	Himachal Pradesh	About 6000	Simla-Solan Jalandhar-Dharamsala Chandigarh-Kasauli-Nangal.		(i) 14 LDPTs opened (ii) Satellite Station at Kulu.
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	About 900	Jorhat-Itanagar Tinsukia-Passighat Tinsukia-Khonsa Champakhowa-Tezu	—	(i) Satellite Station at Itanagar. (ii) 3 LDPTs opened.
4.	Manipur	About 550	Imphal-Karang. Imphal-Chandel Mokaput-Ukhrul	—	(i) Electronic Exchange opened at Imphal. (ii) Satellite Station at Imphal. (iii) 10 LDPTs opened

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Meghalaya	About 1500	Shillong-Jowai Dhubri-Tura	Shillong TAX-Laitkor Peak (End link)	(i) Satellite Station at Shillong (ii) 7 LDPT's opened (iii) 30 Telex lines added. Satellite Station at Aizwal.
6.	Mizoram	About 500	Aizwal-Silchar	—	
7.	Nagaland	About 1600	(i) Kohima-Phek (ii) Kohima-Wokha-Mokokchung (iii) Wokha-Zunhebote	—	Satellite Station at Kohima, (i) Satellite Station at Agartala (ii) 20 Telex Lines added. (iii) 6 LDPT's opened
8.	Tripura	About 1800	(i) Agartala-Kailashehr (ii) Agartala-R. K. Pur	—	
9.	Cachar	600 in Silchar	(i) Silchar-Haflong. (ii) Silchar-Karimganj (iii) Silchar-Aizawl (iv) Silchar-Panchagram	—	
10.	Almora	84*	(i) Bareilly-Almora	—	384 lines electro- nic exchange at Almora.
11.	Chamoli	120*	—		
12.	Dehradun	1200L*	(i) Dehradun-Dakpathar		

13.	Tebri Garhwal	50L*	
14.	Pauri Garhwal	120*	
15.	Uttar Kashi	100*	
16.	Pithoragarh	110*	
17.	Nainital	168*	768 lines electro-
18.	Darjeeling	300*	nic exchange at Nainital.
19.	Neelgiri	300* (Ooty) 500* (Coonoor)	

Note :— Exact information in case of Western Ghats cannot be given readily as areas have not been specified.

*Information given only for the exchange at Distt. H/Q.

Statement III

Progress of Village Electrification in the Hill Areas

Sl. No.	Name of the State/Area	Villages Electrified upto 31.12.80	Villages Electrified upto 31.12.86	Villages Electrified from 1/81 to 12/86
1.	Jammu and Kashmir	4552	5861	1309
2.	Himachal Pradesh	8921	15855	6934
3.	Uttar Pradesh (Eighth hill districts)	3610	8139	4529
4.	West Bengal (Darjeeling Hill Areas)	184	358	174
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	263	929	666
6.	Sikkim	53	240	187
7.	Nagaland	320	793	473
8.	Manipur	322	740	418
9.	Tripura	766	2088	1322

(Source : R. E. Directorate, CEA)

US aid to India

1138. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United States has proposed \$143.795 million aid to India for the fiscal year 1987-88;

(b) if so, the break up of the proposed U. S. Aid; and

(c) how does this aid compare with the aid proposed by the USA to Pakistan for the coming year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) For the U.S. Fiscal Year 1988 (October 1987 September 1988) the U. S. President has proposed Economic Assistance

for India for an amount of \$ 143.3 million. This is expected to consist of \$50 million as Development Assistance and \$ 93.3 million as PL 480 Title-II assistance.

(c) The total assistance to Pakistan in U.S. FY 1988 including military assistance and assistance under the Economic Support Fund is proposed as \$ 677.8 million.

[Translation]

Pollution in Ganga river

1139. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bata Shoe Company and Mc Dowell Distillery at Hathidah in Mokameh district of Bihar are polluting the Ganges river by discharging the untreated effluents;

(b) whether pollution control equipments of requisite standard have been installed in these factories;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action Government propose to take against these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The factories have installed partial effluent treatment facilities. However, these do not meet the prescribed standards.

(d) The State Pollution Control Board has launched prosecutions against these factories.

[English]

Extension of ITDP scheme to Sikkim

1140. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received for extension of Integrated Tribal Development Projects scheme to the people living below the poverty line in the State of Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to extend the Scheme to Sikkim; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) The State Government had proposed in 1985 to include 35 Revenue Blocks of the Districts of East, West and South in Sikkim under Integrated Tribal Development Projects. The Ministry's approval to the constitution of three new Integrated Tribal Development Projects, in the three

districts to include the proposed Revenue Blocks was conveyed to the State Government in 1986-87.

(c) The State Government was advised that these Integrated Tribal Development Projects should also look after the needs of the Scheduled Tribes not covered under Integrated Tribal Development Projects. Thus, the scheme for socioeconomic upliftment have been extended to the Integrated Tribal Development Projects and tribals outside these units. The State Government propose to assist 8000 Scheduled Tribe families in Sikkim to cross the poverty line during the Seventh Five Year Plan under Poverty Alleviation Programmes (20-Point Programme).

(d) Does not arise.

Recruitment racket unearthed

1141. SHRI ANAND SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recruitment racket working in the Staff Selection Commission and the Department of Personnel, has lately been busted;

(b) if so, the details of the modus-operandi of this racket; and

(c) the steps taken to round up all those responsible for running the racket and what other action has been taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) Yes, Sir, but the Department of Personnel and Training is not involved.

(b) The racketeers were preparing fake application dossiers of candidates who had not been declared successful in the Clerks Grade Examination or who had not even applied for the said examination and nominating them to the various departments fraudulently.

(c) The case was referred to CBI for investigations as a result of which two former and one serving official of the Staff Selection Commission, were arrested.

The Commission have also streamlined its procedures for nominating candidates to the user departments to obviate possibility of malpractices in future.

Conference on 'role of Non-residents in India's development'

1142. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :

SHRIMATI N.P. JHANSI
LAKSHMI :

PROF. RAM KRISHNA
MORE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the international conference on "role of non-residents in India's development" was organised in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the nature of discussions held at the conference;

(c) whether NRIS have demanded dual citizenship; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government to their demand and the steps Government propose to take to draw them to India's development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) Yes, Sir, a privately organised conference with this as its subject took place in New Delhi recently.

(b) Government did not officially participate in the discussions.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Recommendation of high power committee appointed to amend Anti-Corruption Act

1143. DR. DATTA SAMANT :

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations of the High Power Committee appointed by Government to amend the Anti-Corruption Act;

(b) which of these recommendations have been accepted; and

(c) when is the amending legislation likely to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) to (c) The High Powered Committee headed by Cabinet Secretary to review the role, organisation and functions of the Central Bureau of Investigation has recommended enactment of a Comprehensive Prevention of Corruption Act and taking suitable steps to reorganise the CBI and give a statutory basis for the powers and functions of the CBI. A Comprehensive Prevention of Corruption Bill will be introduced during the current session of the Parliament.

[Translation]

Special Courts for hearing cases filed by C.B.I.

1144. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI :
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering setting up special courts for hearing the cases filed by C.B.I.; and

(b) if so, the time by which it will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) Government are of the view that special courts exclusively for trying cases filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation should be set up. Since consultations have to be held with the State Governments, it can not be said when the exclusive Courts would be set up.

(English)

Encouragement to women for Civil Services Examinations

1145. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be

pleased to state :

(a) the number of female and male candidates who took the Civil Services Examinations during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the steps proposed for encouraging female candidates to take examination ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The number of male and female candidates who took the Civil Services (Main) Examination held during the last three years i.e. in 1983, 1984 and 1985 is as under :—

CIVIL SERVICES (MAIN) EXAMINATION

1983		1984		1985	
Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
8632	722	8824	758	8704	778

(b) Following steps have already been taken by the Government :

- (i) Wide publicity has been given about the opportunities available to women in the Civil Services.
- (ii) Guidelines have been issued to the States to ensure that women officers are given adequate field experience and posted to a variety of posts including in the areas of finance, industry etc.
- (iii) Instructions have been issued to ensure posting of husband and wife at the same station, as far as possible, within the constraints of administrative convenience.
- (iv) Inter-cadre transfers of All India

Service officers borne on different cadres are considered on the ground of marriage to bring them together in a cadre, which shall not normally be the home state of the officer transferred.

- (v) Guidelines have also been issued to ensure that an officer of Central Service/Public Sector Undertaking is posted as far as possible to the Station/State of of officer of All India Service if such officer marries an officer belonging to an All India Service.

IAS and IPS officers of Bihar charge sheeted

1146. SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of I.A.S. and I.P.S.

officers posted in Bihar who have been charge sheeted by the C.B.I. during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : The Central Bureau of Investigation has not filed charge-sheet against any IAS/IPS officer in Bihar during the last three years. However, the CBI has taken up for investigation cases against 2 IAS officers and 5 IPS officers in the State.

Report of Kaul Committee on working of C.B.I.

1147. SHRI MOHD MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN :

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High Powered Committee headed by Shri P.K. Kaul to examine working of the CBI has submitted its report;

(b) If so, the salient feature thereof; and

(c) the decision, if any, taken on the recommendations made by the Committee?

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

(b) Major recommendations of the Committee include enactment of a new Prevention of Corruption Bill and enactment of a new law regarding organisational structure as well as jurisdiction and powers of CBI.

(c) It has been decided to introduce a comprehensive Prevention of Corruption Bill in this Session of Parliament.

Restrictions on Government servants from marrying with foreign nationals

1148. SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether uniform restrictions from marrying foreign nationals will be imposed on all officers of Government working in sensitive position irrespective of the service to which they belong; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to bring uniformity in the rules applicable to Government servants, belonging to different Services, in the matter of marriage with foreign nationals, as the existing provisions in this regard have been formulated keeping in view the needs and requirements of the respective service.

Loans by banks under NREP and IRDP

1149. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount advanced by banks as loans under the NREP and IRDP during 1986;

(b) the total number of beneficiaries to whom the loans were granted;

(c) the percentage of women beneficiaries; and

(d) the number of defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) According to information furnished by the State Governments during 1986-87 (upto December, 1986) banks had assisted 20.67 lakh families with loans amounting to Rs. 527.67 crores under the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). The

percentage of women beneficiaries under this programme was 11.63%. Under the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) no loans are granted by the banks.

(d) Reserve Bank of India has reported that the present data reporting system does not yield information regarding the number of defaulters under IRDP separately.

Customs duty exemption to save induction furnaces

1150. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to exempt all types of ferrous scrap, sponge iron and hot briquetted iron from customs duty in order to provide relief to Induction Furnaces; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Concessional customs duty of 20% *advalorem*, as available in respect of ferrous melting scrap (other than heavy melting scrap, stainless steel scrap and heat-resisting steel scrap), sponge iron and hot-briquetted iron, when imported for use in electric arc furnaces, has been extended for use in induction furnace units as part of the Budget proposals for 1987-88.

Customs duty exemption for some machines used in jute industry

1151. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to exempt some machines required by jute industry from the levy of customs duty;

(b) if so, details thereof and the likely effect on revenue; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) With a view to helping jute industry to modernise itself and sustain export production, specified jute mill machineries and accessories have been wholly exempted from customs duty in December, 1986, entailing an estimated revenue sacrifice of Rs. 20 crores in a year.

Financial assistance to retail shopkeepers through banks

1152. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a scheme to provide financial assistance to retail shopkeepers through bank loans; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Under the current guidelines issued by the Reserve Bank to commercial banks, advances to private retail traders dealing in essential commodities (fair price shops) and retail consumer cooperative stores dealing in essential commodities are included in the priority sector. The interest charged on the loans to retail traders by the banks are as follows —

	Rate of interest per cent per annum
(a) Limits upto and inclusive of Rs. 5,000/-	12.5
(b) Over Rs. 5,000/- and upto Rs. 25,000/-	Not exceeding 15.0
(c) Above Rs. 25,000/-	Not exceeding 17.5

Launching of INSAT-IC

1153. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether launching of INSAT-IC to be put into geostationary orbit through an Ariane launcher is likely to be further delayed;

(b) if so, the main reasons for delay in launching;

(c) whether the rocket engine has to be redesigned to rectify the defects that failed its last launch on May 30, 1986;

(d) if so, by what time the defects will be removed and whether any final date for launching the same has been decided; and

(e) if not, the main reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) INSAT-IC is at present scheduled for a January/February 1988 launch period as per a mid-1986 manifest prepared by Arianespace on the basis of a resumption of Ariane flights from February 1987. Redesign of the Third Stage igniter and completion of testing of the Third Stage of the Ariane launch vehicle have taken more time than originally anticipated. A revised schedule for the flights is expected to be released by Arianespace within the next two months. There is a likelihood that the launch slot to which INSAT-IC is at present manifested may be slightly affected. All efforts are being made to avoid or minimise the slippage.

(c) Yes, Sir. The redesigned configuration of the Third Stage is under testing.

(d) and (e) It is expected that the

Ariane launches will resume from end May/early June 1987.

Grant from Britain for development projects

1154. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement was signed between India and Britain for providing grant of Rs. 63 crores;

(b) if so, the purpose for which this grant is to be spent; and

(c) whether out of this any amount is to be provided for a social forestry project in Karnataka and if so, the amount thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) An agreement was signed on 23 September 1986 with the United Kingdom Government for a British grant assistance of £34.037 million, then equivalent of about Rs. 63 crores. The grant is in the series of annual local costs grants provided by the United Kingdom, which so far have aggregated to £307.02 million,

(b) The Local costs grants are available for meeting Rupee costs of Indian projects mutually agreed upon between the two Governments,

(c) The United Kingdom has agreed to provide £15.03 million from the above local costs grants for the social forestry project in Karnataka in addition to £27 million credit made available by International Development Agency for this project.

Tax evasion by professionals

1155. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI AMARSINH RATH-
AWA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether large scale tax evasions by doctors have come to light following investigations made in clinics and private nursing homes recently in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof as also action taken against those found guilty; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to extend the investigation to cover other categories such as self-employed engineers, chartered accountants, architects, transporters and advocates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Recently the Income Tax Department had conducted major searches covering medical profession in Delhi and Jalandhar wherein prima-facie unaccounted assets including cash, jewellery and others worth approximately Rs. 1.21 crores and lot of incriminating material have been seized.

(c) All necessary measures including legislative, administrative and institutional are being taken from time to time against the tax evaders.

Spending on General Administration

1156. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States spending highest percentage of its Budget on General Administration in the country; and

(b) the percentage of its Budget which is being spent by the Union Government on General Administration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) For 1986-87, according to forecasts given to the Planning Commission, the percentage of non-plan revenue expenditure of a non-developmental nature (excluding debt-servicing) to the budget is the highest in the case of Manipur (23%).

(b) During 1986-87, the Union Government would spend about 8% of its budget on revenue expenditure of Ministries dealing with social, economic and general services (excluding defence undertakings).

Illegal transaction of foreign exchange

1157. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Enforcement has filed a number of criminal complaints during the past one year against top businessmen in Delhi and Bombay of their alleged involvement in illegal transaction of foreign exchange to the tune of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) action contemplated by Government against the guilty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The criminal complaints filed during 1986 against top businessmen in Bombay are as follows :

Name of the accused	Amount Involved
1. Kirloskar Bros. Ltd. & others, Pune.	£ 2,00,000.00
	£ 2,20,000.00
	£ 1,02,343.57
2. Kirloskar Oil Engine Ltd. & others, Pune.	DM. 20,00,000.00

	1	2
3.	Hodek Engg. Works Pvt. Ltd. & others, Pune.	£. 28,571.43
4.	Hodek Engg. Works Pvt. Ltd. & others, Pune.	US. \$. 50,000.00
5.	Hodek Engg. Works Pvt. Ltd. & others, Pune.	£. 14,555.00 £. 20,016.00
6.	Sh. Mrugesh Jaikrishna & others, Ahmeda- bad.	US \$. 3,04,526 & TC US \$. 48,900

No criminal complaint during 1986 was filed in Delhi against any top businessmen. However, 51 such complaints have been filed in Delhi against different persons.

(c) Action as provided under F.E.R. Act, 1973 i.e. adjudication proceedings in addition to prosecution have been initiated.

Reviving of LIC lapsed policies

1158. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have directed the Life Insurance Corporation to reduce the number of lapsed policies by reviving as many of them as possible;

(b) whether the capability of policy-holders to pay the premia for policies is taken into consideration at the time of issuing a policy;

(c) whether Government propose to make policy-holders to pay the first three instalments at one time to avoid lapsing; and

(d) whether employers would be compelled to take up group insurance for their employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The Government have been reviewing the matter and advising LIC from time to time to pay special attention for reduction in the number of lapsed policies as also for their revival wherever feasible.

(b) and (c) The LIC takes due consideration of the paying capacity of the proponents and to their needs for insurance. The premium under a policy is usually paid yearly in advance, though policy-holders may opt to pay premiums at half-yearly, quarterly or monthly intervals. It may not, therefore, be possible for the policy-holders, particularly belonging to weaker sections of the society, to pay at one time the insurance premium not only for one year but also for two more years. LIC has, however, recently launched a Special Revival Campaign for revival of policies which had lapsed within a period of three years by offering a number of concessions to such policyholders effective from 17th February, 1987 to 31st March, 1987.

(b) Government have no such proposal at present.

Increase in number of drug addicts

1159. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an abnormal increase in the number of drug addicts in Delhi and other big cities; and

(b) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) No national level figures are available regarding the number of drug addicts in the country today. However, a multi-centred study on drug abuse among students in four metropolitan cities and five other

towns of the country has been commissioned.

(b) A variety of measures are being taken by the Government to deal with the problem of drug abuse. These include legal action, awareness building, counselling and guidance, deaddiction, treatment rehabilitation and re-integration of drug addicts into society.

Mis-utilisation of funds

1160. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any instance of diversion of funds given to States for afforestation purpose has come to the notice.

(b) if so, the steps taken to check such diversions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) In the case of the 'Centrally sponsored scheme : Social Forestry including Rural Fuelwood Plantations,' among all the forestry sector schemes, the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General for the year 1984-85 has indicated that funds to the tune of Rs. 78.65 lakhs were diverted in some States to scheme/work not connected with this Scheme. Appropriate action will be taken after comments on this are received from the concerned States.

Delay in permission for issuing Rights Shares

1161. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Controller of Capital Issues has been delaying permission to issue Rights Shares for shareholders; and

(b) if so, whether the procedure is proposed to be streamlined in order to speed up decisions and investments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

LIC's premia and bonus

1162. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have examined the views expressed by National Consumers Organisation and other consumer bodies that the Life Insurance Corporation premia and bonus are so structured as to help the rich at the expense of the poor;

(b) whether bonus for money back policies is the same as for other policies;

(c) if so, whether this is justified by actuarial principles; and

(d) whether there is any report of any actuarial committee of LIC premia and bonus and if so, the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Government have examined the matter in consultation with LIC. It is not correct that premia and bonus rates of LIC are structured to help the rich at the expense of the poor. On the contrary, the premium payments under the large policies help subsidise to some extent the expenses incurred etc. on smaller policies.

(b) and (c) The reversionary bonus rates allowed under the money back policies are the same as under the endowment types of policies and this is justified by actuarial principles.

(d) The Committee of Actuaries had made certain recommendations in 1979 suggesting differentially lower bonus under the money back policies. After full

consideration LIC Board later decided that instead of allowing differentially lower bonus under the money back policies, the premium rates under the policies should be so structured that the bonus generation shall be of a similar order as under endowment assurance policies. The decision was implemented in the revised premium rates in 1980.

[Translation]

Clearance to motorable road in
Almorah District (U.P.)

1163. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether approval has been accorded to the construction of Bageshwar Daphot motor road in Almorah District of Uttar Pradesh which is under construction; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Diversion of 1.699 ha. of forest land for construction of Bageshwar Daphot motor road in Almorah district has been approved by the Government of India.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Kaiga Atomic energy plant

1164. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total acres of land acquired from the State Government for the establishment of Kaiga atomic power plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : About 1700 acres of land will be acquired from the State

Government for the Kaiga Atomic Power Project. This land will be adequate for future expansion upto a total installed capacity of 2000 MWe.

Extinction of bird's species of
Karnataka

1165. SHRI H. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have sought any report from the State of Karnataka regarding birds species that have become extinct in the Western Ghat region of Uttara Kannada district; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Memo from IES officers

1166. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State :

(a) whether a memorandum has been submitted by the Members of the Indian Economic Service to the Prime Minister on 3rd Feb., 1987;

(b) if so, the nature of demands; and

(c) the decision taken thereon if any ?

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

(b) The Members have demanded adoption of a system of time-bound pay scales which will bring them at par with the promotional pattern prevalent in other organised Class I Services.

(c) The Fourth Central Pay Commission have made some recommendations relating to pay scales of IES Officers and Government decision on these recommendations will be taken along with all other Group A Services.

Releasing detained children

1167. SHRI D. L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Ministers and Secretaries of Social Welfare held at Calcutta on 21 January, 1987;

(b) whether a decision was taken at the meeting to transfer all the children held in jails to welfare homes; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b) Conference of State Welfare Ministers and Secretaries incharge of the juvenile justice system held on 21 January, 1987 in New Delhi, has agreed upon a time-frame for the enforcement of newly enacted Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 from 1 May, 1987, so as to ensure that no child under any circumstance is lodged in jail.

(c) A draft of model rules under the new Act has been prepared and circulated among all the States and Union Territories for necessary action. In addition, a scheme for the prevention and control of juvenile social maladjustment has been included under the Seventh Five Year Plan, as a centrally sponsored scheme, to facilitate States and Union Territories to create/upgrade the infrastructure required for the enforcement of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986.

Delay in clearance of project

1168. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of

ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of irrigation and road projects of Rajnandgaon District (M. P.) pending clearance for long; and

(b) the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) :

(a) and (b) No irrigation or road project of Rajnandgaon District of M. P. is pending clearance from the environmental or forestry angles.

Inclusion of Delhi in Self Employment for Educated Unemployed Scheme

1169. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Self Employment for Educated Unemployed Scheme covers people residing in Delhi;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government propose to extend the scheme to Delhi also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The Scheme for providing Self-Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youths (SEEU) is presently intended to cover educated youths living in rural, semi-urban and urban areas. The scheme does not cover metropolitan areas i. e. cities with population of more than 10 lakhs as per 1981 census. Thus, Delhi is not covered by the Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youths.

Unreconciled amounts in nationalised banks

1170. PROF. RAM KRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge amount is lying unreconciled in various nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the estimated amount lying unreconciled at the end of 1986 and how does it compare with the amount lying unreconciled at the end of 1985 ;

(c) whether Government have made any inquiry into the unreconciled amounts lying in the nationalised banks ;

(d) the number of cases in which fraud/misappropriation have been established ; and

(e) the action taken/proposed to be taken in fraud cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per the information readily available, 259.49 lakhs entries involving an amount of Rs. 198109.63 crores relating to the period upto the year 1984 were pending for reconciliations in the Indian branches of the 28 public Sector Banks, as on 31st December, 1985. This pendency was brought down to 208.92 lakhs entries involving an amount of Rs. 139526.97 crores by the end of June, 1986.

(c) Reserve Bank of India and the Government have been impressing upon the banks from time to time to initiate effective and concerned measures to keep this area of work up to date and clear the arrears within a time bound programme by streamlining their systems and procedures in this regard. Banks are seized of the problem and have initiated a number of measures to bring about improvement in this area of work. Most of the Public Sector Banks have computerised their inter-branch reconciliation work. The progress made by banks is also monitored by the Reserve Bank of India.

(d) and (e) Reserve Bank of India have reported that the present data reporting system does not yield information relating to the number of cases of frauds due to delay in reconciliation alone. As per the information furnished by the RBI, the Public Sector Banks have reported to RBI a total number of 1822 suspected

fraud cases including cases of misappropriation in India during 1986. Whenever a fraud is detected by a bank or is brought to its notice, a primary investigation is made by the bank and based on the findings, a decision is taken to conduct a thorough investigation departmentally or to hand over the case to the local police or to the CBI. On the basis of the enquiry report received from the CBI/Police, or from internal enquiry, banks award punishment to their staff who are found to be responsible for the lapses or negligence facilitating the commission of frauds.

R.B.I. committee to examine bill marketing system

1171. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has set up a Committee to examine the bill marketing scheme and explore means of promoting the scheme in a big way ;

(b) if so, whether the committee is also to find out the actual situation in the capital market is going through a uncertain period ;

(c) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report to Government ; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to implement the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) A specific committee has not been set up to examine the bill market scheme. However, the Working Group on the Money Market set up by the Reserve Bank has, *inter-alia*, made certain recommendations on the development of the bills scheme.

(b) The Working Group has examined matters relating to short-term money market instruments and not issues relating to the longer-term capital market.

(c) and (d) The Working Group has submitted its Report to the Reserve Bank on January 13, 1987. Its recommendations are under examination in the Reserve Bank.

Directives Issued to States for environmental protection

1172. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any new study on environmental protection has been initiated ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) what is the response of State thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Income tax raids in Haryana

1173. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids made by Income tax authorities in Haryana since April, 1986 ; and

(b) details of documents seized and the amount recovered during these raids in each raid ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b)

The Income Tax Department has conducted 101 searches in Haryana during the period 1-4-86 to 27-2-87 wherein prima-facie unaccounted assets such as cash, jewellery and others worth approximately Rs 43.28 lakhs have been seized. Besides, a large number of incriminating documents have also been seized. Keeping into account the large number of searches, it is not practicable to give the details of each search.

[Translation]

States achieving targets under 20-point targets

1174. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States which have achieved the targets under the 20-Point Programme in the year 1986 ; and

(b) the State-wise details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) Complete information about the States which have achieved the targets under the 20-point programme in the year 1986 would be available only after the year is over. However, based on the information available for the 10 months' period i.e. April, 1986 to January, 1987 the following 11 States' performance was 80% and above which is considered 'good' : Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) A Statement giving the performance of the States in the 20-items covered under the Monthly Progress Report is given below.

Statement
20-Point Programme-Performance of States
No. of Points/Items in different categories

Sl. No.	States	Good (80% and above)	Poor (Below 80%)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15	4

2. Assam	6	13
3. Bihar	10	9
4. Gujarat	13	6
5. Haryana	13	4
6. Himachal Pradesh	13	2
7. Jammu & Kashmir	9	8
8. Karnataka	19	1
9. Kerala	11	7
10. Madhya Pradesh	16	4
11. Maharashtra	15	5
12. Manipur	10	5
13. Meghalaya	4	10
14. Nagaland	4	7
15. Orissa	14	5
16. Punjab	12	2
17. Rajasthan	18	2
18. Sikkim	12	2
19. Tamil Nadu	17	3
20. Tripura	13	5
21. Uttar Pradesh	15	5
22. West Bengal	8	11

[English]

India's prospects for enlarged IDA assistance

1175. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the prospects for India in the coming year in terms of enlarged IDA assistance ;

(b) the present position regarding repayments of earlier IDA loans ; and

(c) how do Government propose to

insure their interests against the gap that inevitably takes place between the volume of money received from donor countries and the volume of credits advanced to borrowers owing to frequent fluctuation in exchange rates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) India's IDA allocation for the next fiscal year of the World Bank is still pending finalisation.

(b) and (c) As on 21st December,

1986 the IDA credits outstanding for repayment amounted to the equivalent of US \$ 9.5 billion. The amount is scheduled to be repaid before end 2036 as per the repayment schedule applicable to different loans. The period of maturity of these credits is fifty years with 10 years grace. The liability for repayment remains fixed in terms of foreign exchange, and does not vary with fluctuations in exchange rate. IDA credits are received from the International Development Association and not from individual donor countries.

[Translation]

Excise duty evasion by industrial houses

1176. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether big industrial houses have been found involved in acts of evasion of Central Excise Duty in 1985 ;

(b) if so, the dates on which cases of evasion of excise duty were detected in respect of each of the big House and the amount of excise duty outstanding against each industrial house ; and

(c) the details of action taken to recover the amount of excise outstanding against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected from the field formations and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[English]

Carbon fibre plant

1177. SHRI P. PENCHALAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) total production per annum of first indigenous carbon fibre plant ;

(b) whether the National Physical

Laboratory is planning to set up any more such plants ; and

(c) if so, proposed locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) No indigenous carbon fibre plant has been set up so far for regular production of carbon fibres. Only an experimental pilot plant facility for production of carbon fibres at 100 kg/annum is being set up at National Physical Laboratory(NPL). The trial runs of the pilot plant are expected to be made in June, 1987.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Suggestions by Indian Science Congress

1179. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 74th Session of Indian Science Congress held in Bangalore, has called for more than one approach to measure poverty to make its definition more realistic; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to these suggestions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Indian Science Congress held in Bangalore in January, 1987 considered the Problems and Techniques relating to Statistical Measurement of poverty, and inter-alia, recommended in that regard as follows :

“In addition to the existing methodology to measure poverty based on univariate consideration (only adequacy of calorie), a more realistic approach (multi-variate

aspects) should be followed which would include other minimum basic needs such as health, housing, education etc."

(b) The concept of poverty line used by the Planning Commission is based on the recommendation of 'Task Force on Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand' which submitted its report in 1979. According to this report, the poverty line is defined 'as the per capita monthly expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs.56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to the per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. The poverty line defined this way covers the expenditure on food and non-food items (such as fuel, clothing, housing, health, education and other social services) and ensures the adequacy of calorie consumption. This concept which was used for the Sixth Plan is continued for the Seventh Plan also. The Poverty line is updated using the implicit CSO Private Consumption Deflator as proxy for price rise in the consumption basket of persons near the poverty line. The up-dated poverty line is Rs. 107 per capita per month in rural areas and Rs. 122 per capita per month in urban areas at 1984-85 prices (base year of the Seventh Plan). The same, is Rs. 6400 per household per annum in rural and Rs. 7300 per household per annum in urban areas.

Seizure of Narcotics

1180. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a series of raids have been made to seize huge stock of narcotics in the country in 1986;

(b) if so, drug-wise details of narcotics seized in each State, their value in international market, the names of countries from where these narcotics were smuggled;

(c) steps proposed to prevent the smuggling of these narcotics to India and action taken against persons involved in the trade of these narcotics; and.

(d) steps proposed to educate public to avoid the use of these narcotics ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The launching of raids for seizure of drugs is a continuous process. The drive against drug trafficking was further intensified with the coming into force of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. A statement indicating the details of state-wise seizure of drugs during 1986 is given below. As regards value in international market, no precise value of the drugs seized can be furnished as the illicit market price varies widely from place to place and time to time, depending upon the purity of the drug, local demand and supply position, place of origin, etc. The major source/origin of the drugs seized in India is reported to be Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nepal.

(c) Stringent punishments have been provided under the aforesaid Act for drug-trafficking offences. The field formations remain vigilant to check the smuggling of drugs. In addition to appropriate anti-smuggling measures taken, co-ordination with the international agencies concerned and also with the drug law enforcement agencies of U.S.A, U.K., etc., is maintained to curb smuggling of drugs. Steps have been taken to strengthen the bilateral co-operation between India and its neighbouring countries.

A liberalised reward scheme has been introduced under which the officials/informants including those of state drug law enforcement authorities are entitled to receive rewards for seizures of drugs. The matter is also kept under constant review for appropriate action.

Appropriate action under the law is taken against the drugtraffickers/peddlers arrested in drug cases.

(d) The Government has been continuously making efforts to educate the people about the evils of drug abuse by publicity through mass communication media and also by encouraging voluntary organisations through grants for educative publicity.

Statement

Statewise and Drug-wise seizures effected in India during 1986

S. No.	Name of States/ Union Territory	OPIUM		MORPHINE		HEROIN		GANJA	
		No. of cases	Qty. seized kg.	No. of cases	Qty. seized kg.	No. of cases	Qty. seized kg.	No. of cases	Qty. seized kg.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	0.200	—	—	—	—	13	1037.860
2.	Assam	6	496.665	—	—	—	—	5	498.130
3.	Bihar	3	21.600	—	—	2	4.845	100	50404.900
4.	Delhi	10	60.367	—	—	23	186.320	15	740.070
5.	Goa, Daman & Diu	—	0.011	5	0.084	47	20.881	2	2.015
6.	Gujarat	6	235.903	1	0.970	1	1.950	—	—
7.	Haryana	12	72.150	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	0.010	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	1	1.520	—	—
10.	Kerala	—	—	—	—	2	6.900	14	469.568
11.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	1	0.250	3	114.300
12.	Madhya Pradesh	40	247.710	—	—	1	1.000	4	110.625
			430 Litres						

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13.	Maharashtra	8	125,325	28	113,240	67	1630,300 + 40 Lit.	15	480,784
14.	Manipur	—	—	—	—	6	0,639	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	1	0,100	3	6,200
16.	Mizoram	1	4,000	—	—	3	0,265	—	—
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—	—	2	1,150	—	—
18.	Orissa	1	3,540	—	—	—	—	2	201,240
19.	Punjab	17	1458,090	—	—	7	78,290	1	1,500
20.	Rajasthan	95	83,174	—	—	9	574,160	4	52,975
21.	Tamilnadu	5	169,200	3	1,580	20	20,796	22	779,500
22.	Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	2065,000
23.	Uttar Pradesh	25	428,430 + 43 litres	5	57,870 + 20 litres	9	6,580	18	968,550
24.	West Bengal	6	86,421	—	—	5	0,500	39	251,010
TOTAL		236	4292,783 + 73 litres	42	173,744 + 20 litres	207	2536,456 + 40 litres	273	58184,227

Note : Figures are provisional.

Statement

State-wise and Drug-wise seizures effected in India during 1936

S. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	CHARAS		COCAINE		MANDRAX TABLETS	
		No. of cases	Qty. seized kg.	No. of cases	Qty. seized kg.	No. of cases	Qty. seized kg.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	Assam	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Bihar	15	151.800	2	0.550	—	—
4.	Delhi	31	3427.175	—	—	—	0.850
5.	Goa, Daman & Diu	17	129.369	—	0.080½	—	—
6.	Gujarat	11	182.675	—	—	—	—
7.	Haryana	5	16.400	—	—	—	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	11	3.039	—	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Kerala	3	3.917	—	—	—	—
11.	Karnataka	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	2	13.700	—	—
13.	Maharashtra	36	11302.760	3	9.700	14	1101.330

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Punjab	6	586.400	—	—	2	380.000
15.	Rajasthan	10	1330.824	—	—	—	—
16.	Tamilnadu	2	0.570	—	—	—	—
			+ 2.900	—	—	—	—
			hashish oil				
17.	Uttar Pradesh	16	135.650	1	0.020	2	1.632
18.	West Bengal	9	944.530	—	—	—	—
	Total	172	18215.129 + 2.000 hashish oil	8	23.970½	18	1483.812

(Note : Figures are provisional)*

Migratory birds affected by Chernobyl radiation

1181. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2406 on 19 November, 1986 regarding birds affected by nuclear radiation of Chernobyl and state;

(a) whether the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay have conducted radiation tests on migratory birds;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether radiation has been detected on the migratory birds; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to check the infection radiation spreading to other birds ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) The tests conducted by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre on migratory birds revealed no detectable radioactivity in any of the birds measured except for the natural radioactivity due to potassium which is always present.

(d) Does not arise.

Air Pollution

1182. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether steps have been taken to control fossilfuel emission to prevent gradual extinction of species and avoid indirect effect on the wildlife;

(b) whether Government have prescribed any standards for those industrial units emitting dangerous gases; and

(c) whether Government propose to conduct any research and field monitoring arrangements to combat acid rain problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Research projects and monitoring programmes relating to air quality including acid rain problems have been launched.

Outcome of conference of State Welfare Ministers

1183. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADHAK PATIL :

SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the State Welfare Ministers was held in January, 1987; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the deliberations at the Conference and the follow-up action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the deliberations were a review of the position regarding the machinery and resources for the implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 and also review of the Welfare services for the handicapped in the country with a view to bring about improvement in the services. A committee consisting of Central and State Government officers has been set up for overseeing the available infrastructure for implementing the Juvenile Justice Act, 1984. The State Governments have also been requested to send proposals for financial assistance under the Scheme for prevention

and control of juvenile social mal-adjustment, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and also to take steps for creation/upgradation of existing facilities, training of functionaries and development of non-institutional services.

**Transfer policy of officers and staff
in Canara Bank**

1184. SHRI V. S. MAHAJAN :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Canara Bank has laid down any policy for transfer of officers and staff;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of officers of Canara Bank transferred during the year 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 and the expenditure incurred by the Canara Bank on their transfer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI
JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes,
Sir.

(b) The Canara Bank have advised that the details of the transfer policy laid down by the bank for officers and workmen employees are as follows :

Transfer Policy for Officers :

(i) Officers are liable for transfer anywhere in India.

(ii) Generally officers are transferred from a place only after the completion of 3 to 5 years.

(iii) Normally, officers, who have attained the age of 52 years and above will not be posted outside the home state except on promotion.

(iv) Officers are eligible to request for home station after completion of 3 years outside service, and

(v) The bank may also consider requests for transfer on compassionate grounds.

**Transfer Policy for Workmen
Employees :**

(i) Generally, they are transferred after the completion of 3 to 5 years of service at a branch/office/place.

(ii) They are transferred only within the same language area.

(iii) Bank may also consider requests for transfer on compassionate grounds.

(c) The number of officers of Canara Bank transferred and expenditure incurred by the bank on their transfer are as under :

	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Number of officers transferred ...	2812	4192	4488
Expenditure incurred (Rs. in lakhs) ...	81.07	102.20	90.38

Expansion of C.B.I.

1185. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to entrust some new areas of responsibilities to the Central Bureau of Investigation; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to expand CBI ?

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

(b) Expansion of CBI, in order to discharge the duties and functions entrusted to it, is a continual process and based on need.

Streamlining administrative machinery of banks

1186. DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had discussions with the Chairmen of the Nationalised Banks recently regarding streamlining the administrative machinery of the various banks by computer based accounting procedure etc;

(b) if so, whether the Bank Employees Federations were consulted in this regard; and

(c) the details of the proposals and the response from the Bank Chiefs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of plutonium for industrial uses

1187. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) progress made in developing plutonium for industrial uses and for society;

(b) the details of achievements so far;

(c) the details of future plans; and

(d) how much plutonium is now being used by the industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Plutonium is a special nuclear material which can be used as fuel in nuclear reactors.

(b) The plutonium produced so far has been used in various forms for research and development. The Fast Breeder Test Reactor at Kalpakkam, commissioned in 1985, is fuelled by indigenously produced plutonium.

(c) Plutonium will be used as fuel in Fast Breeder Reactors, which constitute the second stage of developing nuclear energy for power production.

(d) Does not arise.

SCs/STs officers in nationalised banks and public financial institutions

1188. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of officers working in nationalised banks and public financial institutions and the number out of them belonging to SC/ST as on 1 January, 1986;

(b) whether the alarming low percentage of SC/ST officers in said institutions is due to the fact that promotion procedure in most of these institutions is based on selection in which reservation for SC/ST is not available; and

(c) the steps taken to provide reservation in such posts to improve the representation of SC/ST in services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) According to provisional data the number of Officers working in the Public sector Banks and financial Institutions and the

number out of them belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, as on 1-1-1986 were 2,12,835 and 18,438 respectively.

(b) and (c) Intake in the Officers' cadre of the Public Sector Banks and financial institutions is both by direct recruitment as well as through promotion from the clerical cadre. Reservations for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe are available in direct recruitment and also in promotions from clerical to officers' cadre. Public Sector Banks and financial institutions have been advised to conduct pre-recruitment/pre-promotion training programmes, and hold exclusive recruitment/promotion tests for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe wherever necessary to improve their representation in both cadres. Besides, educational qualifications have also been suitably relaxed in respect of direct recruitment of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates. Banks have also been advised not to lapse the vacancies which cannot be filled by promotion through the method of selection and instead, to carry forward the same for a period of 3 years. Banks have also been advised to review the position of backlog for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe at the Board level twice a year.

Raids on 19 November, 1986

1189. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RANJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether raid on 24 offices of some companies were conducted by Directorate of Anti-evasion from 19 November 1986 for about 3 days as reported in Indian Express dated 25th November, 1986; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken so far including arrests made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Searches have been conducted in the various premises of two companies, namely :—

(1) M/s. Formica India Division of

M/s. Bombay Burmah Trading Corporation Ltd. and

(2) M/s. Modern Surfaces and Insulations Ltd. and also in the premises of 10 dealers of these two companies only on 18-11-1986 and not for three days. Incriminating documents seized prima facie establish under valuation of Laminates manufactured by Formica India Division and sold through M/s. Modern Surfaces and Insulations Ltd. No arrests have been made. M/s. Formica India Division have voluntarily paid an amount of Rs. 66 lakhs and have agreed to pay the differential amount which may be finally determined. They have requested to waive the issue of Show Cause Notice. Collector of Central Excise, Pune has personally heard the party on 23-2-1987 to pass final adjudication order in the case.

Rate of inflation in Guwahati

1190. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India average of Annual Rate of Inflation based on Consumer Price Variation for the period of 12 months ending in September, 1986 shows that Guwahati is the costliest city in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide relief to the Central Government employees posted at Guwahati ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The price rise during the 12 months ending September, 1986 as per the Consumer Price Index for Urban Non-Manual Employees (Base 1960=100) was 12.36 per cent for the Guwahati centre which was higher than all other centres included in

the Index. However, the rate of increase in consumer price index in a year is not an indicator of the overall costliness of a Centre.

(b) The Central Government employees are compensated for the rise in cost of living through the scheme of dearness allowance based on the movement of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (Base 1960=100).

Fourth Pay Commission report on promotion policy

1191. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Fourth Pay Commission has recommended laying down of a fair and well-defined promotion policy in all grades for its employees and to make the same known to all concerned including the procedure for selection for promotion, etc.;

(b) whether a senior management pool is also to be created wherefrom non-technical posts in the Central Government above the rank of Joint Secretary are to be filled;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to spell out the details of the above; and

(d) lay the procedures on the table of the House including the date from which these are to be effective ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) - The Fourth Pay Commission has made observations, though not recommendations, to this effect in Chapter 23 of their report.

The policy and procedure relating to promotions and functioning of Departmental Promotion Committees are contained in the detailed instructions issued by the Government, and these are generally known to all concerned.

(b) As part of the on-going administrative reforms, it is being considered whether common and rigorous standards of selection for senior posts may be adopted both at the Centre and in the State Cadres of the IAS as well as in the cadres of the Central Services. In this context, the feasibility of establishing an Integrated Management Pool is also being explored.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Degradation of forest

1192. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether continuous expansion of urban areas and development of industrial zones has caused severe degradation of the forest areas;

(b) if so, whether due to depletion of forest cover, the country is at present threatened with environmental imbalance; and

(c) if steps taken for further afforestation of the country, amount spent and progress made so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) continuous expansion of urban areas and development of industrial zones has caused degradation of forest areas.

(b) Depletion of forest cover in the country is one of the causes of environmental imbalance.

(c) The National Wastelands Development Board was constituted in 1985 with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuel-wood and fodder plantations. 4.6 million hectares were afforested during the Sixth Five Year Plan period at an estimated cost of Rs. 926 crores. Afforestation has been done over 1.5 million hectares and 1.68 million hectares during 1985-8 and 1986-87 respectively.

Criteria for ranking the States for 20-Point Programme

1193. SHRI NARSING SURYA-WANSHI : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state the criteria fixed for obtaining marks in the inter-state score card on the implementation of programmes under the 20-Point Programme by the Ministry of Programme Implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : The criteria fixed for performance assessment of States under the 20-Point Programme is as follows :—

	Marks
Category 'A' 90% or more achievement	3
Category 'B' Achievement above national average	2
Category 'C' Achievement below national average	1
Category 'D' Nil Performance	0

The ranking of the States is based on the performance in the following 17 items :

I.R.D.P., N.R.E.P., R.L.E.G.P., Land Allotment, Bonded Labour Rehabilitation, S. C. Welfare, S. T. Welfare, Drinking Water Scheme, House Sites, Construction Assistance, Slum Improvement, E.W.S. Housing, Village Electrification, Pumpssets Energisation Tree Plantation, Biogas Plants (States) and Sterilisation

Research on wasteland development

1195. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT

AND FORESTS be pleased to state whether the Council for Forests Research and Education has been strengthened for promoting problem oriented research on wasteland development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : An Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education has been established, which, among other things, will look after research needs concerning tree planting on wastelands.

Delay in clearance of projects

1196. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the schemes referred to the Government by Himachal Pradesh Government for clearance, which involve felling of trees during the period from 1 April, 1986 to 31 January, 1987; and

(b) If so, the names of such among them which have been cleared and the likely date by which each of the remaining schemes would be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) A statement is given below.

(b) Diversion of forest lands for Sanjay Vidiyut Pariyojana and Larji Hydel Project has been approved. The proposals for diversion of forest land to construct a Rest House at Habbar and for allotment of land to landless people were not approved. Some essential information has been sought from the State Government in respect of the remaining proposals. Decision in these cases is dependent on the receipt of requisite information.

Statement

List of the proposals for diversion of forest lands received from the Government of Himachal Pradesh from 1-4-1986 to 31-1-87

1. Link Road from Shillaro to Reog.

2. Mining of Limestone in Sirmour district.
3. Construction of link road in Shimla district.
4. Gauri Hydel Project.
5. 132 KV line from Dehar to Hamirpur.
6. 132 KV line from Kunibar to Shimla.
7. Sanjay Vidiyut Pariyojana.
8. 132 KV line from Larji to Gaggal.
9. 132 KV line from Larji to Hamirpur.
10. 220 KV line from Khodri to Majiri.
11. Larji Hydel Project.
12. Construction of Rest House at Habbar.
13. UHL Stage III Hydel Project.
14. Allotment to landless people.

Opening of bank branch at Sansarpur Terrace Distt. Kangra

1197. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has accepted the request/recommendation of the Himachal Pradesh Government for changing the licence issued for opening a branch of the Himachal Gramin Bank at Sansarpur Terrace (Distt. Kangra) to the Branch of a nationalised bank at this place; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which the branch would be opened and the name of the nationalised bank to which the licence has been issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that no request has been received by them from Government of Himachal Pradesh for changing the licence for centre Sansarpur Terrace already issued to Himachal Gramin Bank in favour of a Commercial Bank.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening of bank branches in Karnataka during 1987-88

1198. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of bank branches proposed to be opened in Karnataka during 1987-88 alongwith locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that after scrutiny of the lists of identified centres for opening branches under the current Branch Licensing Policy 1985-90 received from State Government of Karnataka, 216 centres have been allotted to Commercial Banks including Regional Rural Banks, for opening branches during the Policy period, RBI has advised the banks that the opening of branches should be evenly spread over the remaining period of the current Branch Licensing Policy. It would not, therefore, be possible at this stage to indicate the names of centres where branches might be opened by banks during 1987-88 in Karnataka.

Canadian aid to increase bilateral trade

1199. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sought financial aid from Canada;

(b) if so, the total amount of Canadian aid expected to be obtained; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) At the meeting of Aid India Consortium in June 1986, Canada pledged C\$ 80 million to India for 1986-87. This consists of C\$ 64.3 million as project aid and C\$ 15.7 million as Commodity aid.

Training centres of S.B.I.

1200. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Training Centres set up by State Bank of India in the country;

(b) whether State Bank of India has any proposal to open more Training Centres to provide training to employees; and

(c) if so, the number of new training centres proposed to be set up at different places in the country alongwith locations thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The State Bank of India have advised that at present they are having 53 Training Institutions all over the country.

(b) and (c) The State Bank of India is having a plan to open 4 new training centres during the year 1987 and these are proposed to be set up at (i) Durgapur, (ii) Raipur, (iii) Hyderabad, and (iv) Solan or Palampur.

Increase in DRI advances given to rural artisans for setting up SSI

1201. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a pro-

posal to increase the percentage of DRI advances given to the rural artisans to set up small scale industry (SSI);

(b) if so, whether Government have made any increase in DRI advance given to rural artisans; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to increase the percentage of DRI advance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The banks have been advised to ensure that their outstanding advances under Differential Rate of Interest (DRI) Scheme are not less than one per cent of their aggregate advances as at the end of previous year. Further atleast 2/3rd of DRI advances should be through rural and semi-urban branches and the share of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe borrowers should not be less than 40 per cent. The public sector banks have already achieved these targets. There is no separate target for rural artisans; however, they are also entitled for getting a composite loan upto Rs. 6,500/-provided they fulfil criterion laid down for eligibility under DRI Scheme.

Opening of SBI branches during 1987-88

1202. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of State Bank of India proposed to be opened in different States in 1987-88; and

(b) the location of new branches proposed in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that on the basis of lists of identified centres for opening branches under the current Branch Licensing Policy 1985-90 received from State Governments, 488 eligible centres have been allotted to State

Bank of India for opening branches in rural and semi-urban areas in different States.

RBI has allotted 19 centres to States Bank of India in 8 districts of Orissa so far for opening branches during the Policy period, as per details given below :—

Name of Districts	Name of Centres
Kalahandi	Karlakot
Mayurbhanj	Khiching, Bhuasuni and Hatikot
Keonjhar	Jagmohanpur
Ganjam	Mahendragarh, Chhamunda and Brundaban Bihar
Puri	Kaushalyagonga and Sankhajodi
Bolangir	Sargada, Chandotara, Gajabandha and Mursundhi
Sambalpur	Balam, Agalpur and Kumbharl
Sundergarh	Kachharu and K. Balanga

Since, RBI has advised the bank that the opening of branches should be evenly spread over the remaining period of the current Branch Licensing Policy, it would not be possible at this stage to indicate

the number of centres where branches would be opened by State Bank of India during 1987-88.

Grant to Orissa to implement poverty alleviation programmes

1203. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the amount given to Orissa to implement poverty alleviation programmes in the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) whether Government propose to increase the allocation to Orissa towards implementing poverty alleviation programme in 1987-88;

(c) if so, the amount proposed to be sanctioned to Orissa for that purpose; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The major poverty alleviation programme are; Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee (RLEGP). While IRDP and NREP are shared 50 : 50 by Centre and the States, the RLEGP is 100% funded by Centre. The central releases in respect of these three programme for Orissa during 1984-85, 1985-86, and 1986-87 are as follows :—

Programme	Unit	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
IRDP	(Rs. lakhs)	1190.00	1098.11	1237.73
NREP	Cash (Rs. lakhs)	793.76	753.79	967.32
Additional Foodgrains	(Mts)	—	22700	44040
RLEGP	Cash (Rs. lakhs)	1667.74	1956.19	2119.04
Additional Foodgrains	(Mts.)	—	22700	37328.

(b) to (d) The Central allocation for the above programmes during 1987-88 is likely to be more than the current year.

Opening of branches of United Bank of India during 1987-88

1204. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new branches of United Bank of India proposed to be opened during 1987-88;

(b) the number out of them proposed to be opened in rural areas; and

(c) the number of branches of United Bank of India proposed to be opened in Orissa in 1987-88 alongwith urban and rural wise break-up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Creation of a public limited company for discounting bills

1205. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to create a public limited company for discounting bills;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of this proposal; and

(c) the likely utility thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) The Working Group on the Money Market appointed by the Reserve Bank of India has in its Report, *inter alia*,

recommended that an autonomous public limited company called the Finance House of India should be set up jointly by the Reserve Bank, the public sector banks and the financial institutions to deal in short-term money market instruments. The Finance House should have back-up facilities with banks and the Reserve Bank. The recommendations of the working Group are under examination by the Reserve Bank of India and no action is required to be taken by Government at present.

Negotiations with foreign countries for production of major software

1206. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are negotiating with some foreign countries for production of major softwares in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Government is negotiating with Norway, France and Holland for development of computer software in the country for export purposes.

Air pollution in Delhi

1207. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indraprastha thermal power station spouts every day 350 tons of fly ash containing all kinds of pollutants which cause severe respiratory and allied disorders; and

(b) if so, the plan formulated to check the pollutants like lead and arsenic

fouling which are affecting an increasing number of people living within 10 Km. radius of this thermal power station suffering from bronchial maladies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Steps have taken for installation of high efficiency electrostatic precipitators to replace the units which are not effectively functioning. According to the plan, these units are to be installed by December, 1987.

Report of Vaghul Committee on developing a bill market

1208. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since examined the Report of the Vaghul Committee on developing a bill market;

(b) its impact on the exclusion of the financial institutions like the LIC, GIC and UTI from the inter-bank money market plan; and

(c) whether the Reserve Bank of India has also considered the Report, and if so, its reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) The Report of the Vaghul Committee is under examination in the Reserve Bank. No action is required to be taken by Government at present. The RBI would, no doubt, take a view on the overall impact of the recommendations of the Committee, including those on LIC/GIC/UTI, while considering the Committee's recommendations.

Programme to develop Indian Rare Earths Ltd.

1209. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any programme to develop the Indian Rare Earths Ltd., located at Alwaye; and

(b) the steps taken to dispel the apprehensions about radiation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Rare Earths Plant of IRE Ltd. at Alwaye in Kerala, operating since 1952 is being modernised and the existing product range is also being diversified.

The Plant at Alwaye is posing no radiation danger to the plant workers or the surrounding population or to the environment. The safety practices in vogue in the Plant are regularly being explained to the population of the area through the medium of the Press, All India Radio and T.V. to dispel any apprehensions about radioactivity.

Experiments in artificial rains in Rajasthan

1210. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any experiments in artificial rain making;

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

(c) whether Government propose to conduct any such experiment in desert areas of Barmer and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan ? -

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

Artificial rain-making experiments using ground based seeding generators were conducted in Jaipur, Rajasthan on 97 days during the four summer monsoon seasons of 1960-63. Randomised artificial rain making experiments were also conducted in some other States. Pulverised salt particles were injected into the air at surface level using powerful air compressors.

(c) No Sir.

**Reduction in rate of interest by
NABARD**

1211. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the rate of interest on loans given by NABARD to farmers; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) The National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) sanctions refinance facilities to Regional Rural Banks, Commercial Banks and Cooperative Banks in respect of eligible loans given by these agencies. NABARD does not normally give direct loans to the farmers. NABARD has indicated that there is no proposal at present to reduce

the rate of interest on refinance granted to these agencies since the rate of interest charged by it is already quite low resulting in a very slender margin.

[Translation]

**Development of districts of Uttar
Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and
Rajasthan**

1212. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI :
Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for the development of 28 districts of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan declared as dacoit infested areas so far;

(b) the details of recommendations made by the working group of the Planning Commission in this regard;

(c) whether Government have taken any action on the recommendations; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Programmes for ravine reclamation, road/bridge construction and rural electrification are being taken up in the dacoity-prone areas of these States in accordance with the recommendations of the Working Group set up by the Planning Commission in June, 1983 to formulate a long-term strategy for their accelerated development.

(b) and (c) The Working Group has recommended taking up of developmental Programmes in three sectors, namely, Ravine Reclamation, Road/Bridge construction and rural electrification. The programme recommended involves an outlay of Rs. 641.86 crores.

Sector-wise break-up of this amount is given below :—

(Rs. crores)

	Proposed Outlay		
	Centre	State	Total
(i) Ravine Reclamation	82.70	—	82.70
(ii) Road/Bridge Construction	100.00	179.00	27900
(iii) Rural Electrification	59.49	220.67	280.16
Total	242.19	399.67	641 86

The provisions made for these programmes in the Annual Plans of the concerned Central Ministries/ Rural Electrification Corporation are as follows :

(Rs. crores)

Programme	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
1. Ravine Reclamation (Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation)	0.10	12.00	12.00
2. Road/Bridge Construction (Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development).	4.00	15.00	10.00
3. Rural Electrification (Rural Electrification Corporation)	11.60	27.44	31.64

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Reduction of excise duty on aluminium metal

1213. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reduced excise duty on primary aluminium metal recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Excise duty on aluminium ingots of commercial grade (CG grade) has been reduced from 13% ad valorem to 11% ad valorem as part of the budget proposals for the year 1987,

Industrial pollution

1214. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of factories in and around Delhi which have taken statutory pollution control measures;

(b) number of factories established since 1974 without clearance from environmental angle; and

(c) the action taken/proposed against the defaulting factories ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) 719 factories have been issued consent by the Central Pollution Control Board for compliance of pollution control measures;

(b) A large number of small scale factories have been established, many of which did not obtain environmental clearance. Exact number of such factories is not available.

(c) Legal action has been taken against 151 defaulting units in Delhi.

Foreign equity participation

1215. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to allow foreign equity participation in companies which employ high technologies.

(b) if so, the objective thereof; and

(c) how far it will help in supplementing domestic resources and promote trade in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF

STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Foreign equity participation in high technology projects is already permitted under the existing policy.

(b) Such acceptance of foreign equity is aimed at facilitating the inflow of sophisticated technology into the country along with the equity participation.

(c) Such investment would be an addition to the domestic resources. Trade may be permitted if the unit generates exports but this is not a necessary precondition in all cases.

[Translation]

Extinction of Indian Bustard

1216. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the areas in the country where Bustard, a rare bird in the world, is found;

(b) the measures taken to protect it; and

(c) whether Union Government have banned its hunting and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The great Indian Bustard occurs in the States of Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The following measures have been taken for the protection of the great Indian Bustard :

(1) Approximately 17,760 sq. km of the habitat of the great Indian Bustard has been brought under national parks/wildlife sanctuaries of the country, for better protection and conservation of this species and its habitat.

(2) Government of India has made suggestions to concerned State Governments to set up new sanctuaries in areas where Bustard survives and which have a potential for increase in the number of Bustards.

(3) Under the Endangered species Projects, the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) has taken up a study of the ecology of the bird which study has been sponsored by the Department of Environment, Forests and Wildlife, Government of India.

(4) The Great Indian Bustard is listed in Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and thereby, highest legal protection is afforded to this species against hunting, killing, trapping and trade.

(5) This species has also been listed in the Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and thereby, international trade in this species or its parts or derivatives, is not permitted.

(6) Financial assistance to national parks and wildlife sanctuaries including those in which the bird occurs, is being enhanced.

(c) The hunting of the great Indian Bustard is totally prohibited under the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972.

[English]

Special assistance to Orissa for developing backward areas

1217. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has received any request for special assistance for developing backward areas in Orissa; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

India's share in IDA-Eight

1218. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India asked for an increase in dollar share of the International Development Assistance from the United States during the Indo-US Sub-Commission on Economics and Commerce meeting held in Delhi during the last month;

(b) If so, the outcome thereof and whether India expects to get her share of at least 22 per cent of the concessional funds in IDA-Eight; and

(c) the likelihood of India getting greater access to the American markets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) During the meeting of the Indo-US Economic and Commercial Sub-Commission held in New Delhi on the 11 & 12th February, 1987, the Indian side sought the support of the US Government for India's efforts to seek a larger allocation of IDA-VIII.

(b) The level of IDA-VIII assistance to be made available to India has not yet been finalised.

(c) In the products of major export interest to India, textiles and clothing and certain iron and steel products are affected by restrictions in the United States. In respect of textiles and clothing a new Bilateral Textile Agreement has come into effect for the period 1987-91 giving better access to Indian exports. In certain iron

and steel products, anti-dumping and countervailing duties have affected Indian exports and these were taken up at the meeting of the Indo-US Sub-Commission in February, 1987,

[Translation]

Uniform banking facilities

1219. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken so far by Government to provide banking facilities uniformly in all the parts of the country;

(b) whether these steps have yielded desired results; and

(c) if not, what further steps are proposed to achieve the said objective ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Branch Licensing Policy of RBI is used as an instrument for bringing about a coordinated and planned growth of bank offices. The Policy is reviewed from time to time and suitable modifications are made whenever considered necessary. After the nationalisation of 14 major commercial banks in July 1969, the Lead Banks concept was introduced and they were entrusted with the task of identification of centres for opening branches. Accordingly, banks were advised to formulate and submit programmes for branch expansion, for periods ranging from 2 to 3 years till 1979. The basic objective of the Policy was that development needs of all regions and all sections of the community were to be served by the banking system in conformity with national priorities. As a result, average population per bank office which was 65,000 in July, 1969 was brought down to about 19,000 by December, 1978. Out of the 21,900 new offices opened during the ten years upto June 1979, more than half of the offices were opened at unbanked

centres. A comprehensive branch licensing policy was framed for the period from January 1979 to March 1982. The basic objective of this Policy was to bring about reduction in the inter-regional disparities and to achieve a banking coverage of one bank office for a population of 20,000 in the rural and semi-urban areas.

At the end of the Policy, there were 38614 bank offices as against 8321 bank offices at the time of nationalisation of banks. Branch Licensing Policy for the period April 1982 to March 1985 envisaged to achieve banking coverage of one office for every 17,000 population in rural and semi-urban areas in each district. Out of 271 districts identified as deficit, the objectives were achieved in respect of 241 districts. At the end of Policy there were 50980 bank offices and the average population per bank office (APPBO) in rural and semi-urban areas and in the country as a whole was brought down to 16,000 and 13,000 respectively. Since it was noticed that there were still a number of unbanked pockets and regional imbalances still persisted, it was decided that instead of a District, the Block should be made the unit for determining the population criteria.

The current Branch Licensing Policy for March 1985 to April 1990 co-terminus with the Seventh Five Year Plan period was formulated in consultation with Government with the above principle in view. The Policy aims at establishment of a bank office for a population of 17,000 in the rural and semi-urban areas of each Block. Further, spatial norms with a view to ensure at least one bank office within a distance of 10 kms. from every village have been introduced.

Loans to industries by banks

1220. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action has been taken on the demands of confederation of Engineering Industry regarding availability of soft loans from the Banks;

(b) the details of other demands of the confederation; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that various issues raised by the Confederation of Engineering Industries (CEI), such as soft loan to sick units, reduction in rate of interest on cash credits, speeding up of credit delivery system, quicker procedure for affording credit to customer's accounts, reduction in bank charges, etc. were discussed with their representatives in a meeting convened by RBI on December 1, 1986 at Bombay. This meeting was attended inter-alia by the representatives of IDBI, ICICI, IRBI as well as the Chairmen/Senior Executives of major banks. All the issues were broadly discussed in the meeting and the reactions of the Reserve Bank of India and action already taken were made known to CEI. As regards soft loans, Institutions and Banks provide assistance at concessional rate of interest to sick units.

No formal Issue is reported to be

pending with RBI.

Encouragement to NRI for Investment

1221. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :
SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the investments made in India by the Non-Resident Indians during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether these investments are according to the expectations of Government; if not, the reasons identified and the remedial steps taken; and

(c) whether Non-Resident Indians have sought more incentives and facilities; if so, the reaction of Government on their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The investments made by Non-Resident Indians under various Schemes during the last three years are :-

(Rupees in crores)

	As on 31.12.84	As on 31.12.85	As on 31.12.86
1. Direct Investment (Proposals Approved)	224.88	477.23	941.72
2. Portfolio Investment (Actual purchase of shares & debentures)	46.63	53.03	58.32 (P)
3. Bank Deposits (Outstanding balances in NRE/FCNR/A/cs)	3502.87	5027.88	7388.92 (P)

(P)—Provisional.

(b) Yes, Sir, the inflows were generally as expected.

(c) Demands made by Non-Resident Indians for more incentives and facilities are examined on a continuous basis and changes effected in the policy and procedures wherever necessary.

[English]

Smuggling of Indian currency to Pakistan

1222. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is substantial increase in the smuggling of Indian currency to Pakistan;

(b) whether any estimate has been made in regard to the amount of Indian currency considered to have been smuggled across the border during the last three years; and

(c) the steps contemplated to check the smuggling of Indian currency to Pakistan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Reports received by the Government and seizures made indicate that the Indian currency is one of the items sensitive to smuggling across the Indo-Pakistan border. Smuggling being a clandestine activity, does not, by its very nature, lend itself to any reliable estimation.

The figures of seizures of Indian currency on the Indo-Pak border during the years 1984, 1985 and 1986 are given below :

Year	Amount of Indian currency seized (Rs. in lakhs)
1984	5.26
1885	3.87
1986	1.69

(c) The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified on the Indo-Pak region. The Preventive and Intelligence machinery of the Customs Department in the region remains vigilant against smuggling activities in general, including smuggling of Indian currency. The trends in smuggling and seizures made are kept under constant review for taking appropriate remedial measures in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government agencies.

Increase in subsidies, defence expenditure and interest payment

1223. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total increase in subsidies, defence expenditure and interest payment during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 ;

(b) whether it is much higher than Planning Commission's estimates ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) The increase in expenditure on major subsidies, Defence and interest payments in 1985-86 and 1986-87 over the previous years are given below :—

(Rs. in crores)

	1985-86 (Provisional actuals) : Increase over 1984-85	RE 1986-87 Increase over 1985-86
(i) Major subsidies (Food, Fertilizers, and Export Promotion)	+ 759	+ 376
(ii) Defence	+ 1326	+ 2207
(iii) Interest payments	+ 1529	+ 2047

(b) and (c) In the Seventh Five Year Plan document the individual items of expenditure have not been projected year-wise for the Plan period. Moreover, since the Seventh Plan estimates are based on 1984-85 prices, these are not strictly comparable to annual expenditure which are at current prices.

Inter-cadre transfer in All India Services

1224. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government entertain requests for inter-cadre transfers from officers of All India Services ; and

(b) the factors kept in view while deciding such requests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b) The Government entertain requests for inter-cadre transfer only on the ground of marriage, from officers of All India Services, who are borne on different cadres, in order to bring them together to lead a healthy family life. Care is, however, taken to ensure, that as far as possible, the officer concerned does not get transferred to his/her home state.

Working group on money market

1225. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by the working group on money market set up by the Reserve Bank of India and

(b) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) The Working Group on the Money Market appointed by the Reserve Bank under the Chairmanship of Shri N. Vaghul submitted its Report on January 13, 1987. A statement giving some of the important recommendations made by the Working Group is given below.

(b) The recommendations of the Working Group are under examination by the Reserve Bank of India, and no action is required to be taken by Government at present.

Statement

Some important recommendations of the Working Group on the Money Market

Call Money

1. The present interest rate ceiling

on the call money fixed by the Indian Banks Association (IBA) should be abolished and the call money rates should be left to be determined by market forces. The call money rates should be freed only for inter-bank transactions and the ceiling rate of 10 per cent should continue to be maintained for borrowings from non-bank participants in the market, if any.

2. The call money market should strictly be an inter-bank market. The LIC and the UTI may be permitted to remain in the market. The position could be reviewed if need be, by the Reserve Bank of India in April, 1988.
3. The interest rate on inter-bank term deposits should also be determined by market forces.

Bills Rediscounting

4. There is a need to take a number of positive measures to facilitate the emergence of a genuine bill culture. The Government should direct departmental undertakings and public sector organisations that payments for all credit purchases should be in the form of bills which should be strictly honoured on the due dates. A similar procedure should be followed in the case of Credit Authorisation Scheme (CAS) parties.
5. It would be necessary to move away from 'receivable financing' to 'bill financing' and accordingly a programme commencing from April, 1988 should be stipulated for phasing out receivable financing.
6. Within the CAS discipline, banks should be given the discretion to increase bill limits for temporary periods.
7. The maximum discount rate on bills should be such that it does

not exceed an equivalent effective interest rate of 16.0 per cent.

8. Institutions and other units such as companies, trusts etc., which can satisfactorily demonstrate to the Reserve Bank that they have a resource surplus of a monthly average of at least Rs. 5 crores per annum should be allowed to participate in the bill rediscounting market. Further rediscounting by the institutions should be freely permitted.

Short-Term Commercial Paper

9. The time is appropriate for starting with a limited introduction of commercial paper. Initially, access to the commercial paper market should be given only to 'A' rated companies. The interest rate on commercial paper should be freely determined by market considerations. The commercial paper market should function within the overall discipline of the CAS. There should be no restrictions on the participants in the commercial paper market. The size of any single issue should not be less than Rs. 1 crore and the size of each note should not be less than Rs. 5 lakhs. Commercial paper should be excluded from the stipulation on unsecured advances in the case of banks.

Government Paper

10. For an active secondary market in 182 days Treasury Bills, it would be necessary for a large number of participants to bid regularly in the auctions and to build up a portfolio of varying maturities. Suitable measures need to be taken to ensure that the Treasury Bill rate remains flexible. The periodicity of the auctions should be increased.
11. A Treasury Bill Refinance Facility should be introduced by the end

of April, 1987 and the refinance rate should be at least 1.5 percentage points above the prevailing Treasury Bill rate. In the event of the proposed facility being introduced, the stand-by refinance facility should be terminated.

12. Inter-bank transactions in dated securities on a buy-back basis should be encouraged and interest rates on such transactions should not be subject to interest rate control.

Setting up of a Finance House

13. An autonomous public limited company called the Finance House of India should be set up jointly by the Reserve Bank, the public sector banks and the financial institutions to deal in short-term money market instruments. The Finance House should have back-up facilities with banks and the Reserve Banks.

Development of New Instruments

14. There should be a continuing development and refinement of the money market instruments. Each new instrument coming into the market must be specifically approved by the Reserve Bank.

Inter-Bank Participation Certificates

15. Inter-bank participation certificates should be reintroduced in a modified form.

Certificates of Deposit

16. The introduction of Certificates of Deposit is not recommended at this stage. In the context of the various changes proposed by the Working Group and the introduction of the 182 days Treasury Bills, the structure of short-term deposit rates up to one year as well as the number of maturities

could be reviewed and in the light of this review, the feasibility of introducing Certificates of Deposit could be reconsidered.

Factoring Services

17. The banks and private non-bank financial institutions should be encouraged to provide factoring services.

Guidelines Re. underwriting of capital issues by Stock Exchanges

1226. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken to monitor the implementation of the guidelines issued about the underwriting of capital issues by the Stock Exchanges ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) Government have issued, on 23rd January, 1987, guidelines regarding streamlining of procedure for underwriting of capital issues by members of Stock Exchanges. The Stock Exchanges have been requested to set up monitoring mechanisms for keeping a close watch on the underwriting commitments of the members. Stock Exchanges have also been asked to furnish half-yearly reports in regard to implementation of the guidelines.

Growth of electronic industry in 7th Plan

1227. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether provisions have been made in the Seventh Plan for promotion and growth of electronics industry in Karnataka ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. For development of electronics in Karnataka during Seventh Plan, Planning Commission has allocated a sum of Rs. 6.00 crores to Karnataka State Electronics Development Corporation (Keonics).

(c) Keonics is acting as a catalyst for development of electronics industry in Karnataka. Department of Electronics gives necessary guidance whenever required.

Relaxation of guidelines on bonus share issue

1228. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to relax the bonus share issue guidelines ;

(b) whether this relaxation would enable the companies make more frequent bonus issues ; and

(c) if so, broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) A copy of the Press Release issued by the Office of the Controller of Capital Issues on 26th December, 1986 containing the relaxation of the bonus guidelines is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3906/87.]

Reconstitution of Standing Advisory Committee for Urban Co-operative Banks

1229. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India had reconstituted the Standing Advisory Committee for Urban Co-operative Banks ;

(b) if so, whether any representatives at the National level and State level have been included in the Committee ; and

(c) to what extent the reconstitution of the Committee has helped in facilitating its work and to what extent it has benefited the Banking industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has recently reconstituted the Standing Advisory Committee for Urban Co-operative Banks. The reconstituted Committee consists of 27 members as against 20 in the earlier Committee and has four representatives of Reserve Bank of India, one eminent Cooperator, two representatives of the Central Government, a representative of NABARD, two representatives of commercial banks, 9 representatives of the State Governments and 8 National level representatives. The reconstitution was made to make it more broad based and to have representation for all interests and to make the functioning of the Standing Advisory Committee more purposeful and result oriented.

Proposal to allow private mutual fund to operate in stock markets

1230. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to allow private mutual

fund to operate in the stock markets on the same lines as financial institutions ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to carry out an indepth study of similar private mutual funds and their operations in developed economies of the West ;

(c) if so, the details of proposals under consideration in this regard ;

(d) by what time these proposals are likely to be implemented ; and

(e) other measures being taken in the task of achieving stability in the stock markets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above. ,

(e) Appropriate measures are initiated, whenever necessary, for the smooth functioning of the Stock Exchanges.

Debt burden of third world

1231. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has urged Western Governments and International Banks to ease the debt burden of third world countries to avoid compounding the debt crisis;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Western Governments and International Banks thereon;

(c) whether any further suggestions in this regard were made; and

(d) if so, the details of the same and to what extent the suggestions made

to them will help India to ease debt burden ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :
(a) to (d) Yes Sir. India along with other developing countries has consistently laid stress on the importance of concessional flows to poor countries, on the need for a substantial fresh allocation of SDRs by the International Monetary Fund, and for a thorough reform of the existing International Monetary System, and the financial institutional set up.

The response of the developed countries and multilateral institutions has been in the form of the plan put forward by Secretary of the Treasury of the Government of U.S.A. This plan known as the Baker plan is primarily directed at alleviating the debt burden of the middle income heavily indebted countries. In addition, the Structural Adjustment Facility of the World Bank has been designed to promote adjustment and growth in low income countries through mobilisation of additional concessional resources.

Closure/merger of overseas branches on Nationalised Banks

1232. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been decided to close down some overseas branches of the Nationalised Banks and merge some with other branches;

(b) if so, the particulars of such branches and the reasons for their closure or merger;

(c) the decision taken about the absorption of staff working in such branches; and

(d) whether some Branches in U. K. were closed earlier also and if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Government and Reserve Bank of India have taken a decision to rationalise and strengthen the overseas operations of foreign branches of Indian public sector banks. The objective is to close

down those branches which are considered non-viable or those whose viability prospects are uncertain. RBI was advised to take necessary steps in this direction. On the basis of an exercise started by RBI, a decision was taken to close down 9 branches of 4 Public Sector Banks functioning in U.K. and to transfer their assets and liabilities to other Indian public sector banks. The position regarding this is indicated below :—

Sr.No.	Name of the Transferor Bank	Name of the Transferee Bank
1.	Four branches of Punjab National Bank at London, Gravesend, Wolver Hampton and Birmingham.	Bank of India
2.	Three branches of Central Bank of India at London, Birmingham and East-ham London.	Bank of India
3.	Union Bank of India, London Branch.	Bank of Baroda
4.	Punjab and Sind Bank. Southall Branch.	Bank of Baroda.

(c) In the light of the decision to close down the U. K. branches of the said four banks, the local staff employed in these branches were served with due notice of redundancy and offered payment of compensation as per the statutory require-

ments in U. K. The transferee banks have also absorbed some of the staff of the transferor banks, as required.

(d) The following branches of Indian banks operating in U.K. were closed down during 1986;

Name of the Bank	Location of the Branch	Date of Closure
1. State Bank of India	Bristol	31.1.1986
2. Bank of Baroda	Bolton	30.4.1986
	Coventry	31.5.1986

Rehabilitation of handicapped

1233. **SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :**
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to chalk out any special plan under which hundred percent handicapped and 'blind will be provided jobs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the financial implications if any

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c) No Sir. The ultimate aim of all programmes of education, vocational training of handicapped including blind is the economic rehabilitation of the handicapped and blind persons. A brief note on various measures undertaken for this purpose is given below.

It is not possible to estimate the financial implications for this purpose as economic rehabilitation involves not only jobs in wage-paid employment in public and private sectors but also innumerable opportunities in self-employment in industry, agriculture, trade, marketing etc.

Statement

Measures undertaken by Central Government for promotion of employment of handicapped in Government and Public Sector Undertakings

Government is seized of the problem faced by the handicapped and blind persons in their rehabilitation and have taken following measures to promote their employment so that they come into the mainstream of life and become economically independent members of the society :—

(i) *Reservation* :—3% reservation is

given to physically handicapped —1% each for the visual, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped in group C and D posts for appointment in Central Government and Public Sector undertakings. Similar reservations have been given by the State Governments. The handicapped are also given age concession in the upper age limit and relaxation in the medical standards for entry into Government services;

(ii) 22 Special Employment Exchanges and 40 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped persons in their gainful employment. Besides, the normal employment exchanges also help the handicapped persons in finding suitable employment;

(iii) All programmes and facilities/concessions to the handicapped for increasing the rate of employment of handicapped in Government and public sector undertakings are directed to make them economically independent members of the society,—The Government recognises the efforts put in by the voluntary organisations and other private sector companies to enable them provide jobs in private sector, and National Awards are given to private sector companies who have done outstanding work in the field of placement of handicapped persons;

(iv) Self-employment is promoted through the following;

(a) allotment of vending stalls, kiosks and petty shops;

(b) loans from nationalised banks at nominal rate of interest under Differential Rate of Interest Scheme;

(c) allotment of public telephone booths under which

handicapped persons retain 40% of the income earned by the booth;

(d) 7½% reservation in distribution of gas agencies, petrol pumps, kerosene depots etc.;

(e) loans upto Rs. 35,000/— are available under scheme of 'Employment of Educated youths.'

(v) Handicapped persons also get assistance in self-employment under various schemes for normal persons such as IRDP etc.

RBI currency chests stolen

1234. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India's currency chests were stolen some time back while being transported from Nagpur to Itarsi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to recover the stolen currency chests ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has reported that 3 boxes containing Rs. 6,01,500/— in currency notes and coins were stolen from a remittance sent by the 391—Down Nagpur—Itarsi Passenger Train on 21st October, 1986. Reserve Bank of India has further reported that of the stolen amount, Rs.5,39,393/—has been recovered and 6 criminals in the case have also reportedly been arrested by the Police.

Increase in proportion of Indirect Taxes in total Taxes

1235. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proportion of indirect taxes in total tax collection has gone up steeply, while the proportion of development expenditure has not kept pace with it over the years;

(b) if so, whether this increase in proportion of indirect taxes has adversely affected the poor;

(c) whether the share of direct taxes has steadily gone down over the years;

(d) if so, whether this denotes greater benefits for the middle and upper income groups;

(e) whether Government have evaluated the impact of these changes in the proportion of direct and indirect taxes and slow rise in development expenditure; and

(f) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (f) The proportion of Centre's collection from indirect taxes was 77.1 per cent in 1980-81 and 80.8 per cent in 1986-87 (RE). proportion of Centre's expenditure on social and economic services which broadly represents development expenditure of the Centre, according to the Economic and Functional Classification of the Central Government Budget has been around 59% during 1980-81 to 1985-86 (RE). The Centre's development expenditure has increased by 19 per cent per annum during 1980-81 to 1985-86 (RE).

The incidence of taxation on goods of mass consumption is kept at the minimum level and subsidies are being provided for food for the employment programmes, tribal areas and public distribution system etc.

Higher pay to Scientists

1236. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether working scientists of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have demanded better pay scales;

(b) whether their case was considered by the Pay Commission;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The terms of reference of the 4th Pay Commission do not cover the employees of quasi-Government organisations, autonomous organisations, statutory bodies etc. set up by and funded/controlled by the Central Government. However, a High Powered Committee, under the Chairmanship of Director-General, SIR, has been set up to go into the question whether the recommendations of the Pay Commission as accepted by the Government could be extended to the employees of the Council and, if so, to what extent. The Committee has invited memoranda from and given hearing to employees representatives.

Proposal for simplification of fera

1237. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Confederation of Engineering Industry has submitted any proposal to Government to simplify and

streamline the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) to (c) The Confederation of Engineering Industry has made certain suggestions to modify Exchange Control Regulations. These are being examined.

Import of sophisticated machinery for Oceanology

1238. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details and value of the imports of major machinery units, and spares in the fields of oceanology and allied fields during the last three years, indicating names of countries;

(b) what steps have been taken so far to procure indigenous machinery and with what results; and

(c) the fields which are covered under R & D wing and which of the projects were cleared during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) The details of structure, vehicles, equipment etc. which are not available from indigenous source and which were imported by the Department of Ocean Development in connection with their programmes during the last three years are as under:—

1983-84

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Structure for Indian Antarctic station and essential spares | Rs. 82,64,229 From the United Kingdom (U.K.) |
| 2. Communication Equipment and SATCOM terminal with spares | Rs. 26,24,054 From the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) |
| 3. Snow Vehicles and spares | Rs. 13,17,282/- From U. K. and Norway |

1984-85

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Structure for Indian Antarctic station and essential spares | Rs. 45,58,049/- From FRG and U. K. |
| 2. Communication Equipment and SATCOM terminal with spares | Rs. 12, 28,300/-FRG |
| 3. Snow Vehicles and spares | Rs. 52 25,200/- FRG & Norway |

1985-86

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Structure for Indian Antarctic station and essential spares | Rs. 12,17,355/- U. K. |
| 2. Communication Equipment and SATCOM terminal with spares | Rs. Rs. 7,69,964/- FRG |
| 3. Snow Vehicles and spares | Rs. 20,15, 19/- FRG & Norway |

Besides the Department of Ocean Development, other Ministries/Departments Agencies, like the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Department of Atomic Energy, the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, Indian Council of Agriculture Research, Geological Survey of India, are directly involved in the implementation of oceanographic programmes.

(b) and (c) Most of the high-technology scientific equipment, spares, structures etc. required for the Antarctic and oceanographic programmes are not indigenously available. Efforts are being made by several CSIR laboratories and Indian Institutes of Technology to indigenously produce certain items and considerable success has been achieved in this direction.

Overdrafts by Kerala

1239. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government has been drawing overdraft from the Reserve Bank of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other State Governments have been drawing such unauthorised overdrafts from the Reserve Bank of India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) During

the current financial year, 1986-87, Kerala had been in overdraft on three occasions viz. (a) for 5 continuous working days from 22.12.'86 to 27.12.'86, (b) for one day on 23.2.'87 and (c) for one day on 25.2.'87.

(c) and (d) 9 more States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal had also been in overdraft ranging from 1 to 7 days, but never for more than 7 continuous working days. As per the overdraft Regulation Scheme, R.B.I. would stop payment on account of any State which remains in overdraft for more than 7 continuous days.

[Translation]

Musk deers in Himalayas

1240. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state the total number of musk deers in the Himalayan region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : An enumeration of musk deer in the Himalayan region has not been carried out, and nor is it possible.

Foreign exchange earnings during 1986-87

1241. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the foreign exchange earnings during 1986-87;

(b) whether it is less than that earned during 1985-86; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : The

details of Balance of Payments, which would inter alia indicate the foreign exchange earnings, pertaining to 1986-87 are not yet available.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Construction work of mint of Noida

1242. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of the mint at NOIDA (Uttar Pradesh) is going on in according with the time schedule;

(b) if not, the steps proposed to remove the obstacles affecting the construction work; and

(c) the likely time by which its construction work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) March 31, 1988.

[English]

Improvement in revenue collection due to intensified exercises

1243. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :
SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the improved revenue collection due to the intensified revenue collection exercises during the year 1986;

(b) whether Government propose to take some more vigorous steps for realising the taxes from tax evaders; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) The

details of the improved revenue collection due to intensified revenue collection exercises during the year 1986 is as follows :-

(Rs. in crores)

	1985-86 upto Jan., 86	1986-87 upto Jan., '87	Increase
Direct Taxes	3760.61	4361.50	600.89
Central Excise duties	10463.73	11602.72	1138.99
Customs duties	7545.43	9221.64	1676.21

(b) and (c) Government continues to take such Administrative, Legal and other measures including persuasive methods and discussions with the assesseees as are considered necessary from time to time for realising taxes. The Government has also introduced amnesty schemes during 1986 for realising taxes from tax evaders.

Theft of Uranium in Bihar

1244. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO :

SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :

SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether some thefts of uranium in Patna and certain other places have been reported recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps taken to recover stolen uranium and to prevent such thefts ?

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

Government is investigating the matter.

Fraud detected in Dhakuria branch of United Bank of India

1245. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a fraud of about 3 lakh rupees has been detected in the Dhakuria branch of United Bank of India; and

(b) the action taken against the officers found involved in this fraud ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) United Bank of India has reported that the CBI had registered three cases against the then Branch Manager of Dhakuria Branch for misuse of power, advance against bogus bills and criminal conspiracy with outsiders involving Rs. 1.60 lakhs, Rs. 1.31 lakhs and Rs. 3.39 lakhs respectively. CBI has completed investigation of two cases and has recommended major penalty proceedings against the said officer. The Bank has further reported that major penalty proceedings in one case has since been initiated against him. The Bank has also reported that the Branch Manager, who had been arrested by the CBI on 20.9.85 and latter released on bail, was placed under suspension from its service with effect from 20.9.1985.

Memo from scientists of CSIR

1246. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any memorandum has been received from the working scientists of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) if so, the details; and

(c) the decision, if taken regarding their demands including better pay scales ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A joint representation from the CSIR Scientific Workers' Association, ICAR Scientists' Association and ARS Scientists' Forum has been received recently.

(b) The working scientists have demanded higher pay scales than those recommended by the 4th Pay Commission. While alleging discrimination by the 4th Pay Commission and the Government in fixing their pay scales they have stated that the existing pay scales are not only discouraging the best talent from entering into the S&T Sector but also compelling middle levels in the scientific services to be on look out for better prospects elsewhere including the private sector. The responsibility of the working scientists is also stated to have increased manifold particularly when they are being asked to take up leading positions in the execution of national technology missions. Attention has also been drawn to the fact that the scientists have been deprived of putting up their case to the Pay Commission due to the reason that they belong to the autonomous institutions and hence do not fall within the purview of Pay Commission.

(c) The memorandum has been placed before the High Powered Committee

set up by CSIR to consider these matters.

Reclamation of wasteland

1247. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to reclaim 175 million hectares of country's wasteland;

(b) if so, the technology adopted and the progress made in reclamation works;

(c) whether a space based wasteland mapping project is proposed to be implemented to expedite the work; and

(d) the agencies involved in the above programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) The National Wastelands Development Board (NWDB) was set up by the Government of India in May 1985, with the object of bringing 5 million ha. of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations as part of the national effort to reclaim wastelands. In the first two years of the 7th Plan approximately 3.2 million ha. have been afforested under various afforestation and wastelands development programmes. The basic thrust is on people's involvement, and the integration of indigenous technology for location specific programmes. Aerial seeding is also an important component of such technology.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The project is being executed under the auspices of the NWDB and the Department of Space, with the coordinated management of the National Remote Sensing Agency and the Survey of India through 19 Work Centres. The list of Work Centres and the districts to be covered by them is in the Statement given below.

Statement

National Wastelands Identification Projects Work Centre-Wise
Distribution of Study Area
Phase I

Work Centres	Study Area (Districts)
1. NBSS & LUP National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land Use Planning, Nagpur.	Karnataka Bangalore, Kolar Maharashtra Ahmenagar
2. CSRE/MERI (i) Centre of Studies in Resources Engineering, IIT Bombay. (ii) Maharashtra Engineering Research Institute, Nasik.	Maharashtra Nasik
3. RSAC-UP, Lucknow Remote Sensing Application Centre, Lucknow.	Uttar Pradesh Allahabad, Jalaun
4. INCOR-Visakhapatnam Institute of Coastal and Off shore Research, Vishakhapatnam.	Andhra Pradesh Kurnool, Ananth Pur
5. IRES-Madras Institute of Remote Sensing, Anna University, Madras.	Tamil Nadu Dharampuri, Salem
6. SAC/GERI (i) Space Applications Centre (ii) Gujarat State Remote Sensing Centre, Vadodara.	Gujarat Panchamahar, Surendra Nagar

Work Centre-wise distribution of study area (Districts)
Phase II

Sl. No.	Work Centre	State	Districts
1.	Kerala State Land Use Board, Triyandrum. (KALUB)	Kerala	Kasargod, Cannanore, Palghat, Vyanad, Idukki, Malapuram.
2.	IRS-Madras Institute of Remote Sensing, Madras	Tamil Nadu	North Arkot, Periyar, Tiruchura- palli, Madurai.
3.	INCQR-Visakhapatnam Institute of Coastal & Off shore Research, Visakhapatnam	A. P.	Nizamabad, Vizianagaram Kerimna- gar, Chittoor Rangreddi, Medak, Guddapah, Visakhapatnam, Maha- boobna Prakasam, Nalgonda.
4.	KFS/NRSA/NNRMS Karnataka forests Dept./National Remote Sens- ing Agency/NNRMS	Karnataka	Belgaum, Raichur, Bellary, Chitra- durga, Hassan.
5.	CSRE/MERI Centre of Studies in Resources Engineering, Bombay/ Maharashtra Engineering Research Institute, Nasik.	Maharashtra	Ratnagiri, Satara, Pune, Sangli, Thana.
6.	ORSAC-Bhubaneswar Orissa Remote Sensing Applications Centre, Bhuba- neswar	Orissa	Ganjam, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar. Dhenkanal, Sundargarh, Bolangir.

Sl. No.	Work Centre	State	Districts
7.	NATMO National Atlas and Thematic Mapping, Calcutta	West Bengal	Midnapore, Purulia
8.	Bihar State Remote Sensing Centre	Bihar	Singhbum, Dhanbad, Nawads, Siwan, Hajipur (Vaishaly), Muzaafarpur.
9.	MAPCOST-Bhopal Madhya Pradesh Council of Science & Technology, Bhopal	M. P.	Bhind, Raisen, Narasingapur, Indore, Shajapur, Ujjain, Mandasaur, Tikamgarh, Rajgarh, Rajaandagaon, Ratlam, Raipur, Durg, Puna, Datia, Vidisha, Dewas.
10.	GERI/SAC Gujarat State Remote Sensing Centre, Vadodara Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad.	Gujarat	Gandhinagar Bhavnagar, Kheda, Ahmedabad, Mehsana.
11.	CAZRI-Jodhpur Rajasthan State Remote Sensing Application Centre, Jaipur.	Rajasthan	Pali, Tonk, Jodhpur, Churu, Ajmer
12.	Rajasthan State Remote Sensing Jaipur Centre, Jaipur	Rajasthan	Sawai Madavpur, Bundi, Jhalawar, Kota.
13.	Remote Sensing Applications Centre	U. P.	Fatehpur, Kanpur, Etah, Agra, Aligarh, Varanasi, Lucknow, Ghazipur,

Sl. No.	Work Centre	State	Districts
			Azamgarh, Allahabad, Bela Pratapgarh, Hamirpur, Unnao, Mainpuri, Etawa, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Rae Bareilly, Farukabad, Sultanpur, Janapur.
14.	SAC/Ahmedabad Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad	Punjab	Sangrur, Kapurthala,
15.	HARSAC Haryana Remote Sensing Applications Centre, Chandigarh.	Haryana	Sirsa, Karnal, Hissar, Jind
16.	NBSS & LUP (6) National Bureau of Soil Survey and Land use Planning.	Maharashtra Gujarat Assam	Kolhapur, Jalagadh, Jam Nagar, Junagadh Haflong (N. Cachar Hill) Diphu (Karbi Anglong)
17.	AIS & LUS All India Soil & Land Use Survey, New Delhi	Maharashtra H. P.	Dhule Hamirpur, Dharmasala (Kangra)
18.	Manipur State Remote Sensing Centre/IIRS Dehradun	Manipur	Karong (Senapati), Central District (Imphal)
19.	Survey of India	Nagaland J & K Bihar	Kohima, Mokochung, Zumebote Udhampur Rohtas (Sasaram) Palamau (Dalton Ganj) Aurangabad. One District from each work Centre as given to Survey of India.

Districts

State

Work Centre

Sl. No.

(Tumkur Karnataka) Rajanathapuram
 (Tamil Nadu) Nellore (Andhra Pradesh)
 Ahihandi (Orissa) Bakira (WB-Natmo)
 Rea (Madhya Pradesh) Udaipur (Rajas-
 than) Dugarpur (Rajasthan) Bulandsa-
 har (Uttar Pradesh) Cham ba (Himachal
 Pradesh-AJ & LU) Batinda (Punjab-
 SAC) Gurgaon (Haryana) Ralagiri
 (Maharashtra.)

Scheme for promotion of rural banking

1248. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for promotion of rural banking ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that their branch licensing policy 1985-90 formulated in consultation with Government lays stress on improving banking facilities in rural areas. The main objective of the current policy is to achieve a coverage of 17,000 population (1981 census) per bank office in rural and semi-urban areas of each block. Banking facilities would be provided in spatial gaps to ensure that a rural branch is normally available within a distance of 10 Kms.

Financial assistance from Asian Development Bank

1249. SHRI SRIHARI RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has agreed to extend financial assistance to any private sector company in India ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) Under its Private Sector lending operations, ADB has so far not extended any credit to Private sector company in India.

(b) Does not arise.

Steps to check bank robberies in north-eastern region

1251. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

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

(a) the measures taken to check bank robberies in North-Eastern States by Insurgents ;

(b) the number of banks looted by insurgents in North-East Region during 1986 ; and

(c) to what extent these measures have helped in reducing the bank robberies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Reserve Bank of India has intimated that during 1986, 10 cases of bank dacoities have been reported from the North-Eastern States. Whilst banks have taken steps to improve the security arrangements in their branches in the North-Eastern States, wherever necessary, State Governments have been requested to provide better security cover.

Indo-Swedish joint venture

1252. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

SHRI S. M. GURADDI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 50 crores social forestry project was launched in Bihar with the financial assistance from Swedish International Development Agency ;

(b) whether the Swedish Government has been approached for assistance for similar projects in other States also ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Social Forestry Project is

under implementation in Bihar with financial assistance of Rs. 42.65 crores from Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA). The project involves a total investment of Rs. 53.86 crores over a period of 6 years from 1984-85, for raising plantations on 157,950 ha. and distribution of 205 million seedlings to the public.

(b) and (c) Similar Social Forestry Projects with SIDA assistance are also operational in the States of Orissa and Tamil Nadu. The Orissa project involves an outlay of Rs. 23.03 crores over a period of 5 years from 1983-84 for raising plantation on 63,000 ha. and distribution of 51 million seedlings.

The Tamil Nadu Social Forestry Project envisages an outlay of Rs. 45.00 crores over a period of 5 years from 1981-82, for raising plantations on 176,450 ha. and distribution of 50.1 million seedlings to the public. The project has been extended for a period of 2 years upto 1987-88 with the outlay increased to Rs. 48.6 crores.

Discussions are on with SIDA for other Projects for assistance, which would subserve the objectives of the National Wastelands Development Programme.

Acceptance of examination fees of UPSC and SSC through bank drafts

1253. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to accept the examination fees of Staff Selection Commission and Union Public Service Commission through nationalised banks ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) No, Sir. The UPSC and SSC have already been accepting examination fees through Bank

Drafts drawn on the State Bank of India and even other nationalised banks. The candidates have also the option to remit the fee through Indian Postal Orders or by affixing Central Recruitment fee Stamps introduced recently.

(b) The existing facilities have been found to be adequate.

Percentage of posts reserved for disabled

1254. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state whether the Union Government have urged the State Governments to reserve certain percentage of posts for disabled persons in State services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) Yes, Sir. State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to consider reserving 3% of posts in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in State Government Services and public undertakings under them, for physically handicapped.

Proposals for reforms in functioning of major stock exchange

1255. SHRI D. N. REDDY :

SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any proposal for introducing reforms in the functioning of the stock exchanges ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is also proposed to set up a headquarter of Stock Exchanges located in Delhi to liaise among the stock exchanges and Government and also with Companies ; and

(d) if so, the advantages thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) and (b) On the basis of recommendations of the High Powered Committee on Stock Exchanges, guidelines/directives have been issued by the Government for improving the functioning of the Stock Exchanges. These, inter alia, relate to bringing down the cost of public issue of securities, listing of securities on Stock Exchanges, provision of better services to the investors, membership of Stock Exchanges and creation of Customers Protection Fund in Stock Exchanges.

(c) and (d) The Standing Committee of the Presidents of Stock Exchanges have recently decided to set up a Secretariat for the Committee in New Delhi. The main advantages of the Secretariat will be better coordination between the Stock Exchanges and the Government on the one hand and among different stock exchanges on the other, formulation of new schemes for providing better services to the investors and bringing technological improvements in Stock Exchanges.

Restructuring of electronic department

1256. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a plan for restructuring of the Department of Electronics ; and

(b) if so, the specific objectives and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) There is no plan for restructuring the Department at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Alternative for wood

1257. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of wood used annually for packaging of horticultural produce in the country ;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard ; and

(c) whether Government have appointed any Committee to find out the alternatives ; and

(d) if not, whether Government intend to set up any Expert Committee in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The quantity of wood used annually for packaging of horticultural produce in the country is estimated to be 56.36 lakh cubic metres.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A task force on "The Use of Wood for packaging Fruits and Vegetables" was constituted for this purpose.

(d) Does not arise.

Safeguards against radiation effects on Indian Rare Earths Minerals Plants in Tamilnadu & Kerala

1258. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether regular checks are being conducted to ascertain whether the workers of the Indian Rare Earths mineral division plants, at Manavalakurichi in Kanyakumari District of Tamilnadu and at Chavara in Kerala are being exposed to excessive radioactivity ;

(b) the steps taken to ensure the workers' safety ;

(c) whether several deaths in the said plants have occurred during 1986 due to excess radioactivity;

(d) whether any hazardous activities were undertaken in any of these plants during 1986; and

(e) if so, details of such activities and reasons for undertaking them?

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

(b) Workers of the Indian Rare Earths Mineral Division Plants at Manavalakurichi in Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu and at Chavara in Kerala are subject to annual medical check-up. The Health Physics Division of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre closely monitors the radiation levels to ensure that they do not exceed the levels prescribed by the Safety Review Committee of the Department of Atomic Energy which lays down the standards based on those adopted by the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP).

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Restructuring of banking system

1259. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intend to formulate a National Banking Plan in order to shape the Banking system for the coming years;

(b) whether Government have plans to restructure the Banking system in the country; and

(c) If so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that at present there is no "Banking Plan" documented on the lines of Five Year Plans. However, projections are made for certain aspects of the banking system such as growth of deposits and advances, branch expansion, manpower requirements, profitability and mechanisation and are also reviewed on a regular basis.

No specific proposals for any major restructuring of the banking system are under consideration for the present. However, suitability of the banking structure to the requirements of the country and for its healthy growth is continually kept under review by the Government/ Reserve Bank of India.

CSO survey on rate of inflation in different cities

1260. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Statistical Organisation has conducted a survey in October, 1986 on All India average annual rate of inflation based on consumer price variation in different cities for the 12 months period ending October, 1986;

(b) if so, the inflation rate pointed out by them in their report;

(c) whether according to the study inflation rate was highest in Madras among cities;

(d) if so, the reasons for the same and whether any measures have been suggested by them; and

(e) if so, to what extent Government have reduced the inflation rate in Urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (c) The Central

Statistical Organisation (CSO) has not conducted any survey in October 1986 on All India average annual rate of inflation based on consumer price variation in different cities. The CSO, however, compiles monthly consumer price indices for urban non-manual employees in 45 centres. Based on the indices of 45 centres it also compiles all-India average consumer price index for urban non-manual employees. The attached table gives the indices in October 1985 and October 1986 along with the all-India average indices for the respective two months. The percentage variations in the prices in different centres over the 12 months ending October 1986

are also indicated. According to the figures, the variation has been highest in Jaipur-12.22 per cent, followed by Madras-11.66 per cent. The increase has been mainly in respect of items in the Food Group.

2. As for containing inflation, the thrust of Government's policy continues to be on management of supply and demand including, *inter-alia*, strengthening of public distribution system, mopping up of excess liquidity in the system and strict action against traders indulging in profiteering, hoarding and blackmarketing.

Statement

Consumer Price Index Numbers for Urban Non-manual Employees at 45 centres and All-India during October 1985 and October 1986 on base 1960=100

Sl. No.	Centre Name	Index Oct. 1985	Index Oct. 1986	Percentage change during Oct. '86 over October '85
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Hyderabad	594	651	9.59
2.	Kurnool	598	651	8.86
3.	Vijayawada	621	666	7.25
4.	Visakhapatnam	540	563	4.25
5.	Guwahati	540	602	11.48
6.	Muzaffarpur	612	669	9.31
7.	Patna	615	655	6.50
8.	Ranchi	607	666	9.71
9.	Ahmedabad	561	603	7.48
10.	Rajkot	567	594	4.76
11.	Shimla	521	548	5.18
12.	Jammu	570	619	8.60
13.	Srinagar	596	637	6.87
14.	Bangalore	582	648	11.34
15.	Gulberga	637	689	8.16

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Hubli-Dharwar	601	656	9.15
17.	Mangalore	612	662	8.16
18.	Kozhikode	596	646	8.38
19.	Trivandrum	636	709	11.47
20.	Bhopal	614	662	7.81
21.	Gwalior	627	649	3.50
22.	Indore	566	630	11.31
23.	Jabalpur	613	652	6.36
24.	Bombay	570	616	8.07
25.	Nagpur	564	595	5.50
26.	Pune	568	622	9.51
27.	Shillong	627	700	11.64
28.	Cuttack	578	645	11.59
29.	Sambalpur	554	604	9.02
30.	Amritsar	539	578	7.23
31.	Ajmer	532	550	3.38
32.	Jaipur	622	698	12.22
33.	Jodhpur	590	620	5.08
34.	Madras	609	680	11.66
35.	Madurai	622	685	10.12
36.	Tiruchirapally	608	677	11.35
37.	Agra	594	650	9.43
38.	Allahabad	576	636	10.42
39.	Kanpur	580	621	7.07
40.	Lucknow	566	607	7.24
41.	Meerut	537	573	6.70
42.	Calcutta	490	546	11.42
43.	Kharagpur	599	665	11.02
44.	Chandigarh	536	575	7.27
45.	Delhi	551	601	9.07
All India		572	622	8.74

Proposal for legislation to regulate stock exchange

1261. SHRIMATI. BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a legislation to regulate the working of stock exchange and all those connected with them;

(b) if so, by what time the legislation is likely to be introduced;

(c) to what extent this legislation will help brokers, merchant banks and bankers;

(d) whether there was a great recession in the stock market during December, 1986; and

(e) if so, to what extent the proposed legislation will improve the health of exchanges and check malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a), (b), (c) & (e) Government have decided to set up a separate Board for the regulation of Stock Exchanges and the securities industry.

(d) Although the RBI Index Number of Ordinary share Prices had fallen initially during December, 1986, it had improved towards the end of the month.

Smuggling prone areas

1262. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state details of the smuggling prone areas identified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : On the basis of the reports received by the Government and seizures made the follow-

ing areas have been identified as 'vulnerable areas to smuggling':—

1. West Coast
2. East Coast
3. Indo-Pak border
4. Indo-Nepal border
5. Indo-Bangladesh border
6. Indo-Burma border
7. International airports

[Translation]

Use of nuclear science in agriculture

1263 SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI :

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bhabha Atomic Research Centre has conducted any research for the use of nuclear science in the field of agriculture; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The application of Nuclear techniques and isotopes for agricultural research at BARC have resulted in :

(i) Development of improved crop varieties

Six varieties, two of pigeon pea (Arhar) and one each of Mungbean (Moong), blackgram (Urad), Groundnut and Jute have been released by the Ministry of Agriculture for commercial cultivation. In addition, two varieties each of

rice and mustard, and one variety of groundnut are under minikit trials in some States.

(ii) Improved Utilisation of Fertilizer Inputs

Utility of rock phosphates, nitro-phosphates and ammonium polyphosphates as a source of phosphorus for different soil types has been demonstrated in collaborative work with six Agricultural Universities and Research Institutes. Based on these results, rock phosphates are being used as fertilizer in plantation crops. A pilot plant for making ammonium polyphosphate has been set up by Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers. The new fertilizer is under field evaluation.

(iii) Minimising environmental damage from Agrochemicals

Extractable and bound residues have been monitored in plants and soils by using labelled pesticides. Organic matter amendments like rice straw and green-manure have been found to enhance the bio-degradation of pesticides in soils.

(iv) Besides the above activities, radioisotopes produced at BARC are widely used in agricultural research at the institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research and at the Agricultural Universities. The technology for making ¹⁵N-Labelled nitrogenous fertilizers developed at BARC has been transferred to the Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers, Bombay who are now marketing the labelled fertilizers for research.

Raids on business houses in Delhi

1264. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of raids have

been conducted on business houses in Delhi during the last three months;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the value of the assets recovered during these raids;

(c) whether Government propose to conduct such raids on business houses in various parts of the country;

(d) if so; details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Deposit Insurance Scheme for Haryana

1265. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the deposit insurance scheme of the Deposit Insurance Credit Guarantee Corporation to Haryana;

(b) if so, the details thereof and at what stage the matter is; and

(c) the name of the other States to which this scheme is likely to be extended ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The Deposit Insurance Scheme of the Deposit Insurance & Credit Guarantee Corporation is applicable to all commercial banks in the country. The scheme is also extended to eligible Co-operative Banks in such of the States as have passed the necessary enabling legislation

amending their local Co-operative Societies Acts. The scheme was recently extended to 21 eligible Co-operative Banks in the State of Haryana with effect from 1.1.1987. As on date the scheme has been extended to eligible Co-operative Banks in 18 States/Union Territories including the State of Haryana. The question of extension of the scheme to any State/Union Territory is considered by RBI after the State Governments appropriately amend their Co-operative Societies Acts.

Brain drain among scientist community

1266. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN :

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether of late, best among the science students are finding commercial, banking and administrative services more attractive resulting in a new kind of brain drain;

(b) if so, the causes thereof; and

(c) steps contemplated to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) Some of the science and engineering students are taking jobs in Management, Banking, Administration etc. However, this number is not significant as compared to the total out-turn of students in Science & Technology disciplines from the academic institutions of the country.

(c) A number of steps have been taken to elevate the status of scientists and technologists and to improve their working conditions with a view to attracting the best talents available in the country. Some of these are :

- The scheme of flexible complementing/merit promotion is being introduced in all the scientific departments/organisations.
- Programmes have been launched through which core group of scientists are created in the country with all the necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science.
- Special schemes are being implemented to provide assistance to scientists for attending international conferences besides enabling younger scientists to attend specialised training programmes outside India.
- There is a provision for temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the scheme of scientists' Pool. A provision has also been made for the creation of super-numerary posts.
- New scientific departments/organisations such as Departments of Bio-technology, Ocean Development, Environment, Non-conventional Energy Sources, Centre for Development of Telematics have been set up and some of these are in high technology areas. These are likely to provide job opportunities for the scientists, technologists and doctors.
- The financial allocation for Science & Technology activities have been increased substantially over the successive Five Year Plans.
- Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers have been made to scientific institutions to improve the organisational efficiency and working conditions of scientists.

Rate of Inflation

1267. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the annual rate of inflation in wholesale price index on a point to point basis in January, 1987;

(b) whether there has been an increase in the rate of inflation in the corresponding period last year; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) The annual rate of inflation in terms of Wholesale Price Index (1970-71=100), on a point to point basis was 6.3 per cent on end-January, 1987 (i.e. 31-1-1987) as against 5.8 per cent on end-January, 1986 (i.e. 1.2.1986).

(c) The pressure on prices this year was mainly caused by weak monsoon which adversely effected the production of many essential commodities like foodgrains, condiments and spices, fruits and vegetables and oilseeds.

[Translation]

Central clearance to Rajasthan scheme to control pollution

1268. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has submitted a detailed scheme to Union Government to check industrial effluent in different districts of that State;

(b) if so, when Central clearance is being given to the scheme; and

(c) the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) No such scheme has been received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Divergence in information regarding national saving

1269. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is divergence between the data given by the Reserve Bank of India and the Central Statistical Organisation on national income;

(b) if so, whether the recommendations of the Rao Committee on savings and investments which favoured the idea of single set of national income have not been adopted; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) is the official agency for release of estimates of national income, saving etc. These estimates for a financial year are issued in the month of Jan., of the following year. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) while commenting on the performance of the economy in their Annual Report on Currency and Finance which is issued during the period August to November of the following year, presents the estimates of national income on the basis of CSO's estimates of the earlier years. It also gives the rates of saving of the economy and utilises the CSO data on the public sector savings and a part of the savings of the household sector. These estimates are subsequently revised by them when latest CSO data becomes available in January. There are thus differences between the two sets of estimates primarily because of the additional data and detailed work done by the CSO in the intervening period of July to December.

(b) and (c) There is no Rao Committee on Saving and Investment. However, a Working Group on Saving set up by the Government of India under the chairmanship of Prof. K. N. Raj to undertake a

critical review of the available estimates of saving and investment in the economy recommended *inter-alia* in its report that the two sets of estimates of saving of the CSO and RBI should not be different except because of the differences in the time of preparation and release of respective estimates. Accordingly, the two agencies are in continuous dialogue and a number of issues have already been sorted out and it is expected that the remaining issues would be resolved in the course of the current year.

Pollution in Yamuna River

1270. DR. G. VIJAYARAMA RAO :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

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

(a) whether industrial effluents are polluting Yamuna;

(b) whether any prosecutions have been launched against certain industrial units;

(c) the pollution level at present;

(d) how does it compare with level estimated in 1984; and

(e) steps taken to check pollution of Yamuna ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The present level of pollution as measured in terms of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) ranges from 2.3 to 10.8 milligramme per litre at different stretches of the river.

(d) The BOD levels estimated in 1984 ranged from 3.3 to 14.0 milligramme per litre.

(e) the steps taken include the following :—

(i) The industries have been directed to comply with the effluent standard on a time bound basis;

(ii) Legal action has been taken against the defaulting units; and

(iii) Schemes have been launched for augmentation/renovation of existing sewage treatment facilities and installation of systems for diversion of sewage effluents to prevent its flow into the river.

[Translation]

Opening of branches of Regional Rural Bank in Gopalganj district (Bihar)

1271. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of Regional Rural Bank to be opened in Gopalganj district of Bihar;

(b) whether there was a proposal to open a branch of Regional Rural Bank at Bhojchhapar Thana;

(c) if so, the time by which it will be opened; and

(d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred on the opening of the proposed other new branches in this district and the names of all the branches to be opened by December, 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has advised the Lead Banks/State Governments to identify centres for opening bank offices as per guidelines laid down in the Policy,

The RBI has informed that the list of identified centres in respect of Gopalganj district has not been received by them from Government of Bihar and therefore, it is not possible at this stage to indicate the number of branches to be opened in Gopalganj district of Bihar,

(b) and (c) RBI has reported that no proposal has been received from Gopalganj Kshetriya Gramin Bank for opening branch at Bhojchhapar Thana. The question of allotment of this centre to any bank including the Regional Rural Bank can be considered by RBI only after it has received the list of identified centres from the State Government.

(d) Since the number of centres to be allotted to banks in the Gopalganj District can be decided by RBI only after receipt of identified centres from the State Government, it is not possible to indicate the estimated amount of expenditure in opening new branches in this District.

[English]

Preservation of ecological balance of Himalayas

1272. SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the new atomic, industrial and energy projects coming up in the Northern States are likely to endanger the ecology of the Himalays; and

(b) the remedial action taken to preserve the ecological balance of Himalayas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) New projects anywhere can endanger the ecology unless due care is taken in siting the industries outside ecologically sensitive areas and adequate preventive and mitigative measures to control pollution are taken.

(b) Remedial steps taken to preserve

the ecological balance of the Himalayas include :

- extensive afforestation and ban on green felling above 1000 metres;
- incorporating environmental control measures in development projects; and
- promotion of non-polluting industries only.

Coastal pollution

1273. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted to assess the coastal pollution in Southern States;

(b) the details of the study;

(c) whether such a study of Indian Ocean will be conducted; and

(d) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Periodic studies on the assessment of coastal pollution in the Southern States have been going on since 1976 when the research vessel "GAVESHANI" was commissioned. A comprehensive survey of pollution in the coastal seas around India is proposed to be carried out in 1987-88.

(b) The studies include evaluation of sewage, industrial wastes and solid wastes discharged into the sea from coastal towns. Concentrations of heavy metals and oil and its derivatives (Petroleum products) in the coastal, as well as off-shore waters are also analysed.

(c) and (d) Monitoring of the off-shore areas and oil tanker routes in the Arabian sea and the Bay of Bengal, which form the northern part of the Indian Ocean, is being undertaken and some reports on this subject are already available.

Autonomous bodies under purview of administrative tribunal

1274. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 3522 on 26 November, 1986 regarding autonomous bodies brought under purview of Administrative Tribunal and state :

(a) whether the employees and officers of the Supreme Court and High Courts have also been brought within the purview of the Central Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 for redressal of their grievances;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to constitute another Tribunal for redressal of the grievances of the employees of these institutions; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, what method Government would adopt for redressal of the grievances of these employees ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) No, Sir.

As per section 2 (c) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 the provisions of the Act do not apply to them.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The employees and officers of the Supreme Court and High Courts will continue to make use of the channels available to them at present for redressal of their grievances.

Drop on foreign exchange reserves

1275. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign exchange reserves have dropped by 9.02 per cent between 30 April and 30 November, 1986;

(b) whether the drop when computed in Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) is 19 per cent;

(c) the reasons for the drop in foreign exchange; and

(d) the remedial steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) The foreign exchange reserves (excluding Gold and Special Drawing Rights) decreased from Rs. 7638.7 crores to Rs. 6823.1 crores i.e. by 10.68 per cent between 30th April and 30th November, 1986. In SDR terms, the reserves decreased by 18.89 per cent from SDRs 5267 million to SDRs 4272 million during this period. Since November, 1986, foreign exchange reserves have, however, increased to Rs. 6964.5 crores as on 28th February, 1987.

(c) and (d) The detailed Balance of Payments data, with the details of the individual factors affecting movements in foreign exchange assets during this period, are not yet available. The level of reserves is continuously kept under review with a view to ensuring that the country's commitments with regard to debt service and requirement of goods and services are met.

RBI suggestion on monetary policy

1276. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has recommended continuance of a cautious monetary policy in view of sharp

increase of 8.8 per cent in consumer price index as reported in Business India (January 12-25, 1987); and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) and (b) In its Report on Currency and Finance, 1985-86, the Reserve Bank has stated that "during the first six months of 1986-87 the average of CPI moved up by 8.7 per cent as compared with an increase of 5.7 per cent in the corresponding period of 1985-86. In view of these signals on the price front, the stance of the monetary policy has to be one of continued caution, while at the same time meeting the genuine credit requirements of the various sectors in the economy." An account of the measures taken in this regard is contained in the Economic Survey, 1986-87 presented to Parliament on February 24, 1987.

Implementation of recommendations of ISC 1986 session in Delhi

1277. SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report of the task force appointed to suggest follow up action on the recommendations of the 1986 session of Indian Science Congress held in Delhi has been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to implement the recommendations ?

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

(b) and (c) Some of the salient recommendations and their present status is as follows :

Recommendations	Present Status
1	2
1. An environmental dimension must be incorporated into the Nation's planning process and a high level advisory body should be set up.	A high powered authority on environment to replace National Environmental Advisors Committee (NEAC) is under consideration.
2. A National Conservation Strategy should be worked out which would cover issues that directly or indirectly affect environmental quality.	The recommendation has been accepted by the Government.
3. Establishment of the Indira Gandhi Institute for Himalayan Environment and Development should be expedited.	Action for the establishment of Indira Gandhi Institute for Himalayan Environment and Development has been initiated.
4. Measures should be taken for Conservation and Development of resources and ecosystem restoration.	(i) A National Wasteland Development Board has been established.

1

2

- (ii) A centre for excellence in mining environmental Studies has been instituted as part of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad.
- (iii) The National Mangrove Committee to advise on development strategies on conservation and rational use of mangroves in the country has been reconstituted.
- (iv) The Environment (Projection) Act, 1986 has been enacted.

Collaboration with French company

1278. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government proposed to sign a contract with a French space company for supply of high quality pictures of earth directly from the French Satellite "Spot" ;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions and details thereof ; and

(c) the mode of operations and the use to which these pictures will be put and how far they are going to help ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) An agreement is proposed to be signed between the National Remote Sensing Agency (NRSA) of Department of Space and the French Company SPOTIMAGE for reception in India, of data from the French earth observation satellite SPOT.

(b) The agreement addresses many

details concerning the technical parameters and contractual matters. The salient aspects are that it provides for reception of SPOT data from 1st July 1987 or earlier depending on the readiness of the Indian Station ; it provides for reception of about 2000 scenes in 1987 and 10,000 scenes in 1988 and 1989. As per the agreement, the distribution rights within India for the data entirely vests with NRSA and the distribution rights outside India fully vest with SPOTIMAGE.

(c) The data will be received at the Earth Station of NRSA at Shadnagar near Hyderabad as per agreed technical plans. The data products will be generated in the facilities of NRSA for distribution to users. Since the resolution of SPOT is 20 meters in multispectral and 10 meters in panchromatic mode, as compared to 30 meters for Lands at Thematic Mapper, SPOT will considerably enhance the usefulness of remote sensing data for nationally proven applications in forestry, water resources management, soil and wasteland mapping, agriculture, geology, etc.

NRI Definition under FERA and Income-Tax Act

1279. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to

amend the definition of "non-resident Indians" in the Foreign Exchange (Regulation) Act and Income Tax Act ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) how far it will go to help the NRIs to make further investments in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of electronic industry in Seventh Plan

1280. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incentives provided so far to the electronics industry have provided adequate stimulus and the target production for the Seventh Plan are likely to be achieved ; and

(b) if not, what further steps are proposed to be taken for providing the necessary infrastructural support, training of manpower and stimulating export demand to boost up production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The steps already taken to stimulate production in electronics are given in the Statement below.

The Department of Electronics have been allocated a sum of Rs. 75.00 crores for providing infrastructural support, manpower training etc. during 7th Five Year Plan.

Statement

Policy Measures in Electronics

Government has taken a number of steps to formulate promotional policy to accelerate the growth of electronics in the country. The basic thrust of the policy is in the following direction :

- (1) A general liberalisation of licensing policy, with more emphasis on promotion rather than on regulation.
- (2) Where controls are unavoidable, as a general rule, resort will be taken to fiscal controls, in preference to physical controls.
- (3) By and large, there will be no upper limit on capacity and no restriction of sectoral nature like large scale, small scale, private sector, public sector etc. except where specific reservations are made on very special considerations.
- (4) Volume production at the economic level, with contemporary technology would be the guiding principle.

The following specific measures need to be highlighted :

- (i) For certain category of items "broad-band" licences will be issued.
- (ii) The electronic components industry has been delicensed.
- (iii) Import of technology and foreign collaboration will be permitted in all areas of electronics where indigenous technology is not available. Units having foreign equity less than 40% will be permitted in all areas.
- (iv) Development of small scale industry will be encouraged.

Approval for a number of items have been decentralised to the level of State DIs. Investment limit for this sector has been revised to Rs. 35.0 lakhs and that for ancillary units to Rs. 45.0 lakhs.

- (v) For the sake of economies of scale, some of the components which are reserved for small scale sector have been dereserved.
- (vi) Electronic units will be allowed to establish in any permissible location.
- (vii) In the area of telecommunication, manufacture of telephones, EPABX, teleprinters, facsimile equipment, data communication terminals etc. have been allowed in the private sector. Other items can also be taken up by private sector with Central/State Government participation of at least 51% of the equity share.
- (viii) In almost all areas of electronics, excluding consumer electronics, MRTP companies have been exempted from clearance under Section 21 & 22 of MRTP Act.
- (ix) A computer policy has been announced with emphasis on the manufacture of computers based on latest technology at prices comparable with international level and progressively increasing indigenisation.
- (x) Import duty on raw materials, components and capital equipment has been reduced and the duty structure rationalised to enable minimum input cost to the industry in order to assist increased production.
- (x) The Government is promoting appropriate applications of electronics to improve productivity, production quality, safety and quality of services.

- (xii) To encourage development and export of software; a new policy package has been recently announced.

Licences pending for opening of bank branches in Mahboob Nagar and Ranga Reddy Districts (A.P.)

1281. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the proposed branches of Regional Rural Banks in Mahboob Nagar and Ranga Reddy Districts in Andhra Pradesh in respect of which applications for licences for opening branches are pending with the Reserve Bank of India as on 31 December, 1986 :

(b) whether Government proposed to give priority to the economic development of the area by issuing licences quickly ; and

(c) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent possible.

Applications from Andhra Pradesh for clearance of foreign exchanges

1282. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications from Andhra Pradesh pending with the Reserve Bank of India for clearance of foreign exchanges ;

(b) the purposes for which the applications were submitted for the clearance of foreign exchange ;

(c) the details of maximum and minimum amounts requested ; and

(d) the time since when these applications are pending, the time by which the applications are expected to be cleared and the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d) The requisite information is being collected from the Reserve Bank of India and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increase in flow of credit to agricultural sector in A. P.

1283. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether commercial banks have been advised to increase the flow of credit to the agricultural sector in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) the target set for the Sixth Plan and achievements thereof in granting credit to the agricultural section during the period in Andhra Pradesh ; and

(c) the target set for the Seventh Plan and achievements during the first two years of the Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Commercial banks have been directed by Reserve Bank of India to provide timely and adequate financial assistance to agriculture throughout the country. Accordingly, all scheduled commercial banks were advised that their direct advance to agricultural sector should reach a level of at least 16% of total credit by March, 1987. Direct agriculture advances of public sector banks all over the country have already reached a level of 16.1% of their total credit as at the end of September, 1986. Banks were not given any separate statewise targets for financing in this sector.

During the terminal year of the Sixth Five Year Plan namely 1984-85 the commercial banks including Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) were expected to disburse Rs. 1500 crores under crop loans and Rs. 620 crores under term loans. No state-wise targets for credit to agricultural sector was, however fixed. Similarly, the commercial banks including RRBs are expected to disburse Rs. 2500 crores under crop loans and Rs. 3,000 crores under term credit in the terminal year of the Seventh Five Year Plan viz. 1989-90. No statewise target for credit has however been fixed.

Indian deposits in foreign countries

1284. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :
SHRI N. DENNIS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether in 1985, Government took up the matter of finding out the persons and the amounts deposited by each with Banks in Hong Kong and Singapore;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on 31 December, 1986;

(c) the total amount deposited by Indians in these banks; and

(d) steps proposed to curb such deposits pilferage of money from the country to outside banks ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) No, Sir. The Government did not take up the matter with Banks in Hong Kong and Singapore.

(b) and (c) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.

(d) The drive against such unauthorised maintenance of foreign bank account and unauthorised outflow of money from the country is a continuous process and

the matter is constantly kept under review for taking appropriate measures with a view to curbing the same.

Ban of recruitment

1285. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to review the ban on recruitment especially of teachers and doctors: and

(b) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) and (b) Government have recently reviewed and modified the guidelines relating to filling up of vacancies/creation of posts. Copies of the instructions issued in this regard on 20th May and 15 July, 1986 have already been placed in the Parliament Library.

These instructions apply equally to the recruitment of Teachers and Doctors.

Recommendation of Fourth Pay Commission on payment of Hill Compensatory Allowance

1286. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have accepted the recommendation of the Fourth Pay Commission regarding the payment of Hill Compensatory Allowance to such places in Hill State/Region as do not have an altitude of one thousand metres or above, but which are reached after crossing this height from the plains and are thus located in the interior;

(b) if so, the date from which the recommendation has been accepted; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the likely date of its acceptance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) to (c) The Fourth Pay Commission have recommended that Government may consider extending the composite Hill Compensatory Allowance to places surrounded by hills but not qualifying for the allowance under the existing height criterion if these are not already covered by the scheme for grant of special compensatory allowance and if the conditions there are comparable with those of adjoining hill stations. The matter requires detailed examination and consultations with various authorities before a decision could be taken on the recommendation. In this connection various State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are being addressed for necessary information.

Report of study groups on credit camps

1287. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 666 on 7 November, 1986 regarding credit camps and state;

(a) whether the examination of the Report of the study groups on Credit Camps has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations and the action taken thereon;

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

(d) the likely date by which the examination of the Report would be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d) After examining the Reserve Bank of India's report on Credit Camps, Government have decided that such camps be organised by banks in a more systematic manner. The Reserve Bank of India has been advised to issue suitable guidelines to Banks in this matter,

Research study by ISI on incidence of poverty

1288, SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a research study has been done by the Indian Statistical Institute on the incidence of poverty which was referred to at the recent Science Congress held in Bangalore;

(b) if so, whether there are variations in figures regarding claims of poverty alleviation made by the Planning Commission and the Indian Statistical Institute; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI

SUKH RAM) : (a) The Indian Statistical Institute prepared a Technical Report entitled "On the Choice of appropriate Consumer Price Indices and data sets for estimating the incidence of poverty in India" by B.S. Minhas, L.R. Jain, S.M. Kansal and M.R. Saluja in August, 1986 and revised in January, 1987 and the same was referred to at the recent meeting of the Indian Science Congress held in Bangalore.

(b) and (c) There are variations in the estimates worked out by the Indian Statistical Institute and those computed by the Planning Commission. The estimates for 1983-84 worked out by the Planning Commission based on the 38th Round on Household Consumption Expenditure Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1983 and those worked out by the Indian Statistical Institute for the same year for rural and urban areas are as follows :—

Estimates of poverty worked out for the year 1983-84 by

	Planning Commission		Indian Statistical Institute	
	Poverty Percentage	No. of persons below poverty line (in million)	Poverty Percentage	No. of persons below poverty line (in million)
Rural	40.4	221.5	45.3	248.0
Urban	28.1	49.5	36.8	65.0
Combined	37.4	271.0	43.2	313.0

The variation in these 2 estimates is due to the difference in methodology. The present method of estimating poverty by the Planning Commission adopts a uniform poverty norm in all States/Regions and for up-dating of Poverty Line the Central Statistical Organisation (C.S.O.) Private Consumption Deflator (implicit) is used. Also, the National Sample Survey Distribution of Per Capita Consumption Expenditure is pro-rata adjusted to correspond to C.S.O. level of total private consumption.

The Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)

has felt that using the same CSO's implicit deflator for updating the poverty line may ignore the differentials in Consumer Price movements between urban and rural areas over time. Accordingly, they have constructed three new Consumer price indices viz. (i) Consumer Price Index for Total Rural Population (CPITR) (ii) Consumer Price Index for Middle Rural Population (CPIMR) for Rural-India and (iii) Consumer Price Index for Combined Urban (CPICU), which is a weighted combination of the separate Consumer Price Index for industrial workers (CPIIW) and Consumer

Price Index for urban non-manual employees (CPINM).

Besides, as compared to the Planning Commission's method of the pro-rata adjustments to jack up the NSS estimates of aggregate private consumption to the level of CSO estimates, the ISI has used unadjusted Consumer expenditure distribution as directly observed in NSS data.

Forest cover in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

1289. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the extent of forests in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) the percentage of forest demarcated for commercial exploitation and the percentage sought to be replaced by palm and coconut plantations; and

(c) the gross revenue from the forest produce during the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) The extent of forests in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is 7144 sq. Km. which is approximately 36% of the total geographical area.

(b) Out of the total forest area, nearly 30% area is available for commercial exploitation. Government have discontinued planting of Red Oil-Palm. No forest land has been set aside for raising coconut plantations.

(c) Gross revenue of the Forest Department (Andaman and Nicobar Administration) during 1985-86 was Rs. 9.783 crores.

Testing of food import affected by Chernobyl accident

1290. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Department of Atomic Energy has been asked to test milk powder and butter oil supplies from EEC and other countries affected by Chernobyl accident;

(b) whether DAE has made arrangements to draw samples independently at ports of landing to ensure authenticity of results for both these and any other food item imported; and

(c) the results of tests conducted so far on the sample drawn by DAE ?

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

(b) DAE has not made arrangements to draw samples independently at ports of landing. Instead, the samples drawn by respective Government agencies like Indian Dairy Corporation, Port Health Officer, Senior Plant Quarantine Entomologist of Ministry of Agriculture etc. are sent to BARC for analysis.

(c) Most of the samples tested did not show any measurable radioactivity and in a few cases radio nucleide (Cesium—137) activity and the levels in terms of bacquerel per kg. were so low that the products could be allowed for unrestricted human consumption.

Identification of sick units

1291. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the total number of units which have been identified as sick by the scheduled banks in the private sector and public sector separately as on 31 March, 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : The Reserve Bank of India has reported that the total number of units identified as

'sick' by the public sector banks and private sector banks as at the end of December, 1985 (latest available) was 1,18,898 and 606 respectively.

Action plan to clear other rivers

1292. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to clean some more rivers after the cleaning of the Ganga;

(b) the details thereof with the names of rivers; and

(c) the funds allotted in Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b) No specific proposal in this regard has been formulated. However, basin-wise water quality monitoring studies have been launched for the major rivers.

(c) No funds have so far been allotted in the Seventh Plan for cleaning of other rivers.

Social Forestry Scheme

1293. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government proposes to extend the social forestry programme further in 1987-88; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Social Forestry programme will be implemented by a variety of organisations in Government and non-Government

including industries, cooperatives, voluntary agencies etc. The increase in afforestation is from 1.71 million ha. in 1986-87 to a proposed target of 3.30 million ha. in 1987-88.

Exemption of NRI assets from income tax

1294. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to exempt the assets of returning Non-Resident Indians from the levy of income tax was under the consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) the details of the exemption and its impact on the exchequer ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) A Working Group consisting of certain officials and a non-resident Indian has been set up to examine the proposal relating to exemption of income from assets brought to India by non-resident Indians from the levy of income-tax. The Group has so far not made any recommendations. Final decision will be taken by the Government after considering, *inter alia*, the recommendations which the said Working Group may make.

Assistance to computer industry

1295. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have assessed the growth of the computer industry in the country;

(b) if so, the details of financial and the material growth achieved during the last two years;

(c) whether Government propose to provide more financial help and support

to enable them to tide over their hardships; and

(d) if so, details thereof ?

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

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) The indigenous computer industry has grown from a level of Rs. 92 crores turnover in 1984 to Rs. 155 crores in 1985 and to about Rs. 280 crores in 1986. In terms of quantity the growth of mini/micro systems has been from 3385 systems in 1984 to 7185 in 1985 and to about 20,000 in 1986. Over the last two years, the growth of computer industry has been above 70% in terms of values and above 14% in terms of physical growth.

(c) and (d) Sufficient financial help has been provided to the computer industry already by way of fiscal concessions in the custom and excise duties on parts and finished products respectively.

[[*Translation*]]

Loans to unemployed persons by banks in Uttar Pradesh under 20-Point Programme

1296. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of unemployed persons in Uttar Pradesh whom loans were given by nationalised banks under the 20-Point Programme in 1986 ;

(b) whether only a few unemployed persons have been granted such loans in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh under the said programme; and

(c) If so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Scheme for providing Self Employment to the Educated Unemployed Youths (SEEUY) which was introduced in the year 1983-84. The present data reporting system from banks does not generate data in the manner asked for. However, in the State of Uttar Pradesh 26,264 cases for an amount of Rs. 45.69 crores were sanctioned by all Indian scheduled commercial banks during the year 1985-86.

State-wise amount for special component plan and tribal sub-plan

1297. SHRI D. L. BAITHA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation made for the Special Component Plan and the Tribal Sub-Plan during 1984-85 and 1985-86, State-wise;

(b) whether the progress in the implementation of these plans is not satisfactory; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Two statements are given below.

(b) and (c) while the implementation of these Special plans are by and large satisfactory, there is scope for further qualitative improvement of implementation on the basis of the experience gained.

Statement-I

**The Allocations Under Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes During the Years
1984-85 and 1985-86 (Rs. in Crores)**

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Allocation	
		1984-85	1985-86
1.	Andhra Pradesh	127.51	120.64
2.	Assam	7.72	10.44
3.	Bihar	76.77	67.27
4.	Gujarat	26.90	25.87
5.	Haryana	31.07	30.33
6.	Himachal Pradesh	15.75	19.49
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	9.50	9.56
8.	Karnataka	70.20	67.93
9.	Kerala	28.74	29.58
10.	Madhya Pradesh	59.10	63.32
11.	Maharashtra	43.91	42.87
12.	Orissa	31.81	36.51
13.	Manipur	8.12	1.42
14.	Punjab	23.33	21.87
15.	Rajasthan	55.62	66.47
16.	Sikkim	0.74	0.47
17.	Tamil Nadu	123.01	126.16
18.	Tripura	8.04	7.55
19.	Uttar Pradesh	135.90	172.67
20.	West Bengal	57.00	65.42
21.	Delhi	21.35	16.43
22.	Chandigarh	1.54	1.98
23.	Pondicherry	4.82	5.20
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	7.67	0.83

Statement-II

The Allocations Under Tribal Sub-Plan for Scheduled Tribes During the Years 1984-85 and 1985-86. (Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of the State/UT	Allocation	
		1984-85	1985-86
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3019.93	1920.00
2.	Assam	4255.20	4610.00
3.	Bihar	15137.48	19413.00
4.	Gujarat	10545.61	8473.00
5.	Himachal Pradesh	1485.00	1806.00
6.	Karnataka	493.98	430.00
7.	Kerala	471.25	784.00
8.	Madhya Pradesh	22641.91	10147.00
9.	Maharashtra	8226.12	8245.00
10.	Manipur	2013.08	2434.00
11.	Orissa	12456.32	14952.00
12.	Rajasthan	5530.74	4441.00
13.	Sikkim	490.88	520.00
14.	Tamil Nadu	687.25	635.00
15.	Tripura	2074.42	3127.00
16.	Uttar Pradesh	215.85	415.00
17.	West Bengal	2718.42	2493.00
18.	A & N Islands	344.49	354.00
19.	Goa, Daman & Diu	38.31	40.00
TOTAL		92846.24	95239.00

(English)

Denudation of Dudwa National Park

1298. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether denudation at Dudwa

National Park on the Indo-Nepal border is continuing; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken or proposed to check it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Soviet collaboration for scientific ventures

1299. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Soviet Scientists delegation visited India recently;

(b) whether proposals for joint ventures or of Soviet collaboration for scientific ventures were discussed; and

(c) If so, the details thereof ?

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

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A delegation of Soviet scientists visited India during January, 1987. This visit took place for talks preparatory to further discussions between the two sides for science and technology cooperation.

(c) Does not arise.

Computerisation of social welfare programmes

1300. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to computerise the implementation of social welfare programmes and poverty alleviation programmes at the district level; and

(b) If so, the details of the programmes drawn up in this regard ?

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

(a) and (b) The National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the Department of Electronics, has planned a countrywide computer network, called NICNET, which consists of 4 Super Computers at NIC Headquarters in New Delhi and three

Regional Centres at Pune, Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad. Super mini-computers would be installed at State Headquarters and IBM PC compatible computers at the districts headquarters. The computer at the districts will be under the supervision of the Collectors and will be used by the district offices of various departments including social welfare and rural development departments. In the first phase, NIC will cover 127 districts in the country. District computers have already been installed in the districts of Udaipur (Rajasthan) Cuttack (Orissa) and Patiala (Punjab). The State Governments have been requested to advise the Collectors in the 127 districts to assist NIC in its efforts for computer installation and software development at the district level.

Profit of foreign banks operating in India

1301. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the net profit made by various foreign banks operating in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the profit repatriated by each of them during this period, year-wise; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange remitted through them to India during this period, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) Information relating to the net profit earned by the foreign banks operating in India during the years 1983, 1984 and 1985, as per published balance sheet for the banks' Indian operations, and the amount allowed by the RBI to be remitted by the foreign banks to their Head Office, during the same period, as furnished by the Reserve Bank of India, is given in the Statement below.

(c) Information relating to inward remittances in foreign exchange received by the foreign banks operating in the country during the years 1983, 1984 and 1985 is being collected and to the extent available and permissible would be laid on the Table of the House.

Statement
Net earnings and remittances of foreign banks operating in India

Sr. No.	Name of the Bank	Net profits earned during the years* (Rupees in lakhs)			Remittances allowed by Reserve Bank for the years (Rupees in lakhs)		
		1983	1984	1985	1983	1984	1985
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Standard Chartered Bank	(—) 117	63	187	—	—	—
2.	Banque Nationale de Paris	(—) 18	3	38	—	—	—
3.	Grindlays Bank Plc	630	787	768	747	820	873
4.	Hongkong Bank	236	247	480	289	311	525
5.	Algemene Bank Nederland NV	68	77	98	67	76	101
6.	American Express Bank Ltd.	208	223	87	218	188	100
7.	Citi Bank N.A.	466	546	810	470	454	—
8.	Bank of Tokyo Ltd.	92	119	124	108	107	107
9.	British Bank of the Middle East	60	70	109	62	56	—
10.	Mitsui Bank Ltd.	21	28	36	—	—	—
11.	Bank of America N. T and S.A.	215	424	535	171	399	550
12.	Sonali Bank Ltd.	1	2	7	—	—	—
13.	Deutsche Bank (Asia)	28	40	52	48	54	59

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Bank of Oman Ltd.	43	23	41	—	—	—
15.	Abudhabi Commercial Bank Ltd.	5	1	(—) 4	—	—	—
16.	Banque Indosuez	20	55	61	14	51	—
17.	B.C.C. I (O) Ltd.	2	42	214	—	—	—
18.	Bank of Nova Scotia	—	(—) 32	(—) 1	—	—	—
19.	Oman International Bank Ltd.	—	—	13	—	—	—
20.	Societe Generale	—	—	4	—	—	—

Note :— * As per published balance sheets for the bank's operations in India.
(—) denotes loss.

Bank branches in Bihar

1302. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of branches of various banks in Bihar as on 31 December, 1986;

(b) the total number of staff of various categories employed in these branches;

(c) the arrangements for the recruitment of the staff in Bihar; and

(d) the arrangements for the training of the staff in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that 4231 branches of Commercial Banks were functioning in Bihar as on 31.12.1986.

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

(c) Government have constituted Banking Services Recruitment Boards (BSRBS) for the purpose of recruiting the Clerks and Officers for the 28 Public Sector Banks in Bihar. In so far as recruitment of subordinate staff is concerned, the 28 Public Sector Banks appoint them after an interview of the candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchange concerned. The task of recruitment of Clerks and Officers for the Regional Rural Banks has also recently been entrusted to BSRBS.

(d) The Public Sector Banks have their own training establishments where officers and clerks are imparted training.

Accidents in Atomic Power Plants

1303. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents that have taken place in each atomic power reactor since their installation;

(b) the number of cases of radiation-spills which have been recorded; and

(c) the number of persons whose health has been found to have been affected by their association or proximity to reactors during the routine health check-ups ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) and (b) : There has been no major accident involving radiation release to the environment in any of the installations of the Department of Atomic Energy including atomic power stations.

(c) There has been no case of death or injury attributable to radiation exposure arising from association with or proximity to atomic installations in the country.

Restoration of commuted portion of pension to the pensioners

1304. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to implement the Supreme Court judgement on the restoration of the commuted portion of pension to the pensioners;

(b) if so, the number of pensioners who are likely to immediately benefit; and

(c) the estimated amount to be paid during 1986-87 as arrears on this account with effect from April, 1985 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) to (c) The judgement of the Supreme Court is under consideration of the Government. Precise data about the number of beneficiaries is not available.

Misuse of MODVAT facility

1305. PROF. BAMKRISHNA MORE
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is large scale misuse of MODVAT facility by the industry resulting in substantial loss of revenue to the exchequer;

(b) if so, the estimated loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof stating the modus operandi of the industries involved; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) : The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Implementation of Fourth Pay Commission recommendation

1306. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of Central Government Offices where Implementation Cells have been set up to give their recommendation on the implementation of new pay scales recommended by the Fourth Pay Commission;

(b) whether they have submitted their reports, if so, the details thereof and if not, when these implementation cells will submit their reports; and

(c) whether Government have issued any directions to expedite their work, if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) to (c) : No Implementation Cells were set up to give their

recommendation on the recommendations of the IVth Pay Commission. However, Implementation Cells were set up in certain Ministries to expeditiously process the recommendations of the Pay Commission for the purpose of obtaining orders of the Government. In view of this, no reports were required to be submitted by any Implementation Cell and the question of Government issuing any directions in this regard does not arise.

[Translation]

Cleaning of Ganga

1307. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) cities in U.P. where water treatment plants have so far been installed for the treatment of sewage and industrial waste of the city which are discharged in the Ganga since the launching of the scheme to clean Ganga water;

(b) the technology on which each plant is based and the name of the country and the company from which the respective technology has been acquired;

(c) the amount spent thereon; and

(d) whether the plants so installed are working properly according to the desired efficiency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Plants for treatment of sewage are proposed to be set up under the Ganga Action Plan in the following cities of U.P. :

(i) Hardwar Rishikesh

(ii) Kanpur

(iii) Allahabad and

(iv) Varanasi

Out of these, execution of one sewage treatment plant in the Diesel Locomotive

Works (DLW) township and another at Banaras Hindu University township in Varanasi have been taken up. The tenders for the third treatment plant at Varanasi have been invited. The Govt. of U.P. have been asked to prepare specifications and invite tenders for plants in the other locations. These plants are principally for the treatment of sewage.

(b) The plants under construction in the Diesel Locomotive Works township and the Banaras Hindu University township in Varanasi are based on the activated sludge process which is an indigenously available technology. The designs for these plants have been prepared by the DLW and U.P. Govt. authorities.

(c) An amount of Rs. 2.65 crores has been made available to the agencies responsible for execution of these schemes.

(d) Does not arise since construction of the plants has just been taken up.

Hindi as medium of examination in competitive exams

1308. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to

state the percentage of candidates who answered in Hindi medium from the Hindi speaking States coming out successful in competitive examinations conducted by UPSC and Staff Selection Commission as compared to those from other States in the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : The required information, to the extent available, in respect of the five competitive examinations held by the Union Public Service Commission is given in the statement given below.

As regards SSC, in most of the open competitive examinations held by them, the Question Papers are of 'Objective/multiple-choice type' which are printed in bilingual form i. e. both in Hindi and English. In these papers, candidates are not required to write any answers but they have to indicate the right answer from out of the four suggested answers/responses. In view of this, the question of percentage of candidates qualifying in Hindi medium does not arise.

Statement

Centre-wise break-up of candidates qualified with Hindi medium

Sl. No.	Examination	Number of finally qualified candidates with														No. of finally qualified candidates with other Indian Languages media (included in the Eighth Scheduled to the Constitution.
		Hindi medium														
		Ahmedabad	Allahabad	Bhopal	Bombay	Delhi	Jaipur	Patna	Lucknow	Jammu	Simla	Chandigarh	Indian mis-sions abroad	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1. Civil Services (Main) Examination, 1985.																
		1	10	4	1	13	22	3	4	1	—	—	—	59	715	16
2. Assttants' Grade Examination, 1985.																
		—	10	—	—	23	7	5	12	—	1	—	2	60	315	This facility not allowed for this examination.
3. S.Os/Stenographers (Gr. B/Gr. I) Limited Departmental Competitive Examination, 1985.																
		—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	222	—do—

4. Stenographers' Examination, 1985.
5. Grade-I (US) Limited Departmental Competitive Examination for SC/ST candidates, 1985.

-----3-----1-----	4	216	
-----NIL-----NIL-----		16	---do---

*[English]***IFCI'S scheme for helping unemployed and handicapped youths**

1309. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Industrial Finance Corporation of India has started any scheme of helping the unemployed and handicapped youths in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of persons granted assistance till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) : The Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) has reported that they have revamped an existing scheme and introduced a revised scheme by the name of 'Scheme of Interest Subsidy for Self-development and Self-employment of Unemployed Young Persons' with effect from 1st July, 1986. The main objective of the Scheme is to introduce persons, who are otherwise without work, to industry or industrial vocations after developing in them entrepreneurial traits and to settle them through the process of self-employment. The scheme is applicable to the unemployed literate young persons below 45 years of age who do not have, of their own, permanent or regular source of livelihood. The benefit under the scheme is in the form of a one time subsidy determinable on a case to case basis and subject to certain ceilings. The Scheduled Caste/Sche-

duled Tribe and physically handicapped unemployed persons are given higher levels of subsidy. For availing of assistance under the scheme, the unemployed young persons should have undergone a full course of entrepreneurship development programme conducted by a Technical Consultancy Organisation/specified agency and he should have decided to set up a new project of his own. The scheme is operable through SFCS granting assistance to the unemployed persons for meeting the capital cost of their projects. IFCI has reported that no eligible application has so far been received under this scheme.

Setting up of projects by NRI

1310. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of proposals approved so far for setting up of projects by the Non-Resident Indians, State-wise; and

(b) the nature of the projects and places where these projects will be located in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) A total number of 165 letters of Intent/Registration have been issued to Non-Resident Indians for setting up of Industrial units in India since November 1983 up to 31st December, 1986. State-wise break-up is as follows :

State	Letter of Intent/ Registration Issued
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	34
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2
Delhi	4

1	2
Gujarat	13
Goa, Daman & Diu	1
Haryana	13
Himachal Pradesh	3
Jammu & Kashmir	1
Karnataka	10
Maharashtra	22
Madhya Pradesh	8
Orissa	4
Punjab	3
Rajasthan	8
Tamil Nadu	12
Uttar Pradesh	26
West Bengal	1

(b) The nature of projects and places where these projects will be located in Orissa are as follows :—

Nature of Projects	Location in Orissa
	District
Newsprint & Writing/ printing paper	Cuttack
Mini computers/Micro processor based systems	District Puri
Aluminium Flake/ Automised Aluminium Powder	District Sundergarh
Medical Syringes	Exact location not yet decided. But it shall be located in a centrally declared backward area in the State.

**Robbery in Punjab National Bank,
Ludhiana**

1311. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 5.70 crores were looted from a branch of Punjab National Bank in Ludhiana by terrorists; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to provide adequate safety against such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) Punjab National Bank has reported that a sum of Rs. 5,68,91,416.09 was looted from its Branch Office, Industrial Area, Ludhiana, on 12.2.87.

(b) Punjab National Bank has reported that it has instructed all its branches to ensure meticulous adherence to the security guidelines.

Raids in permises of Government officers

1312. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of raids conducted against the Government officers in the year 1986-87 so far;

(b) number of officers arrested and the amount found with them; and

(c) the action taken by the Govern-

ment in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b) During the period 1.1.1986 to 31.10.1986 the Income-tax Department conducted searches at the premises of three Group 'A' officials which resulted in the seizure of prima facie unaccounted assets amounting to Rs. 23.69 lakhs. During the same period, the Central Bureau of Investigation has reported 189 searches at the premises of officials of the Government/Public Sector Undertakings which resulted in discovery of assets worth approximately Rs. 396.97 lakhs.

The Income-tax Act does not provide for the arrest of tax evaders during the course of search.

(c) Appropriate action under the various provisions of law is taken by the various State Governments and the Central Government.

Murders and rapes committed on SCs and STs

1313. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state the number of cases of rapes, murders and arson committed on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes during 1986-87, State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : Two Statements (Statement-I for Scheduled Castes and Statement-II for Scheduled Tribes) are given below.

Statement I

Number of cases of rape, murder and arson committed on Scheduled Castes by others in 1986

Sl. No.	Name of State	No. of cases of			Information upto
		Rape	Murder	Arson	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	9	1	September, '86

1	2	3	4	5
2. Bihar	73	52	162	November, 86
3. Gujarat	9	16	17	November, 86
4. Haryana	12	4	2	December, 86
5. Himachal Pradesh	3	1	3	December, 86
6. Jammu & Kashmir	1	1	1	December, 86
7. Karnataka	6	6	9	November, 86
8. Kerala	13	4	4	August, 86
9. Madhya Pradesh	151	87	161	October, 86
10. Maharashtra	15	4	14	October, 86 (except July, Sept.)
11. Orissa	7	4	15	November, 86
12. Punjab	4	10	—	December, 86
13. Rajasthan	106	43	61	December, 86
14. Tamil Nadu	12	13	11	September, 86
15. Uttar Pradesh	229	270	489	December, 86
16. West Bengal	02	—	—	November, 86
Total :	661	524	950	

Note : Information from other States/U. Ts is NIL.

Statement II

Number of cases of rape, murder and arson committed on Scheduled Tribes by others in 1986

Sl. No.	Name of State/ U.T.	No. of cases of			Information upto
		Rape	Murder	Arson	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Andhra Pradesh		3	2	1	June, 86
2. Assam		1	Nil	Nil	October, 86
3. Bihar		8	Nil	4	March, 86
4. Gujarat		11	12	1	November, 86
5. Karnataka		Nil	Nil	Nil	September, 86

1	2	3	4	5	6
6. Kerala		6	Nil	Nil	August, 86
7. Madhya Pradesh		143	77	193	October, 86
8. Maharashtra		15	12	8	October, 86
9. Manipur		1	1	Nil	December, 86
10. Nagaland		Nil	11	Nil	October, 86 (except August)
11. Orissa		11	1	1	November, 86
12. Rajasthan		27	25	12	December, 86
13. Tamil Nadu		Nil	Nil	1	September, 86
14. Tripura		Nil	Nil	Nil	November, 86
15. West Bengal		4	3	Nil	October, 86
16. Arunachal Pradesh		Nil	Nil	Nil	November, 86 (except August)
17. Mizoram		1	2	Nil	November, 86 (except August)
18. Lakshadweep		Nil	Nil	Nil	November, 86
Total		231	136	221	

Note : Information from other States/Union Territories is 'NIL'.

Increasing demand for industrial wood

1314. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per the estimates of the National Commission on Agriculture the production demand for industrial wood in the country by 1990 would be 108.4 lakh cubic metres;

(b) whether there is big gap between demand and supply of industrial wood in the country and the extent of gap;

(c) the steps proposed to meet up the demand; and

(d) whether Government propose to utilise bank finances to give a boost to forestry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) According to the report of National Commission of Agriculture (1976) the projected demand for industrial wood in 2000 AD corresponding to low and high growth assumptions will be 471.80 lakh m³ and 644.50 lakhs m³ respectively.

(b) For industrial wood, the current deficit is estimated to be nearly 12 million m³.

(c) Government have already undertaken a large scale afforestation programme to meet the deficit between demand and supply. Appropriate steps for substitution of wood in relevant sectors have been also initiated.

(d) Yes, Sir.

Recommendations of Fuel Wood Study Committee

1315. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fuel Wood Study Committee had suggested that fuel wood plantation should be undertaken at the rate of 15 lakh hectares annually both to meet the fuel wood need and also to improve environment;

(b) whether Government have accepted these recommendations;

(c) if so, the State-wise break up of the plantation work done during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the demand and availability gap of firewood in the country at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) :
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. National Wastelands Development Board has been set up with the object of bringing 5 million hectares of land every year under fuelwood and fodder plantations. This programme will not only meet the requirement of the fuelwood but also improve the environment.

(c) Details of plantation work done during last three years Statewise, Yearwise are given in the statement below.

(d) The total availability of fuelwood at present is about 49 million tonnes, as against the total requirement of 133 million tonnes.

Statement

Plantation work done—State wise, Year-wise

(No. of seedlings planted in Lakhs)

No.	State/Union Territory*	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87 (upto Oct, 86)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1921.35	3156.00	1653.81**
2.	Assam	422.53	396.00	588.14**
3.	Bihar	1373.79	1523.00	1825.00***
4.	Gujarat	2903.41	2497.00	668.24
5.	Haryana	967.51	937.00	603.87
6.	Himachal Pradesh	519.03	672.00	376.51
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	289.71	467.00	220.85
8.	Karnataka	2307.62	2546.00	2156.52**
9.	Kerala	770.78	1166.00	1383.29
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3456.21	3501.00	3815.00**
11.	Maharashtra	1939.02	2165.00	2115.61
12.	Manipur	106.42	125.00	142.09

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Meghalaya	102.71	131.00	158.00**
14.	Nagaland	155.82	269.00	358.89**
15.	Orissa	1068.00	1930.00	1771.68
16.	Punjab	530.00	590.00	458.40
17.	Rajasthan	831.56	958.00	1202.15**
18.	Sikkim	80.32	82.00	109.50
19.	Tamil Nadu	1106.86	1215.00	855.89
20.	Tripura	150.00	200.00	263.00
21.	Uttar Pradesh	3404.20	3548.00	3974.00**
22.	West Bengal	1001.00	1115.00	1346.00
	Total UTs.	957.77	1002.00	364.86
Total (State & UTs.)		26365.62	30191.00	26411.30

*This includes Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram which are now full fledged States.

**Figures upto September, 1986. Also figures for A&N Islands, Chandigarh, Lakshadweep and Mizoram have been reported upto September, 1986.

***Figures are upto 15.10.86.

Review of electronic policy

1316. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to initiate a review of the working of electronic policy;

(b) whether the production targets of the electronic industry will be achieved during the terminal year of Seventh Plan; and

(c) if not, steps proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) to (c) The

electronic policy is periodically monitored and reviewed and measures are adopted from time to time to sustain and accelerate the growth of electronics. It is expected that the target set for the terminal year for the Seventh Plan will be achieved.

Launching of satellite

1317. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Informatics Centre propose to launch its own communication satellite;

(b) if so, details together with cost thereof;

(c) whether satellite will help improve a communication and if so, details thereof;

(d) whether the NIC would also

switch over to the new K-band frequency in transmission; and

(e) the time by which the satellite will be launched ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A long term plan has been formulated for the computer network, NICNET, of the National Informatics Centre (NIC) which envisages the launching of a low cost data communication satellite.

(b) NICNET is being set up in progressive steps for providing information support to decision making in the Central and State governments as well as for better data communication between the District Administration, State Governments, and the Central Government. By December 1987 all District headquarters, State capitals and Delhi will be interlinked by NICNET. In phase III, beginning with 1990, the number of Earth Stations required for NICNET is so large that it may economically justify a low cost special purpose data communication satellite.

Typically the total cost of such a satellite, along with launch cost, is expected to be around Rs. 60 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir. The satellite will improve communication between the blocks, district headquarters, state capitals and Delhi. There will be a packet switching facility and alternate routing facility increasing reliability of communication.

(d) No, Sir. It will consider K-band in addition to C-band.

(e) During the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

Environmental projects in India

1318. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of projects completed under Environmental Programme;

(b) the salient features of each project; and

(c) the names of States which will benefit with these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

184 environmental projects have been completed under various environmental programmes. The same are enumerated below :-

Name of the Project	State/No. of Projects.	Salient Features
1	2	3
Eco-regeneration.	Uttar Pradesh (1)	The Task Force of 243 ex-servicemen was made operational in January 1983 in Shahjahanpur Block (near Dehra Dun) for ecological restoration. The project works successfully undertaken (March 1985) include afforestation; soil conservation and water resource development.

1	2	3
Eco-Development Camps.	Assam (1) Bihar (1) Delhi (5) Gujarat (1) Haryana (1) Himachal Pradesh (4) Jammu & Kashmir (1) Kerala (4) Karnataka (5) Maharashtra (2) Manipur (1) Orissa (11) Rajasthan (5) Tamil Nadu (7) Uttar Pradesh (17) West Bengal (3)	Nursery preparation and afforestation; construction of protective stone wall and barbed wire fences to protect forest trespassers; soil conservation; aquatic weeds removal from water tanks; testing water and disinfection of public utility water resources; environmental sanitation; installation of smokeless chullahas; environmental education and awareness.
Research & Development	Andhra Pradesh (8) Assam (1) (Andaman & Nicobar Islands (UT) (1) Bihar (4) Chandigarh (UT) (1) Delhi (UT) (15) Gujarat (4) Haryana (1) Himachal Pradesh (3) Jammu & Kashmir (1) Karnataka (4) Kerala (11) Manipur (2) Maharashtra (9) Madhya Pradesh (6) Orissa (4) Rajasthan (2) Sikkim (1) Tamil Nadu (9) Uttar Pradesh (14) West Bengal (13)	1. Status survey of flora and fauna of different regions. 2. Ecological studies on lake eco-system. 3. Studies on biological indicators of water pollution. 4. Physico-chemical studies in relation to water quality. 5. Studies on Biotic communities and their composition. 6. Studies on non-human primates. 7. Studies on shifting cultivation. 8. Socio-economic studies. 9. Impact of human activities on mountain regions, forest eco-systems and arid zones. 10. Water supply distribution system approach.

1

2

3

11. Environmental impacts of major engineering works.
12. Microbial degradation studies of different pollutants.
13. Development of waste water treatment methods.
14. Monitoring and survey of pollution-air and water at some places.

State-wise amount allotted as Aid packages

1319. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY :
 SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :
 DR. A.K. PATEL :
 SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any amount has been released to Kerala, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir and West Bengal in pursuance of the aid packages announced by P.M. recently; and

(b) if so, the total amount released to each State with sector-wise details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) and (b) The recent announcements of the Prime Minister relating to these four States included programmes/projects within the purview of financial institutions and Plan and non-Plan schemes of the Central and the State Governments. As regards release of funds, the Planning Commission does not release funds for such programmes/projects. Funds are released for these programmes/projects by the concerned Central Ministries/financial institutions on the basis of the examination of the proposals, and factors like progress of work and stage of implementation.

Loans to Scheduled tribes in Chhota Nagpur (Bihar)

1320. SHRI SIMON TIGGA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Scheduled Tribes given loans under the Self-Employment Scheme for educated unemployed in Chhota Nagpur, Bihar, during the last three years;

(b) the total amount disbursed, year-wise; and

(c) the percentage of sanctioned amount as well as in other areas in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAN-ARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c) Office of the Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries) who is administratively concerned with the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youths (SEEU) has advised that under the scheme no reservation for Scheduled Tribes was stipulated till 1985-86. Reserve Bank of India has also reported that as there was no sub-target for Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries under the Scheme, the present data reporting system of the banks does not generate information in the manner asked for. However, with effect

from 1986-87 Government of India has decided that atleast 30% of the sanctions will be reserved for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries.

World Bank aid to improve telecom equipment

1321. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA WADI-
YAR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had sought world Bank aid to import telecom equipment;

(b) If so, the amount sanctioned by World Bank for the above purpose;

(c) the total amount of telecom equipment proposed to be imported; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (d) The World Bank has so far extended total aid of US\$ 802 million for eight projects in the telecommunication sector. These projects have already been completed.

A World Bank loan for the 9th project for expanding, modernising and increasing efficiency in the telecommunication sector is under discussion. The items of telecom equipment proposed to be procured under this project, following the International Competitive Bidding procedures of World Bank, are being worked out.

World Bank aid for telecommunications sector

1322. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total aid extended by the World Bank for the telecommunications sector for schemes to be executed during the year 1987;

(b) the details of the projects in the telecommunications sector to which aid has been granted by the World Bank; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to ensure proper utilisation of the aid and completion of the relevant projects according to schedule ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) The World Bank has so far extended total aid of US\$ 802 million for eight projects in the telecommunication sector. These projects have already been completed.

A World Bank loan for the 9th project for expanding, modernising and increasing efficiency in the telecommunication sector is under discussion.

[English]

12.00 hrs.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Sir, a judge of the Madras High Court has criticised the Loan Melas as a stunt of the Government and he has asked all the officers to meet the challenge. In a public function, he said so. Simultaneously the Janata Party has issued statements and it is spending lakhs of rupees...
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You give it in writing and I will see. (Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Sir, the conduct of a judge cannot be discussed here under Article 121 of the constitution.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It cannot be discussed here. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You given it in writing and I will find out. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : He has asked the officers to meet the onslaught... (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : According to Article 121 of the Constitution we cannot discuss the conduct of a judge here.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We cannot discuss it. You can give notice. I will look into it. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have one request to you. The Hon'ble Speaker was kind enough to say that he would allow a discussion on Ranganath Misra Commission's Report.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Already it is before the Business Advisory Committee.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The copies of the Report are made available to the Press but out of all the Members of this House none of us has received a copy of Misra Commission's Report. If we do not get a copy of the Report, how can we discuss it at all? Kindly direct the Government that the Members of Parliament should be given copies of the Report of the Commission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Today they are distributing it. I have got the information.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They will do it?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOWALIA (Sangrur) : Sir, I have a point of order. There are widespread agitations throughout the country by the farmers and

peasantry demanding betterment of their economic livelihood. You should direct the Government that this Year should be christened as 'Kisan Year' and a total attention should be given to the betterment of their economic and social conditions... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You give it in writing. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Your request can be given in writing and I will consider. It is not a point of order. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to rule 47 under which every member has a right to put supplementary question. I sought your permission to ask supplementaries on at least four questions but you did not grant it. Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, it is a violation of my rights. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Papers to be laid on the Table. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamod Harbour) : Sir, I have given notice of a Calling Attention regarding 'dharna' being staged by the employees of the Regional Rural Banks at the Boat Club..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You give in writing. I will see.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Sir, about 65,000 employees of the Regional Rural Banks are being denied their right of equal pay for equal work.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You give in writing, I will look into it:

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Sir, what is your reaction to this?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I have told you to give it in writing and I will see.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Only allow a Calling Attention. He is not asking you to join the hunger strike;

12.03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notifications under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : I beg to lay on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of the Environment (Protection) Amendment Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 82 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1987 under section 26 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
- (2) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 83 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1987 empowering the persons listed in the Table annexed to the notification for the purposes of sub-section (1) of section 10 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 issued under the said act.
- (3) A copy of Notification No. S.O. 84 (E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th February, 1987 empowering the officers listed in the Table annexed to the notification for the purpose of sub-section (1) of section 11 of the Environment (Protection)

Act, 1986 issued under the said act.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3787/87.]

Notifications under Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955, Customs Act, 1962, Income Tax Act, 1961 etc. etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Medicinal and Toilet preparations (Excise Duties) Amendment Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1030 in Gazette of India dated the 29th November, 1986 under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Medicinal and Toilet preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3788/87.]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :—
 - (i) G.S.R. 101 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to goods imported into India against an Advance Licence issued under the Imports (Control) Order 1955 or obtained against an Advance Release Order for the products or replenishment of materials used in the manufacture of resultant products, or both, or for export as mandatory spares along with resultant products, for execution of one or more export orders from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.

- (ii) G.S.R. 102 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 312/86-Customs dated the 13th May, 1986 so as to grant exemption from auxiliary duty leviable under the Finance Act, 1986 in respect of materials imported under Advance Licensing Scheme for manufacture of goods for export out of India.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3789/87.]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 :—

- (i) S.O. 363 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Spastics Society of Eastern India' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 to 1988-89.
- (ii) S.O. 363 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Rajasthan Police Personnel Welfare Trust, Jaipur' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.
- (iii) S.O. 363 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Institute of Company Secretaries of India' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment year 1987-88.
- (iv) S.O. 366 published in

Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Chief Minister's Relief Fund, Maharashtra' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.

- (v) S.O. 367 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to India Association of Parliamentarians on Population and Development' for the assessment years 1984-85 to 1986-87.
- (vi) S.O. 368 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Medical Research Foundation, Madras', under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1987-88 and 1988-89.
- (vii) S.O. 369 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Theosophy Company (India) Private Limited, Bombay' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.
- (viii) S.O. 370 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Railway Ministers Welfare and Relief Fund, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1986-87 to 1988-89.
- (ix) S.O. 371 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Sri Sri

Bijoykrishna Ashram Relief Society, Calcutta', for the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.

- (x) S.O. 372 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Bengal Social Service League, Calcutta' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1984-85 to 1986-87.
- (xi) S.O. 373 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Jallianwala Bagh' National Memorial Trust, Amritsar' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act 1961 for the assessment years 1986-87 to 1988-89.
- (xli) S.O. 374 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Skills for Progress Bangalore' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.
- (xlii) S.O. 376 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Yug Nirman Yojana Trust Mathura' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1986-87 to 1987-88.
- (xiv) S.O. 377 published in Gazette of India dated the 14th February, 1987 regarding exemption to 'National Welfare Fund for Sports-persons, New Delhi' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the assessment years 1983-84

to 1985-86.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3790/87.]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules. 1944 :—
 - (i) G.S.R. 88(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification Nos. 125/73-CE dated the 26th May, 1973 and 40/85-CE dated the 17th March, 1985.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 89(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th February, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 24/86-CE dated the 1st February, 1986.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 99(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th February, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 175/86-CE dated the 1st March, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3791/87.]
 - (5) A copy of the Amendments to the State Bank of India General Regulations, 1955 (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 50 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955.
- [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3792/87.]
- (6) A copy each of Notification Nos. S.O. 925(E) & 926(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1986 regarding Scheme

of amalgamation of the Hindustan Commercial Bank Limited, Kanpur with Punjab National Bank under sub-section (11) of section 45 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3793/87.]

- (7) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 :—

(i) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (Salaries and Allowances and Conditions of service of Chairman and other Members) Rules, 1987 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 26(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 1987.

(ii) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (Financial and Administrative Powers) Rules, 1987 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 68(E) in Gazette of India dated the 28th January, 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3794/87.]

- (8) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 24(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 1987 appointing 12th January, 1987 the date on which the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 except section 15 to 34 shall come into force issued under sub-section (3) of section 1 of the said Act.

- (9) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 25(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th January,

1987 regarding establishment of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction issued under Section 4 read with section 6 of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3795/87.]

- (10) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) :—

(i) Report of the Cachar Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3796/87.]

(ii) Report of the Patiliputra Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3797/87.]

(iii) Report of the Tungabhadra Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3798/87.]

(iv) Report of the Kalpatharu Gramina Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3799/87.]

- (v) Report of the Chhindwara-Seoni Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985

together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3800/87.]

- (vi) Report of the Bolangir Anchalik Gramya Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3805/87.]

- (vii) Report of the Koraput Panchabati Gramya Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3801/87.]

- (viii) Report of the Kalahandi Anchalik Gramya Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3802/87.]

- (ix) Report of the Ballia Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3803/87.]

- (x) Report of the Etawah Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3804/87.]

- (xi) Report of the Alaknanda Gramin Bank for the year

ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3806/87.]

- (xii) Report of the Nadia Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3807/87.]

- (xiii) Report of the Sugar Gramin Bank for the year ended 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3808/87.]

- (xiv) Report of the Howrah Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1985 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3809/87.]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Industrial Finance Corporation of India for the year ended the 30th June, 1986 along with the statement showing the Assets and Liabilities and Profit and Loss Accounts of the Corporation under sub-section (3) of section 35 of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act, 1948.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3810/87.]

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of Industrial Finance Corporation of

India for the year ended the 30th June, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3810/87.]

Annual Report, Annual Accounts and Review on the working of Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore for 1985-86.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year 1985-86.
- (2) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore, for the year 1985-86 together with Audit Report thereon.
- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bangalore for the year 1985-86.
[Placed in Library. See No. 3811/87.]

Annual Report of Central Vigilance Commission, New Delhi for the period from 1st January, 1985 to 31st December, 1985 and Memorandum explaining reasons for non-acceptance of Commission's advice in certain cases mentioned in the Report.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Vigilance Commission, New Delhi, for the period from 1st January, 1985 to 31st December, 1985.

- (2) A copy of the Memorandum (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for non-acceptance of Commission's advice in certain cases mentioned in the Report.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3812/87.]

12.04 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Twenty-ninth Report

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ (Moradabad): I beg to present the Twenty-ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

[English]

Fourth Report

KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI (Palamau): I beg to present the Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on the Offices of Profit.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

12.05 hrs.

[Translation]

- (i) Need to ensure proper allocation of funds under N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. Schemes to various divisions of Uttar Pradesh.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the objective of the programmes like N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. is to create employment opportunities in the rural areas and to develop the backward areas. With this aim in view, funds are made available to every district under the annual plan. These programmes have raised high expectations among the backward and poor people.

But during the last 2 years, the amount which is being allocated to Uttar Pradesh under these programmes is being distributed indiscriminately. Some districts have been allocated as much as Rs. 35 crore for these programmes annually.

The quantum of allocation to the border hilly areas is decreasing year after year. This year such districts have been granted merely Rs. 50 to 60 lakhs. The border district like Pithoragarh has not been allocated a single rupee for these schemes.

Due to this great resentment is brewing up in these areas. It is proving to be a catalyst to the demand for a separate State.

Therefore, under these circumstances, instead of remaining a mere spectator, the Central Government and particularly the Department of Rural Development should play an impartial and decisive role in the matter of allocation of funds under this programme in different districts of Uttar Pradesh, otherwise, the situation will go out of control.

[Translation]

- (ii) Demand for a large industry in public sector in 'Kanpur Rural' for its industrial development and to provide employment opportunities to the unemployed youth.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise a matter of urgent public importance under rule 377.

The Kanpur rural district has been declared a 'No Industry District'. In the absence of adequate facilities, the small and heavy industries are not being set up at the speed at which they should have been. Due to this, the local unemployed youth are not getting employment. Therefore, with a view to providing job to the unemployed youth and for the overall development of the district, it is necessary that the entire district should be got surveyed and a large industry set up in the public sector so that the local youth could get employment and that the new district is developed industrially like Kanpur metropolitan city. The facilities which are being given to the small entrepreneurs should continue.

12.06 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI
in the Chair]

- (iii) Demand for financial assistance of Rs. fifty crores for supplying drinking water to Jodhpur city from Indira Gandhi Canal.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer) : Madam Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the House to an urgent matter of public importance.

There is an acute drinking water problem for the last 10 years in succession in Jodhpur city. The then Chief Minister Shri Shiv Charan Mathur, had laid the foundation stone of the project on 31st

March, 1984 to supply drinking water to Jodhpur city from the Indira Gandhi Canal. Work on the 10 kms. canal had also been completed as per announcement.

The Central Government have given sanction to the scheme launched on 31st March, 1984. That scheme is meant only for drinking water. It does not include irrigation. Under this scheme, water is to be supplied to Jodhpur city through pipelines. Under this scheme alignment will have to be made only at the height of 125 feet. Rock-cutting area will be very small and the power requirement will also be low.

This scheme will entail less expenditure than the one suggested by Shri Narendra Singh Bhatti.

Work on the scheme to supply drinking water to Jodhpur city has not started yet. This should be started soon and its alignment should be done at Shergarh so that the villages hit by water scarcity could be benefited at a lesser cost and the drinking water-problem of Jodhpur city is solved on a permanent basis.

The Rajasthan Government has got limited resources. The famine has put a great strain on the financial position of the State. Therefore, I would request the Central Government to grant special assistance of Rs. 50 crores for solving the problem of drinking water in Jodhpur city.

- (iv) Need to ensure allround development of Vidarbha region in Maharashtra.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR (Chimur) : The Vidarbha region continues to be neglected in every sphere of economic development including Agriculture, Industry, communication and the rest.

Severe droughts visit our region every alternate year while our rivers remain virgin and untapped on account of the most unrealistic and mechanical application of the Government's policy for pre-

servation of forests even when we assure voluntary mass plantations by the people if the Government agrees to some of our proposals for better irrigation facilities.

We lost the Integral Coach Factory to be located at Wardha. No Sewagram Express is in sight in spite of a three year old commitment from the Railway Minister. Nor is Chandrapur-Gondia-Jabalpur narrow-guage converted into a broad-guage one.

Nagpur city is waiting for its Sonegaon airport to be converted into an international one. Gadchiroli, one of the most backward of all districts in the country and the only no industry district in Maharashtra remains without an industry.

The Manas and Halbas among the tribals are deprived of their tribal status and of all facilities that they enjoyed earlier. The backlog is immeasurable and continues to grow year after year.

I, therefore, appeal to the Government on behalf of the people of Vidarbha to appoint a high-power committee to formulate special provisions to ensure an all round development of Vidarbha without delay so as to instil confidence among the people of Vidarbha.

- (v) Need to implement the recommendations of Expert Group on Archaeology regarding strengthening of the Horticulture Department.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balsore) : Madam Chairman, the Expert Group on Archaeology under the chairmanship of Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha in the year 1984, had recommended certain changes, modifications and additions, on the functioning of the Archaeology Department and its subordinate departments for its smooth functioning and preservation of old heritage, culture of the country as well as ancient monuments. But it is regretted that their recommendations have not been implemented so far. The Expert

Group had recommended very significant changes of its Horticulture Branch which if had been implemented earlier would have been given very satisfactory results for preservation of many ancient rare monuments located in various parts of the country and more and more monuments would have been brought within its ambit for landscaping purposes.

The Group had recommended that this Horticulture Branch should have one Director to head it and also one Joint Director under whom there should be four superintending Horticulturists and also Landscape Architects, each incharge of four circles. Besides, there should be a corresponding increase in the number of the existing supporting staff down to the level of Horticultural Assistants and lower staff.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to implement these recommendations which would go a long way to preserve these very rare world famous ancient monuments.

- (vi) Need to bring parity between the pay scales of Station Masters and Yard Masters and to give running allowance to Station Masters.

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West) : Madam Chairman, the Station Masters of Indian Railways are demanding traditional parity with Yard Masters in pay scales and percentage distribution in various grades and grant of pay element of running allowance which is given as an incentive for the safe and punctual running of trains. The talks with the Railway administration on these demands have not brought out any positive results. As a result, they went on fast and resorted to other actions in New Delhi since last week of February, 1987. Before that, the All India Station Masters' Association submitted their demands to the Railway Minister. But nothing has come out so far and the Association is forced to resort to fast till death since 24-2-1987 and the condition of one of them is quite critical.

The demands of the Station Masters

are genuine. In the past, their pay scales were at par with the Yard Masters. Their responsibility and duties are in no way less than those of the Yard Masters. Therefore, there is no ground to give them lesser pay and benefits. In fact, the whole issue has arisen due to anomalies in the pay scales which can be settled soon if only a decision is taken to refix the pay. I, therefore, urge upon the Minister to give thought to this demand of the Station Masters and issue necessary instructions for refixation of pay of Station Masters so that the pay scales of Yard Masters and Station Masters receive parity. Running allowance may also be given as an incentive to Station Masters for greater efficiency in the Railways.

- (vii) Need to declare 'Ugadi' festival on 30-3-87 as a closed holiday for all Central Government Offices in Karnataka.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : Madam-Chairman, at present, the Central Government offices in Karnataka are not entitled for closed holiday for 'Chandramana Ugadi' on 30th March, 1987. The Coordinating Committee of Central Government Employees and Workers, Karnataka, Bangalore-1 have requested the Government of India to declare 30th March, 1987 as a general holiday for Central Government offices situated in Karnataka. The festival of Ugadi was included in the 12 specified holidays upto 1983. 'Chandramana Ugadi' signifies the herald of new year having cultural background and religious significance. All offices of the State Government, public and private sector undertakings and even nationalised banks remain closed in Karnataka on this day. On this day, the attendance in Central Government Offices remains thin due to skeleton bus services. Hence it is requested that the Centre should declare 30th March, 1987 as a closed holiday for all Central Government offices in Karnataka.

- (viii) Demand for reviewing the present licensing policy pertaining to Vanaspathi Industry and for granting letter of intent for Vanaspathi Projects in Orissa.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur) : The State Government of

Orissa have moved the Director, Vanaspati, Vegetable Oil & Fats, New Delhi for reconsideration of their proposal for settling up Vanaspati Projects at Bolangir, Kalahandi and Phulbani.

IPICOL, a public sector undertaking of the State Government, which has established its ability in planning and execution of sophisticated medium and large-scale industries have proposed to set up three Vanaspati projects, two in the 'No Industry' districts and the third in the backward district of Kalahandi through joint venture.

The Orissa State Cooperative Oil Seeds Growers' Federation have applied for a Letter of Intent to set up a Vanaspati plant at Khurda which comes under their jurisdiction and the State Government have recommended their case to Government of India. Unfortunately, the districts of Bolangir, Kalahandi and Phulbani do not come within their area of operation.

IPICOL has assumed the role of a lead institution to set up a few such projects in the backward areas. There are at present no major industries in these backward districts. Establishment of the Vanaspati Plants will, therefore, have a significant impact on the socio-economic condition of the people.

The present licensing policy pertaining to Vanaspati industry should be reviewed immediately and all the pending applications finalised in the light thereof expeditiously and steps taken for grant of Letter of Intent for Vanaspati Projects in Orissa.

— — —

12-17 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1987-88 —
GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we will go to the next item of the Agenda "Further General Discussion-Budget-Railways for

1987-88".

Shri Bhattam Srirama Murty.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY (Visakhapatnam) : At the outset, let me refer to the statements made by the Minister. He said :

"Keeping in mind the interests of lower and middle income-groups, I do not propose to increase the passenger fares of any class whatsoever."

For the first time in the recent history of Railway Ministry, the Minister has shown manifest concern and interest in the middle income groups and low income groups. I do not know how long does it last. The impending elections are a silver lining and the Minister spared them from a further hike in the passenger fares and traffic rates.

If real interest is shown in the welfare of the small income groups, can I ask the Minister if he can assure us that he would not come before this House again during this Budget year, increasing the imposts on this class of passengers?" If that is so, really it is a welcome step. But then I would like to caution him on one thing.

Even earlier Mr. Bansi Lal, at the time of presenting the Budget, has stated this :

"As my thrust is towards alleviating the burden on the low income groups."

He goes to the extent of alleviating the burden.

The upper class passengers have the capacity to pay a little more and, therefore, he came forward with additional imposts. The present Minister did not use of the word "Upper Class". Only he mentioned lower and middle income groups. Therefore, I do not know what is in the offing.

The peculiar feature of the Budget is that during the main Budget, no taxation proposals are found. But at the time of coming forward with Supplementary Budget, such imposts are being raised. This has happened last year.

By 15 per cent hike in tariff rates, the Government has netted about Rs. 960 crores. By raising the taper of tariff rates, they will net another sum of Rs. 350 crores. So, because of that there is considerable amount of increase in revenue that will accrue to the Railways during the current year. This practice in fact, unfortunately, is a mockery of the budget process. During the Budget proposals, no increase is shown. Subsequently, the Government comes forward with increase in rates at a later date.

Sir, how is it that the Minister is able to show a surplus budget? Is it really a surplus or an artificial figure? Let us examine that aspect. To me, it is a jugglery of figures. I raise a few points for the hon. Minister to consider and reply.

The working expenses are deliberately under estimated. This is my first charge. They have put it at Rs. 5750 crores. That is only six-and-a-half per cent increase over the revised estimates of 1986-87. If you look at the previous year's experience, the increase of the revised estimates over the original estimates was higher than 15 per cent. Even if we do not take 15 per cent for granted, even assuming the figure of increase as 10 per cent, the apparent and artificial surplus of Rs. 69 crores will turn into a deficit of Rs. 100 crores by the next year which may warrant, perhaps, additional imposts. So, the working expenses are deliberately reduced. This is my first charge.

The second point is that the budget does not take into account the deferred dividend liability of about Rs. 525 crores. The total indebtedness of the Railways to the Government has also gone up from Rs. 850 crores to Rs. 1000 crores. That was not taken into account. So far as the on going projects are concerned, about 35 of them are there. The total outlay

required for speedy execution or completion of these projects will come to about Rs. 1700 crores whereas only a paltry sum of Rs. 146.5 crores was provided. That means what? They will not be able to complete these projects. The delay in execution or completion of the projects will normally entail in escalation in the cost of prices. The purpose of the Government is to avoid it. But how is it that these factors were deliberately not taken into consideration? Can I understand that surplus budget could be shown by the Minister because of cost reduction methods and as a result of cost reduction and operating ratio? That is not so. The operating ratio during the year 1987-88 is expected to be of the order of 92.3 per cent. That is what the Minister has stated—as against the figure of 90.6 per cent in 1985-86. What does that mean? Even in 1987-88, it is going to be an increase of 92.3 per cent. During 1985-86 it was 90.6 per cent. During 1986-87, it was 93.6 per cent. So, it is 3 per cent increase in one single year. Therefore, the operating ratio does not work in favour of this.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : May I clarify his point? The operational ratio is not a clear indicator of efficiency because it is totally dependent on the policy of tariff restraints. What is the indicator of efficiency is net tonne km. per wagon per day. If you take the subsidy element, your operating ratio goes down even more.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : I am coming to only the operating ratio. I will come to the efficiency part of it later.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : If you have to increase the tariff by Rs. 500 crores, your operating ratio will shoot down immediately.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : It becomes an index of efficiency when it is in favour of the Government.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : So far as I could see, no year, no budget year, is free from tax. This has been the history in the course of the last about ten years. In June 1980 freights and fares were increased by Rs. 204.24 crores, in 1981-82 Rs. 356.29 crores, in January 1982 Rs. 340 crores, in 1982-83 Rs. 257.45 crores, in 1983-84 Rs. 489 crores, in 1984-85 Rs. 114 crores, in 1985-86 Rs. 495 crores, in 1986-87 Rs. 76 crores, in December 1986 Rs. 320 crores. In not a single year has the Government refrained from picking the pockets of the passengers. This is the fact. And that being so, one can surmise that in course of time Government will come forward with additional measures at the time of Supplementary Budget.

I would now like to touch upon another area and that is the National Transport Policy. Shri Bansi Lal, at the time of presenting the Railway Budget, made a passing reference to the National Transport Policy, Road transport is there, river transport is there rail transport is there. There could be an integrated approach, there could be a coordinated and concerted approach. It should be a supplementary and complementary role mutually played by the three modes of transport. A consistent, complete and comprehensive national policy was to be formulated in this regard. What has happened to that? Was it done? I am afraid, nothing has been done in this behalf. If something has been done, it requires further elucidation.

About 80 per cent of the total freight carried by the Railways is accounted for by only seven commodities, namely, coal, iron ore, foodgrains, petroleum, cement, fertiliser and steel. And out of the balance of 20 per cent, Railways use 6.7 per cent for carrying their own materials and requirements. So, only 13 per cent is left for the other commodities. And with what results? The Railways are sacrificing the interests of small and seasonal customers, particularly the agriculturists. Mango is there; it is a perishable commodity. They want some wagons, but the shortage is felt everywhere and at every time. There are products like turmeric

and jaggery. The agricultural products are deprived of the railway transport and the agriculturists find it very difficult. A sharp reduction in the movement of general category of goods has hampered trade and industry in a big way. The Railways are insisting on rake-load movement only; they shy away short distance movement. This is the situation. That is the aspect to which the Minister has to give due consideration.

The Minister, perhaps legitimately in a way, takes pride in mentioning at the outset :

“The Net Tonne Kilometres per Wagon per Day (B. G.) which is the most comprehensive efficiency indicator for railway freight operations, soared to 1296 in 1985-86 from 1150 in 1984-85.....”

These are figures which pertain to 1985-86, and how is it that the Minister opens his speech with this?

Does he want to dwell on the past performance and draw laurels? Does he want to be complacent about what was done in the past? Is that the reason why he is repeating it? Because at the time of presenting the previous Budget, Shri Bansi Lal himself has mentioned this fact. You must give some more figures...

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : We take into account the performance of the previous years while presenting the Budget for the following year. This is the pattern of budget presentation. I cannot change it.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : I know what you have done, I am only taking note of what has been done, and this is my comment about it that you are only harping on the past performance. Why not give some new figures?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I cannot harp on something which has not happened.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : My point is, that has been covered already by the previous Budget.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I can only talk about targets for the future budget. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : I expect that as in the case of the Government, the Railway Ministry is also poised towards the 21st century. Otherwise, if you want to look backward and once again, think of the past alone, I have no objection. You can go on harping on the past. I can only think of the present, as well as the future and not the past.

In any case, some basic facts have got to be brought to the notice of the Minister. If you compare the rate of improvement in 50s and 60s, there is no cause for satisfaction at all.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I cannot go back to the past.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : You want to come back to the present from the past only. The overall freight output of the 50s and 60s of Railways rose by 6.6%, while the annual growth rate between 1965-66 and 1985-86 rose only by 3.3% inspite of a heavy investment to the tune of Rs. 5,400 crores. Therefore, how can the Minister take pride about this? Everytime when we talk of rate of growth, it should be in relation to the input. So, why not give these figures also? The hollow claim would then hold no water.

The Minister claims that he could manage to move as much as 21.6 million tonnes more as compared to the previous year's figures without increase in the wagon freight. Let me remind him that during the 6th plan period, in 1981-82 and 1982-83, 47 million tonnes of additional traffic was carried without the wagon freight being changed. It is only 21.6 now. It was 47 million tonnes at that time. It is correct, I have got the figures with me and I can prove it. When

required, I will produce the figures.

It is not even true to say that this achievement is without increase in the wagon fleet. It is fallacious. Firstly, new, costlier and more efficient wagons have replaced the old wagons. Secondly, about 404 diesel and locomotive engines have been added in the last two years. In any case, let me remind the Minister that it is expected to raise it to about 550 million tonnes by 2000 years. That is the target. The target for the current year is over 300 million tonnes. Therefore, compared with all that where do we stand? It is for him to examine.

The Minister is more particular about the performance and efficiency. Let me look into some of these matters. Let me touch upon certain crucial aspects of our efficiency. According to me, the picture is rather gloomy. Assets valued over Rs. 300 crores have become obsolete which require immediate replacement. Railway lines of over 2000 kilometres are sick; but not renewed due to dearth of funds.

Let me refer to wagon fleet. The Minister referred in his budget speech to a marginal increase in the wagon fleet. Is that true at all? The total number of wagons in the year 1955-56 was 3,70,000 and in the year 1985-86 it has come down to 3,59,000. In 1955-56 it was 3,70,000 and in 1985-86 it is 3,59,000.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : If the Hon. Member goes back to 1947 he may get a more unfavourable comparison.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Even since the dawn of independence you could lay only about 6000 kilometres of new railway line.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Let us not go back. You compare it with last year. I am helpless if this sort of figures are presented.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : You are helpless. But I should point out these figures :

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : We should know whether we are progressing or not. We should know whether it has increased over the past 10 years or not.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : In the year 1980-81 the total number of wagons was 4.946 lakhs. In 1983-84 it came down to 3.74 lakhs. In 1984-85 the number was 3.65 lakhs and in 1985-86 it further came down to 3.59 lakh. So, it is declining progressively. The passenger fleet has not kept pace with the growing needs of traffic passengers. Even though the traffic has increased by 67.4 percent there is no commensurate increase in the number of wagons.

Let me now refer to another aspect whether the number of passengers is increasing or decreasing. I am quoting the figures in millions. By the end of Fifth Plan it was 1928 millions. As on 31.3.1986 in suburban trains from 1928 millions it came down to 1884 millions. In non-suburban trains as on 31.3.1980 the figure was 1602 millions and now as on 31.3.1986 it has come down to 1549 millions which is 3 millions less than before. This is how things are progressing.

The number of other coaching vehicles as on 31.3.1980 was 8295. By the end of Sixth Plan the figure was reduced to 7789. As on 31.3.1986 it further came down to 7518. So from 1980-81 to 1986 you see the progress. This is the efficiency. The number of wagons as on 31.3.80 was 4,05,183 and by the end of Sixth Plan it has come down to 3,65,392 and as on 31.3.1986 it further came down to 3,59,614. So, it is decreasing year after year.

Now I will say a word about route kilometre. The Minister was very particular about that. During the first three Plan periods things went on well. During the first plan the route kilometre was 1415. In the Second Plan it came down to 1236. In the Third Plan it was 1835 whereas in the Fourth Plan it is only 459. In the Fifth Plan it further came down to 240 and in the Sixth Plan it became 917. This is the picture. What is there to feel proud of?

Now let me refer to electrification. The total route kilometres of Railways is about 61,836. Out of this 700 km have been electrified. This comes to 1.1 per cent. During the Second Plan period it is 216 km only. During the Third Plan period it was 1678 km. In the Sixth Plan period it came down to 1522 km. It is less than the figure of Third Plan period. The Sixth Plan target was 2800 km but the achievement was 1522 km. This is the position every year. It is replete with shortfalls. I am referring to this for the benefit of the Minister.

I have nothing to say against you.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : If you want to say something, it is still better.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : I do agree. I don't want to say anything which discourages you as such to go forward. But you must take stock of the fact and see the basic features of the situation.

Now 1981-82, the target was 321 and achievement only 114. 1983-84 : 362, the achievement 271; 1984-85 : the target was 384, achievement was 335; 1985-86 : target was 430, achievement was 401 only. This is the situation.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : No, you are not right; your figures are wrong as they are quoted out of context.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : I stand by these figures. I will prove these figures from your own account; from your own reports. I have not produced them from out of my hat.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : You are taking targets of a particular year and performance of a particular year.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : No, no; these are the figures quoted by me from the Year Book produced, from the Annual Report produced and from nowhere else I have produced these figures.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
Don't prove in an unobvious manner.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA
MURTY : I will prove these figures. I
will also give the page number.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : It
is wrong.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA
MURTY : If it is wrong, then your re-
port itself is wrong.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA
MURTY : I have not covered because
there was so much of interruption. What
can I do ?

Now as far as the track renewal is
concerned, during the Seventh Plan period,
the programme of track renewal : 20,000
kilometres; cost 5,000 crores of rupees or
so; the provision is only Rs. 2,500 crores;
the target was about 14,000 but the achieve-
ment was only 9,541. About track rene-
wal, this is the situation. Even there in
the beginning of the Sixth Plan, the back-
log is 13,000 kilometres; shortfall in the
Sixth Plan is 5,000 kilometres and total
18,000 and some other annual estimate
put it at about 20,000 and this is the
figure. If you want to correct, I have no
objection. I will come forward with all
my figures. In any case, what can we do ?
I don't find fault with the Minister per-
sonally. With the best of his efforts,
what can he do because the funds availa-
ble with him are not sufficient.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : But
in the speech, I have not been talking
about evaluating the performance of the
Sixth Plan. If you want, we can sit down
and we can do it. I have been talking
about the first two years of the Seventh
Plan and what we are going to do in the
third year. Why are we going back to
the Fifth Plan and the Sixth Plan ?
(Interruptions)

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA
MURTY : I am only going to examine

you because you take better pride about
the railway family.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I
am proud of the Railway family.

I am proud of what the Railway
family has done. No one can depreciate
from that credit. I stand by what I
say.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can say all
these things at the time of your reply.
Let him complete. You can complete,
Mr. Murty.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA
MURTY : I assure you if there is any
credit which goes to the Railway family,
it goes to the railway worker, the entire
team of officers. I don't give credit to
you only... (Interruptions)...

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
When they have done something, you
must give a pat on their back. Don't be
so uncharitable.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA
MURTY : Good work done only by the
team of officers... (Interruptions)

Now in the transport, what is happen-
ing to consumer ? The transit loss of coal
is on the increase. Between 1977-78 and
1981-82, loss of coal in transit carried for
public had increased : 16.1 lakh tonnes
in 1977-78, 36.85 tonnes in 1981-82; 55.88
lakh tonnes in 1981-85.

The loss of coal carried for Railways'
own consumption was assessed at 2.650
lakh tonnes in 1977-78; 5 080 lakh tonnes
in 1981-82; 5.670 in 1984-85. This is the
situation.

In overloading and under-loading 1.18
lakh wagons loaded in different coalfields
in Eastern and South Railways were
weighed and test checked. The following
picture emerged : 44.397 wagons were
overloaded, that is, 37.49% under-loaded :
41.39%. The correctly loaded wagons
were only to the extent of 21.02 per cent.

Out of total wagons of 1.18 lakhs, only 25,000 wagons were loaded correctly; the rest were not loaded correctly.

As regards the transit losses of food-grains, the same have been on the increase right from 1977-78 to 1984-85. The shortage of foodgrains in terms of rupees was Rs. 23.27 crores in 1977-78, Rs. 55.05 crores in 1980-81, Rs. 77.55 crores in 1981-82, Rs. 97.75 crores in 1982-83 and Rs. 95.85 crores in 1983-84.

Then, the railways have outstanding claims of Rs 28.99 crores on account of damage and shortage losses.

I would now like to close this sad story of continuous losses and shortages, but before doing that, I would also like to mention the classical case of loss of a parcel containing eight kilograms of gold bars valued at Rs. 14 lakhs from the custody of the Railways in 1983.

As far as perishable commodities are concerned, more than thirty percent of cases of perishable commodities booked by railways are affected by theft. This is a very high rate. Then, a number of trains have been cancelled causing a lot of misery and hardship to the passengers. That is not for defence reasons;—the real reasons are not known. We do not know when the trains will be restored.

Now, a word about the recruitment policy. In spite of so much of expansion and development for the last four years, the number of employees has practically remained static. The total number of Class III and Class IV employees was 15.60 lakhs in 1980-81 and 15.9 lakhs in 1984-85. While the train kilometerage has risen by about 18 per cent not a single person has been recruited.

Then, there are about 2.2 lakh casual labourers in the railways, but nothing is being done for them. The railways must take measure to absorb them on permanent basis.

I am sorry, I have to say all these

things which may not be palatable to the Minister. I am not able to oblige him by painting a rosy picture as far as the facts are concerned.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude now

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Now, that you want me to conclude, I will skip over certain other things.

At present, the Andhra Pradesh Express is running for four days a week ; it should be made daily. The Link Express connecting Dakshin Express should also run daily. Then direct connection to Visakhapatnam is also necessary. Then, the railway bridge at Ramamurty Pantalu-peta in Visakhapatnam is also necessary. The State Government has also offered to bear its share of the financial responsibility. However, no steps have been taken by the Railways in that respect. That needs to be attended to.

It is not my intention to throw cold water on what efforts are being made, but in spite of the best efforts, this is the situation. We have to point out the various shortcomings and difficulties of the people so that efforts are made by the railways to remove them.

In the end, let me say that the credit for whatever achievements are there goes not only to the Minister, but the entire team of officers and staff of the railways, of course, including the Minister.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal) : Madam Chirman, I stand to support the Railway Budget. I have listened with rapt attention to the Budget Speech delivered by the Railway Minister the other day, which exhibited confidence. Usually we find a perpetual smile-innocent and silent-on the face of the Railway Minister and today it is surprising that while Mr. Bhattam has been on his legs, the hon. Minister has to intervene.

Madam, the Railway Budget deserves

[Shri Chiranji Lal Sharma]

appreciation in all respects. The Minister has been good enough to extend facilities to the young, the handicapped, the drought and flood affected people, the kisans, the war widows and what not. Additional passenger train facilities have been provided in 1987-88. In this connection, I would like to refer to para 6.2 of the Budget speech which says :

"I am happy to inform the hon. members that this effort at providing better and additional train facilities is being given a further fillip....."

"Several new trains will be introduced. These will be : A super-fast train (bi-weekly) between Bombay V. T. and Cochin ; an Express train (weekly) between Patna and Madras via Itarsi and Jabalpur ; a superfast train (weekly between Hyderabad and Ahmedabad; a superfast train (weekly) between Ahmedabad and Cochin; a superfast train (tri-weekly) between Lucknow and Bombay ; a superfast train (weekly) between Guwahati and Cochin ; a train (MG) between Samdari and Raniwara."

Also, para 6.2.2 of the Budget Speech mentions about the frequency of trains.

Madam, In this connection I regret to complain in all humility that I do not find any additional or new train on our line, i.e. in Northern Railway going to Punjab, Himachal and Haryana. Not only that, there are no new trains, even the trains which were already running have been stopped. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister towards this discriminatory treatment that is being meted out to us for reasons not known. Mr. Minister, the Ranchi express has been stopped, and the Flying Mail also has been stopped, which you were running since long. I find no reason as to why the trains which have been running since long should be stopped now. The stoppage of trains has caused great inconvenience to

commuters, travelling on this line. I really do not understand as to why they should not be restored. It is not a question of adding new trains. That point does not arise at all. But at least the trains which have already been running for a long period should be restored.

Again Madam, I want to mention a point about Shan-e-Punjab train. This train runs between New Delhi and Amritsar. Madam, the peculiarity of this train is that this train does not have a single stoppage throughout the State of Haryana except at Ambala. Ambala is somewhere midway between Delhi and Amritsar. I would request the hon. Minister to kindly make a note of this point that it does not stop at Sonapat which is a district headquarter. It does not stop at Panipat which is a very big industrial town. It does not stop at Karnal. It is another district headquarter. It does not stop at Kurukshetra which is a place of historical importance. But, Madam, between Ambala and Amritsar, it stops at Ludhiana. It stops at Phagwara. It stops at Jalandhar. So, will you call it a Super-Fast Train ? It is a Super-Fast Train for which places ?

Madam, Chairman, there was absolutely no stoppage of this train at Phagwara. I know, it has started stopping at Phagwara because of some political pressure. It may be of some political personality. I do not happen to be a Minister, but I am certainly a Member of Parliament, representing an equal number of people on the floor of this House, which a Minister does. May I have the temerity, to ask him a plain question ? What was the justification in giving a stoppage at Phagwara which is not far off from Ludhiana ? Where is the justification in not giving a stoppage at a single station, although three district headquarters fall on the way and the people of Haryana are deprived of this facility ? I took up this matter in the meeting of the NZRUCC, of which I happen to be a Member. It was said, one Ekta Express has been introduced. This Ekta Express was introduced by Mr. Bansi Lal, who was the then Railway Minister in lieu of Bhiwani Express, which already used to run between

Bhiwani and Kalka thrice a week. What happened to this Ekta Express?

Then, a new train-Himalayan Queen was started, combined with Ekta at Panipat. In this connection, I would also like to draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister, towards a great dissatisfaction, discontentment, resentment, that is prevailing in the commuters and rightly so. In all humility, I would submit and I would respect the Chair's ruling, but I just had an opportunity of hearing a Member from the Opposition, who was given ample time and I should not entail a disqualification by being a Member from the treasury benches. I would therefore request you kindly not to disturb my chain of thoughts and let me have an opportunity to ventilate the grievances pertaining to my constituency. The hon. Minister may kindly make a note of this fact that Super-Fast levy has been introduced from the 1st of April, 1986, on the Ekta Express. And in this connection, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards a statement of Lieut-Col. J. M. Ovasdi, who was the Area Superintendent and I quote :

"The Tribune, February 13, 1985 Lieut-Col. J. M. Ovasdi, Area Superintendent, Ambala, said though it was a faster service and slightly cheaper than the bus service the Railways had decided not to levy superfast train surcharge on the passengers."

I am presenting* this photostate copy of the Tribune, Dated 13th February, 1985 for being placed on record. A categorical assurance was given in February, 1985 and on the 1st of April, 1986 a commuter has to pay Rs. 2+2—both ways Rs. 4/-daily, when he travels between Panipat and Karnal or Kurukshetra or Chandigarh. Thus he has to incur an additional expenditure of Rs 120 per mensem.

Madam, Chairman, you will kindly

*As the Speaker did not subsequently accord the necessary permission, the paper/document was not treated as laid on the Table.

appreciate this is much, too much. Who are these commuters? Most of them are the Central Government and State Government employees or students of the Kurukshetra University, who are daily passengers.

13.00 hrs.

Accommodation in Delhi is a problem. Lakhs of daily commuters travel by trains to Delhi from Gurgaon, Aligarh, Meerut, Kurukshetra, Karnal, and Rohtak, because accommodation is not available in the capital city. When we look to Bombay in this connection, we find that trains run after every 3 or 4 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Sharma, you can continue after the lunch hour. The House now stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

13.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after lunch at five minutes past fourteen of the clock.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1987-88—
GENERAL DISCUSSION—Contd.
[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Chiranji Lal Sharma may continue. Please be brief. You have already taken ten minutes. You may take five minutes.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal) : Let me pick up the thread from where I left it.

I was talking of the train that run in Bombay, just to facilitate the movement of people, where lakhs of people go to offices, schools, colleges, look after their business and so on. Similarly Delhi is a very big city, the population has exceeded

[Shri Chiranji Lal Sharma]

70 lakht, accommodation is the problem, and naturally therefore, Government servants, whether Central Government servants or State Government servants, students, business community, workers working in factories, have in a way to be shuttle-cocks between their places of residence and Delhi. Their problem can be solved by running a few trains. I would, therefore, suggest that more trains be run within a radius of at least 50 to 60 kilometres rather 100 kms. all around Delhi.

A HON. MEMBER : A hundred kilometres.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : My learned friend has added, to say that up to 100 kilometres. It is a fact that people from places one hundred kilometres away from Delhi are daily commuters. Therefore, the hon. Railway Minister should consider the desirability of making more trains available.

I happen to travel by trains many a time and every day, mostly passenger trains in particular, are overloaded. You will find hundreds of people travelling on the roofs, thus endangering their lives. No alternative is left with them because they have to go to places of their residence.

Here I find that on the Northern Railway between Delhi and Amritsar, and particularly between Delhi and Kurukshetra more passenger trains are needed. And if stoppage for a minute or two is provided in certain express trains that will go a long way in giving the requisite relief to the commuters.

The hon. Minister has made some provision for new railway lines, for as many as 35 on-going new lines with a route length of 2940 kilometres, which require Rs. 1700 crores. In this context also, I would submit that I do not find any comma, full stop, not to speak of a word for Haryana. I mean no provision has been made whatsoever for any new train in Haryana, although I find from the budget that it has been decided to have surveys of two railway lines from Bahadur-

garh to Jhajjar and Jind-Rohtak-Hansi-Hissar. I do not know how long this survey will take. There has been a pressing demand from the people of Jhajjar. Jhajjar is a very important place, because thousands of people, thousands of Jawans are serving in the Army from this place. It is a backward area. It is being neglected in all respects simply for want of train facilities.

I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to have this survey expedited as early as possible and make provision for a Railway line between Bahadurgarh and Jhajjar or between Rohtak and Jhajjar and Rohtak-Jind-Hansi-Hissar as early as possible.

I would also like to touch upon the question of road over-bridges. Two road over-bridges were started, one in Karnal and the other in Kurukshetra. The foundation stones of these Road over-bridges were laid by the Chief Minister on 15th September, 1985. But I regret to say that the progress in the matter of construction and completion of these over-bridges is hopelessly hopeless. I do not know whether the contractors have run away or what the matter is : otherwise, both these over-bridges should have been completed by now. I think, the hon. Minister will look into this matter.

Road over-bridges in Panipat and Sonapat are a must. Sonapat is a district headquarter and Panipat is another big industrial city. The railway line divides the city in two parts and movement of vehicular traffic becomes very difficult for want of an over-bridge. Sometimes, the vehicular traffic is blocked for 45 minutes at Sonapat railway crossing near the railway station because as many as 48 trains besides goods trains run on this line during 24 hours. Till such time a road over-bridge is provided in Sonapat, an under-bridge can conveniently be given. I hope, the hon. Minister will kindly look into this matter.

About railway electrification, I would submit that there is absolutely no mention of any provision of electrification of trains on this side of the country i.e. Haryana,

Punjab and Himachal Pradesh. A double track has to be provided between Delhi and Ambala and has been completed upto Bheni Khurd beyond Karnal. Therefore, electric trains can safely run between Delhi and Karnal. This will solve the traffic problem of this area.

I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the condition of Karnal Railway station. There are two old existing water tanks, usually known as diggies, which are full of water in season and out of season. And they are the best breeding place for mosquitoes. Bad smell emanates from there. They are just opposite the railway station. They are just a slur on the railway administration. There were two such water tanks in Sonapat which had become defunct. I took up the matter with the authorities here and the then Railway Minister, Shri Bansi Lal, was good enough to have the same filled up. Now that alternative arrangements for water have been made since long, there is no need for these defunct tanks which were got sunk for supply of water to railways during British regime. I request the hon. Minister to have them filled up.

The sanitary conditions of the stations at Sonapat, Panipat and Karnal are not really good, for want of sweepers. The number of sweepers provided at Karnal is only two. This is a very minor point; I should not have talked it here. But these two persons are serving for 24 hours. This is much, too much. We must give relief to them. One is not supposed to work for twelve hours, may be with a break. I hope, the Railway Minister will kindly look into these genuine grievances and have the same redressed.

Now, a word about unmanned crossings. Unmanned crossings on the railway lines are badly needed and the argument is advanced by the Railway authorities that the cost of such unmanned crossings has to be borne by the State Governments. This is just like putting the cart before the horse. I do not understand as to why the State Governments should be asked to bear the cost because security of people crossing the railway lines is certainly the

responsibility of the Railways and, therefore, the unmanned crossings should be provided by the Railway authorities and State Governments should not be asked to bear the brunt.

With these words, I support the Railway Budget and hope and trust that the Railway Minister will be good enough to kindly order the stoppage of Shan-e-Punjab at Sonapat, Panipat and Karnal and also order withdrawal of the Superfast levy of Rs. two per day on passengers travelling by Ekta Express, which means an extra burden of Rs. 120 per month, because this is causing inconvenience to them.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, while speaking on the Railway Budget, I join my colleagues on this side in heartily congratulating the Railway Minister for the best performance of the Railways during the last year and also for his projection as far as the next year is concerned.

While presenting the Supplementary Demands in November 1986, the Railway Minister and assured us to bridge the gap to the maximum extent possible through intensification of traffic efforts when the shortfall was anticipated at Rs. 95 crores, and I am glad to see that he has kept this assurance. He has not only fully covered the deficit of Rs. 95 crores but has ended with a small surplus of Rs. 11 crores after payment of full dividend of Rs. 570 crores to General Revenues.

The main comprehensive efficiency indicator, as far as the Railways are concerned, is the net tonne kilometres per wagon per day and from this point of view this has gone upto 1296 in 1985-86 from 1150 in 1984-85—an improvement of 12.7 per cent. Therefore, it is no denying that the efficiency of the Railways has considerably increased and the progress is in the right direction. Even the financial performance shows that 1985-86 surplus of about Rs. 179 crores is shown there and as far as the next financial year is con-

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

cerned, after fully discharging the dividend obligation of Rs. 652 crores, the year is expected to end with a surplus of Rs. 69 crores.

The health of the Railways can be really assessed from the way in which it can subscribe to the full dividends, the reserve fund, and how much it is expected to raise the internal resources for the Five-Year Plan.

From this point of view also, if we see the figures as noted in the graph which I am in possession, that will show that we have been progressing by leaps and bounds and in 1985-86 the Indian Railways internal contribution to Railways Plan was 53%. It goes now to 59% and ultimately in 1987-88 it is projected at 63%. So, from these figures it is clear that the health of the Railways is absolutely perfect and as I have said, the allocations to reserves, will further increase its capacity to create internal resources as far as plan is concerned. From all these aspects the Railway Minister deserves congratulations from this side. Now the hon. Member who spoke from the opposite side, Shri Bhattam, wanted to confuse the whole issue by digging up the figures of just after Independence days and the First Five Year Plan. The real comparison should be made between the two comparable figures. We cannot compare the First Five Year Plan figures with this and then say that from these figures we come to the conclusion that nothing has been done. If we go through the graphs which can be prepared from the figures submitted to us, apart from the period where non-Congress Government was in power, viz., Janata Government, all these important figures are rising. Only at the time of 1977-1980 there is a drop in the graph. If we take graph of total originating loading million tonnes, then net tonne-kilometre per tonne per day, net tonne kilometre of freight traffic and Railways internal contribution to Railway Plan, in all these cases we find that when the non-Congress Government was in power, the Railways progress had gone down and had they continued in power, God save the country, we would

not have made any progress. We had to rise from zero from 1980 and then bring it to this position. That must be appreciated. Instead of appreciating that they find out, by comparing very very old figures that these are defective and these are misleading.

After saying all this, I would also like to comment on performance in one or two matters. As far as the track renewal is concerned, I would submit to the Railway Minister that there is scope for further progress and renewal target, though raised from 3800 kms. to 4200 kms. in the Seventh Plan the average is 5000 kms. We should try to achieve that target which has been laid down in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

I would also like to point out that when we see these regions, different figures of five regions, we always find that out of nine regions, four regions are continuously in a loss. As far as the Eastern Railways is concerned, it is continuously in loss. North Eastern Railways is continuously in loss. North East Frontier Railway is continuously in loss and Southern Railway is continuously in loss. It is my submission that some drastic steps will have to be taken as far as these regions are concerned. Either there is revenue leakage or ticketless travel. Now, one of the General Managers of the Railways is reported to have said once that if everybody travels with ticket, as far as the Indian Railways are concerned, they will be able to lay down golden rails. So, that was the observation made by one of the General Managers. Therefore, very concerted effort will have to be made perhaps as far as these regions are concerned regarding the ticketless travel and leakage of revenue. I hope by next year, the Railways will take better care as far as these regions are concerned and some improvements will be shown.

Coming to the problems of Bombay, I was little worried when a particular paragraph has been inserted in the Budget Speech by the Railway Minister. Para 20 of his speech says :

"...Moreover, most suburban

services in the Metropolitan cities are highly subsidised, causing heavy losses to the Railways, which in 1986-87, are estimated to be about Rs. 97 crores. With the further extension of suburban facilities, the operating losses are bound to increase. Keeping in view this, and the fact that urban transport is primarily the responsibility of the city authorities the world over, it is important that the State Governments and city administrations come forward with a cost sharing arrangement, both for the initial capital and for the recurring expenditure."

Now, this creates concern in the minds of the Bombay citizens. First of all, I would like to submit to the examination of the Railway Minister that this costing system is somewhat defective as far as the Bombay suburban is concerned. Our submission is that we have got it examined through some of the experts and it is found that because of the defective costing system, it has shown loss to the Bombay suburban Railways. It cannot be that there would be loss to the suburban railways, if proper costing is done. Half of the total passengers in the whole of India travel by the suburban railways and the capacity of the train is utilised to the maximum extent and sometimes it exceeds three times or four times of its capacity, when they travel on these suburban railways. Therefore, I submit that some of the common expenses which are incurred on the whole region are put on this Bombay suburban Division and that practice or method is somewhat defective. From Bombay to Mathura the whole region is considered and some common expenses are placed on the Bombay suburban railway. And, therefore, it is shown that it is under loss. My submission is, if proper costing is done, then it will be found that in the future, the Bombay suburban is not at all in loss. I, therefore, make a positive request by going further and say that the Bombay suburban may be constituted as a separate region and then, let us see whether it is in profit or loss. This suggestion may be considered by the Railway Minister as far

as Bombay suburban is concerned. Therefore, I would submit, that if this is done, we need not pass on the buck of this Bombay transport to the State Government because there will be further difficulties. Now, this thinking is reflected in the Mankhurd-Belapur railway line which is going to be constructed and therefore in that plan or scheme itself, 67% of the cost of this project has been agreed to be borne by the Maharashtra Government. So, my submission is that this thinking is going further and even a part of the cost of the transport scheme from Bombay to New Bombay is being passed on to the Maharashtra Government. Now since that is agreed to, I do not want to say anything. But there also I would point out to the Railway Minister that the non-progress of this scheme is the greatest irritant as far as Bombay city is concerned because there is no transport from Bombay to New Bombay and the very idea of decongesting Bombay by having a new Bombay is being defeated because of this. For this purpose, therefore, a very meagre amount has been shown in the Budget. I would request that even though the Maharashtra Government has agreed to share, the share of the Central Government should be immediately released as far as this railway is concerned.

I would also like to know from the railway Minister whether this contribution of the Maharashtra Government is going to be the full contribution or is it going to be by way of loan because ultimately Maharashtra Government is going to raise debentures from CIDCO and there it appears that it is a sort of loan as far as Bombay is concerned.

One more last point which I want to say about Bombay city is that importance should be also given to the Bombay VT remodel of suburban yard to provide double discharge platform for smoother entry and exit. This is very important and necessary in order to relieve the crowd and congestion as far as the VT is concerned. For this purpose, a very small amount of Rs. 141 lakhs has been provided and I would submit that the total cost anticipated is Rs. 958 lakhs. As early as possible this Project should

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

be completed as far as Bombay is concerned.

The last point which I want to say is about this bond. As far as the bonds are concerned, the Railway Ministry would again consider whether it is advisable to have these railway bonds. There are observations made by Railway Convention Committee in their sixth Report at page 16. It doubted the advisability of raising public finance by having these railway bonds because ultimately a very small amount will be available considering the interest, the cost and the other tax benefits which ultimately the bond purchaser is going to get. From this point of view, I suggest that the observations made by the Railway Convention Committee in the sixth Report, may be considered as far as these railway bonds are concerned.

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli) : I rise to support the Railway Budget on behalf of our party All India Anna-DMK. The passengers are not burdened with freight hike. There is no freight hike in the goods traffic also and humanitarian considerations have been shown and concessions are provided accordingly. Therefore, for all these benefits, the Budget is really a peoples' Budget in general. We have not forgotten our voters who are our masters. It is quite evident from this fact. But at the same time, we feel a little bit annoyed for further delay in the Karur-Dindigul Tuticorin railway line. They allotted only Rs. 4.03 crores to this Karur-Dindigul broad gauge line. The terminus of this Tuticorin broad gauge line is being developed rapidly. It is very meagre and it is disappointing for entire Tamilnadu.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : (Gobichethpalayam) : Very meagre funds are allocated.

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : The railway Minister promised to give more allotment. When the line was newly formed there was no district bifurcation. Owing to the efficient administration of the Tamilnadu State Government, three new districts have been formed

now, there were no there districts. But this line connects Virudhunagar, the District headquarters of Kamaraj District; Tuticorin, the District headquarters of Chidambaranar District and Dindigul, the District headquarters of Anna District. Therefore, this has been a promising development done by the Government of Tamilnadu. The people of Tamilnadu expect from the Central Government linking of these three District headquarters. This is one of the important lines for the development of industry. Tuticorin is very rapidly developing. The third thermal unit is coming up. The Port dredging is going on. The SPIC and the Tuticorin Alkaloids and Chemicals industries are there. So, I request the hon. Minister to allot more funds. If more fund is not allocated for this purpose and even if the project is not completed in the Seventh Plan, the frustration of the people of Tamilnadu will become so much. Otherwise the wind will swing on the other side. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister as not to frustrate the people of Tamilnadu and not disappoint them. We, the Parliamentarians and the entire party will have to sit in Dharna if more fund is not allotted. Therefore, I would request hon. Minister to allot more funds.

In this context, I would like to recall the late lamented Indiraji's speech delivered in 1972. Then, as a party secretary, I was there in the meeting. When she inaugurated the new line formation, from *Cape Comerin* to Kashmir, she not only stressed that the communication from one end to the other end of the country will encourage our national feeling but also she said that in future time-bound completion is essential for the planning. Therefore, I would like to mention that it is already getting very much delayed. By allocating more funds, this project could be completed. Further, the Karur-Palayam line which has already been laid is getting rusted owing to delay of funds. So, I request him to allot more funds. Moreover, you have sanctioned a new line i.e. the Guruvayur line. In Guruvayur, the famous Lord Krishna's temple is there. We are very much happy that you have done this thing. I have to thank you for having increased the service of Tamil

Nadu Express by one more day in a week. As a train traveller from 1940 to till date, I am to say that the Express Trains are very much convenient for the long distance travelling passengers. In Madurai Division, there is a day time passenger which is running only one time. I have stressed this point four times in the Zonal Committee meeting as well as in the Parliament also, to run another day-time passenger for the benefit of farmers, ryots and students between Tuticorin and Virudhunagar.

Coming to the Madras Mass Rapid Transit System Madras Beach to Luz Mass Rapid Transit System I would like to say that the cost-sharing for this project which you are announcing now, and not in the beginning of the project, is very much disappointing to the people of Madras. But for the efficient traffic arrangements provided by the Madras Government, it would have been difficult for the people of Madras. We are not in a position to do this. The Government of Tamil Nadu is already incurring big loss in the implementation of poverty-alleviation schemes like giving rice at the rate of Rs. 1.75 per kg to the poor people. We are incurring a loss of Rs. 207 crores in this respect. We are providing nutritious noon meal for 85 lakh children in Tamilnadu. We are the first in the front of Family Planning, in the whole of the country. All these are the plus points for the Government of Tamil Nadu. It is completely cooperating with the Government of India. I would request the hon. Minister not to insist on the cost-sharing of the project which you have not agreed at first. The whole costing must be borne by the Railway Administration. I request the hon. Minister to consider this sympathetically and help the Madras people to have the Madras-Luz Rapid Transit System by 1990.

I have also another suggestion to make and I would request the Railway Minister to consider this. When we travel from Delhi to Madras by Tamil Nadu Express, we should hear the announcements on platforms in our regional languages; the announcements on platforms should be made in Tamil and Telugu in the case of

Tamil Nadu Express since the train is passing through Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Similarly, in the case of trains running from Delhi to Kerala or Karnataka, the people travelling by those trains should be enabled to hear the announcements in their regional languages; the announcements on platforms should be made in Malayalam and Kannada, so that the people travelling in those trains can have the feeling and satisfaction that they are hearing the announcements in their mother-tongue. This will help national integration. This is my request to the Railway Minister. If the announcements are made only in Hindi and English, in this country which has a large percentage of illiterate people the passengers cannot understand what is being announced and they have to ask their co-passengers. Particularly in Stations like Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta from where the trains start, the announcements in respect of various trains should be made in their respective regional languages, the languages of the regions through which the train will be passing. This will enable the people to have the feeling that the announcements are being made in their mother-tongue and this will help national integration.

The Milavittan-Tirunelveli line, we are glad, has been completed, but till now the line is being operated only for goods traffic, the passenger traffic has not yet started. I request the hon. Minister to announce the date when passenger traffic will be started on this line. This line will connect Kanyakumari broad gauge line and will thus help people who are going to Delhi and Bombay to go directly without the necessity of having to touch Madras. I request the hon. Minister to have a kind heart and expedite starting passenger traffic on this line. Now people are feeling that this Milavittan-Tirunelveli line is there only for big industrialists like India Cements and SPIC and only urea and cement bags are being carried. The salt in Tuticorin is being carried through lorries. Allotment of wagon for movement of salt should be given preference.

The electrification system is being done very well by the Southern Railway administration; the present Chief Engineer

[Shri Kadambur Janarthanan]

is doing very efficiently. We want the Minister to extend the electrification system.

The Madras-Villupuram double line, the lack of which is creating a bottleneck for the traffic of the whole of Tamil Nadu, should be taken up immediately. It has been repeated many times in the House that we should have a double line from Villupuram to Madras Egmore. This will improve passenger traffic and will remove the bottleneck which is now there.

I once again thank the hon. Minister of Railways for having presented this Budget.

The new Pearls City Express from Tuticorin to Madras was started four or 5 months back. Now in the name of speeding up of the train, they are avoiding some halts which were originally there at Kadambur and Melur. I would request the hon. Minister not to do it in the interest of the people of Kadambur, Melur and other neighbouring towns.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am glad that you have given me time.

I congratulate the Minister for having presented a budget which has been welcomed by every section of the people. It seems the young Railway Minister has cast his spell on the Railways. Almost overnight we have the swing from five years of gloom to a rosy picture of hope. It underlines the lesson of history that often it is the man at the helm who makes the difference between pessimism and optimism. With the poet let us say "may their tribe increase". Perhaps, a few more Madhavraos in some of the Ministries would not be a bad idea.

The Minister has provided concessions to kisans, youth, handicapped and war widows. Concession in freight on fodder and foodgrains carried to drought or flood ravaged areas is equally welcome. But such enthusiasm should, however, be

tempered by reality. The freight rates were raised in the last November which would yield about Rs. 900 crores during the budget year. There is a lurking fear that the Minister may resort to the mid-term freight raise. I would request that the Minister should dispel this fear by assuring that there would be no freight rate increase. I feel that if he concentrates on improving efficiency and productivity, there would be no need to resort to raising the freight rate or passenger fare for raising additional resources.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : Don't fall prey to the opposition propaganda.

SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN (Barpeta) : Opposition propaganda also helps to some extent.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Especially when there are Hon. Members like you.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I think there are some areas which require his close attention and supervision. One should know both the sides of the picture. Since 1976-77, the capital at charge has more than doubled; but the indices of traffic efficiency are not showing similar improvement. The passenger kilometres have risen by 50% and freight tonne-kilometres by about 30%. The wagon turn-round should have declined significantly but actually it has declined only marginally for broadgauge and increased for metre-gauge. Even taking the nett tonne kilometre per wagon-day, it has risen from 1045 to 1296 only on broadgauge which cannot be considered significant.

The expense ratio is as high as 92%. The number of passenger coaches in 1985-86 are less than what they were in 1984-85. How could the overcrowding be overcome? The railway statistics show that the number of passengers in the ordinary second class has fallen between 1977-78 and 1985-86. Can this be true when the population is increasing? Does

it mean, there is a tremendous leakage of railway revenue? If you take non-suburban traffic, out of 1549 million originating passengers in 1985-86, 1223 million are in the ordinary second class passengers list and 314 million in the mail or express second class list. The upper class passengers compared to this are a mere 12 million. While, I thank the Minister for providing cushions in the second class compartments, may I know what is being done to provide other facilities to them?

In my constituency people travel on the roof of the trains.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The people of your constituency are prepared to travel in that fashion.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jaharpur) : Why don't you ask for cushions being provided on the roof also?

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I would put it in the question form. Why do they do so? Why must they travel on top of the train? It is because there is no space below. What steps have been taken to ease the situation? I hope the Railway Minister is aware of this dangerous and hazardous travel.

Even the long distance traveller finds his woes increasing even though sleeper coaches with cushioning are there. But the long distance traveller is hemmed in by human wave of commuters and short distance travellers. The TTEs do not attend to these coaches. They fear the commuters are indifferent and careless. It is my experience on the Eastern Railway, particularly between Buxar and Patna. I would suggest that the Railways should reschedule trains and provide special trains for commuters and short distance passengers so that they need not crowded into long distance coaches.

Then there are other problems. At intermediate stations passengers do not know in which coach their berth is. There is need for posting a specific railway official at the right coach and the reserved

passengers could be told in advance where the coach entrance will be. This also causes delays in trains. Then the confusion, rush and jostling on the arrival of a train cause inconvenience. This may kindly be looked into for improving the position. A major constraint is the lack of enough number of coaches. In the last 10 years the railways have added only 1000 coaches more. A good number of existing coaches are in an unsatisfactory condition. The second coach factory may take time. Why not explore the offer made by idle wagon builders to build coaches if some balancing equipment could be imported?

The Minister should also look after as to how many hours a day certain rakes are idling. Is there any justification for an idling period of as much as 12 hours? This is a national waste particularly when we do not have enough coaches to go round?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Please give me two minutes more.

As for punctuality, I am glad the Minister is paying special attention to this. I would point out that in addition to equipment failure or non-availability of track, lack of proper planning and far-sight also contribute to the late running of trains. In one case I found that the Deluxe down train between Mughalsarai and Patna was allowed to leave Mughalsarai when the line beyond Didarnagar was blocked by derailment. Naturally the train had to turn back, so to say, and take the up line and then go back to the down line after crossing the place of derailment. Some hours were lost in the process. This could have been foreseen. Similarly in another case a defective engine was attached to the Down Deluxe train at Mughalsarai which refused to move after an hour of journey causing untold hardship to passengers and detention of the train by several hours. It was a case of bad or careless planning. Trains once late get detained at the outer signal of the next

[Shrimati Kishori Sinha]

halt or even destination station. Why should this happen ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : With a little planning, platforms could be made available. Trains idle at platforms for hours, while an Express or Mail train is waiting at the outter signal. Often this happens because the Station Masters' authority is diluted and there is no coordination between area control, train shunting and yard staff. There is lax discipline and often the honest are penalised and dishonest and resourceful get promoted. This causes demoralisation.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Madam, please conclude. I am calling the next speaker.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : The Minister should look into allegations that there is a steam lobby in his Ministry. Also there is a diesel lobby. Between them, I am told, they have slowed down electrification. In Third Plan over 1000 kilometer was electrified. This is an unsurpassed record. Why was electrification slowed down though this was the most efficient method of traction ?

Sir, the Railway Minister deserves praise for introducing many fast trains. Again, this is a break from the recent past when an embargo was placed on starting of new trains. We are happy that many of the new trains are terminating in Kerala but what about Bihar.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude now.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : He has ignored Bihar altogether or has deprived Bihar of his benevolence. I have been pleading for a survey since 1980 for a line connecting Lalganj with Sugauli passing through Vaishali, Sahabganj and Kesaria. Apart from its commercial angle, it has a tourist importance also as many

people from Buddhist countries keep coming to Vaishali. A 145 ft. shanti stupa is under construction...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the next speaker, Shri Balkavi Bairagi. Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you like, you may hand over your manuscript to the Minister. He will take note of it. I won't allow you to continue to speak. I have called the next speaker.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I am paying a compliment to the Minister.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can hand over your manuscript if you like. You have to get some points and develop and not go on reading from the prepared text. Shri Balkavi Bairagi.

[English]

SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani) : The hon. Member has already participated in the discussion. On that day, he read out some poems and some couplets. He has participated already.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mand-saur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I convey my thanks to you for giving me time to speak on the Railway Budget. I also convey my thanks to the Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, and the hon. Railway Minister for presenting such a good Budget.

SHRI RANA VIR SINGH (Kaiser-ganj) : Come to the point, otherwise the time will be over.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I am coming to the point. I shall not praise the Railway Minister any more because already a lot of encomiums have been showered on him and I am afraid lest he should catch an evil eye. Therefore, I

**** Not recorded.**

shall not trouble him much. Excess praising also poses problems sometimes.

AN HON. MEMBER : Kindly initiate the speech by reciting some couplet.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : If you insist, I can oblige you. My elder brother and the most senior Member Shri Banatwalla had also asked to recite a couplet and I had obliged him. I shall recite the couplet today also. You have all praised the Budget saying that it has placed the Railways on a sound footing. I will recite two lines which will meet the demand of all of you.

*"Kal Khijaon ko Iiya tha apne
aagosh mein,*

(You might have seen what was the condition of trains)

*Dekhte he dekhate un par baharen aa
gayeen"*

I congratulate the hon. Minister that he has placed the Railways on a sound footing. The proof is that those who regarded themselves authority on railways were absent yesterday and they are also not present today. They also admit that railways have improved a great deal.

SHRI RANA VIR SINGH : Here everything will be presented to you and to none else.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I am presenting it to you and through you to all of them and the country as a whole.

*"Kaun sa jadoo rakeebon per kiya
mere hazoor.
Sab ke sab mehfil se uth kar paan
khane chel diye"*

We do not know where the opposition have gone. They were absent yesterday also. Such a thing has never happened before. We are having a discussion on the Railway Budget, but the Opposition is totally absent.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah) : The station masters of this type are sitting before you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Now I shall come to the point. The railways have vast operation in our country. The total reservation of seats in the railways in West Germany is 40,000 whereas in Delhi region alone, about 40,000 seats are reserved daily. They are operating such a vast network of railways. Such no-tax Budgets have been presented earlier also but whenever such Budget was presented, the railways suffered a setback later. This is for the first time that the poor is praising the Budget,

The railways have two organs. One is passenger train and another is goods train. You know that the passenger trains sustain loss of Rs. 800 crores. The goods trains earn profit and they contribute handsomely to the exchequer. We wish that they may contribute more in the next year.

I would like to submit a few points. About 1.10 crore passengers travel by train daily. You have provided a number of facilities but there is one facility which does not find mention in it.

15.01 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER in the Chair]

If you provide this facility, it would be your obligation on the coming generations. The passengers had started travelling on the roof-tops of trains even before you took the charge of Railway Ministry. I request you with folded hands, not to take it as a joke. The Members of Railway Board are also listening to me. I would request you to make some alternative arrangement for water in the train for rinsing the mouth because we do not know what mischief do the people sitting on roof-tops play with the water tank. You believe me I am telling the truth..... (Interruptions)..... Yes, I myself have experienced it. We do not like to rinse

[Shri Balkavi Bairagi]

our mouths in the train... (*Interruptions*)
Kindly ask your railway officials to try to lock the water tanks after filling water in them. It is very bad that the passengers sitting on the roof-tops use the water tank as urinating pot. Such acts during the period of a handsome and well-cultured Railway Minister like you cause humiliation to us also. Therefore, you should look into it.

I would like to submit one more thing. It might be a new information for you but we have ourselves experienced it and that is why we are saying. The present Railway Budget has turned its face towards the east. Whatever new projects have been included in the Budget, they are all for the eastern region. We have no complaint against it. You have done good by providing facilities to those areas which hitherto were neglected. We thank you for this..... (*Interruptions*).....

No mention of Madhya Pradesh has been made in this Budget. We thank you for making the Budget east-oriented. I shall not count those railway lines which you have taken up in the eastern region. You have sanctioned six new railway lines there under the Seventh Five Year Plan. I thank you for this. You have changed the face of the Budget towards South also i.e. Cochin in Kerala. I do not have any complaint against it either. There is no question of complaint because the entire country from Guwahati to Choupati and from Kerala to Kargil Valley is our own. Whatever works you are undertaking, are being done within India. But some more facilities should be provided so that some minor demands of the people are fulfilled.

You have provided fifty new halt stations in the rural areas, but I would like to request you to provide at least 100 new halt stations in the rural areas because India is a country of villages. You should provide more railway stoppages in the rural areas to provide some more facilities to them. Fifty halt stations are not enough because if you happen to go on tour, the people will get as many halt

stations sanctioned by you. Therefore, you should at least double this number.

During your tenure, the security in trains has increased by 12 per cent for which I thank you and congratulate you. The security arrangements should be further tightened so that we could feel secure while travelling. This percentage should be further enhanced.

The Railway Board monitors 200 trains everyday in order to know how much late they run and what are the reasons therefor. We know that trains run late due to chain pulling. This monitoring should be further increased. If you could do it, it would further add to your reputation.

You have provided medical facilities and they are being further expanded. More amenities have been provided to the passengers in the trains. These are all remarkable achievements but if I start admiring all these things, that will look nice neither to you nor to me. All newspapers are admiring it and the entire country is admiring it. Now I come to the point straightaway. There are some minor demands which I would like to raise. You might have listened the names of two railway stations namely Ratlam and Kota. The distance between these two stations is 266 kms. and there are 12 other big and small stations between these two stations. You should introduce a new train which could connect us with Awadh Express at Kota, so that we could reach Lucknow. It should start from Ratlam at 8.30 in the morning and should reach Kota at 2.30 in the afternoon. It should start from there before the Frontier Mail but should reach Ratlam after Frontier Mail on return journey.

The Members of Railway Board, officers and employees of the Railways have done very good work, but some time they work miserly. I appreciate them but God knows how and what they manage to get in writing from you. I do not know what you think at that time and how they manage to make you write like that. They told you that Frontier Mail passes from there, but the Frontier Mail does not have its stoppage at every station and that

is why we are asking for the introduction of a new train. If you stop Frontier Mail at every station, that will be no more a Frontier Mail. Therefore, this demand should be accepted. Secondly, the train which starts from Ratlam at 10-00 P.M. and reaches Ajmer at 8.30 A.M. should be extended upto Jaipur, and on its return journey from Jaipur, it should be extended upto Khandwa from Ratlam.

There is not even a single train from Delhi for Hyderabad or for Kanchigura on metre gauge track. So, one train should be introduced on this line. You will win applause for this and people will thank you.

The train has been named 'Chetak Express' but it still moves like a lame. Chetak became lame during Akabar's regime but this train still moves limping. With a view to bring about some improvement in it, a diesel engine should be attached to it ... (Interruptions) Our colleague, Shri Ajay Mushran is saying that it is our historical legacy. If we got this lame as a historical legacy, we can now improve upon it. Artificial limbs are now available; therefore something should be done for it also. We shall be very grateful to you. We wish a happy present and bright future for the Railways. We thank Shri Rajiv Gandhi for entrusting at least one such department to person who has worked sincerely. I would like to tell this thing to the people through this house that the biggest contribution of Shri Madhavrao Scindia is that he has converted the Railway Department into a Rail Family. He has removed the tension and the people are working there sincerely. They know that their wickedness will not be pardoned and if they do good work, their backs will be patted. (Interruptions). The tension of union leaders have also reduced.

Your second biggest contribution is that it is for the first time that you have paid more attention towards Railway employees through this Budget. Last year you constructed 70000 quarters for the employees and an other 7000 quarters are proposed to be constructed this year. If you pay a bit more attention, I think the

Railway employees will work more efficiently. (Interruptions) I shall conclude in a minute's time.

If I speak about some minor demands, that will take much time. You must have heard the names of Neemuch, Mandsaur, Jawara, Subansada and Shyamgarh railway stations. Since you are setting up factories at different places, therefore, I would like to say that everything like land, water, manpower etc. is available in the above mentioned places and as such some small factory should also be set up there. If a coach factory cannot be set up there, let at least a bolt manufacturing factory be set up there. You should do something for these areas. At least one sleeper manufacturing factory should be set up there if not more so that we may have the solace of getting something from the hon. Railway Minister in future if not in the present Railway Budget. Therefore I request that you must do something for this area.

You might have heard the name of Akola station also. It is not my station but I have had occasions to go there. This station is on metre-gauge line. Even today there is no sitting arrangement for the Station staff at that station. The staff members sit on newspapers etc. and do their work. You should at least make arrangement of a small room for them because they are your own employees. What particular stations should I pinpoint; I travel throughout the country. I invite you to come with me to Kota station and if you could manage to get a cup of tea for 50 paise there at 7 O'clock, I shall resign. Rupee one is charged for a cup of tea. After removing their badges you send your officials there and if they get a cup of tea for 50 paise I shall accept that everything is going on smoothly. Incidents of quarrelling take place there everyday. Similarly, I invite you to Gondia station to see that fresh meal is not supplied there. We are not able to provide such minor facilities at these small stations. People are being looted there every day and that is why I am distressed to point it out to you.

I shall conclude after mentioning one

[Shri Balkavi Bairagi]

more point. You have introduced computerisation in the Railways. You should pay more attention towards electrification so as to further augment the speed of the trains. You should accelerate this programme so that more and more scientific facilities could be provided to the people.

While expressing my thanks to him and congratulating him, I do hope that the hon. Railway Minister will definitely accept one challenge in the House. The challenge is that all editors of news papers have expressed their doubts and so do the people that though the rates of fare and freight have not been increased in the Budget, yet they will be increased later on in the Supplementary Budget. Therefore, you should firmly accept this challenge in this House and assure us that under no circumstance, the rates of fare and freight will be increased in the Supplementary Budget. You have to promise this much.

With these words I once again congratulate you and thank you. I welcome this Budget and support it too,

[English]

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the Railway Budget. In the Railway Budget, freight charges and fares have not been increased. I would say, actually, the Railway Minister has concealed the real state of affairs of the Railways and the economic conditions of the Railways. A maximum of 15 per cent hike in parcel and luggage rates was effected, and also with the adjustment of distance, it would help the Railway Ministry to fetch at least the amount of Rs. 320 crores, besides, Rs. 76 crores in this Budget. It means, that the total increase in a year will be Rs. 1,000 crores. It has been concealed in the Budget. This means that increase in freight has already been effected in advance for the coming fiscal year. I think it has been done, probably keeping in view the elections to be held in four States. Before the elections any

increase in freight and fare would affect them in the elections. After the elections, i.e. in the coming supplementary Budget, that can be covered by increasing freight and fare. I think, it is a deceitful Budget, only to conceal the burden, which could be shifted on the shoulders of the common people. These increases in freights and fares were done only in November, last. Not only the freights and fares were increased, but it has become a common phenomenon of Government to increase these things every year.

If I take it from the year 1980-81, the passenger earning was Rs. 827.5 crores and in 1985-86, it was Rs. 1719.4 crores. That means, it has been doubled within 5 or 6 years. On the other hand passenger kilometres have increased by only 15 per cent. So, it is clear from this that this increase is due to the increase in freights and fares.

The goods earning in 1980-81 was Rs. 1394.1 crores and in 1985-86, it was Rs. 4232.2 crores whereas the traffic kilometres rose by about 30 per cent. It clearly reveals that the increase in revenue was due to increase in freight and fares.

My next point is about the increase in the movement of goods. How do you say that there is an increase in the movement of goods? Many passenger trains have been cancelled recently. Recently in the Indo-Pak border area, there was tension and many trains were cancelled. The Minister can tell, as to how many trains have again been restored? The provision of adequate passenger accommodation is a problem. What the Minister says is not factually correct. New trains have been introduced. But passenger coaches have been reduced. Replacement of a large number of overaged coaches is over-due. Time and again, the Minister had assured that over-aged coaches would be removed; but their replacement remains over-due. The passengers are the worst sufferers.

The Minister's attitude will be revealed from the outlay or provision made in

regard to rolling stock. If we compare the position with the last budget, the figures for rolling stock in the revised budget was Rs. 938.88 crores, and this time the figure is Rs. 651.44 crores. So, this time the provision for rolling stock has been decreased, compared with the last budget.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Bonds for Rs. 300 crores are going to be floated, in 1987-88 which are being allotted to rolling stocks.

SHRI AJOY BISWAS : We boast about our track Kms. and are proud that our track length is the second largest in the world. The Minister had said that. If you compare the track length in terms of track Kms. per million of population, our position is miserably low. In USA it is 1534 Kms; in Australia it is 3045 Kms; in USSR it is 601 Kms.; in Malayasia it is 147 Kms. and in India it is only 100 Kms. So, his claim does not stand.

There is stagnation in building of new lines. Expansion of Railways is not connected only with the question of transport. It is also connected with the problem of employment. Railways are one of the main sources for employment of our youth. What is the position there? The employment potential in Railway stands at the level it was 4 or 5 years ago. Again, the steps relating to reckless introduction of computers, which are being taken by Railways, will decrease the employment potential. We will find the present strength of manpower in Railways reduced within 5 or 6 years. So, the main source of employment in the country, viz. Railways at present, is being closed.

Another problem is about electrification. Electrification in the tracks is very important, because we are importing about Rs. 5,000 crores worth of diesel and petroleum.

If the tracks are electrified, then you could save foreign exchange. But what is the position of the electrification? Our total length of the track is, I think, 61,000

kms and only 6000 kms have been electrified. In the Sixth Plan, the target was 2,800 kms, but the achievement was 1,500 kms only. Even you could not achieve 50 per cent of the target fixed in the Sixth Plan. You have fixed the target in the Seventh Plan for 3,400 kms. But I have a doubt about it. If you see the result of the Sixth Plan you will find that you could not achieve 50 per cent of the target. In the Seventh Plan also if you do not take proper steps you will meet the same fate.

You are importing 600 HP electric engine. What is the cost of importing it? It is Rs. 2.10 crores. But in our country that can be produced at the cost of Rs. 1.40 crores only. Why do you import it when you can produce it at this cost? Why don't you manufacture more of engines in the country? If you do it, then you can save foreign exchange, but you are not doing it.

Government claims cordial and harmonious industrial relations prevailing in the Railway Department. It is the claim of the Minister, but this Government has been forcing the workers to work for more than eight hours a day. Government ratified ILO Convention and it is the commitment of the Government before the ILO that they will introduce eight hours per day for the workers, but, still, in the Railway Department, workers are working for more than eight hours. In 1973, the Loco Running Staff entered into an agreement with the Government and the Government agreed that eight hours per day will be implemented in the case of Loco Running Staff, but, still you have not implemented that. The workers have full right to peaceful trade union action, and it is their right, according to the Constitution. But the Government has resorted to repression of the Loco Running Staff and hundreds of Loco Running Staff workers were dismissed; even they were dismissed under Art. 311, which is not applicable, but the same provision is now in vogue in your Department. The Supreme Court has ruled that an appeal is a must for the removed workers. Even after removal of workers from the service, the administration is sitting over the appeal indefinitely ignoring the ruling of the

[Shri Ajoy Biswas]

Supreme Court. It is an unusual situation where the elementary right of the millions of railway employees is being trampled under the foot.

I am giving another example how the railway authority is dealing with the workers. As regards duty hours, a car attendant in ROSO has been continuously endeavouring for rational duty hours. The Railway Department informed them that a committee will look into it, but, actually, nothing has been done. Then they went to the ILO because they thought that the Railway Department had violated ILO convention. I think you supplied wrong information to the ILO, about the workers in CLW, DLW, ICF workers. They are like bonded labourers. They do not know when they will be taken into the regular cadre. They do not know. Years after years like labourers they are working in the Railways and you have no specific proposal for their regularisation.

Sir, about Metro Railway and about the sharing of costs the Minister in his Budget speech has given a hint that the State Governments and the other institutions should bear a share of the cost of the Railways, particularly the metropolitan cities. The State Governments like West Bengal, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu, they have other responsibilities. Railway is one of the transport systems. But there are other transport systems and they are to be maintained and they have to bear all the burden for them. If you want to shift the burden to State Governments also, I am telling you freely and frankly then, what about Delhi? Rs. 100 crores is now being spent in road transport, and the entire money is borne by the Central Government. So my proposal is this, that, Yes, the State Governments will bear some money, but, then, will the Central Government bear the burden of the road transport, the expenditure which is borne by the State Governments in West Bengal, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu?

About Metro Railway, it was decided that it will be completed in 1981. Again,

the project report was revised and it was decided that it would be completed in 1987. But I think the Railway authorities have to be moved to complete it before 1993.

Sir, another point I want to invite the attention of the Minister to, is about the southern portion of the Metro Railway which is functioning. The trains are now running at an interval of ten minutes. Originally, it was the decision that the trains will run at an interval of one and a half minutes. But now it is ten minutes. What happened? Actually monitoring system is necessary and the Railways require the machinery for that. But they did not think of it before commissioning the Metro railway. And after the commissioning when it was detected then they placed the order for the machine on a foreign country. So it proves that there is no coordination in the Railway Ministry, and there is lack of thinking.

Sir, another point about Circular Railway. It is very easy to construct the Circular Railway because fifteen or twenty years back all the systems were there. But the present Railway Administration is not taking the issue seriously. Some people have occupied only half-a-kilometre of the area. Now you are demanding that the State Government should bear the cost for their eviction. Why should the State Government bear the cost? It is your property. It is the Railways who has to bear the cost. In case of Maharashtra, you agreed to bear the cost. But in the case of West Bengal you are telling something different.

Now, I want to speak about North Eastern region. I am sorry to say that in this Budget nothing has been provided for the North Eastern Region. Actually it proves that the Railways are neglecting the North Eastern Region. Already six areas have been surveyed and not a single project has been included in this Budget. There are seven States in North Eastern Region. Except Assam, all the other six States capitals are not connected with the railways. There is a sub-committee of the Cabinet to look after the developmental

aspect of North Eastern Region. But even then, nothing is being done. You are shedding tears for the development of North Eastern Region. But when you are placing Budget, you are not including anything, any new project for the North Eastern Region. In Tripura even the old project which was taken up in 1979-80, was decided to be completed by 1984. In this Budget you have provided only Rs. 5 crores against Rs. 7 crores required to complete that portion of the work. When the next Budget comes, the cost will escalate and you will not be able to complete it within Rs. 7 crores. So next year you will again provide for Rs. 5 crores. This track of 32 kms. you will take 10 years to complete. It is nothing but step-motherly treatment on the part of Central Government. If you compare the North Eastern Region with the rest of the country, North Eastern Region has got 0.95 km. per 100 sq. km. against the all India average of 1.88 kms. per 100 sq. kms.

Railway is confined only in Assam. Out of 2357 kms railway line, 2089 kms line is metre-gauge. There is only 268 kms broad gauge line. In Tripura it is 12 kms and Nagaland only 9 kms.

The survey has been completed from Dharamnagar to Agartala. I do not know when you will take up that project. If that portion is completed, we will have 40 kms of railway line in Tripura. That means in 40 years after independence you could build up only 40 kms of railway line there. Agartala is 130 kms from Kumaraghat and if the progress of the railways continues at snail's pace, it will take 130 years to reach Agartala. So, I shall request the Minister to at least change their policy in regard to North-Eastern region.

Youths and students came to Delhi and they demonstrated. Recently they have decided that if the remaining portion from Dharamnagar to Agartala is not included in the Seventh Plan, then definitely they will launch a bigger movement in Agartala. If you want to fight the secessionist forces in the North-Eastern region, economic development is not isolated from that. If you do not develop the

North-Eastern region, you will not be able to fight the secessionist forces. So, I shall request the Minister and the Central Government to provide more money. They have to see the present situation of the North-Eastern region and do something for that region.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA (Motihari) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the surplus Railway Budget which has been presented by our youthful Railway Minister. I welcome this Budget on this count also that a surplus of Rs. 69 crores has been shown even after paying Rs. 570 crores in the General Revenues and after meeting the shortfall of Rs. 196 crores.

This is a democratic and people's welfare oriented Budget. This Budget has many characteristics. The first is that no increase has been effected in the freight rates, passenger fares and the parcel rates. Concession in the railway travel has been granted to the widows of war heroes, the students, the handicapped persons and the farmers. Besides, 67 model stations will be built, 50 halt stations will be opened in the villages and 8 super fast trains will be introduced. One of these trains will also run from Bihar to Madras once in a week. It will be a symbol of the unity and integrity of the country. I welcome these steps.

Besides, concession will also be given in transportation of fodder in the drought and flood prone areas. These are all welfare schemes. I welcome these steps.

So far as the financial management of the railways is concerned, it is very sound because the Railway Department has made good the deficit and has also contributed to the general revenues after meeting the deficit. As the hon. Railway Minister has said in his speech, our railways occupy an important position among the railways of the world and have achieved excellence in the matter of performance. In this way we find that its financial management is very sound.

[Shrimati Prabhawati Gupta]

An important feature of the Budget is that the Railways are going to take up a number of schemes during 1986-87 and 1987-88. It will meet the expenditure on most of these schemes through its own internal resources. Whereas the Railways met 25 per cent of its expenditure on construction work through internal resources in the Fifth Five Year Plan, it was 42 per cent in the Sixth Five Year Plan and now it is going to meet 58 per cent of its expenditure in 1986-87 and 1987-88 through its internal resources. This also reflects the sound financial management and financial efficiency on the part of the railways. As the hon. Minister has himself said in his speech, the Railways have two main functions. One is to provide facilities to the passengers and to run the trains efficiently and another is to operate railway wagons and transportation of goods. Both the objectives are good. About 17 lakh employees work in the railways to run 11 thousand trains. As many as one crore passengers travel by trains daily. These are all creditable achievements and the hon. Minister has brought further improvement in it. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Railway Minister towards one point. I doubt whether he has given attention towards Bihar at the time of formulation of the Railway Budget, be it laying of double track, modernisation or the expansion of the existing railway lines or laying of new railway lines. In every respect, Bihar has been neglected. There is a factory at Jamalpur. I know the railways have a modernisation scheme for this factory but there is no scheme for its extension. This is a very old factory. A number of engineers undergo training there but there is no scheme for its extension. You have made provision of only Rs. 50 lakhs for these 100-200 odd schemes. It is the same Bihar where Mahatma Gandhi blew bugle at Champaran for the freedom of the country and gave a slogan, this is the same place to which the first President Rajendra Prasad belonged and today you are going to do injustice to the people of that State. Is it justified? You have grossly neglected Bihar, be it laying of double track, modernisation, renewal of tracks, laying of new railway lines or opening of a halt station. Bihar has been

badly neglected in all these respects. It was only after a great deal of efforts that a halt station was opened. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you represent the eastern region of the country. We also belong to that area. You might be knowing that the people of this region had made great sacrifices to achieve freedom for the country, but what they are getting now? Kindly tell us what type of Budget you have formulated. It is good that you are laying a new railway line namely, Satna-Rewa Railway line, in the Central Railway and have made provision for another railway line from Bhind to Gwalior. But you just overlook Bihar in the map of India. Bihar is the most populated State in the country next only to Uttar Pradesh. It will play an important role in the industrial revolution.....

AN HON. MEMBER : It is not Bihar but Madhya Pradesh.

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : No, it is Bihar. There are 54 MPs from Bihar. I am referring to it in terms of the population. Its population is 7.5 or 8 crores. You have not done anything for that Bihar.....(Interruptions)... Trees are also be planted along the railway lines. There is a scheme to plant beautiful and shady trees inside the station. I want to know how many schemes are you going to take up in Bihar? I think you are taking up no such scheme in Bihar.

I would like to congratulate you that you are going to spend Rs. 2980 crores under 1987-88 Annual Plan, out of which the Railway Finance Corporation will borrow Rs. 300 crores from the market and the rest Rs. 2680 crores will be raised from railway's own resources. It is a very good plan indeed. Out of it, 87 per cent amount will be spent on the ongoing projects and the remaining 13 per cent will be spent on the new construction works. The bulk of this amount has been allotted to the Central Railway. Then what the rest of the Country will get? May I know why you are creating such regional imbalances?

On behalf of the 8 crores people of

Bihar, I would like to make a demand to the Railway Minister that a Zonal head-quarter of the Railways should be set up in Bihar. A railway bridge should be constructed at Patna in Bihar so that the fertile land of north Bihar could be linked with South Bihar and Patna, the capital of the State.

Sir, as you know, I belong to Champaran and my constituency is Motihari where Mahatma Gandhi had arrived by train. This you might have seen in the film 'Gandhi' that when Mahatma Gandhi arrived there, the people gave him a tumultuous welcome. It is from there that a call for launching struggle for freedom was given. Are you going to make Motihari Station a model station? I want your assurance in this matter.

May I know whether the Government is going to take up the construction work of Bagaha-Chittoni railway bridge? The bridge was damaged in 1924. While laying its foundation stone on 23-10-73, Shrimati Indira Gandhi gave assurance to lakhs of people who had come there from eastern Uttar Pradesh and Purnea, Saharsa, Motihari and the adjoining areas of Bihar, that the work would be completed within 5 years. Is it not the duty of the hon. Railway Minister to complete the construction work of Bagaha-Chittoni bridge, the foundation stone of which was laid by the respected late Shrimati Indira Gandhi, so that the eastern Uttar Pradesh is linked with Bihar? Do you want to reduce the distance or not? I demand that you should reduce the distance. Already a sum of Rs. 8 crores has been spent on it. In your explanatory note, you have set apart Rs 1,000/- for it so as to keep the project alive.

The former Railway Minister, late Shri Lalit Narain Mishra, had given an assurance for undertaking construction of Darbhanga-Samastipur B.G. line. 10 to 12 years have passed since he died. He had said that the construction of Darbhanga-Samastipur B.G. Line will be taken up very soon. Shri Lalit Narain became a martyr. It is that place where he was shot at. Does it not become our pious duty to implement his assurance? The

northern Bihar is a very beautiful region. The railways too have a glorious history. Of course, you have taken up a number of good steps and I do praise them. A passenger coach factory had been set at Perambur in Madras. There is a railway factory in Bangalore also. One factory each is also being set up in Kapurthala and Varanasi. All these things show that the country is making progress. But when the demand from Bihar is raised, you ignore it. It is a region in Bihar which produces 80 per cent of the total coal production of the country. Do not you want that this industrial area of Bihar be linked with a railway line? I would like to make a demand to you that Hazaribagh, Giridih and Ranchi be linked by constructing a broad gauge line. I would also demand that Barkakana-Gomoh-Dehri-on-Sone railway line should be electrified. (*Interruptions*) You let me speak. I have other demands also. You can go to north Bihar or any part of Bihar and see for yourself the condition of the trains. It takes 15 to 16 hours to travel from one place of the State to another by any train whereas the same distance can be covered by bus in 4 hours only. Then who would like to travel by train? Why do you not retrieve the situation? You are concentrating your efforts only on 50 super fast trains and are not paying any attention towards pitiable condition of other trains. Are you not aware that these trains run overcrowded? The condition of the AC coach is also not good. In the coaches of Magadh Express, you can find herds of cockroaches moving about. There is no arrangement for cleaning in the Magadh Express.

In the documents which you have supplied to us, it is written that you are increasing the security measures in the trains. But what kind of security steps you are taking? The accident which occurred at Jadwa road has not faded from our memory. Although the speed of the trains has been increased, but the tracks are worn out. Then how the fast speed trains will run on them? Trains starting from any State Capital reach Delhi in the morning. The trains starting from Delhi reach Lucknow, Karnataka and Madras in time but we reach Patna

[Shrimati Prabhwati Gupta]

at 1.0 clock. The time of Magadh Express also needs to be changed suitably.

The railways claim that they are streamlining the catering system but I would like to invite the hon. Minister to accompany me and see what type of meal is served. He will not like even to taste it. The beautiful casserole alone costs Rs. 1.50, but the quality of foodstuff in it is very bad. Your dining car has also flopped. If you happen to travel by Magadh Express, you will find that the pantry car is attached in such a manner that it is not at all possible to come to A.C. coach from there.

You have said that we shall adopt computer system for the purpose of reservation. Just listen to me, when I went upstairs for air reservation, their computer read that there was no seat but when we reached the Airport, everyone got seat. What is your computerisation? Is the computer better than the man? (*Interruptions*). Then, what do you want? We shall pass your Railway Budget. We did congratulate you that you did a fine job, but what is the condition of efficiency and punctuality?

Through you, I want to place a demand before the hon. Minister. The condition of North Bihar is pathetic. The condition of the trains is more pathetic. There are no fans, the doors are broken and there is no arrangement for cleanliness. Therefore, at least the narrow gauge line from Muzaffarpur to Motihari, Narkatiaganj and Bagaha may please be converted into broad gauge line. This area is adjacent to the Nepal border and the conversion of this line is also very important from strategic point of view. With these words, I welcome the Railway Budget and conclude.

PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI (Balua): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on the Railway Budget.

This year the Railway Budget, presented by the hon. Minister, is not only unique but important also. There has been no increase in the passenger fare, freight charges and parcel rates. More

funds have been provided for giving facilities to the passengers and for the development and expansion of the railways. Besides, some concessions have also been given to provide relief to the needy persons in the society. It is a matter of great pleasure and pride that there will be a surplus of Rs. 69 crores instead of deficit in the Railway Budget for 1987-88.

Some of the hon. Members have said that since elections are being held in the States, no extra burden has been put on the passengers. But the importance of the Railway Budget cannot be negated on this ground alone. In fact, the Railways have created history in the matter of passenger and freight traffic and have set new records. The best index to test the efficiency of the railways is to ascertain the quantum of goods transported per wagon now as compared to the previous year. During the first nine months of the current year, on an average, 1321 tonnes of freight per kilometre per wagon has been transported on broad gauge lines as compared to 1255 tonnes last year. There is some substance in the Railway Minister's claim that our railways may not be ahead of the railways of some developed countries in the matter of efficiency, especially in the matter of freight transportation, but at least it has come at par with them.

During the first nine months of the current year i. e. from April to December, the total freight haulage was 22 crore tonnes which is 1.25 crore tonnes more as compared to the figure in the corresponding period of last year. It is hoped from the income and expenditure statement for the coming year presented by the hon. Minister of Railways that there will be consistent improvement in the performance of the railways. It is estimated that there will be an increase of 3 per cent in the passenger freight and parcel traffic including coach traffic. It is the salient feature of the budget that a surplus of Rs. 69 crores has been shown without levying any surcharge. It is indicative of the fact that the railways are striving for providing better facilities to the public by raising its income despite its limited resources.

I welcome the assurance given by the

hon. Railway Minister for spending more amount on the development of the railways in the coming year as compared to the amount spent during the previous years. The most commendable thing is that the Railways have come to a position whereby they themselves can save more for their development. The setting up of the Railway Finance Corporation is yet another welfare measure in this direction. In this context, one thing which is very important is that there has been a fall of 15.4 per cent in railway accidents during the current year and there has also been about 7 per cent decrease in the compensation claims. Providing Rs. 10 crores in place of Rs. 1 crore for Research and Development in the Railways is also another important feature of the Budget. Most important of all is the decision of the Railway Minister to meet the expenditure by increasing work efficiency. It is indeed a commendable step. If we look at the concessions that have been proposed to be provided to the weaker sections and the needy, they themselves speak for the generosity of our Railway Minister.

The Budget seeks to bring about improvements in the second class sleeper coaches as also in the standard of catering, which is quite beneficial and important for the ordinary passengers. At this stage, I would support the demand made by the hon. Member, Shrimati Prabhawati Gupta. Patna Express is the only train in Bihar which connects the State to Madras, whereas Bihar needs more trains. I would request the hon. Minister that more trains may be introduced from Bihar.

16.00 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE in the Chair]

The facilities available to the youth have also been extended this year, which is a commendable decision indeed. A concession of 33 per cent in railway travel has been announced to the farmers for 'Kisan tours', which too is a most commendable thing. A concession of 75

per cent in the railway fare has been announced to the war-widows of the martyrs who sacrificed their lives in the defence of the country, which is in the foremost national interest.

I welcome the announcements made by the hon. Minister for all these public utilities and at the same time I would like to make a few requests.

Some improvement must be made in the quality of food packets being served in the running trains these days. It will be better if arrangements are made to serve food in 'Thalis' instead of packets. The scheme for converting 67 stations into model stations is worth praising. In this connection, I would request that Barauni, where people of all States live and which has its own industrial importance, may be made a model station.

It has been said in the Budget Speech that 50 new halt stations will be provided. In this connection, I would request the hon. Railway Minister that halt may be provided at Bihat (zero mile) in my constituency.

East West Super Fast Express should stop at Begusari, the district headquarters. A divisional office may be opened at Barauni and the 10th Zonal office should be located in Bihar. Darbhanga, which is a divisional headquarter and is also the seat of a university, may please be connected with direct train service i.e. a direct train service may be introduced from Barauni to Darbhanga because a large number of students come to that place.

With these words I express my gratitude to the hon. Minister for presenting a very good Budget.

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI KESHARBAI KSHIR-SAGAR (Bhir): Mr. Chairman Sir, I rise to support the Railway Budget presented by the hon. Minister, Shri Madhav-

*The speech was originally delivered in Marathi,

[Shrimati Kesharbai Kshirsagar]

rao Scindia for the year 1987-88. As the hon. Minister knows Marathi well, I have decided to speak in Marathi which is my mother tongue. While formulating this Budget hon. Minister has kept the weaker sections and down trodden people in view. He has not proposed any increase in the passenger fares, freight, or parcel rates and yet shown a surplus of Rs. 69 crores. He had proved a Marathi saying which means that though the person is short statured, yet his achievements are great. I therefore, congratulate him for presenting a very good Budget. I also thank him for giving several concessions to war-widows, youths, farmers and drought affected persons. This is a special feature of this years Budget. He has also decided to open 50 new railway stations and convert 67 into model railway stations.

Some of the major concessions offered in this Budget are 75% concession in passenger fares to war widows, increase in the concession for transportation of fodder in drought affected areas from 8 to 25 per cent. Similarly, 50% concession in first class and second class fares and season tickets which was offered to handicapped persons continues this year as well. I thank him for offering those concessions to the needy persons.

Hon. Minister has doubled the contribution to the Reserve Fund. For accident compensation this year's Budget earmarks Rs. 60 crores. Indian Railways, I am happy to point out, are leading in the world in the matter of freight traffic. In the developing countries also Indian Railways occupy an important place.

16.00 hrs.

Indian Railways have achieved success in other spheres as well. Railwaymen participated in the international sports meets and won medals and laurels for the Railways. I congratulate the Railwaymen for achieving success in the field.

Under the 20 Point Programme, Ministry of Railways undertook the programme of planting of trees and successfully, implemented the programme by nurturing the trees. I thank the hon. Minister

for responding to this programme positively.

I would like to make a few suggestions for the improvement in the functioning of the Railways. There are passengers who take liquor while travelling in trains. It causes a lot of harassment to the women passengers. Last year I had raised this point when I spoke on the Railway Budget. But no improvement has taken place so far. There is a law to prohibit drinking in the trains but the law is not effectively implemented. Women cannot go to court of law due to social compulsions. That is why it is necessary to take strict action against persons who take drinks in trains. I myself had to face such a situation. That is why I would like to point out here and request you to take immediate action in this matter.

Another point is that clean lines must be maintained in trains and in railway stations. In second class compartments there is total lack of cleanliness. Railways must pay attention to this and maintain cleanliness.

Railway reservation charts are not displayed in time. They are displayed a few minutes before the arrival of the trains. This leads to lot of inconvenience to the passengers who are travelling with their families. I request that reservation charts should be displayed at least 2 hours before the arrival of the trains.

Regarding catering service I would like to point out that though you have effected some changes it has not brought about the desired improvement. Though the lunch packet is priced at Rs. 7/- it does not give standard food. As the catering service is presently manned by male persons it is not satisfactorily managed. Women are ideally suited to offer catering services because of their natural qualities like economy, cleanliness and therefore it would be better if the catering services in Railways are offered to women, for its management. Women officers should be appointed to oversee catering service and 25% of staffs and canteens should be given to women for their management. As this year happens to be the

International Womens Year and this weak women's week, I request the hon. Minister to give this gift to women on this occasion. As women do not lag behind in any sphere, they should not be deprived of this opportunity.

I suggest that five bogies in each train would be especially reserved for women. As women find it difficult to get accomodation in genera[compartments especially when they are travelling with their children, and luggage, it is necessary to reserve five to six second class bogies in each train,

Now, I would like to speak a few words about my constituency. Two delegations of 100 persons from my constituency Beed had met hon. Prime Minister and Railway Minister. Petitions were submitted and discussions were held. We had tought that the survey work of the new line would be taken up and work started. But I was sorry to find that in this year's Budget there is no inclusion of the Survey of Beed railway line in this Budget. Beed is the most backward district. Every year 3 to 4 lakh persons of this district go in search of employment to big cities. As there are no railways in this area, it has hampered industrial development and led to large scale unemployment in this area. That is why I would like to request the hon. Minister to tour this area to have first hand knowledge of the problems of the people living there and immediately take up the survey of Ahmednagar—Beed—Parali railway line and sanction this new railway line. This is a backward area and it is the policy of the Government to give priority to development of backward areas. But it is our experience that those areas which are rich and affluent are offered some new railway lines while those poor areas which have no resources are constantly neglected in the matter of sanctioning new railway lines. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to give preference to Ahmednagar-Parali railway line and take up the survey work immediately. If the hon. Minister personally visits this area I am quite sure that he himself will realise the injustice alone to area and take steps to do justice to this area.

Beed district has not been granted even single K.M. new railway line. There is no overbridge at Parali railway station in the absence of which many accidents take place every year. In the Railway Committee I had pointed out and you had assured me that this would be done. The State Govt., I am sure, will come forward to contribute its share in the construction of the overbridge. Therefore, I request you to take up the construction of the overbridge at the earlier. Parali is one of important religious places where thousands of pilgrims visit every year. I request that Parali should be selected as one of 67 model stations. I also request that Ghatnandur which connects 50 small villages should be selected for setting up new rural railway station.

You have earmarked only 3 crores rupees for Parali—Manmad broad gauge line in Marathwada. The broad gauge line was sanctioned long back. But every year a meagre sum is allocated with the result that the work has not been completed so far. I request that at least Rs. 10 crores should be sanctioned so that the work can be taken up and completed at the earliest.

Aurangabad should also be developed as a model railway station. As Aurangabad is an important tourist centre where thousands of tourists come to visit Ajanta caves, I request you to develop this railway station as a model railway station and add to the charm of this city.

I am not a poet or writer like Shri Bairagi. I am a women coming from rural area. Therefore I would like to invoke the blessings of Lord Vithal and pray for the long life of hon. Prime Minister and Railway Minister and wish them every success for serving weaker sections of the society and down-trodden people of the country.

With these words I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak and lend my hearty support to the Budget.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is true that there has been no increase in the railway fares in this Railway budget but it is so because of the fact that the fares have already been increased indiscriminately some months ago.

AN HON. MEMBER : The fares have been increased constitutionally and not indiscriminately.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : It was done at that time keeping the future aim in mind. Generally the people express apprehension about it. If the Railway Budget is taken into consideration without that increase in the fares, you will find a different picture. Already the increased fares are a burden on the general public.

Earlier, railways were regarded as a cheaper and convenient mode of transport for the poor people. But today things have changed. The fares are so high that it has created difficulty for the common man. There is apprehension that at the time of presenting Supplementary Budget you will take care of what has been left out now and will make good the loss of revenue sustained due to not increasing the fare in the main budget.

The condition of the railway tracks is very bad and the pace of repair work is also very slow. It has affected the railway development in a number of areas. If you take into account the present speed of work, you will see that the renewal of these tracks will take 10 to 15 years and by that time the tracks which are in good condition now will also be worn out. Therefore, there is need to speed up the renewal work.

You have issued Railway Bonds to meet the shortage of funds in the Railways. You can find ways to raise money but it is essential to repair the railway tracks.

There is a shortage of wagons and coaches. A number of them have become over-aged and there are many which cannot be put to use. You have switched

over to diesel from locomotive and now you are switching over to electricity. Electricity is regarded as the best fuel but the pace of electrification is very slow. This should be speeded up.

Work on the electrification of the main line from Delhi to Howrah *via* Patna and Asansol has not been taken up till today. A decision was taken many years ago that electrification of this line would be taken up but nothing has been done so far. Therefore, I would request that the work of electrification of the lines from Mughalsarai to Asansol *via* Patna may be started and completed expeditiously.

The required number of workshops are not there. The price of meals has been raised. A number of other colleagues have said that though the meals have become costlier, yet Scindiaji likes them. According to the figures given by him, many people like such meals. If meals are kept in the packets for 4 to 5 hours, these start emitting foul smell. I have my own experience in this respect. The general public do not like it. In the old system, one could get meal of one's taste. But as of now, on the one hand, it has become costlier and on the other hand, it is not of quality. So the system should be changed. The facility of drinking water, cleanliness and lighting is inadequate for the second class passengers. Thefts take place even in the coaches. If one goes for reservation, one returns disappointed. He is told at the station that he will get reservation in the train but it is a well known fact that the passengers have to pay extra for it.

Now I would like to say about Bihar. The condition of Bihar is very pitiable in every respect.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : The same is true of Madhya Pradesh also.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : I agree that Madhya Pradesh is also in the same condition. I am not against it. Madhya Pradesh should also develop and make progress. Recently the hon. Minister had gone to Patna and he had talks with the Chief Minister.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : A number of former Ministers had been from Bihar.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : It is also our misfortune. Ram Subhag Singh, Jagjivan Ram, Lalit Narain Mishra and Kedar Pandey had been the Ministers. Bihar plays an important role in the constitution of the Central Government. But the leadership in Bihar and the members of the ruling Congress Party fail to exert pressure on the Centre. They can shake the Centre if they so desire. A time will definitely come when the people will no longer tolerate this kind of neglect.

There is a longstanding demand for laying double track on Patna-Gaya line. I want that this work should be taken up. The hon. Minister might be knowing that once upon a time, Nalanda was a famous University. It has close links with Rajgir and Gaya. There is a railway line from Bakhtiyarpur to Rajgir. If it is extended upto Gaya, it will meet a long standing demand.

You have nationalised Fatwa-Islampur railway line. The demand for nationalisation was not made so as to do away with the railway system there. That line should be converted into broad gauge line and extended upto Gaya.

Bakhtiyarpur is a junction. It is known for its historical places. Super fast trains like Tinsukhia and Deluxe etc. do not stop there. Had there been Rajdhani Express, we would not have demanded this facility. But not giving a stoppage to Tinsukhia and Deluxe trains at Bakhtiyarpur is not justified. The people of Bihar want that the Rajdhani Express which runs through Gaya should be run *via* Patna at least two days in a week and on the rest of the days, it can run *via* Gaya as usual.

The Government had proposed to link Delhi with a train in which one could travel overnight and reach Delhi the next morning. Shrimati Prabhawati Gupta has just said about Magadh Express. Its timetable should be rescheduled in such a way

that it should start from there in the evening and reach Delhi the next morning. It will benefit the traders and the M. Ps. and the general public will also get relief. At present, this train starts at 8 O'clock in the night and reaches here at 12 O'clock in the noon. In this way it does not serve anyone's purpose.

A demand is being made by the people for the last 8 to 10 years for a railway bridge at Patna. Similarly, there is a demand to construct a railway bridge at Patna 'by pass' and to introduce a new train. Incidentally, this demand too is linked with Bihar. From Patna, Madras Express is there but that too is not a super-fast train. But the trains like Purulia Howrah Express, Janata Express and Bokaro-Madras Express, which you have discontinued, should be restored forthwith as it will not be in the public interest to discontinue these trains.

Hardly 25 per cent railway workers and employees have been allotted quarters. You are going to construct 7,000 new quarters next year. I think the pace of this work is very slow. When you regard the railway employees and workers as one family and want to increase their efficiency, then arrangements for their housing should be made and this work should be speeded up. There is a shortage of good doctors, specialists and medicines in the railway hospitals. The Railway Department should, particularly, look into these matters.

It has become a practice to retrench workers without giving them show cause notice. The Supreme Court has also delivered a ruling to this effect. I would like to say that before taking any action against the railway employees, they should be served with a show cause notice and should be given an opportunity for hearing.

The Government should reconsider the cases of those employees who are facing action due to their trade union activities or those who took part in the strike in 1981. You should try to take back such employees.....(Interruptions).....

[Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav]

You should not give them a chance for resorting to strike.....*(Interruptions)*... You also resort to strike in the States where you are in the Opposition. I can cite a number of such examples. No one resorts to strike deliberately and as a hobby. One has to bear the consequences of a strike. Therefore, you must not allow a situation for the strike to develop.

At present, there are 2.50 lakh casual labourers working in the Railways for the last 10 to 12 years. Their work is of a regular nature, but their services are not being regularised. They should be regularised without delay.

The ban on the new appointments should be lifted. The other Members have also said that the Railway Department is such an organisation which opens avenues for employment. For removing unemployment from the country, it is imperative that the ban should be lifted.

Generally, the rules for safety are flouted. I would like to give you a few examples. Such instances have come to our notice where goods train runs without the guard and the driver is forced to run the train without adequate brake power. This should be looked into. Such thing must not be allowed to recur in future.....*(Interruptions)* Incidents of chain pulling and ticketless travel take place in Bihar on a large scale.

The condition of the labourers who live in railway colonies is very pitiable. There is no road there and even if the roads are there, they are in a very bad condition. The roofs of the houses, where the labourers live, need repairs. There is no cleanliness and there is a shortage of drinking water. Jabalpur, Mughalsarai, Kharagpur, Danapur are some of such railway colonies where these conditions exist.

A number of hon. Members have spoken about the development of Bihar...*(Interruptions)*... I would conclude after making the last point. It is true that

there is a practice of ticketless travel and causing damage to the railway property in Bihar. There is maximum indiscipline in Bihar.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): What are you saying? If you travel from Aligarh to Delhi, you will see how much difficulties the people have to face.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: After all this is the impact of the doings in Bihar. Earlier, such things did not take place.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY: You are the representative of Bihar and you are saying this.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Tewaryji, I cannot agree with you on this issue.....*(Interruptions)* If members of our party indulge in such things, you should arrest them also. But majority of the ticketless travellers wear white caps. You can see the police record. It is said that this matter falls under the jurisdiction of the State Government. But you cannot improve the situation by leaving the matter on the State Government.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): The Minister for Public Enterprises belongs to Bihar. What more they want?

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: It is a good thing. He should get some other good department except the Railways because in the railways he will do nothing.

I was saying that if a person from some other State reaches Bihar, he gets perplexed. He becomes worried about his future. I would like to say that this matter should be taken up with the State Government and stringent measures should be taken. Only then such a thing can be checked. If one goes to South, one feels secure and even at other places one does not find any harassment. Whenever we go to our State, we find that the bonafide passengers have to travel

standing in the trains while the passengers travelling without tickets occupy seats. Therefore, as long as you do not pay attention towards it, the position cannot be improved.

SHRI VIR SEN (Khurja) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Railways are like arteries and blood circulation mechanism of our country. The Railways are very important for our industrial development. A part of the country remains backward with Railway facility in the same way as a limb of the body becomes useless without blood circulation. While this Budget has provided some unprecedented relief, I think some more attention needs to be paid to certain things. Capacity utilisation has been increased which deserves appreciation. You have paid more attention towards idle wagons to increase the utilisation for which you deserve congratulation. Similarly you have taken some other steps such as the provision to set up a financial corporation named IRFC which I consider to be a good step. You have also tried to increase the frequency of some trains and have also introduced some new trains. But the only complaint that I have is that all the new trains, which you have proposed to introduce, have been given to the southern region only. Why have you ignored the northern region? All the eight new trains have been given to the South and the frequencies of trains have also been increased in the southern region. Why you have not cared to look at the northern region above Vindhyaachal? Do you think that a saturation point has been reached in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar or in other areas of northern region and hence there is no need to undertake further developmental works? I think you should pay attention towards this area also. I do not believe that the Railway capacity in northern India has increased to such an extent that no further developmental work is required to be done there.

You are doing electrification and energisation but you are ignoring north India. You know that Delhi—Howrah Railway line has been electrified but the other lines in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar

have not been electrified. The electrification of Delhi-Lucknow railway line is very necessary. Similarly, Lucknow-Gorakhpur line should also be electrified because non-electrification of these lines causes a lot of inconvenience to the passengers.

You have mentioned about certain amenities. You have also said about computerisation. It is true that computerisation will check corruption to some extent. I myself have experienced it. One day I was standing at the railway station. The Booking Clerk told the person standing before me that no seat was available but when he gave some extra money, seat was given to him. After that, I too received the same reply, but when I looked at the chart and told him that so many seats were available, he allotted a seat to me also. In ordinary booking, your staff refuses giving seats in the first instance but if you pay Rs. 10 extra to them, you will immediately get seat. As has been mentioned by one woman Member also, I think it is necessary to expand the computerisation scheme. It would be much better if this arrangement is extended to maximum number of railway stations. At least, at big railway stations, computerisation is a must. You have proposed in the Budget that cushions will be provided in second class also. It is a matter of gratification that you are taking care of second class also. But if you look at first class compartments, you will find that their condition has become worse than that of third class. The passengers prefer to travel in AC sleeper rather than in first class. Therefore, I would request you that it would be much better if you could renovate them also.

One thing I would like to say to the hon. Minister regarding catering. I do not know as to what standard has been fixed there. I am not talking about packet meal which is served in aluminium Casseroles. I am saying about the other meal supplied in the trains, which contains only four *poories*, which do not make a square meal. However, full cost is charged for it. Therefore, I would like to request you that there must be proper checking of it also.

[Shri Vir Sen]

You have mentioned in the Budget that a cell will be set up for the redressal of public grievances. But the question arises as to who will be there in this cell. If you entrust the responsibility of hearing public grievances to the railway employees, I think that will be like setting a fox to keep the geese. You cannot expect that public grievances will be redressed by these people. For this purpose, the best way will be to constitute a committee of non-officials and no railway employees or officer should be the member of such Committee. Moreover, if this committee is not bestowed with recommendatory and penal powers, I think, this entire system will be of no use and nobody will follow it.

Another complaint that I have is that you pay more attention to long route trains only. You are very kind to the long route trains like Calcutta-Delhi, Bombay-Delhi or Madras-Delhi. Delhi is the heart of the country. It is like the heart of the human body which circulates blood to other parts of the body, but no facility has been provided to the people of adjoining areas of Delhi. You have provided fast trains to all places, as a result of which there is no scope for running passenger trains. The F.T.D. trains from Fatehpur to Delhi via Tundla has been discontinued and as a result of that there is no passenger train on this route from 8.00 AM to 8.30 P.M. I want to tell the hon. Minister that about 10,000 daily passengers are there who travel on monthly season tickets but there is no capacity with the Railways for them. One day I also travelled by that train and found that 50 passengers were there in the compartment which had accommodation for only 10 passengers. People are packed in the over-crowded trains like gunny bags. I have written to you in this regard several times but every time I get stereotype reply from you that it will slow down the speed of trains and that will cause inconvenience to the long distance passengers. If you deprive the people of nearby areas of Delhi of the railway facility on the sole ground that it will cause inconvenience to long distance passengers, I think, that is not

justified. I would like to ask whether the people in adjoining areas of Delhi are not the citizens of India? Why are you denying railway facilities to them? While presenting last year's Budget, the hon. Railway Minister had remarked that he wanted the people of adjoining areas to travel by buses. It appears that the Railway officers have a kind of connivance with the bus owners and they want that the people from Delhi to Bareilly and other adjoining areas of Delhi should travel by bus. I think, it should be looked into because it is possible that there might be some concoction in it. I do not think that providing two to four stoppages for the people living in adjoining areas of Delhi will cause any inconvenience to the passengers of Bombay or Calcutta. You give up the excuse of traffic and pay special attention towards it instead.

Thirdly, I would like to say that second class passengers contribute a major part of the revenue and they should not be ignored. I have seen in your statement that as much as Rs. 1530 crores are earned from second class whereas first class contributes only Rs. 85 crores. Therefore, it is not proper to ignore the second class passengers.

One more thing that I would like to say is that long route trains have very limited stoppages. The Assam Mail does not have its stoppage at Hapur which is the biggest grain and *gur* market of the world and it is number two to Farkhabad in respect of potato. The people from Bulandshahr, Muzaffarnagar, Sharanpur, Ghaziabad and Aligarh have to catch trains from there. It is a central point which covers a number of districts. Therefore, it is not justified not to give stoppage to Assam Mail there. You should think over it.

One thing I would like to say about Railway level crossings. In this regard a rule has been framed that the matter will be considered only if such proposal is received from the State Government. These are minor items which do not involve huge expenditure. At some places, farmers are living on one side of the railway track and their fields are on

the other side of the track, due to which the farmers have to take a round of several miles for taking carts to their fields. Therefore, railway level crossings can be provided at such places because it involves an expenditure of Rs. four to five thousand only. You should provide such railway level crossings at the request of the villagers and the matter need not be referred to the State Government. You can enquire into this matter and ensure that such railway level crossings are provided wherever they are needed or where some unmetalled roads are there.

Regarding chain pulling, I would like to say that such incidents occur at certain specific places. Specially the Government employee, who travel by trains and want to get down at their village, pull the chain. Everyone including the railway administration knows the places where chains pulling is done. So why it is not checked?...*(Interruptions)*.....I was saying that the railway administration was pretty well aware as to where chains were pulled and where hose pipes were cut. Police arrangements should be made to check these things and the people who get down at such places should be arrested and prosecuted. Sometimes trains are late by even ten hours due to the chain pullings. You should be vigilant about it.

SHRI MOHD, MAHFOOZ, ALI KHAN (Etah) : Your Guard and Driver will then see to it.

SHRI VIR SEN : You have to do it frequently and once a person is imprisoned for two to three months, he will never indulge in chain pulling again. You have to continue such a drive only for few days.

Though I belong to Uttar Pradesh, yet I would like to say one thing about Delhi. Keeping in view the fast increasing traffic congestion in Delhi, there will be no place for cars and buses in the next ten years' time. The traffic congestion in Delhi is increasing at a great pace. Therefore, you have to think about Metropolitan Railway and underground Railway for

Delhi right now. You have done it in Calcutta, which is a good thing. You should prepare similar plan for Delhi also. You have mentioned it in your Budget speech that no agency can bear such a huge expenditure. I also admit that no single agency can do the work of extending urgent service, but keeping in view the convenience, the income, the savings, you may please initiate the process of planning for this right now.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this budget.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : His name is Shanti, lest you should mistake him for a lady, because mostly ladies are getting their turn today.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is Shanti Lal.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : The Railway Department has progressed a lot under the able leadership of the young Railway Minister. There has been improvement in many fields. We find a reduction in corruption also for which the Railway Department was ill famed. I congratulate him for all these things. The separate programme formulated for research and design is a commendable step. Besides, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards some of the problems of my area. The Rajdhani Express, which runs between Bombay and Delhi, stops at Gangapur for two minutes; this halt could have been provided at Kota. This train stops at 4 to 5 stations only which include Gangapur and Ratlam. I request the Railway Minister to stop it at Kota for the reason that Kota is twenty times bigger a city than Gangapur and four times as big as Ratlam. Passengers do not board this train and alight from it at these places, whereas a number of passengers will be boarding and alighting at Kota. The train is halted at Gangapur for the purpose of changing the staff and filling water in the train, which could be done at Kota as well. When these trains are meant for big cities, then Kota is also

[Shri Shanti Dhariwal]

a big city. Both, the passengers and the Railways will be benefited if the train halts there. My second request is that there has been a demand for the last 7 to 8 years for the introduction of a new train between Ratlam and Delhi. This demand has been rejected, some times on the ground of shortage of terminal and sometimes on the ground of shortage of engines etc. The D.R.M. of Kota has always been proposing that since a number of persons belonging to this place have to return disappointed, a new train may be introduced and it should run through Kota. It is my submission that it should be run *via* Kota. As the, hon. Railway Minister belongs to Madhya Pradesh, he is more attached to that place.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : If it is possible, you may have a train by jumping over Madhya Pradesh. When we happen to be enroute, what can we do ?

e

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : If those belonging to Madhya Pradesh have a complaint against the Railway Minister that he did not give anything to Madhya Pradesh, and instead gave everything to Assam and Bihar, then let him give them a new train and run it from Ratlam to Delhi. The Dehradun Express is the most popular train in which the passengers belonging to the lower strata of the society also travel. Six coaches for Indore are attached to it at Nagda, whereas there is already a separate train from Indore for Delhi. It is not understood as to why another six coaches are being attached to it. I am not able to understand the style of functioning of the Railway Board. Why six coaches for Indore are being attached at Nagda whereas a train already runs from Indore for Delhi ? The same is the position with the Frontier Mail to which also some coaches for Indore are being attached at Nagda whereas a train already runs for Bombay from Indore. A few days ago, on 19.12.1986, a new order was issued by the Railway Board and as per that order Kota has been declared 'Tankhaiya' (out-cast). In accordance with the above order, the quota for Kota in the Frontier Mail has

been cut. The hon. Railway Minister is not present here, how can we carry on with this ?

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Some Minister is taking notes on his behalf.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : According to this order, two seats in A. C. Two Tier and 4 berths in second class sleeper have been reduced from the quota for Kota whereas the quota for Kota should have been increased. Kota should have got at least 8 seats in A.C. two tier, 8 first class berths and at least 40 berths in the second class sleeper but as of now, only 15 second class sleeper are given. Despite a separate train being run from Indore for Bombay, the people of Indore are also provided seats at this station. The position at Kota is such that everyday names of at least 15 persons for A.C. two tier, 1st persons for first class and 30 persons for second class are put in the waiting list and taking into account this average, the quota for Kota must have been increased, but on the contrary, it has been reduced. I do not understand as to how you decide about the quota allocation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I want to say a few more points, one of which concerns the Awadh Express. A second class sleeper coach must be attached to Awadh Express for Howrah from Kota. In this connection, I had written a letter to the then Minister of Transport, Shri Bansi Lal, who passed on to the same to the Railway Board. He forwarded the same reply which he got from the Railway Board. I want to read out the reply of the Railway Board.

"The people will not like reserving the passenger train for passengers bound for Howrah".

From this you can guess about the functioning of the Railway Board as to how irrelevant reply they give. And our

hon. Minister forwards the same reply without going through it. However, no such reply has been received by me from the present Railway Minister; please excuse me.

My last submission is that there is a very big town in my Lok Sabha Constituency called Baran, the population of which is about 60 thousand. The people of that town have to come to Kota for proceeding to Bombay. Baran is a big market place and a lot of people travel to and fro Bombay and Ahmedabad from this place. It is my submission that arrangements for providing reservation for them should be made at Baran itself for some seats in second class in 166 Sabarmati Express, for a few seats in Sarvodaya Express for travelling to Ahmedabad and for some seats in Frontier Mail for travelling to Bombay, so that their unnecessary up and down journey to Kota could be avoided. If they get reservation there itself, it will be convenient for them.

Besides, a train runs from Gwalior to Sheopur. Gwalior is quite adjacent to my area. Since I am talking of Gwalior, the Railway Minister would have immediately accepted the proposal had he been present here. He would have been so delighted at the proposal that he would have certainly accepted it. It is my submission that a new line may be laid from Sheopur to Baran. Lakhs of people belonging to this area did not even have the chance of seeing a train. If this portion measuring 60-70 kms. from Sheopur to Baran is connected by a new rail line, then they could have the darshan of a train. I, therefore, urge once again that the work to lay Sheopur-Baran line may please be taken up without delay.

At the time of presenting the budget proposals, the hon. Minister had said about selecting 67 model stations. I submit that there should be no partiality in it and they should be selected honestly. The stations like Kota, where the headquarters of D.R.M. are located, must be included in model stations.

Similarly, overbridges are to be constructed. It is my request that one such over-bridge must be constructed near Kota, because people have to wait there for hours together. You should also pay attention towards this. I express my thanks to the hon. Minister for giving assurance regarding introduction of Kota-Bhopal train from 1st April.

[English]

SHRI S. G. GHOLAP (Thane) : I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak.

Almost all the Members have thanked the Minister. It is not because there is no increase in the fares and freights but because of the efficiency and progress he has shown. The Railway is the biggest undertakings in the country. Almost all undertakings are in loss. But the Railway is such an undertaking that it is making progress day by day. It has a heavy investment of Rs. 9500 crores. Its staff is 1.7 million. The budget of the Railways of the next year is Rs. 2980 crores. Its daily passenger traffic is 10 million and daily suburban traffic is 6 million. Its daily freight is 8 lakh tonnes. It is because of this achievement I give thanks to the Minister. As compared to other undertakings, the Railway is definitely very progressive. The credit for this goes to the Minister and the staff.

Now, I am making some suggestions.

There should be a separate suburban division for Bombay area. The Petitions Committee of this House as recommended and stated as follows :

".....It was emphasised by the petitioners that there was a need for increased improvement in managerial efficiency of the suburban railways. The suburban passengers and goods traffic in Bombay had increased to such an extent that there was a need for a separate Railway Division of the two suburban sections of Western and Central Railways.

[Shri G. S. Gholap]

It was further stated that suburban sections commuters problems were quite different from other traffic and, therefore, in order to coordinate the functioning and pooling of resources like EMU stock, spares, utilisation of rakes, car sheds facilities, etc. of both the Railways, a separate Railway Division might be set up. The Committee would like the Ministry of Railways to examine this aspect of the matter...

The Railways must have sent some reply to this. I also request that a separate division be created so that the Minister may know that there is no loss in Bombay area.

In the Bombay suburban traffic there is overcrowding to such an extent that the Petitions Committee has stated :

"The Committee also find that approximately 2.5 million commuters travel by Western Railway and 2.7 million by Central Railway daily. During the preceding decade, the commuters traffic had been increasing at the rate of 10 per cent per annum. In the absence of matching capacity having been created for carrying the commuters considerable gap between the demand and capacity has resulted. Consequently, there is very heavy over-crowding on suburban trains, particularly peak hours. The EMU rakes have a capacity of seating about 900, but more than 3500 commuters travel by these rakes during peak hours."

The Railways have admitted that due to heavy over-crowding on suburban trains, the railways are carrying four times more than the actual capacity. Therefore, what is the solution for this? More trains will have to be given but the tracks are the same. So, it is not possible. The only solution is that 12-car rakes should be run. Accordingly, this year the Railways have started one such rake in Cen-

tral Railway and one in Western Railway on experimental basis and the people are satisfied with these. Therefore, I suggest that it should be made permanent. More rakes should be given which can be used for all big and important stations so that the problem of the Bombay area is solved.

If the Bombay Suburban Division is created, then they can know whether there is a loss or not. The Railway Ministry always says that there is a loss in suburban trains. When the number of passengers travelling is four times than the capacity, how can there be a loss?

The Kokan Railway has gone only up to Roha in so many years. It has to be constructed up to Ratnagiri which really is Kokan area. So, I request that this should be taken up at least up to Kokan area.

Mankhurd-Belapur is a new line which is to be constructed and a provision of Rs. 4 crores has been made for this line. The State Government has agreed to give 67 per cent share and 33 per cent is to be provided by the Railways. Then why only Rs. four crores have been provided? I do not know whether this is the share of the Railway alone or whether it includes the share of the State Government also. I request the hon. Minister that more money should be given for this. It is said that surcharge will be levied on the ticket and then only the money will be given back. I do not know whether it is a loan or it is a contribution made by the State Government to the Railways. After all, it will be Railways' property, it is not going to be the State Government's property. So, why should the surcharge be levied?

Kalava-Belapur railway line is connecting Thane to new Bombay. CIDCO has given the whole money for the construction of this line. CIDCO has given the money and the work is to be completed before 1988. So, I would like to know whether the project will be completed within that period or not. Whether the CIDCO is paying only 67 per cent or the whole amount, that is to be clarified.

Then, Sir, at Kalyan station under Central Railway, the work for a Home platform is going on for two years but still it has not been completed. I will request the hon. Railway Minister to complete it early.

Diva-Vasai railway line is linking Western Railway with Central Railway. This is a new line which has been completed three years before. The goods traffic is going on for the last three-four years but the local traffic is not allowed on this line. When we three-four M.Ps. inspected this line, then it was pointed out that a loop line and two more stations are yet to be developed for which nearly Rs. four crores are needed. When so much investment has been made why the Railway is not providing Rs. four crores so that the distance can be reduced and the two railway lines can be connected. I request that local trains should be run on this line.

Then, I suggest the construction of a new railway line. Of course, it is committed that no new line will be taken up but BMRD is the area where industries are not allowed. Outside this area, industries are allowed. Murbad, which is a part of my constituency, is an area where industries are allowed. About ten years before, a survey was made of Kalyan Nagar Pathan-Worli-Baijnath area and Murbad is a part of that survey. Therefore, it is requested that this railway line should be taken up from Kalyan to at least Murbad so that this industrial area can be developed.

17.00 hrs.

Now I come to amenities. Railway authorities have said that they will give amenities and lot of money has been provided in this regard. Last year I visited so many stations. I came to know that almost all lavatories and urinals were destroyed as a matter of policy because hutment dwellers nearabout were coming and using them and making them dirty. Railway authorities have decided now that urinals are to be constructed. Early action should be taken and requisite amenities should be provided.

In Kalyan or in Bombay stalls had been constructed ten or fifteen years ago. Sanction was given to them at that time. Now rush is so much that stalls should not be there. Railway authorities have not taken any action to remove them. Action should be taken to clear the way for passengers.

Rajdhani Super train from Bombay to Delhi and From Bombay to Calcutta is there, from V.T. there is no Rajdhani train on the Central Railway. I, therefore, request that Rajdhani Train should run on the Central Railway from V.T. to Delhi.

I thank the Minister for giving so many things. I do hope that the Railway Deptt. will take action on my suggestions. I support the Railway Budget.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): While participating in the Railway Budget for 1987-88, I am extremely sorry to state that it is the Indian Railway which is responsible for transporting a large number of people belonging to weaker sections of society, particularly the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to Assam from Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and other States. In pre-Independence days, they were forcibly employed in the tea gardens in Assam who have been still kept in the darkness from social economic and educational upliftment and those people have been counting their days for their uncertain destiny even after forty years of Independence of the country. If there is any State in the country, it is the State of Assam which is the most backward State in respect of railway transport. Assam has been neglected since pre-Independence days till date, because of unsympathetic and step-motherly attitude of the Government of India.

India does not consist of a few big and powerful States alone. It also equally consists of the State of Assam and other small States of the North Eastern region, which are part and parcel of the country. If Assam remains backward and undeveloped or underdeveloped in comparison to other States of the country then the

[Shri Bhadreswar Tanti]

phraseology of the Prime Minister "Unity & Integrity" will be jeopardised. All the problems of the State must be viewed in a microscopic way. Assam is contributing a huge amount of money to the Treasury of the Railway Department by transporting tea, jute, coal forest products, oil, etc. But in return, Assam has been looked down upon from rendering benefits and developmental programmes. This time the Railway Budget has given nothing to the North Eastern Region, particularly Assam. (Interruptions) You see, what has been given to the State of Assam. No new project has been given to the State. You see, how many rail-cum-road bridges are in Bihar and U.P. In Assam, we are demanding three bridges. Till today, the Railways have failed to construct the bridges, except the one in Gauhati. No new railway line has been taken up. What has been taken up has been the project which had already been taken up last year. You are putting old wine in the new bottle. In the last year's Budget, you have assured the House that a new superfast train will be introduced. But you have not said anything that you are going to abolish the old train, Assam Mail. Only the name plate you have changed in the old train and made it a superfast. This time also, Trivandrum Express has been abolished and a new superfast train, Gauhati-Cochin train has been introduced. Why is this misleading statement made by the hon. Railway Minister in the House? I do not understand. You see yourself and compare it with other States. I do not know whether you are getting these benefits in your State or not. But we are the worst sufferers. People cannot travel in Assam. The conditions of bogies are worst. You do not find drinking water in the train; pantry services are worst. If you purchase a ticket, you do not get reservation. If you do not purchase the ticket, you get reservation. Your corrupt officers are involved in this scandal. People cannot travel from one place to another.

If you go to other State, you will find hundreds of fly-overs but in Assam there are only a few over bridges in Gauhati and Dibrugarh. In places like Jorhat,

Golaghat, Nowgaon, Goalpara, Tezpur and Lakhimpur, you do not find even a single flyover. I want to know the reason why. Why is this kind of unsympathetic and step-motherly attitude being given to the State of Assam? You are earning a lot from the State of Assam through tea trade. We are earning 66% of the foreign exchange out of tea trade. But in return, we have not been given anything. If you do not want unity and integrity, it is a different thing. (Interruptions) You see the map of Assam and compare it with the map of India. Only a few yard is left to cut off from rest of India. For providing employment, what is there in the Budget. What is the assurance to the unemployed people? Thousands and thousands of unemployed people, particularly unemployed youths are waiting for employment in the State of Assam. You have even failed to set up a Railway division at Rangia which has been a long standing demand of the people of Assam. We have been demanding that a separate division should be set up there. Instead of that, you are maintaining a division from Alipur in West Bengal and you are importing foreigners appointing them in Railway and sending them to Assam. You are creating the foreigners problem in Assam.

It is our sad experience that we cannot travel in the first class and second class Compartments. Nobody is there to look into it. There are no facilities. The seats in the waiting rooms are rickety. One cannot sit there. It is your own people (Cong-I) who are saying that the natural water of man is being provided as drinking water in the trains. I agree to it.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : If you take that, you will live till 91 years of age. Why don't you understand that?

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Perhaps that is your experience. We are part and parcel of the country. We want to be with you always. We are maintaining the unity and integrity of India. We do not publish in the papers and put posters for unity and

integrity. We are setting an example for the unity and integrity. In the last 7 or 8 years, in the patriotic movement, the railway employees also joined it. But they have not been given their pay and wages as yet. You are duty bound to pay the salary and allowances of the railway employees in terms of the Assam accord. But you have failed. Why? How much money will be involved if the railway employees are paid. It will not be much. You are going to do some welfare work to the railway employees but you have failed to pay their salary and wages for their long seven years agitation. You cannot regard them as criminals. They are patriots. Now they are entitled to their salary for their patriotic movement. The old freedom fighters are getting their pension from the State as well as from the Central Government for their involvement in the freedom struggle. But those who are involved in the foreign national agitation in Assam have not been paid their pay and wages at all. How can you maintain the unity and integrity of the country? Only by repeating the phraseology of the Prime Minister in regard to unity and integrity will not serve the purpose. You must do it practically. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilaur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I join my other colleagues in congratulating the hon. Railway Minister for presenting a balanced budget which is very beneficial to the general public and I hope that, as has just now been said by Shri-Bairagi, if no increase in the fare and freight charges is contemplated in the supplementary budget, the hon. Minister would actually earn a lasting acclaim.

Besides, the hon. Minister has made some announcements that new trains would be introduced, some halt stations would be provided and some lines would be electrified. All these are commendable things. But I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the Kanpur Central Station. Kanpur is a very big station not only of Uttar Pradesh, but also of north India and is a

very big junction of Northern Railway, Central Railway and North Eastern Railway, but it is a matter of regret that there is not a single train for Delhi, Bombay or Howrah which originally starts from Kanpur. In this connection, I wrote to the hon. Minister several times, but my request was not considered. It is a matter of great pleasure that he has announced the introduction of a super-fast train which would run from Lucknow to Bombay via Kanpur thrice a week. I request that instead of running the train thrice a week, it should be run daily and quota for Kanpur should be increased. If it is done, our demand would be met to some extent.

Along with this, another thing that I would like to say is that Kanpur is a very big industrial city which goes on expanding continuously. But it is a dirty city too. The railways should also co-operate in removing the dirt. At the same time, I would like to say that there is a goods godown at Koparganj in Kanpur which is pretty old and it should be removed from there immediately so that the Kanpur Central Station could be developed and new platform could be raised. Kanpur should also be developed as a model station.

Besides, I would also submit that you have only one line from Kanpur to Delhi which has a very heavy traffic. Goods trains as well as other trains run on this line thereby causing a lot of pressure on this line. In this connection, I would suggest that you should give special status to Panki by formulating a new scheme. A narrow gauge railway line is already there from Panki to Mandhna, a stretch of 15 to 20 kms, and from Mandhna to Bithoor. A broad gauge line from Bithoor to Choubeypur should be laid and the existing narrow gauge line mentioned above may be converted into broad gauge line. If you could extend it upto Farrukhabad then certainly you will have an alternative route for Delhi because in that case there will be a broad gauge line from Kanpur to Farrukhabad, and a broad gauge train already runs from Farrukhabad to Shikohabad. You can run good trains on this route and it

[Shri Jagdish Awasthi]

will reduce the pressure of trains on Kanpur-Delhi line.

Alongwith this, I would also like to submit that as in the case of capital city, Lucknow, Kanpur has also got its importance, but no electrification work on railway lines has so far been started between Lucknow and Kanpur for which demand has been made time and again. It is our demand that electrification of Lucknow-Kanpur section should be done. In addition to it, there is a double broad gauge line from Kanpur to Unnao. But the stretch between Unnao and Lucknow, a distance of hardly 50 kms. and having 6-7 stations only, has only single track. I also demand that double track should be laid between Unnao and Lucknow because it will be beneficial to the industrialisation of Kanpur and other cities and towns located between Kanpur and Lucknow. I hope that you will get a survey conducted and provide double track between Lucknow and Kanpur and will also electrify it.

Besides, railway line between Kanpur and Jhansi is still single. Therefore, I demand that it should also be doubled. If you connect this branch line with the main line, that will not only benefit the people of Pukhraya, Kalapi, Urai and Jhansi but will also enhance your revenue receipt. Now Kanpur has become a big city. Long route trains have been provided there but no local train has been provided which is causing a great deal of inconvenience to the passengers of neighbouring areas. Local trains are in a very bad condition there. Kanpur falls in Northern Railway, Central Railway and North Eastern Railway. I want that some local train such as Kannauj-Kanpur, Urai-Kanpur, Etawa-Kanpur, Hamirpur-Kanpur and Fatehpur-Kanpur should be introduced so as to extend the railway facilities to the local people. These local trains will definitely facilitate the local people to come and go to Kanpur and they will get benefit of these local trains. Local trains are necessary to provide railway facility to the local people. Just now one hon. Member was also pointing out that only long route trains were given for Delhi. Therefore, you must provide

local trains for the big cities so that the people living in the neighbouring areas could also get the benefit of the railway facility. Railways are one of the biggest and most popular industry of the public sector. I want that you should conduct survey of different places from industrial as well as revenue point of view to provide railway facility there and these lines should also be electrified.

I would also like to point out that you have not provided stoppages at proper places for the existing trains. I have written to the hon. Minister that Rura is a big town but no proper means of transportation for Kanpur is available from there. I have written several times for providing a stoppage to Tata Express at Rura, but nothing has been done so far. I do not want to say any thing about stoppages you have provided at Jhannhak and Bharthna. Bithoor is an ancient place and is visited by a large number of people. You have provided only one diesel-c r having only 80 seats for going from Kanpur to Bithoor. The machinery of this train has become obsolete. Therefore, I would request you that a diesel train comprising four bogies should be introduced there for the convenience of the passengers. I have written a number of times to the hon. Minister in this regard but every time I get a stereo-typed reply that the matter will be considered. In addition to it, if this line is connected with the main line, that would facilitate the development of Bithoor. If this line is converted into broad-gauge line, that will also provide facility to the people of Kannauj, Farrukhabad and Gurusahaiganj besides Bithoor. I hope that the hon. Minister will agree with me on this point.

Besides, I would also like to say about computerisation. You have introduced computer system in the Railways, but Kanpur has been deprived of this service. Therefore, I would request you to introduce computer system at Kanpur also. I hope the amenities announced by the hon. Minister will be provided and the people will be benefited. With these words I express my gratitude to the hon. Minister for presenting such a wonderful Railway

Budget. But the people have the apprehension that you will increase the railway fare in the Supplementary Budget. I hope that you will not resort to such a method.

[English]

SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN (Tiruppattur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the Railway Budget for the year 1987-88 presented in this august House by the hon. Railway Minister, Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

Sir, the Railway Budget for the year 1987-88 may, perhaps, best be termed as a 'Social Budget' instead of 'Surplus Budget'. Moreover, unlike some of the previous years' Budgets which used to be ritual in nature, the present Budget does not attempt a mix of 'pain and pleasure' but only provides 'gain and gesture' to one and all. Sir, the Budget has a historical significance in that the hon. Railway Minister in his annual budget outlay of Rs. 2980 crores has not only shown a surplus of Rs. 69 crores but it provides many concessions to the poor and weaker sections, farmers, the handicapped, war widows and those affected due to drought and floods.

Sir, the railways constitute the largest public utility services in the country and with the introduction of modern technology in the railway system, there have been marked and perceptible improvements in passenger and freight services. It is commendable to note that after the introduction of integrated computer system in Railways in various zones of the country, comfortable and quick passenger travelling and quick movement of goods have been possible.

Coming to the representations made by the people of my constituency, namely, Tiruppattur in Tamil Nadu, first of all on behalf of the people of my constituency, I would like to thank the hon. Railway Minister and the young and dynamic Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, for acceding to and implementing our request for a halt for a few minutes by the Kovai

Express at Ambur Railway Station. Ambur is an important business centre in my constituency. Now with the halt of Kovai Express at Ambur Railway Station, hundreds of passengers are able to travel from Madras to Ambur and *vice versa* by the Kovai Express daily. Consequently, the number of passengers travelling upto Coimbatore is not appreciable. Since the passengers travelling upto Ambur are quite large in number, I would request the hon. Minister to arrange for adequate accommodation facilities by augmenting reservation for Ambur at various Stations, so that the passengers travelling upto Ambur would have a sigh of relief. At the same time, I would also request the hon. Minister kindly to consider having a halt by the Brindhavan Express at Ambur so that the train may get feedback passengers from Ambur to Bangalore and *vice versa*. The small and medium businessmen engaged in leather business will, by this, be able to reach Madras and Bangalore at short notice and very easily for their business venture.

Secondly, I must thank the Government of India for completion of electrification work in the traction between Madras and Jolarpet Stations. In this context I may point out that the Planning Commission has approved electrification of the traction between Jolarpet and Mettur. But a very meagre fund has been allocated for this project. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to consider allocation of sufficient funds for this project, so that the work could be taken up and completed as early as possible. In this connection I may submit that Mettur is a very important industrial centre having a good number of chemical industries, textile industries, etc. To augment power for supply to these industries, a thermal power plant has already been installed at Mettur and will start producing power very soon. It is, therefore, all the more necessary to complete electrification between Jolarpet and Mettur for quick transportation of coal and other raw materials for the industries at Mettur.

Thirdly, Sir, at present the unit train facilities are available between Madras and Arakkonam, I would request the hon.

[Shri A. Jayamohan]

Minister that this facility may kindly be extended upto Jolarpet since electric traction facility is already available upto Jolarpet. This will go a long way in minimising the sufferings of the passengers in this section.

Sir, I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a very serious problem faced by the people in my constituency due to very frequent and continued closing of railway gates at the National Highway No. 47 at five railway crossing points, namely, Pachakuppam near Ambur, Vaniambadi Municipal Town, Nokkundi and Netrampalli. This National Highway connects Madras City, the capital of Tamil Nadu, with Bangalore. I would plead with the Hon. Minister kindly to take immediate action for the construction of over-bridges/sub-ways at these five important railway crossing points.

The people of Tamil Nadu welcome the introduction of new superfast trains connecting various important cities in other States as also increasing the frequency of Tamil Nadu Express, Charminar Express and Karnataka Express.

Finally, this year the Hon. Minister has allocated Rs. 4 crores for Karur. Dindigal broadgauge line construction. This is a very meagre amount for this project. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to allocate sufficient funds for this project, so that the construction of the broadgauge railway line between Karur and Dindigal can be taken up and completed as early as possible.

With these words, I support the Railway Budget for the year 1987-88.

[Translation]

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I whole-heartedly support the Budget presented by the hon. Railway Minister. He has provided concession in the railway fare to the poor, lame, destitutes and war-widows and has tried to provide some relief to these

distressed people. It is a commendable thing indeed. It has provided some kind of encouragement to these distressed people. Railways are the largest public utility service in the country and those parts of the country where this facility is not available are still backward economically as well as socially. Such areas which are not connected with the railways are mostly inhabited by Adivasis. In these tribal areas, you can find that about 60 to 70 per cent people have not even seen the train. You can well imagine how much difficulties they might be facing in the absence of railway facility. Even today, in our area we have to carry essential commodities on our heads to meet day-to-day requirements. Essential commodities are supplied by the Government in the far flung areas which is as much as 700 kms. away from Raipur Railway head. These things can be distributed at Raipur at cheaper rates, but when these commodities are carried to the poor and naked Adivasis living 700 kms. away in the interior, they cost much higher due to the heavy cartage. Similarly various agricultural and forest products are sold there, at throw away prices because of the non-availability of transportation facility. Even today, a costly commodity like *Chironji* can be exchanged there for salt. Therefore, the main reason for exploitation of these people is the lack of transportation means. If transportation facility is made available there, the exploitation can be stopped, development work can be undertaken there and the people will get the benefits of developmental programmes. Only then the development schemes initiated by the Government can be implemented successfully. So far as education is concerned, I think it must reach such far flung areas. But we find that if schools are provided in these areas, they remain closed for want of teachers. There is a Bhairamgarh Block in South Bastar where 21 schools have been closed since July last for want of teachers. Same is the condition of Primary Health Centres and Mini P.H.Cs. Due to the non-availability of transportation means there, doctors do not want to go there. People are facing so many problems and difficulties for want of proper means of transportation. Though the Administration has made the arrangement for medicines, yet they are not made

available in time due to lack of transportation means. Though rich mineral reserves are available, yet no industry has been set up there. Without transportation facilities, even the exploitation of natural resources is not possible. Smugglers smuggle these precious minerals and no action is taken against them. If you could expand the railway facility to the far-flung and inaccessible Adivasi areas, it will add to our national income because minerals like iron mica, bauxite, manganese etc. are available there in abundance. The iron is even exported in large quantities. Apart from it, the teak wood, which is a very costly wood, is also available there in abundance but due to lack of transportation means, the Government have to auction it in the local market itself at a very low bid incurring a heavy loss of revenue every year. Because of the non-availability of railway line, the people are being exploited there. Our Railway Department is thinking of laying underground as well as surface railway lines in the big cities, but if it could also pay some attention towards laying railway lines in the Adivasi areas, I think, it will benefit the entire country.

A Corporation is being set up in the Railways. It is a welcome step. It is my submission that the funds which would be received through the above Corporation should be utilised in backward and far-flung tribal areas of the country also for spreading the railway network there. I do not say that you spend the entire amount on this work, but some percentage must be earmarked for this purpose. This will expedite development of our backward areas.

The day since our hon. Minister assumed independent charge of an important department like the Railways, the trains have started running in time and a sense of confidence has been restored among the people for the railways. Now everybody feels that the trains would reach their destinations in time. Not only that, the rate of accidents has also fallen after his taking over the charge, which is indicative of his efficiency. A sense of confidence has been instilled among the people in respect of the safety

of their life and property. Besides, he has introduced a scheme of maintaining a complaint book in the trains similar to the one we find in the buses. As has been suggested by a number of hon. colleagues, until and unless proper action is taken on it and proper attention is paid by the Railway Department, merely keeping complaint books will not serve any purpose. If no attention is paid on the complaints, it becomes meaningless. I believe that if you could make arrangement to take proper action on it, it will definitely improve the working of the Railways.

You have presented a surplus Budget for a giant establishment like the Railways. You deserve congratulation for this, because Railways are such a department where lakhs of employees work. On the other hand, if we look at some other public undertakings where 50 to 60 or 100 employees work, we find that it has suffered losses all through, which made the people of the entire country feel that all the public undertakings incur losses and as such, these may be entrusted to private sector. This is what the people feel about them. At this juncture, you have set an example by showing profit in a big establishment. All the public undertakings, small or big, should take a lesson from this example that there can be profit, if one works honestly and devotedly. Therefore, the people of our country should give up the notion that public undertakings incur only losses. If people work honestly and with devotion in such a big establishment, there will be regular profits. Hon. Shri Scindia has proved it. I support the Budget which you have so nicely presented.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN (Etah) : Mr. Chairman. Sir, my tongue wants to praise the Minister, but my heart does not agree. I am in a fix. There is a struggle going on between the tongue and the heart. There can be no two opinions that the work Shri Scindia did and the Budget he presented is, indeed, a very good one. But my heart stops me from praising him. Therefore, I am deeply sorry. The hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs is also sitting here,

[Shri Mohd. Mahfooz Ali Khan]

She also belongs to the constituency which falls on that line.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : I do not belong to that line.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : You belong to Kannauj and Kannauj falls on that line.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I do not say that I do not belong to Kannauj, I only say this much that I do not belong to that line.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Look, pressmen will write that you do not belong to Kannauj.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : It is no denying the fact that I belong to Kannauj, but I do not belong to that line.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Let me speak on the Budget he has presented and shortcomings that are there in the Railways. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : We both will talk later on.

SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : I am deeply hurt because I have been impressing upon Shri Scindia for the last two years that he should also pay attention towards us. It is all right that you are laying new lines. At least you must also be having the figures in the Budget as to which are the lines that are running at a loss. I would like to tell you that I am the Member of Parliament from Etah constituency. Shri Rohan Lal Chaturvedi, who happened to be a Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways, had during his tenure approved the broad gauge line which was executed in 1959 and Dr. Rajendra Prasad had inaugurated it. I had put a question in this regard. I would like to read out the figures of the losses sustained by such lines. A loss of Rs. 60.60 lakhs in 1982-83, Rs. 60.58

lakhs in 1983-84 and Rs. 41.61 lakhs in 1984-85 has been shown. Etah is 200 kms from here. This line originates from Tundla which is near Etah but I am constrained to say with deep sorrow that our officers never cared to see as to what was its fate. Now we came to learn that this line is being removed. On the one hand, it is heard that it was to be laid, on the other hand, we hear that it is being removed. I was told by the public that it was being removed. I told them that it was not so. If some people have made propaganda to this effect, then it is wrong. I am of the opinion that Etah is one such district in U. P. which does not have even a single railway line. Shri Rohan Lal Chaturvedi, during his tenure as a Deputy Minister, had approved this line. It was one such district where there was no railway line.

Today I feel disappointed when I see that only one up and down train runs on that line. It started in the evening. So pitiable is the condition of this line that I am not in a position to explain it. I am a Member of Parliament from Etah, but I cannot reach Etah by that train. We write to officers, but they also do not pay any attention towards it. The Allahabad D.R.M. is not at all bothered about it, rather he is interested in removing it. They are told about it time and again, letters are sent to them, but as has been said by one of my colleagues, the replies received from the Railway Board are very peculiar. Nobody pays any particular attention.

I had particularly requested Shri Scindia to pay a visit there and see the conditions himself. It is a backward area. Would you not provide a railway line there in spite of all this? Eighty percent of India's population lives in the villages. If you do not give them railway facilities, then whom do you want to give? Bombay, Calcutta and Madras are big cities. Big people live there; you will certainly do things for them as you wish, but you are not paying attention towards this area.

I am to submit that this line goes up to Etah. You may extend it upto Farrukhabad from Burhan station. Farrukhabad

line is a broad gauge line; this line is also a broad gauge line, and if the line is extended as requested above, both these lines will be connected. Farrukhabad is a big potato market; but you are not able to provide wagons for it to enable the farmers and businessmen to transport their potatoes. This is the condition of Farrukhabad. Either you extend this line up to Farrukhabad where hundreds of quintals of potatoes rot due to non-availability of wagons or else you connect this line with Kasganj or Aligarh. Firstly, it was a mistake at the outset. It is not our mistake, it is the mistake of the Railway Board. At the time of conducting the survey, they did not take notice of it. Etah should have been connected with Hathras junction or Aligarh. Who will rectify it? It is not the public but your department who should rectify it. You please extend this line. If there is shortage of funds or if some other reason is there, then at least you should provide a regular train for Delhi from Etah. I have requested a number of times to attach two coaches at Etah one for Allahabad because there is the High Court in Allahabad and the other for Lucknow, it being the capital of the State. In this connection, I was told that there was no provision for turning the engine at Etah because no such machine has been installed there.

Tundla is a very busy station. It takes a longer time to attach coaches to the main line trains which results in late running of trains. Consequently, we cannot attach those coaches to other trains. It was your officers who conducted the survey of the railway lines and now we are paying the price for it. Cannot you rectify it? I would like to request that the engine runs on that line in the reverse gear. It produces much noise and is a very old one. Once it stops, it cannot move further. It is a steam engine. I request you to attach diesel engine to it. The track should also be replaced so that the engine could run smoothly.

There is a halt named Ballupur on Kasganj—Farrukhabad Section of N. E. Railway. I had demanded that it should be converted into a full-fledged station. I

would like to challenge those officers who conducted the survey and submitted a report to the effect that it will be an uneconomic line. I am really sorry to learn about their report. I would invite you to accompany me to that place. I shall prove whether it will be economic or uneconomic. Stations do not run on passengers alone; they run on commercial products also. We have also to take into account how many people live near the halt stations and what they grow.

There lies a town called Bhargeen where bidis are manufactured. A crop named Khursan is grown there. This is not grown at any other place and transported to other places. But the growers are finding it difficult to transport it outside because there is no station in that area. They go to Rudrayan and Dariyaganj stations for this purpose. Can not you convert that halt into a full fledged station? This is a terai region inhabited by the villagers. This halt station should be converted into a full fledged station. I can assure you that if Ballupur station is converted into a full-fledged station, the revenue accruing to the Government will increase considerably.

Gangagarh is located between Kasganj and Soron section of the North Eastern Railway. Presently, its importance has increased considerably. The people of that region have been demanding since 1950 that a halt station should be provided at Gangagarh on the ground that crops of sugarcane, *moring* etc. are grown there. They are experiencing difficulty in the transportation of their produce. A fair called '*Kale Dev ka Mela*' is held there. There is a cave of *Kapil Muni* in that area. This is a pilgrimage centre. Bhagirath had brought the Ganges here for the salvation of his forefathers. I do not understand why there is hitch on your part in opening a halt station there. You have only to construct a platform there. The job of selling tickets can be entrusted to some agency. You have to provide only a room. There is a need for opening a halt station at that place because a number of pilgrims from Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh visit this pilgrim centre. Therefore,

[Shri Mohd. Mehfooz Ali Khan]

a halt station should be opened at Gangagarh. The people of this region are serving in the police and army. Besides there is a Post Office, Telephone Exchange and Junior High School functioning in that area.

A train 513-514 'Marudhar Express' runs between Jodhpur and Lucknow and similarly there is another train 57 Up and 58Dn which runs between Kasganj and Lucknow. I would request you that these trains should be stopped for two minutes at Dariyaganj station. My predecessor had managed to get these trains stopped at Sahwar station and even now these trains stop at this station. I would request you to give a two minute halt to these trains at Dariyaganj station. Besides, there is no arrangement of A.C.C. coaches in the Marudhar Express. Many M.L. As and M.Ps travel to Lucknow by this train. Therefore, arrangement for ACC coaches should be made in this train for this reason also.

There is a Kayamganj railway station in that area. The former President, Shri Zakir Hussain, was born there and Shri Khurshid Alam Khan, who had been a minister, also belongs to this area. We urge that a quota of four berths of first class may be provided from Lucknow and Agra for Kayamganj. We fail to understand what is the trouble in reserving the quota. The hon. Minister belonging to your party could get the quota reserved and his request could have been acceded to. I think he must have requested about this matter. You at least concede the request of the Member belonging to the Congress Party. As I belong to the opposition party, my request can be neglected. Now you must meet this demand of ours.

Kanpur Central Railway Station falls under the North Eastern Railway. The condition of this station is such that only benches are lying there. There is no first class waiting room. Similarly, the condition of the furniture in the first class waiting room at Tundla station is also very bad. Now a little change has been

brought about. But even now you can see an armchair lying there which some Britisher might have used to relax himself and now it is full of flies hovering over it. This is the condition of Tundla Railway station. I had asked the Railway Minister to visit Etah and see the condition himself. If I am wrong, he can personally visit there and see things himself and must do something for us.

I have 2-3 demands which may be noted. If you do not extend the Etah railway line, at least a train should be introduced for Kasganj or Farrukhabad. The motor transport is flourishing there. People have no faith in the railways. They think that trucks will transport their goods in time. You should pay attention towards it. The wagons are worn out and the condition of coaches is very bad.

What is happening in the computerised system of reservation which you have introduced? The passenger with a computerised ticket would not get a seat whereas others manage to get a seat. One can get reservation by paying Rs. 10 extra to the clerks sitting at the computer. What people are saying about it is true and this is happening.

There is no protection in the railways. The operator in the AC coaches commits theft in the night and they say that some thief might have stolen it. I have a personal experience in this regard. It happened with me 15 days back. When I woke up from my sleep, I found that an operator of AC coach was picking up an attache. He has a separate room in the coach. He picked up the attache and kept it inside his room. This is how thefts take place in this department. Luggage is stolen when one is sleeping. They give the plea that some thief might have stolen it. But actually it is not a thief but an employee of the department who remains in the coach... (Interruptions) ...I am not talking of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar alone. I am saying in general that such things happen.

I would request the hon. Minister to pay attention towards our request. Of course we belong to the opposition but

you should not neglect us to this extent. Kindly do something for us also. Had Rohanlalji been alive, Etah station would have got a number of facilities.

A halt station should be provided at Gangagarh. Etah station should be made a model station. It should be included in the list of 67 railway stations which you are going to develop as model stations. A direct train from Etah to Delhi may be introduced. If it does not prove economical, you can discontinue it. The Railway Board gives wrong report. They conduct wrong survey. You invite me wherever you conduct survey and I shall tell them how survey is conducted.

I convey my thanks to you. This is a dual between heart and tongue as I said earlier. I do want to praise you.

[English]

SHRI I. RAMA RAI (Kasaragod) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome this promising surplus Railway Budget in spite of the fact that the plan allocation for Railways has been very meagre. It is my special duty to thank the Railway Minister for the proposal to construct a new line from Trichur to Guruvayur in Kerala. But the past experience show that not even a single project could be completed in stipulated time. The result of the delay causes tremendous cost escalation. For example, Ernakulam Alleppey railway line. Here, though a substantial work is done, since the time schedule is not adhered to, the expenditure naturally went up and in turn, people in general, are denied of the facilities and thereby income of the Railways also is held up. In addition to track renewal, we have at present 35 on-going new line projects, involving a total route length of 2940 Kms. at an estimated cost of Rs. 1700 Kms.

The hon. Minister is already loaded with enough suggestions and enough demands. I am reminded of a story, of a tailor. I narrate this now because the House is getting bored. It seems that a customer came to a tailor with a piece of cloth, and asked for a cap to be stitched. The tailor agreed to it, and measured

the cloth. The next moment the customer asked : 'Why can't I have two caps ?' To that the tailor agreed. Then the customer asked for a third cap. To this also, the tailor agreed, i.e. to make a third cap. without hesitation. The request for the fourth cap also came. Finally, after making the request for the fifth cap, the customer went away. When the customer returned, the tailor gave him five caps, which suited the customer's five fingertips.

So, if we go on putting up demands, the Minister can only give some pittance here and there, which will not provide any results at the end.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : So far as Kerala is concerned, don't you have any demands ?

SHRI I. RAMA RAI : I have got so many grievances. I humbly put forth the suggestion to the Minister that he may prepare a priority list, and finish the projects in time, so that wastage on different fronts can be prevented.

As far as my State is concerned, railway development in Kerala is negligible during the last 40 years. The national average is 10 Kms. per lakh of people; but in our case, it is 4 Kms. per lakh of people. I request the Minister to bring our State at least on par with the national average, because it is one State where ticketless travelling is negligible and its contribution to the railway exchequer is comparatively high.

Even now we can see there only old, dilapidated coaches, even in the long-distance trains. As an example, I can cite the Himsagar Express which connects Jammu and Kanya Kumari, which is perhaps the longest train. It is like a Janata train. This train should be treated with some seriousness, especially when it connects the northern-most area and the southern parts. Preference should be given to have bogies and bug-free cushioned seats. Nobody has suggested it. Everybody wants cushioned seats, but bug-free cushioned seats will be more

[Shri I. Rama Rai]

convenient for us, in the long-distance trains.

I request the hon. Minister to note that there is no railway undertaking in the whole of Kerala, inspite of the fact that the Kerala Government had promised to provide all infrastructure facilities, free of cost, for setting up a coach factory. We hope to receive a railway project by the end of the 7th Plan at least. It will help to remove the unemployment problem there.

The general public residing on either side of the railway track have a general complaint : in Kerala, the railway line passes through thickly-populated areas which separate a strip of land from the mainland. On the one side there is the sea, and on the other side a line is laid, so that people find it difficult to have a connection with the mainland. So, usually

the people are put to hardship, because of the railway track in between.

I request the hon. Minister to look into the question of level crossings and other conveniences also. The railway overbridges in thickly-populated areas, and other amenities have been touched upon in detail.

I congratulate the Railway Minister who has managed to get even more from the existing, i.e. the same rolling stock, and who has carried the railway staff with him, in building up this grand undertaking.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House now stands adjourned.

18.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, March 5, 1987; Phalgun 14, 1908 (Saka).