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Tuesday, April 23, 1985

Vaisakha 3, 1907 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Second Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. IV contains Nos. 21 to 30)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, April 23, 1985/Vaisakha
3, 1907 (SAKA).*

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

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

WELCOME TO THE DELEGATION
OF THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE OF FINNISH PARLIA-
MENT

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Honourable Mem-
bers, at the outset, I have to make an
announcement.

On my own behalf and on behalf of
the Hon'ble Members of the House, I
have great pleasure in welcoming Hon.
Mr. Par Stenback, M. P., Vice-Chair-
man of the Foreign Affairs Committee
of Finnish Parliament and other Honour-
able Members of their delegation who
are on a visit to India.

They arrived here yesterday evening.
They are now seated in the Special Box.
We wish them a happy and fruitful stay
in our country. Through them we con-
vey our greetings and best wishes to the
Parliament, Government and the
friendly people of Finland.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, please.....

MR. SPEAKER : What happened
Sir ?

2

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Under rule 388, I have given a notice
for the suspension of Question Hour.

MR. SPEAKER : I did not allow it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
I will quote the precedents.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : If you would have
come yesterday, it would have auto-
matically been suspended.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
I will quote.

MR. SPEAKER : I know, there are
certain precedents. But we are going to
have after.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Earlier when there was a massacre in
Assam, you had allowed me to raise a
discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not a
massacre.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Earlier, you had suspended the question
Hour and allowed a discussion under
rule 193. (Interruptions). The situation
in Ahemadabad is serious and the Army
has taken over...

MR. SPEAKER : Look here, Pro-
fessor. On the agenda today, there is
a statement by the Hon. Home Minister.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
For your information, it is not there.

AN HON. MEMBER : We want to
have a discussion.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Yesterday, there was an indication that the statement would be made. It has not been made.

MR. SPEAKER : It will come. I have asked them to make a statement.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER : We shall consider it after the statement.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You should allow a special discussion under adjournment-motion or something like that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Yesterday, the Minister announced that he would make a statement. On the List of Business, there is no mention of that at all. I carefully went through it. There is no mention at all.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : He is going to make it today.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : At what time ?

MR. SPEAKER : It will be today. Don't worry. It will come.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Do you realise the seriousness of the situation ?

MR. SPEAKER : That is why I have asked him to do it. We will discuss it later on.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The Police Commissioner called the Leader of the House in the legislature for a discussion and his car was burnt by uniformed policemen. This is what is happening in Gujarat. Women are molested ; arson is going on... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We will see. Whatever it is, we will discuss. After the statement is made, we will see what can be done.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I firmly stand for reservations ; I am committed to reservations. But violence cannot be permitted. I am referring to the police violence. These are criminals in uniforms... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Please don't try to deride anything. (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We appreciate very much the remarks you made yesterday from the Chair regarding the need for everybody to abhor violent methods. We would like to know, how after the High Court has ordered a probe into the excesses of the police, even after that, the police are allowed to have a free run... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : We shall see after the statement is made. Shri Kammodilal Jatav.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : At least at 12 O'clock, you consider an adjournment motion to be moved in the House... (Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We have given notices of adjournment motions.

MR. SPEAKER : I have got no promises to give. I will just listen to the statement and decide.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Even then, this becomes a subject-matter of an adjournment motion... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Kammodilal Jatav. Is he there ?

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Sir, there was a similar situation in Tripura

and we were demanding a discussion on it. Defence personnel were killed in Tripura. This was not allowed. Now, they are trying to disturb the Question Hour...(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : Mr. Tewary, you yourself were for a discussion on 21st February, 1983 ; it is on record...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : All of you please sit down ; please take your seats. I have to judge it myself. I have to look into all these matters. What he has said is under my consideration. What the Home Minister will say I will consider and everything will be coming according to rules. Don't worry.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I accept your ruling. But you put the record straight. Let the Hon. Member know that there have been occasions when notices under rule 388 had been accepted and the Question Hour had been suspended.

MR. SPEAKER : That is on record. It is according to the Speaker's decision that notices under rule 388 are also allowed. I do not want any discussion here.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Let me make a submission.

MR. SPEAKER : No submission.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : It is a very dangerous precedent...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is a dangerous Precedent ? If I allow it, how is it going to be a dangerous precedent ? I have to see according

to what comes to my mind. I have to decide according to given situations. Whatever I decide is according to given situations...(Interruptions)

I know about Tripura ; I know about West Bengal ; I know everything...(Interruptions) Mr. Tewary, will you not allow the House to run ? I do not like this. (Interruptions)

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I do not allow anything on record. It is my discretion whether I allow it or not. There are precedents when I have done it. There are precedents when I have not done it. So simple.

(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. K. K. Tewary, I do not take your counsel. I do not take his counsel. It is my counsel that prevails. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)*

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Setting up of Cement and other Industries in Morena District (Madhya Pradesh)

*547. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is only one industry in Bammor in Morena District of Madhya Pradesh within a radius of 300 Kms. and there is no large or medium industry in that district ;

(b) whether Government propose to conduct any survey of this areas for its industrialisation ; if so, the details thereof ; and if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up cement industry in Morena District in view of the large scale lime stone deposits and easy availability of labour with a view to develop this backward region and to provide employment ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) : Large and medium scale industrial units in Bammor in Morena district of M.P. are as follows :

- (1) Consolidated Steel & Alloys Ltd.
- (2) Metal Cast Products of India (P) Ltd.
- (3) Makers Development Services Ltd.
- (4) Airofil Papers Ltd.
- (5) Gwalior Air Products.
- (6) Amar Forgings Pvt. Ltd.
- (7) Morena Mandal Sehkari Shakkar Karkhana.
- (8) M.P. Cellulose Pvt. Ltd.
- (9) Sterling Malt and Food Pvt. Ltd.

In addition to above large/medium Units there are 39 small scale industrial units engaged in the manufacture of Aluminium and Stainless Utensils, Paints and Varnishes, Transformers, Oxygen Gas, Cold Storages and Ice, Castings, Marble Stone and Chips,

Printing Paper, Plastic and Leather Shoes, Soap, PVC Cables, Electrical Poles, Bareymalt, Steel Ingots, Filter Paper, 'Katha', Auto-Spring, Guargum, Bread, Forging, Radio & Transistor, Nylon-rope, RCC pipes, Hosiery Cloths, Buckets, Tasala, Synthetic Cloth etc.

Setting up of industries in a particular area is primarily the responsibility of the state Government and they carry out surveys wherever necessary. Central Government supplement their efforts by providing subsidies and concessional finances etc. For the industrialisation programme in backward areas.

There is no proposal at present to set up a cement plant in the public sector in Morena district.

MR. SPEAKER : Now Shri Kammodilal Jatav will put his supplementary question.

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I had sought information regarding the setting up of industries in district Morena, because in my view district Morena is a backward district and the entire House is aware of the fact that there are many problems there because of its being a backward district.

MR. SPEAKER : Are the problems there only in your view or are the problems there actually ?

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : I would, therefore, like to ask the Hon. Minister if a cement factory would be set up at any one of these places i.e. Pagara, Tithari or Gohra ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : The Hon. Member has asked about the setting up of a new cement factory in district Morena, but I would like to tell him that a Cement Plant with a capacity of 64,000 tonnes is

already working there and the quantum of the established deposits of lime-stone is not so much as may justify the setting up of more than one cement plants there. These deposits are sufficient to run only two Cement plants with a capacity of 8.8 million tonnes. Morena district falls in category 'C' of the backward districts and at present there are nine large and medium scale industries which are working there. In addition, many small scale industries are also working there.

SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has said that many large and small scale industries are already there, but it has not so far been declared a backward district like Guna and Shivpuri. Would the Hon. Minister soon declare Morena as a backward area so that more financial aid from the Centre could be made available there ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I have already said that district Morena falls in category 'C' of the backward districts and the benefits which should be available to 'C' category districts are already being provided to district Morena. Nine large and medium scale industries are already working there. One Cement Plant is also working there. But industrial development is primarily the responsibility of the State Government but even then the Central Government supplement the efforts of the State Government and such help is being provided by the Central Government in this case also.

[English]

Non-Toxic Herbal Insecticide Developed by Herringer Brights Research Institute, Pune

***548. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Herringer Brights Research Institute, Pune has developed

a non-toxic herbal insecticide which can prevent Bhopal type tragedies ;

(b) whether it is a fact that such insecticide is first of its kind in the world ;

(c) whether any research has been made by Government in this regard ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANIES AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) M/s. Herringer Brights Research Institute, Pune has claimed to have developed a non-toxic chemical. The insecticidal properties have yet to be established by M/s. Herringer Brights Research Institute supported by published/authentic data.

(b) No, Sir. There are other insecticides also of botanical origin such as Nicotine Sulphate, Pyrethrins, Rotenone, Ryania and Strychnine effective against a variety of insects.

(c) No research has been done by Government in respect of this product.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is contradiction between the report of a News Agency, the statement made by the Hon. Minister here and the claim of the Research Director of this company, because the research Director of the company has said that research has been carried out about it in the Sorum. Institute and it has been tested and they have cleared it also. In addition, it has been tested in the laboratories of the Central Government also.... Thereafter, the State Government granted the permission, but the Central Government have not granted the permission

so far. The director of the company has levelled the most serious charge which I quote :

[English]

"He maintained that the government authorities had been showing a callous attitude towards his research as they were interested in protecting the multi-nationals which had been dumping in the country harmful pesticides banned by most developed countries."

[Translation]

Such a serious charge has been levelled against Government. Is it a fact that our Government do not encourage a domestic company which has done such great research? They have sought permission, but permission has not been granted by you. They claim that the laboratory test has been undertaken in the laboratory of the Central Government. The Hon. Minister should kindly state the factual position in view of the claim of the company and the statement made by him.

[English]

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : After he develops an insecticide or any commodity, if he wants to go into production, according to the Insecticides Act, he has to approach the Government in the Agriculture Ministry. He has approached the Government in the Agriculture Ministry for including that insecticide in the Schedule. The Board which is constituted under the Act has recommended to the Agriculture Ministry for including it in the Schedule. Before registering it, Registration Committee requires certain information with regard to the formula and other things from this party, but the party is not prepared to give that information. That is why the delay. The delay is only because of the attitude taken by the party. Whatever information is required for the registration or including it in the Schedule, if the party is prepared to furnish that information, then the Agriculture Ministry is prepared to consider

it on the recommendations of the Insecticides Board.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

There is trade secret in respect of many items. If a company manufactures an item, there are many things which should not be disclosed to other competitors. Your policy is that they should disclose everything in full detail. If any product is found to be satisfactory in your test, what is the difficulty in granting permission to start its production? I would like to say that if there is any hurdle, Government should reconsider this matter. Foreign companies are allowed to start production here, products are imported from them. There is no hindrance for them, but if a domestic company makes any research here, it is asked to furnish full details to Government in the first instance. The person who makes the research is afraid that the secrets of his research might not be passed on by your Ministry to third parties. I would like to know if the Government would consider this aspect.

[English]

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL :

Under the Insecticides Act, certain formalities have to be completed. The procedure itself is laid down in the Act and also in the rules. According to that, the inventor who has invented this insecticide, in order to get this insecticide registered, has to supply that information. The Hon. Member feels that he can claim it to be a trade secret and cannot supply the information and despite his not supplying the information, his insecticide should be registered. We cannot make any exception in the case of anybody because whoever wants to get any insecticide or any invention registered has to complete the formalities that have been laid down in the Act. Accordingly, the manufacturer or inventor, if he want registration, has to abide by the rules and regulations which have been laid down in the Act.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is not a single

file in the Government Departments about which other people cannot get information, because many details are passed on even to foreign countries from your Department. If any trade secret is furnished on behalf of the company and if that trade secret is passed on to other companies, then the Company which has made the research is deprived of the benefits. I would like to know if Government would make any arrangements under which permission may be given to the company which has done the research, so that its trade secret may not be leaked out to others.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Registration and making of entry in the Schedule is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture. That Ministry looks after it. I have already said that a certain procedure has been laid down in the Insecticides Act and anyone who wants to get his insecticide, drug or invention registered, has to complete the formalities under that procedure.

If there is any trade secret, it should be safeguarded under the Patents Act and it should be ensured under the law, but if anybody wants to get his insecticide registered under the Insecticides Act, he would have to complete the formalities under the procedure laid down in the Act. If exemption is allowed in one case, every body would seek exemption. All the insecticides have been registered so far, have been registered after completing all the formalities. They should also get them registered after completion the necessary formalities.

[English]

Shifting of Ordnance Factories Board's Headquarters from Calcutta

*550. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ordnance Factories Board's Headquarters at Calcutta supervises/monitors all new ordnance projects in the country ;

(b) whether the functions/cells of this Headquarters are gradually being shifted out of West Bengals to places like Kanpur, Hyderabad, Avadi, etc ;

(c) if so, the reasons for this step which is not followed with regard to other regions ; and

(d) whether the Rajadhyaksha Committee had opposed decentralisation in this sphere ?

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

(b) and (c) : An officer of the rank of Addl. DGOF has been functioning in Kanpur since 1969, for looking after the ordnance equipment group of factories. An officer of similar status has been functioning since 1984 at Avadi to look after mainly the new projects at Avadi and Medak (near Hyderabad). Both these officers function under the overall supervision and control of DGOF at Calcutta.

(d) No, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The reply given by the Hon. Minister only confirms what I am trying to elicit from him through this question. 36 or so ordnance factories which are now in existence and which are doing excellent work are naturally located all over the country and in different parts of the country. But it has always been the practice that supervision and monitoring of these factories has been done by the central office of what was formerly called the Director General of Ordnance Factories and now the Ordnance Factories Board located at Calcutta. This is a sort of pilot office. It is responsible for monitoring and supervising every project, every ordnance project in the country.

Now I wanted to know why this departure has been made from this practice. He has admitted here that a post of Addl DGOF has been created and he

has been functioning in Kanpur and later on in Avadi. Is it part of the same establishment which was all these years functioning in Calcutta? My point is that if these addl DGOFs are created and posted at present in two places and subsequently may be in more places it will be done—does it not mean that the central headquarters established at Calcutta from the time of the British is systematically being squeezed out and is being gradually whittled down and ultimately I do not know what will remain of it.

SHRI P.V. NARSIMHA RAO : No, Sir. I can assure the Hon. Member that this was not the intention at all. In the interests of efficient functioning and particularly, when a factory starts work at the field level it is necessary to decentralise this to some extent although the overall control and monitoring will still continue to be at Calcutta. We would like to assure him that there is no question of eroding either the authority or the duties cast upon the Calcutta establishment. They will continue. But Hon. Member will appreciate that where factories are being established in very far off nooks and corners of the country, it is not possible to run these factories from Calcutta. So I would request the Hon. Member to appreciate this fact that this ADGOFs office that has been established in Avadi—in the order it has been very clearly stated—will submit periodical reports of the decisions taken by him in exercise of the delegated powers to the Calcutta office and no one can deny that in a situation like this certain delegation of powers is absolutely essential. Otherwise it will not be possible to run these factories on a day-to-day basis. That does not mean there is any erosion in the authority or in the overall responsibility of the main office in Calcutta. That will remain what it is. So far as Kanpur is concerned I would like to tell the Hon. Member that this has been there in existence before the Rajadhyaksha committee came into existence and the recommendations were received from the committee. In fact the committee said the Kanpur establishment should be taken out of the purview of the Calcutta establishment and

placed directly under the Minister of Defence. We have not accepted that as yet but there is a point in what they say that the manufacture line in Kanpur is essentially not the same as in other factories. Therefore, there is something different there. You could have it scooped out of the whole thing. We have not yet accepted that. But may be we will have to accept it in course of time.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, I am afraid the Minister is confusing the issues. He says that the factories are set-up in dispersed areas and it is very difficult to run production from Calcutta. Calcutta office is not meant for running the production at all. It is obvious that production has to be run by the management on the spot. This is the pilot office which has the specific obligation to supervise and monitor the projects. They are not responsible for running the factories. What I am saying is for so many years these factories have been running with their own managements and only being supervised and monitored from DGOF, Calcutta. Never was there any complaint that they were not functioning efficiently because of that.

Sir, we are more apprehensive because we find the Ordnance factories which are situated in West Bengal which are also under this office for years now not a single man is being recruited, all who retire or go out or die their places are not being filled up. No recruitment is taking place. No modernisation of machinery is taking place. Gradually the whole establishment—all these factories and DGOF office—seems to be earmarked by the government for gradually being disintegrated and reduced to nothing. Therefore, I want to know specifically from him that after setting up the DGOF offices at Avadi and Kanpur which means a part of the establishment at Calcutta has been shifted there, what are their views now. Do they propose to continue this process? Then what will be left of the Calcutta office?

SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO : I would like to say in brief that in all this there has to be an amount of flexibility. When a project is first conceived naturally the entire work of planning, getting foreign collaboration, etc. if necessary all the preliminary steps have to be done at one place and that is naturally at Calcutta. But when a factory actually starts at the field level there are a number of decisions which will have to be taken at a level above the level of the local manager and those decisions cannot always in every case be referred to Calcutta. That will not make for smooth running of the factories there. So a certain amount of decentralisation has been conceived and that not with any detriment to the overall control. Control is one thing and supervision is another thing. These two are conceptually different. So, supervision at the local level, at a level which is close to the factory becomes absolutely necessary at some point of time down the line. Therefore, this is being done according to the needs. I would like to assure the Members that there is no question of any erosion. It is quite possible that in some cases those who are found surplus after the preliminary planning is over and if there is a cell in Calcutta and that cell is over-staffed they are liable to be transferred all over the country. Therefore, if some are transferred to some other place for better functioning of those units this should not be taken as an erosion of the authority or the functions of the Calcutta office. That will continue, as I said, as before.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Sir, about 200 years ago the DGOF was established in Calcutta because most of the ordnance activities revolved around Calcutta or about 150 miles surrounding it.

Over the years, large number of ordnance factories and installations have come up in Central India. Not only in Kanpur but in Jabalpur also where approximately 80,000 workers are employed in various ordnance factories producing various items of basic defence needs. Besides managerial,

administrative and organisational efficiency of the factories, it is very essential that the person who exercises the competent financial authority, that is; the Director General, is not to be located so far away from the workers and labourers thereby causing tremendous inconvenience and harassment to them, but that he has to be located in a central place. Will the Hon. Defence Minister be pleased to consider a suggestion that instead of Director General's Office being located in Calcutta, it should be more centrally located and the Additional Director General, Ordnance Factories can be located in Calcutta?

MR. SPEAKER : Bhopal, I think, suitable; it is in Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : I have tried to tackle the problem in a balanced manner. There is something which needs to be done, to be monitored are controlled centrally. There are very many functions which have to be done at field level and some functions at a level above the management level. So these are being done according to the exigencies of the situation. Some flexibility, as I said, needs to be maintained.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : May I know from the Minister, in view of the fact that decentralisation in many parts of ordnance factories is on whether the capacity of the Ishapore Rifle factory and the Ksahipur gun and shell ordnance factory of Bengal will be expanded to the extent that Calcutta office can take care of both things as they have done it earlier? Is the Minister aware that number of defence components are being manufactured in various public sector undertakings and public sector units in West Bengal, that is almost 80 and 90 per cent? May I know whether directly the DGOF will monitor those things instead of bringing them to Delhi to obtain orders?

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO : It needs a separate question. I will not be able to give an answer straight-way to that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The papers of the Hon. Minister's report—I have checked up with other Members also—are all coming to pieces. It should not be like the DGOF in Calcutta. Some proper binding should be done. This is probably some indication of the times to come.

Essential Drugs List

***552. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the medicines of different brand names in Indian markets are often permutations and combinations of about 400 bulk drugs;

(b) whether these are often used for artificials pushing up of drug prices ;

(c) if so, whether Government are considering a proposal for insisting on generic names of the drugs as used in W.H.O. publications ; and

(d) whether Government propose to prepare an Essential Drug List ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

(a) Formulations based on about 500 bulk drugs are marketed in our country in various dosage forms, strengths and combinations.

(b) The prices of most medicines are statutorily controlled under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. Implementation of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order ensures that prices are fair both to the consumers and to the industry.

(c) According to the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, single ingredient preparations are already required to be

labelled under the generic names along with the brand names, if any.

(d) National Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Development Council had drawn up a list of 95 priority drugs. Medicines required by the large majority of the people for the most common diseases known including those required by the National Health Programmes are included in this list. Government is seized of the matter regarding further processing of the review of the Drug Policy including the question of priority drug list.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : The Hon. Minister has really circumscribed my question in his answer. My question was whether the medicines of different brand names in Indian markets are often permutations and combinations of about 400 bulk drugs, with very little variations, really intended to push up prices, and these are being practised by the drug companies. Now, the answer is this. He has said that there are 500 bulk drugs. Very good. About pushing up the prices, his answer is this. He says 'The prices of most medicines are statutorily controlled under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order 1979. Please mark the next sentence. 'Implementation of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order ensures that prices are fair both to the consumers and to the industry. 'I would like to know whether you consider prices to be fair to the consumer. Industry is another thing. Is the prices fair to the consumer ? Is the House agreeing to that ? I am coming to the question. Let me take one example. Paracetamol is a bulk drug. Crocin by DUPHAR-INTERFRAN LTD. is just a little variation of Paracetamol.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What is that animal you are referring to ?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Everybody knows about crocin.

MR. SPEAKER : I have never taken crocin and I do not know what it is.

AN HON. MEMBER : You take Ayurvedic medicines.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Now, the point is that there is a very little variation of the bulk drug in the formulation process, that is between paracetamol and crocin and this pushes up the price by 25% or so.

MR. SPEAKER : You have now becomes a full-fledged doctor.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I am a para-medical staff and a P.R.O. in this organisation. Now, Sir, here he has mentioned about the prices under the Drug Control Order. The point is that 40,000 formulations are there. Out of those, about 500 drugs with a little variation, are manufactured. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister that with this little variation, whether it is not a fact that the prices are very much high for these medicines. If it is higher, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether that really ensures the consumer to get them at fair prices.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I would like to explain the position like this. It is true that there are about 500 bulk drugs. Out of these bulk drugs, the formulation are for more than 20,000. But all drugs are not controlled. 75% of the drugs are price controlled because the policy of the Government is to see that only essential drugs and life-saving drugs should come under this price Control Order. For all these drugs, for fixation of the prices, for revision of the prices, it is not left to the whims and fancies of the manufacturers. They have to approach the Ministry and also the Bureau of Industrial Costs and prices and they have to give all the data that are required, and on their recommendation, the Ministry takes the decision. Without our approval, so far as the price control drugs are concerned, no manufacturer can increase the price or *suo motu* unilaterally can do whatever he wants with regard to the drugs that he is manufacturing, because there is a

Price Control Order. If the Hon. Member is suggesting about the medicines which are not price controlled, then I have nothing to say because they are not controlled by the Price Control Order. So far as the price controlled drugs are concerned, every time in order to increase the price or for reviewing the prices, in certain drugs the prices are increased and in certain drugs prices are decreased also. If you compare the wholesale price index of other commodities with the wholesale price index of the drugs, you will see that the price index of drugs is much lower than the price index of other items. So, it is not correct to say that drug prices are increasing enormously.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I am sure that is not the correct reply to my question. We can discuss that point later. Now, my second part of the question is : whether the Government proposes to prepare a list showing the essential drugs. As you know, the World Health Organisation has suggested to all the countries that they bring out a list showing the essential drugs. Even the small countries like Bangladesh and Sri Lanka—whatever may be the situation there now—were asked to prepare a list. Now, in answer to this question, the Hon. Minister says that the National Drugs and Pharmaceutical Development Council had drawn up a list of 95 priority drugs. I would like to know why this new nomenclature of priority drugs instead of very essential life-saving drug is included in the list. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Essential Drugs List will be drawn up immediately and I would also like to know why it has not been drawn up till now, despite the long-pending recommendation of the Hathi Committee.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, I would like to explain to the Hon. Member that so far as priority drugs are concerned, all essential drugs and life-saving drugs do come under the priority drugs. I do not know why the Hon. Member is objecting to the use of

the word 'priority'. The other day I made it very clear to the House that the whole Drug Policy is under review. My predecessor, the then Minister appointed a Development Council and the Development Council in turn appointed Working Groups. They submitted their reports. The report was studied by a Steering Committee and it ultimately went to the National Drugs and Pharmaceutical Development Council. They have also made a report and the Government have to take a final decision. The Government hopes to take a decision very soon.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, drugs can save a life or extingish a life also. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether he is aware of the fact that brand names are not written on the life-saving drugs which are being sold in the market in the force of tablets? Vitamin C and Anacin are stored at one place. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether production of such drugs is allowed under the Drugs Control Act, in which brand names of the medicines are not written?

MR. SPEAKER : When the name is not written on a medicine, how can one identify a particular medicine?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : It is necessary that the name should be written on every medicine. Generic names or brand names are written on the medicines and sometimes both generic names as well as brand names are written on the drugs. If the Hon. Member informs me about any such medicine, we can find out about it. Many spurious drugs are also being sold in the market.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you referring to the inscription of names on the tablets? Name is written on the packets of medicines.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : I am talking about inscription of names on the tablet itself.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : How can name be written on tablets, because sometimes the tablets may be very small and it becomes very difficult to inscribe the name of medicine on the tablets, but it is necessary that the generic name or brand name should be written on each medicine. If spurious drugs are sold in the market, it is the duty of the Drug Controller to check their sale. The Drug controller under the Ministry of Health checks them.

[English]

SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Hon. Ministry consider preparing a list of Essential Drugs immediately? There are many non-essential drugs in the market. Is the Hon. Minister aware that these are causing more harm than good, and the public are exploited by the pharmaceutical companies? Will he consider this and take immediate steps?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : I have made it very clear that we are concerned only with essential drugs and life-saving drugs. If any drug manufacturer is manufacturing, under his licence, non-essential drugs, I do not know how we can prevent him from manufacturing those non-essential drugs. We are concerned only with essential and life-saving drugs.

[Translation]

Play in Publications of Law Journals

*553. **SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the publication of law journals by the Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan under the Rajbhasha Vidhayi Vibhag lags behind the schedule by two years.

(b) the annual expenditure being incurred on the publication of these law journals ; and

(c) what is the utility of these publications if they are published so later ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE : (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) and (c) : It is true that there have been delay in the publication of Patrikas by the Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan of the Legislative Department and that such delays affect the utility of the publications. The whole matter has been reviewed and a new scheme has been evolved to ensure that the Patrikas cover as recent judgments as possible. Steps have been taken to clear the backlog separately by expediting the publication of the volumes sent for printing and for covering the old cases which remain to be covered separately. Simultaneously, new volumes of the Patrikas would be devoted to coverage of recent judgments. The volume of the Uchchatma Nyayaalaya Nirnaya Patrika released in March, 1985 under the scheme covers cases decided during the period 15th December, 1984 to 14th January, 1985 and adequate arrangements have been made to ensure that continuity of this cycle in the publication of the Supreme Court decisions.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the printing of the Patrikas was 4.64 lakhs approximately. This does not include the administrative expenses.

[Translation]

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether the officer under whom this work is being undertaken, has neither the knowledge of law nor that of the language and perhaps that is the reason why neither is the translation up to the mark nor are the publications, brought out in time, whereas it is the intention of the Government that the authorised Hindi version of the rulings etc. of the judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court could be quoted by the people working

in the field of Hindi. The publication of these journals was started with this end in view, but due to delayed publication of these journals, quotations cannot be given from these journals and Hindi cannot be used this field as all the facilities are not available. The government money also goes waste. The Hon. Minister should inform the House whether this work has been entrusted to such an incompetent officer.

SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ : Sir, it is not all correct they any such officer is working thereof who does not have the knowledge of law and that of the language. I would like to tell the Hon. Member that I had arranged two meetings with the officials of this Department in this regard. One of the meetings was held on 12th March, 1985 in which Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha had also participated. As for the officers whom I had met, I found them to be competent officers. They had good knowledge of both the law as well as the language. I am happy to say that as a result of the action taken by me, journal brought out in last March has covered the judgements delivered till the month of January whereas the journals in 1982 and in 1983 were behind the schedule by 3 months and in 1984 by 7 months. Hon. Members would be happy to know that a lot of improvement has been brought about in this regard. Two reasons were responsible for this irregularity. First, the judgements of the Supreme Court were in English and had to be translated into Hindi. Secondly, this journal was being printed in the Government of India Press. It was printed there as per its turn there. Now, the Government Printing Press has given us permission to print it in the private sector. I am fully confident that the corrective measures which have been taken would remove the back log and their publication would also be improved.

SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : I would like to ask the Hon Minister what the arrangement for its editing is. In my view, if

there is no proper editing, the meaning is not correctly conveyed in the other language. The persons who are asked to translate these journal translate them, but until its editing is done properly, there cannot be uniformity in the language. Would the Hon. Minister look into this aspect also ?

SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ : Sir, we have abolished the system of translation. We have ordered that there should be direct drafting in Hindi itself.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : The Hon. Minister has said that there should be direct drafting in Hindi itself. I would like to know if such an arrangement has been made for High Courts also, and if so, the names of the High Courts for which such an arrangement has been made ?

SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ : These orders have been given by us with regard to the judgements of the Supreme Court. A lot of time is taken in receiving the judgements of the High Courts from all over the country. First of all, we would have to make an arrangement to receive the judgements promptly. Thereafter these would have to be translated. All this would be difficult till such staff are posted there. Unless we have full staff for the purpose, such an arrangement would be difficult and it would be very difficult to say anything in this regard.

**Setting up of Telephone Exchange at
Preethampur in Dhar Distt,
(Madhya Pradesh)**

***559. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which a telephone exchange is likely to be set up in the industrial town Preethampur, which is developing fast in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh ; and

(b) whether the main exchange of the proposed exchange will be in Indore ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Two small automatic exchange of 45 lines each are already working at Preethampur.

(b) Both the exchanges at Sectors I and II in Preethampur are presently parented to Mhow Trunk Exchange.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Communications if the entire arrangement has been made through Mhow Exchange, which is causing a lot of inconvenience to the entrepreneurs in the Preethampur Industrial Area ? New factories are being set up there, but the new entrepreneurs hesitate to set up their units in this backward area due to this inconvenience, as they are not getting the facility of telephone there. Due to non-availability of this single facility no entrepreneur is prepared to undertake industrial activity in the entire Preethampur area. Would he be kind enough to connect this area with the Indore Exchange ? I would like to know how long it would take to connect this area with the Indore Exchange, which is at present connected with Mhow Exchange. At present this system is connected with Indore via Mhow. How long would it take to make such an arrangement so that the industrialists could undertake all their activities through the Indore Exchange and the difficulty of this backward area could be removed ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first exchange was started in Sector I on 31st March, 1984 and the second exchange was started in sector II on 31 March, 1985. There is a proposal to start yet another exchange of 200 lines this year, which would be connected to Indore instead of Mhow as suggested by the Hon. Member.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I would like to express my thanks for the

same, but if the other two exchanges which are connected *via* Mhow are directly connected to Indore, it would lead to rapid development of that area and I would be grateful to you for the same.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Sir, all the exchanges would be connected to Indore.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Many thanks to you, Sir.

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister if there is any programme to replace those boards of the exchanges, which are not functioning properly?

MR. SPEAKER : It is a routine affair.

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : I have written many time about Lakhimpur Kheri that the exchange there is not functioning properly. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister what action is being taken to set it right immediately?

MR. SPEAKER : He would get it done.

[*English*]

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Hon. Minister kindly let us know whether exchanges which are complete in all respects will be commissioned or not? For instance, I am quoting the example of the Panchkula Exchange which is complete in all respects.

MR. SPEAKER : It does not fall within this question.

Allotment of LPG Agencies and Petrol Pumps to Social Workers.

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*560. **SHRI R. M. BHOYE :**
SHRI JAGANNATH
PATTNAIK :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be

pleased to state :

(a) the various categories of persons to whom LPG agencies and petrol pumps are allotted;

(b) whether social workers are also benefited in this regard; and

(c) if so, the number of social workers allotted petrol pumps in Maharashtra during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) Presently 70% of the dealerships of petroleum products are allotted by the oil companies to Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, Unemployed Graduates, Physically Handicapped and Freedom Fighters and the remaining 30% to others.

(b) There is no specific reservation for Social Workers in the existing guidelines which govern appointment of dealers. Any applications from such persons, if eligible under the guidelines, are considered on merits in accordance with the prescribed procedure.

(c) Since there is no separate reservation for Social Workers, no statistics are maintained by the oil companies in respect of dealerships awarded to them.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Sir, in the last part of the reply it is mentioned that the remaining 30 per cent of the dealerships are allotted to 'others'. I would like to know whether ex-servicemen are included in this category. And keeping in view the rate of the sportsmen, will the Government consider having some reservation for sportsmen after their retirement?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Hon. Member has asked

about the ex-servicemen. Of course, ex-servicemen are included if they are physically handicapped. If they are not physically handicapped, of course they have to come on merit.

So far as the question of considering the sportsmen is concerned, I think this is a suggestion for action. However, the general category is only up to 30 per cent ; already there is a reservation up to 70 per cent. Therefore, in the light of the total reservation, this question has to be viewed.

MR. SPEAKER : Shrimati Pulrenu Guha. Next question.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I want to ask a supplementary on that question.

MR. SPEAKER : We have passed that.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : It is a very important question ; I was raising the hand, you did not see. It is important.

MR. SPEAKER : May be ; that I agree with you.

Employment of Persons in Oil Drilling Work at Midnapore, West Bengal

* 561. SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether drilling for oil is going on in Nandigram of district Midnapore in West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the type of persons getting jobs there ; and

(c) whether the people whose land is acquired are getting priority for jobs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM

(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :
(a) No, Sir.

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

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : We are not able to understand why the answer to the question is "No" in the first part of the answer, because drilling is going on. We are getting reports also from the papers and from the officials as to how much drilling was done. Why is the answer in the negative, I am not able to understand.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He has not got the reports from the papers, though you might have got.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : You are correct. Drilling work is going on.

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Drilling is going on. All my friends from Midnapore will agree with me.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is underground drilling

MR. SPEAKER : Can drilling be above ground ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : It looks as though there is some confusion regarding the drilling going on in Midnapore district. The question is specific and it is only with regard to Nandigram. Therefore, the reply is that so far as Nandigram is concerned, there is no drilling going on and therefore the reply is in the negative. Of course, in Midnapore district there are some places where drilling is going on. Therefore, that may be the reason for some confusion.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Nandigram is within my constituency. I have seen with my own eyes that drilling is going on there.

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Yes ; drilling is going on there.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Actually, drilling is taking place in Nandigram, and the Hon. Minister says that drilling is taking place in some places in Midnapore district.

AN. HON. MEMBER : It may not be on record.

MR. SPEAKER : That drilling is not going on paper at least. Have you to say anything ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : I have nothing to say. Whatever I have to say, I have submitted.

MR. SPEAKER : If the Minister sticks to his answer what can I do ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Then we have to move a privilege motion.

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA : Can the Hon. Minister let us know which are the other places where drilling is going on ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. Let us listen.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : With regard to the other places where this exploratory drilling is going on, I require notice. (*Interruptions*)

The question was only with regard to Nandigram and therefore the information which is available with me is with regard to Nandigram. If they want further information I require notice. I would certainly give and also come forward to supply the information as required by the Hon. Member.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Interim Report of Jaswant Singh Commission

*549. SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed Justice Jaswant Singh Commission to go into the question of establishment of permanent benches of High Courts in cases where State have made requests in this regard ; if so, when its reports is likely to be submitted ; and

(b) whether Government have asked the Commission for any interim report ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI A. K. SEN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Commission has been asked to submit its report on or before 30th April, 1985.

(b) No, Sir.

Recession in Refrigeration Industry

*551. PROF. RAMKRISHANA MORE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the refrigeration industry is facing recession ;

(b) if so, the causes thereof ; and

(c) the remedial steps being taken by Government to give relief ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

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

New Licences for Light Commercial Vehicles and Fuel Efficient Passenger Cars

*554. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new licences granted for light commercial vehicles and fuel efficient passenger cars during the Sixth Five Year Plan period ;

(b) the names and other details thereof ;

(c) whether all the companies have entered into foreign collaboration for technical know-how ; and

(d) the number of companies which have started their production till March, 1985?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) : The following companies were granted licences for manufacture of light commercial vehicles and passenger cars during the VIth Plan period :—

Name of Company	Item	Annual capacity
1. Maruti Udyog Ltd.	Passenger cars and light utility vehicles	1,40,000
2. DCM-Toyoto Ltd.	Light Commercial vehicles	15,000
3. Allwyn-Nissan Ltd.	—do—	10,000
4. Eicher Motor Ltd.	—do—	12,000
5. Swaraj Mazda Ltd.	—do—	10,000
6. Sipani Automobiles Ltd. (Registered)	Passenger cars.	3,000

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Sipani Automobiles, Maruti Udyog Ltd. and Allwyn Nissan Ltd. units had started production by March, 1985.

Crude Petroleum Reserves

*556. SHRI VIDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the Sixth Five Year Plan, it has been mentioned that the existing crude petroleum reserves of our country will last only upto the year 1996 ;

(b) if so, the extent of additional reserves discovered after publication of the Sixth Plan ; and

(c) how long the reserves of crude petroleum discovered so far shall be able to last ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 144 million tonnes.

(c) At the current rate of production reserves may last about 17 years. However, more reserves are expected to be added in the meantime.

Telephone Facilities to Retired Government Employees

*557. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government extend telephone facility to retired employees of the Union Government on demand ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Improvement in Telecommunication System in Tamluk and Kolaghat (West Bengal)

*558. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the present telecommunication system in Tamluk and Kolaghat of Tamluk Sub-Division, Midnapore District, West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Tamluk is proposed to be upgraded to an automatic exchange by the end of 7th Plan. There is no proposal so far to automatise the Kolaghat Exchange.

(b) A 300 line automatic MAX-II exchange is planned for Tamluk for which land is being acquired from the local administration. It is expected to be commissioned by the end of 7th plan.

(c) Due to shortage of automatic equipment in the country. Priority is

being given to District Headquarters and other large manual exchanges for automatisisation. Kolghat is not covered by the automatisisation programme during 6th plan.

Setting up of Automatic Telephone Exchange at Balasore and Bhadrak

*562. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether automatic telephone exchanges are under construction at Balasore and Bhadrak in Orissa ;

(b) if so, the time limit for completion of these project ;

(c) when these automatic telephone exchange will start functioning ;

(d) the reasons for delay ; and

(e) the capacity of these exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c) : Automatic exchange at Bhadrak was commissioned on 29-3-1985 while work of installation of automatic exchange at Balasore is in progress and is likely to be completed in 1985-86.

(d) The exchange at Balasore could not be completed due to short supply of automatic switching equipment.

(e) The capacity of Bhadrak exchange is 500 lines. The capacity of Balasore on completion will be 900 lines. Both these exchanges are of MAX-II type.

[Translation]

Waiting List For New Telephone Connections in Gujarat

*593. SHRI NARSINH MAKWANA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Ahmedabad, Baroda, Ankleshwar, Surat, Vapi, Surender Nagar, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Porbandar and Bhavnagar in Gujarat ;

(b) the time by which the entire waiting list will be covered and the action being taken in this regard ; and

(c) the number of requests received for opening of new telephone exchange in Gujarat and the time by which the demand will be met ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections is given below :

Sr. No.	City	Waiting list as on 31-3-85
1.	Ahmedabad	27173
2.	Baroda	12836
3.	Ankleshwar	550
4.	Surat	19329
5.	Vapi	716
6.	Surendra Nagar	460
7.	Jamnagar	599
8.	Rajkot	7353
9.	Porbandar	182
10.	Bhavnagar	2097

(b) The present waiting list is likely to be cleared progressively during the 7th plan by expanding the existing telephone exchanges wherever feasible and by opening new exchanges, subject to availability of equipment, cable and other materials.

(c) 23 requests are pending for opening of new telephone exchanges in

Gujarat and the demand of which is likely to be progressively met during 1985-86 subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Take over of Sick Distilleries

*564. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to take over such distilleries as are not running profitably due to malpractices of their present management ; and

(b) whether Government are reviewing their licensing policy on the setting up of new distilleries because of shortage of molasses which is the basic raw material ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

(b) No, Sir. As per present policy there is already a ban on creation of additional capacity for potable alcohol. Proposals for manufacture of industrial alcohol are, however, considered on merits taking into account the availability of molasses.

Legislation on "Stri Dhan"

*565. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in one of their recent judgements, the Supreme Court laid down that dowry belongs to bride as it is 'Stri Dhan' recognised in Hindu law ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring forward suitable legisla-

tion to give effect to the said judgment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Recently (12.3.1985), the Supreme Court held in *Prathiba Rani vs. Suraj Kumar and another* that presents, articles or other property given to a bride at or about the time of the marriage belong to her absolutely where (as in the instant case) she is a Hindu and would be her 'stridhan', and that in regard to the stridhan property of a married woman, even if it is placed in the custody of her husband or in-laws, they would be deemed to be trustees and bound to return the same if and when demanded by her. The court also held that where the husband or any relation of his misappropriates such property or refuses to hand it over to her and converts it to his own use, a complaint for an offence under section 405/406, India Penal Code (Criminal breach of trust) would lie.

(b) The aforesaid judgment of the Supreme Court is by way of interpretation of existing law. Under article 141 of the Constitution, the law laid down by the Supreme Court is binding on all courts within the territory of India. Therefore, no legislation is necessary for giving effect to the said judgment.

Functioning of Bhagalpur Telephone Exchange

*566. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding mal-functioning of Bhagalpur Telephone Exchange in Bihar ;

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

(c) the number of operators working in the Exchange and since when ;

(d) whether there is any monitoring system for checking the working of the Exchange from time to time ?

(e) if so, the details thereof ; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. Only complaints about rude behaviour of telephone operators are occasionally received.

(b) Action is taken against erring officials.

(c) 70 Telephone Operators are working—10 from 1971, 25 from 1975 and 35 from 1978.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The functioning of telephone system is being monitored from time to time by the officers at local and Circle levels.

Circle is monitoring trunk services daily and functioning of local telephone system monthly through Management Information System (MIS) indicators. Telephone system is also inspected periodically by different level officers.

(f) Question does not arise in view of reply at (c) and (d) above.

Misuse of Telephones

3996. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many officers and staff of the Department are having more than one telephone both at home and offices ;

(b) if so, the number of such staff in the country and the total annual expenditure incurred thereon ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that despite this, majority of the staff listed in the Directory, do not respond to the telephone calls from subscribers and if so, corrective steps proposed in this regard ; and

(d) whether Government propose to impose cumulative fines on the staff for misuse of telephones of subscribers through diversion of phone calls deliberately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The telephone connections are sanctioned for staff of the Department of Telecommunications, who deal largely with telephone based services for carrying out their duties. These are sanctioned on the basis of requirements of work.

(b) It would be quite difficulty to collect the information from all over the country of the number of such staff and the annual expenditure within a reasonable time.

(c) No, Sir. It is not correct to say that the staff do not respond to telephone calls from subscribers.

(d) Provision of disciplinary action against a defaulting official already exists under the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules

Compensation to Telephone Subscribers

3997. SHRI M. RAGHUMA
REDDY :
SHRI SRIHARI RAO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether government had given an assurance during the Seventh Lok Sabha concerning the proposal to compensate telephone subscribers whose telephones remain dead ;

(b) if so, the present position of the above proposal ;

(c) whether government are aware that invariably supervisory staff in special services are missing from their seats and on ringing them, after falling to get response from 198/199 etc., it is found that the same person attends to supervisors calls ;

(d) whether it is a fact that the senior staff listed are invariably absent ; and

(e) whether Government propose to re-organise the entire system to make it really affective ?

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

(b) No compensation is afforded for telephones remaining out of order. This is due to the fact that the exchange indoor equipment and the outdoor plant remains reserved for the same telephone and the maintenance staff attends to and repairs the fault as early as possible. If a telephone is disconnected on administrative considerations, no rental is charged. For telephones, which are closed for shifting to a different locality and cannot be shifted due to the inability of the Department (e.g., for want of cable pair or capacity in the exchange etc.), rebate in rental is granted if the telephone is not shifted within 15 days.

(c) No, Sir. However, sometimes when adequate number of supervisory staff are not available due to absence or shortages, their telephone calls are answered by other staff present in the exchange.

(d) and (e) : The senior staff listed are usually available on their number. They might not be available sometimes if they are busy attending to other work, meetings or on inspection duties.

However, their calls are attended by their personal staff in such cases. They are required to be available between 3-4 p.m. every day in their offices for meeting the public without prior appointment.

[Translation]

Assistance to Junior Advocates

3998. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to enact some Central legislation for providing assistance to junior advocates to improve their economic condition and if so, the details thereof ; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that junior advocates throughout the country have been demanding for a long time the introduction of a welfare scheme and financial assistance from Government and if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Under sections 6 and 7 of the Advocates Act, 1961 the State Bar Councils and the Bar Council of India respectively are empowered to constitute one or more funds for the purpose of giving financial assistance to organise welfare schemes for the indigent, disabled or other Advocates. At present no fresh proposal for legislation is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Government is aware of demands made on behalf of junior Advocates for providing them assistance in several aspects. Government is considering to appoint a committee to make in-depth study into the matters relating to social security of the members of the bar.

[English]

Equity Structure in Joint Sector Projects

3999. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Government enterprises are found guilty of violation of the Central guidelines regarding equity structure in joint sector projects ;

(b) if so, the action taken against such State Government enterprises ; and

(c) the details of such enterprises ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIE MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) : Government have issued guidelines regarding the pattern of shareholding and disposal of equity holdings in projects, promoted by State Industrial Development Corporations for setting up projects in the Joint Sector. Wherever, a proposal is received from any State IDC for amendment of a letter of intent or industrial licence, in favour of a Joint Sector Project, it is considered in accordance with the prescribed guidelines.

Freezing of Telephone Exchange in Delhi

4000. SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some telephone exchanges in Delhi Telecom. Circle have been frozen and any new connection/shifting of telephone connections of such exchanges have been stopped ;

(b) if so, the names of these Exchanges and the date from which these have been frozen and the likely date by which these would be defrozen ;

(c) whether any relief is possible or has been granted for emergency purposes and the connection/shifting allowed in such Exchanges during the period these were frozen ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Telecom. Authorities to provide relief and remove the extreme inconvenience caused to the subscribers on these score ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICA-

TIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS
MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following telephone exchanges of the Delhi telephone system have been declared frozen from the dates indicated against each :

(i) Rajouri Garden	August, 1983
(ii) Delhi Cantt.	2.4.1985
(iii) Nangloi	12.4.1984
(iv) Shakti Nagar	August, 1984
(v) Shahdara (21, 24)	1.1.1984
(vi) Shahdara (20)	2.4.1984
(vii) Shahdara (86)	2.4.1985
(viii) Hauz Khas	November, 1984
(ix) Okhla	August, 1983

It would be possible to accommodate telephones on shifting and to provide new connections in these exchanges on expansion of certain exchanges and commissioning of new exchanges as per the details given in the Annexure which is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) In some exceptional cases, depending upon the merits of the case,

new connections and telephones on shifting are permitted in such exchanges.

(d) In order to provide relief to subscribers of these exchanges, expansion of certain exchanges and commissioning of new exchanges in Delhi telephone system has been planned as per details given in the attached Statement, which is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Statement showing the details of expansion programme for Delhi Telephones System from 1984-85 to 1987-88

S. No.	Exchange	Code	No. of lines (in thousands)
1	2	3	4

Expansion and Commissioning Programme for 1984-85 :

1.	Sena Bhawan	301	10.0	} New Exchanges
2.	Kidwai Bhawan	331	10.0	

1	2	3	4	
3.	Chanakyapuri-I	67	1.0	Expansion
4.	Janapath-II	32	1.0	
5.	Tis Hazari	251/252	2.0	
6.	Ballabgarh	88	1.5	
7.	Laxmi Nagar	24	0.3	
8.	Janakpuri	55	0.3	
9.	Narela	89	0.1	
10.	Najafgarh	806	0.2	
11.	Badli	802	0.2	

Expansion and Commissioning Programme for 1985-86 :

1.	Nehru Place III	643	10.0	New Exchanges
2.	Karol Bagh-IV	572	10.0	
3.	Rajouri Garden-V	532	10.0	
4.	Nehru Place-III	644	10.0	
5.	Rajouri Garden-III	541	10.0	
6.	Tis Hazari-IV	292	10.0	
7.	Idgah-III	73	10.0	
8.	Ballabgarh	88	0.3	Expansion
9.	Cantonment	39	0.6	
10.	Janakpuri	55	0.6	
11.	Laxmi Nagar	24	0.6	

Expansion and Commissioning Programme for 1986-87 :

1.	Shahdara South	281/282	15.0	New Exchanges
2.	Shakti Nagar-III	701	10.0	
3.	Okhla-II	682	10.0	
4.	Nehru Place-IV	645	10.0	
5.	Shakti Nagar-III	702	9.0	
6.	Badli	708	1.0	
7.	Rajouri Garden-V	543	6.0	
8.	Bahadurgarh	543	2.0	
9.	Najafgarh	543	1.0	
10.	Nangloi	543	1.0	
11.	Ghaziabad-II	84	2.0	Expansion
12.	Janakpuri	55	1.2	
13.	Ballabgarh	88	1.2	

Expansion and Commissioning Programme for 1987-88 :

1.	Shahdara South	281/282	5.0	New Exchanges
	Exchange			
2.	Shahdara			
3.	Ghaziabad-III			
4.	Badarpur	461	2.0	

Proposal to bring Howrah and Hooghly Districts under Calcutta Telephone System

4001. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MISTRI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry propose to bring the Howrah and Hooghly Districts under Calcutta Telephone system during the Seventh Five Year Plan ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to give special priority for microwave link for the 66, 67, 69 and 62 Exchanges under Calcutta Telephones immediately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : Some areas of Howrah and Hooghly Districts are already served by Calcutta Telephone System. There is no proposal to bring the rest of Howrah and Hooghly Districts under Calcutta Telephone System.

(b) '67' and '62' Telephone Exchange of Calcutta Telephones are connected by microwave link. There is no proposal to provide Microwave link for '66' and '69' exchanges at present.

Assets and Turnover of Top Ten Industrial Houses

4002. SHRI V. SOBHANAND-REESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total turnover of the companies managed by the top ten groups for the year 1983-84 ;

(b) the total value of assets of the companies owned or managed by the top ten industrial Business Houses in the country ; and

(c) the increase in the turnover and value of assets in the last five years period in respect thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) : The turnover and assets in 1983 and increase thereof during 1978-83 of the top ten Industrial Houses in the country ranked according to their assets in 1983 are given below :

	Rs. in Crores	
Turnover	1983	11003
Assets	1983	9858
Increase in turnover	1978-83	6106
Increase in assets	1978-83	6011

Setting up of Cement Factory at Sunki

4003. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry has issued any letter of intent to Government of Orissa for cement factory at Sunki in Keraput District ;

(b) if so, when it was issued and the steps taken by Government of Orissa to start the preliminary work to construct the buildings and other infra-structures since then ;

(c) the progress made and funds provided by Government for this factory ; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (d) : A letter of intent was issued on 26th December, 1983 to M/s. Industrial Promotion and Industrial Corporation of Orissa Ltd., a Government of Orissa Undertaking for the establish-

ment of a new Undertaking at Sunki, District Koraput in the State of Orissa for manufacture of cement. From the reports so far received from the Corporation, it is seen that the following progress has been made in the implementation of the project :

- (i) A private promoter for setting up the project in the joint sector has been finalised.
- (ii) Site has been selected.
- (iii) Raw material sources have been identified.

They have also informed that they would be approaching financial institutions for term loans.

Production of Telecommunication Equipment

4004. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI :
SHRI B. V. DESAI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have made assessment regarding the gap of production and demand for telephone communication equipment including telephone instruments ;

(b) whether initiative has also been taken to involve the private sector in the production of Telecommunication equipment ;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to allow private sector industry to produce telecommunication equipment with foreign collaboration under the new policy guidelines ; and

(d) the details regarding the guidelines for foreign collaboration in the private sector ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. Measures have been initiated to encourage growth of telecommunication industry in the country through relaxation of policy from 100% public sector manufacture to secure cooperation of private sector in the manufacture of telecommunication equipment as announced in Parliament by Deputy Minister of Electronics on 23rd March, 1984.

(c) and (d) : The private sector industry will be permitted foreign collaboration for certain telecommunication products based on merits. Technology may also be acquired by Government through centralised purchase in certain areas, particularly in the field of switching and transmission equipment.

Manufacture of Bulk Drugs

4005. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Ministers of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of American companies which have been manufacturing a number of bulk drugs from the basic stages involving high technology ;

(b) the names of these drugs and the stages from which these are manufactured ;

(c) whether some items have been declared as involving the technology ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : The High Level Committee constituted by the Government in 1978 for identifying drugs involving high technology has inter alia found 21 drug companies manufacturing high technology drugs from basic stage. Details in this regard are given in the attached Statement.

None of these items were declared to be involving low technology.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Company	Name of the Drug
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Glaxo Labs	(i) Betamethasone (ii) Vitamin 'A' Palmitate (iii) Magesrol Acetate (iv) Methdilazine Hcl (v) Maclozine Hcl (vi) Betamethasone Valerate (vii) Betamethasone
2.	M/s. E. Marck	(i) Vitamin E Acetate (ii) Vitamin KA Water/Oil Soluble (iii) Vitamin E Succinate
3.	M/s. Bayer (India) Ltd.	(i) Chloroquin Phosphate (ii) Resotren Substance (Chloquinato) (iii) Diphenyl Hydantoin
4.	M/s. A.C.C.I.	(i) Tetramisole (ii) Halothane (iii) Tetmosol (iv) Phenothiazine
5.	M/s. Boots Co. (India) Ltd.	(i) Crystalline Insulin (ii) Ibuprofen
6.	M/s. Burroughs Wellcome	(i) Dapsone (ii) Diethyl Carbamazine Citrate (iii) Digoxin (iv) Pyrimethamise (v) Trimethoprim
7.	M/s. Ciba Geigy	(i) Lynestrenol (ii) Ethynyl Estradiol 3-Methyl Ether (Mastranol) (iii) Methyl Testosterone

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2

3

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|---|
| | | (iv) Methanedione |
| | | (v) Estradiol/Estradiol Propionate |
| | | (vi) Ethinyl Estradiol |
| | | (vii) Progesterone |
| | | (viii) Testosterone/Propionate/Valerate |
| | | (ix) Phenone |
| | | (x) Testosterone Undecylenate |
| 8. | M/s. Cyanamid | (i) Tetracycline Hcl |
| | | (ii) Chlorotetracycline |
| | | (iii) Demethyl Chlorotetracycline |
| | | (iv) Trihexyphenidyl Hcl |
| 9. | M/s. Hoechst
Pharmaceuticals | (i) Baralgon Ketone |
| | | (ii) Tetanus Antitoxin |
| | | (iii) FMD Vaccine |
| | | (iv) Haemaccel Sterile |
| | | (v) Frusemide |
| | | (vi) Glybenclamide |
| 10. | M/s. Johnson & Johnson | (i) Surgical Catgut (Non-Sterile, BPC-1949) |
| | | (ii) Needled Absorbable Suture (Catgut Non-Sterile) |
| 11. | M/s. May & Baker | (i) Metronidazole |
| 12. | M/s. Merck Sharp & Dohme | (i) Vitamin B12 |
| | | (ii) Dexamethasone Pure |
| 13. | M/s. Organon (India) Ltd. | (i) Testosterone/Decanoate/Propionate/Isocaproate/Phenyl Propionate |
| | | (ii) Nandrolone Decanoate/Phenyl Propionate |
| | | (iii) Allynestrone & Ethylestrone |
| | | (iv) Ethisterone |

1	2	3
		(v) Desoxycorticosterone Phenyl Propionate
		(vi) Progesterone
		(vii) Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin (HCG)
14.	M/s. Parke Davis	(i) Chlormphenicol
15.	14. M/s. Pfizer Ltd.	(i) Tetracycline
		(ii) Oxytetracycline
		(iii) INH
		(iv) PAS/SOD. PAS
16	M/s. Roce Products	(i) Vitamin A Acetate
		(ii) Dehydroematin Dihydrochloride
		(iii) Daxaropem
		(iv) Chlorolezopoxide
		(v) Mag. Gluconate
		(vi) Intestopan Substance
17.	16A. M/s. Sandoz (I) Ltd.	(i) Cal. Gluconate
		(ii) Cal. Lactobionate
		(iii) Ferrous Gluconate
		(iv) Calcibronate
18.	17. M/s. Uni-Sankyo	(i) Sporlac
		(ii) Sanzyms (Fungal Diastase)
19.	18. M/s. Warner Hindustan	(i) Pyridine & Picolines and Heavy Bases (Drug intermediate)
20.	19. M/s. Wyeth Labs	(i) Hydrocortisone
		(ii) Hydrocortisone Acetate
		(iii) Predisolone
		(iv) Predisolone Acetate
		(v) Predisone
		(vi) Progesterone
		(vii) 17-Hydroxy Progesterone Acetate

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21. 20. M/s. Geoffrey Manners

22. 21. M/s. Sunrid Geigy
Chemicals

(viii) 17-Hydroxy Progesterone Caproate

(ix) Dehydro Helandro Sterone Acetate
(DHA Acetate) (Intermediate)(x) Methyl Androstenediol (Inter-
mediate)

(ix) Testosterone and its salts

(xii) Ethoheptazine Citrate

(i) Benzathine Pencillin G

(ii) Mephentirmine Sulphate

(i) Phenyl Butazene

(ii) Oxyphenyl Butazone

(iii) Chlorthalidene

(iv) Carbamazepine

(v) Imipramine Hcl

Royalty on Bombay High Crude Oil

4006. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Maharashtra Govern-
ment received royalty on crude oil
obtained from Bombay High ;

(b) if so, the amount per tonne ;
and

(c) whether Government have decid-
ed to fix this royalty on percentage
basis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :
No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

**Gap between Indigenous Production
and Demand for Fertilizers**

4007. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :
Will the Minister of CHEMICAL AND
FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any gap bet-
ween indigenous production and demand
for fertilizers in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to
make the country self sufficient ;

(d) the progress made in the matter
during the past five years ; and

(e) the projections for demand and
production of Fertilizers in the country
by 1990 ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS
AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUS-
TRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
(SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a)
and (b) : The details of indigenous pro-
duction, demand and gap between
demand and production of fertilizers
during the year 1984-85 are given
below :

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

	Demand (Estimated Consumption)	Production	Gap between Demand and Production
Nitrogen	56.44	39.17	15.27
P.O.	18.65	12.63	6.02

(c) In addition to substantial additional fertilizers capacity already under installation, a massive programme for setting up many new fertilizer plants has been taken on hand. These measures would help augment the indigenous production of fertilizers substantially and thereby, reduce the level of imports to a significant extent.

(d) As a result of the various measures taken by the Government, the production of fertilizers has increased from a level of 24.64 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen and 8.41 lakh tonnes of P_2O_5 in the first year of the Sixth Plan (1980-81) to 39.17 lakh tonnes of Nitrogen and 12.63 lakh tonnes of P_2O_5 in the last year of the Sixth Plan (1984-85).

(e) Targets of production and consumption (demand) of fertilizers for the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-86 to 1989-90) have not yet been finalised.

{Translation}

Waiting List for New Telephone
Connections in Big Cities of
U.P.

4008. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-

TIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone connections provided in Kanpur, Lucknow, Varanasi, Allahabad and Agra, the five big cities of Uttar Pradesh separately ;

(b) the number of persons on the waiting lists for telephone connections in these cities ; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide some telephone connections in each of these cities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS
MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) : The number
of telephone connections provided during
1984-85 and the number of persons on
the waiting lists in 5 big cities of Uttar
Pradesh are given below :

S. No.	City	Telephone connections provided from 1.4.84 to 31.3.85	Waiting List
1.	Kanpur	92	7349
2.	Lucknow	2081	1579
3.	Varanasi	284	2653
4.	Allahabad	324	1327
5.	Agra	242	3283

(c) The existing telephone exchanges are being expanded wherever feasible and new ones are being opened to provide more telephone connections in each of these cities, subject to availability of resources.

[English]

Violation of Conditions of Licence by the Apparels Export Promotion Council

4009. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received applications regarding gross violations of the conditions of the licence granted under section 25 of the Companies Act, by the Apparels Export Promotion Council, New Delhi ;

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this regard ;

(c) if so, the results thereof ; and

(d) if no action has been taken, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The Regional Director, Department of Company Affairs, Kanpur, to whom the powers of the Central Government under Section 25 of the Companies Act, have been delegated, has intimated that no applications regarding gross violations of the conditions of the licence granted under Section 25 of the Companies Act by the Apparels Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, have been received by him.

(b) to (d) : Does not arise in view of what has been stated in (a) above.

Plastic Industry

4010. SHRI V. S. VIJAYA-RAGHAVAN :

SHRI K. KUNJAMBU :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the plastic goods have a high demand potential in the country ;

(b) whether it is the policy of Government to encourage this industry ; and

(c) if so, the incentives available to the plastic goods manufacturers in the small scale sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Various incentives, such as concessional finance for units being set up in backward areas, machinery on hire-purchase, certain excise duty concessions, reservation of certain products for the small scale sector are also available to small scale units manufacturing plastic goods.

Value of Gas Flared due to Non-Availability of Bottling Equipment and LPG Cylinders

4011. SHRI B. B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(b) whether large quantity of natural gas is being flared due to non-availability of bottling equipment and LPG cylinders ;

(b) the total investment needed for the above by way of imports, indicating the value of gas flared if it was sold to domestic consumers ; and

(c) the quantity of gas flared so far indicating its value on the basis of retail consumer prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir. Natural Gas is not bottled

in cylinders LPG extracted out of natural gas or produced during refining of crude oil is bottled in cylinders. No LPG is being flared. However, some natural gas is being flared primarily due to inadequate compression facilities, inadequate upliftment and downstream use.

(b) and (c) : Necessary facilities to compress natural gas are being installed. The quantity of gas flared in the period April-Dec. 1984 was 2173 million cubic metres.

There is no fixed sale price of natural gas. The national value of this gas computed at the rate of Rs. 100 per thousand cubic metres, the lowest rate charged within the country, is Rs. 21.73 crores.

Production of Potassium Penicillin-G

4012. SHRI RAM DHAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the anticipated and actual production of Potassium Penicillin-G in India, manufacturer-wise, during the last three years as also the installed capacity of each of these manufacturers ;

(b) the estimated demand of Potassium Penicillin-G by the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan and the projected demand for the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the steps taken to augment the indigenous production to meet the total requirement of the country from the indigenous sources ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : (a) No Separate data is available for Potassium Penicillin-G. Licensed capacities and production of bulk penicillin during the last three years are as under :

Year	Production
<i>Production</i>	
1982-83	353.37 MMU
1983-84	316.74 MMU
1984-85	390.00 MMU (estimated)
<i>Licensed capacity</i>	
HAL	160.00 MMU
IDPL	230.00 MMU
Standard Pharma	147.00 MMU
Alembic Chemicals	100.00 MMU

(b) Estimated demand of Penicillin for the year 1984-85 was of the order of 1150 MMU.

Due to inadequate production of 6 APA, demand of penicillin did not pick up as anticipated. Requirement was primarily met by indigenous production. Demand estimates for the terminal years of the Seventh Five Year Plan i.e. 1989-90 has been estimated to be 2470 MMU.

(c) Efforts are being taken to increase the production of penicillin in public sector units by improvement of technology.

Oil Exploration by O.N.G.C. and O.I.L. in Bay of Bengal and Bengal Basin

4013. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the oil exploration programme by oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India in Bay of Bengal and the Bengal basin in the next five years ;

(b) the hydro carbon prospects in Bay of Bengal ; and

(c) what has so far been done in connection with oil exploration in Bay of Bengal and Bengal basin ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) The details in this regard would be

available only after the finalisation of the Seventh Plan.

(b) Based on the available data, the Bay of Bengal area is considered to be prospective for hydrocarbons.

(c) Apart from surveys, the number of wells drilled in the area is as follows :—

	No. of wells completed	No. of wells under drilling
<i>Bengal Basin :</i>		
(i) Onshore	21	3
(ii) Offshore	2	—
<i>Bay of Bengal :</i>		
(i) Mahanandi Offshore	7	1
(ii) Andaman Offshore	4	1
(iii) Krishna Godavari Offshore	26	—
(iv) Cauveri Offshore	18	—

New Telephone Connections from Janpath Telephone Exchange

4014. DR. C. S. VERMA : Will the minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3326 on 14th August, 1984 regarding new telephone connections from Janpath Telephone Exchange and state :

(a) whether the telephone authorities have started issuing letters for fresh allotment of telephone connections to the persons who are in the waiting list in General Category ; and

(b) if so, when the persons in the waiting list in general category upto December, 1982 are likely to be issued letters of allotment of fresh telephone connections ?

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

(b) Allotment letters are being issued by the Delhi Telephones authorities to applicants on waiting list who had registered upto 27.4.82 under 'Non-OYT-General' Category. Applicants on waiting list who had registered upto December, 1982 are likely to be issued allotment letters during the next Six months.

[Translation]

Nomination for Khadi Gramodyog Commission

4015. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government used to nominate five members on the Khadi Gramodyog Commission previously as against three members nominated now ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reconstitute the Commission with five members by abolishing the Commission of three members keeping in view its responsibilities and to ensure its smooth functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Under Section 4(2) of the KVIC Act, 1956, the Commission shall consist of not less than 3 and not more than 5 members appointed by the Central Government. The number of members in the Commission has varied between three and five in the past.

(b) There is no proposal to reconstitute the Commission at present.

[English]

Release of Additional Levy Cement
to Bihar

4016. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Bihar have approached the Union Government for release of additional levy cement for the restoration of buildings, culverts and bridges damaged during the flood which severely affected a large area in Bihar ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The Ministry of Industry and Company Affairs has not received any such request during 1984-85.

(b) Does not arise.

Production and Import of Chemicals
and Pesticides

4017. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether targets of production of various inorganic and organic chemicals and pesticides are being fulfilled in keeping with installed capacity ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the quantity of these items imported and value thereof in foreign exchange and the medial steps taken for self-reliance and self-sufficiency ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) : Sufficient capacity has been installed/licenced by the Government to meet the demand of major chemicals in the country. The capacity utilisation in the chemical industry normally varies between 60% to 80% of the installed capacity due to certain infrastructural constraints. The installed capacity, the estimated production and the targets of production fixed for certain major chemicals and pesticides for the year 1984-85 are as below :—

Name of the items	Unit of According	Traget of pro- duction	1984-85	
			Installed Capacity	Estimated Production
<i>Organic Chemicals :</i>				
1. Acetone	'000 tons	30.00	35.00	27.00
2. Methanol	„	45.00	60.00	45.90
3. Acetic Acid	„	55.00	80.70	40.00
<i>Inorganic Chemicals :</i>				
1. Caustic Soda	„	670.00	966.00	680.00
2. Soda Ash	„	900.00	1005.00	862.00
3. Calcium Carbide	„	111.00	170.00	111.00
4. Carbon Black	„	92.50	154.70	92.50
<i>Pesticides :</i>				
1. B.H.C.	tonnes	36000.00	41900.00	33500.00
2. D.D.T.	tonnes	7500.00	9088.00	7277.00
3. Malathion	tonnes	60000.00	12000.00	4500.00

The installed capacity increased from 44,500 tonnes to 60,000 tonnes in Sept. 1984.

The quantity and value of the chemicals imported into the country are compiled and published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. There is usually a time lag in compilation and publication of the data. Once the Statistics are compiled, they are published in the monthly Statistics for Foreign Trade of India Vol. II, Copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

**Issue of Licence for Cement Factory
in Panna District, M. P.**

4018. SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up a cement factory in Panna District of Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, how many industrialists have applied for licence for this cement factory ; and

(c) the time by which Government propose to give the licence and by what time this factory would start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) There is no proposal at present under

consideration of Government to set up a cement factory in Panna District in the Public Sector. An application for registration with DGTD filed by Madhya Pradesh Audyogic Vikas Nigam for setting up a mini cement plant with a capacity of 33,000 tonnes per annum in Panna District was rejected.

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

Extending of Facilities Available to Defence Personnel to GREF Employees

4019. **SHRI LALIT MAKEN :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court in their judgement delivered on 6 May, 1983 had suggested to Government to extend facilities like pay, allowances and ration available to Defence Personnel

working in G.R.E.F. to the employees of G.R.E.F. there by removing existing disparity;

(b) if so, the measures taken by Government to implement the said observation ;

(c) if not, the time likely to be taken for the implementation of the suggestion ; and

(d) the approximate total expenditure involved in this implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) to (d) . Yes, Sir. Improvement in the ration and clothing scales of General Reserve Engineer Force civilian employees at a total cost, as indicated below, have been made and Government orders issued on 16.10 1984 :—

In Crores of Rupees

	Ration	Clothing	Total
(i) Initial cost	—	5.67	5.67
(ii) Annual recurring cost	2.35	1.15	3.50

Pay and allowances of General Reserve Engineer Force civilian employees are related to pay and allowances of other Central Government civilian employees. However, these are higher than those of the Army in several posts in the General Reserve Engineer Force.

Increase in Price of Petrol

4020. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the data from which the increase in prices of petrol is expected to come into force as a consequence of the budget proposals for 1985-86 ;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the meantime through an expective order the increase in prices of petrol has already been effected ; and

(c) if so, whether such a practice is consistent with the norms and conventions regarding to operation of levies introduced through Budget proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) and (b) : The increase in prices is effective from the date it is announced in Parliament, i.e. from the midnight of 16th/17th March, 1985.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Adjudication Cases Pending in Supreme Court

4021. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases, dispute, appeals and other matters awaiting adjudication on 31 March, 1985 in the Supreme Court and the number of such cases pending on 31 March, 1984; and

(b) the steps taken in helping speedy disposal of such pending matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE : (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) :

(a) As per information received from the Registry of the Supreme Court, the total number of matters (both for regular hearing and admission matters including the miscellaneous petitions) pending as on 31.3.1984 and 1.3.1985 were 1,34,098 and 1,56,190, respectively.

(b) Steps taken to reduce pendency are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Steps Taken to Reduce Pendency in Supreme Court

The following steps have been taken to reduce pendency in the Supreme Court :

1. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from Judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in second appeal (Vide Section 100A).
2. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.

3. The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 was amended in 1977 to provide for rise in the Judge Strength of the Supreme Court from 13 to 17 (excluding the Chief Justice).

4. The Supreme Court Rules have been amended to vest more powers in the Registrars and Judges in Chambers so that time of the court is not wasted in petty miscellaneous matters.

5. The Supreme Court have also taken the following measures :

- (i) Priority is given to certain matters.
- (ii) Miscellaneous matters are fixed daily.
- (iii) Writ petitions with identical questions are grouped together and batches running from 50 and 100 matters are listed together for hearing.
- (iv) Other matters involving identical questions are also identified from time to time and put together and efforts are made to see that such groups are disposed of early.
- (v) The Supreme Court Rules were revised in 1966 providing for printing of records under its own Supervision. As that was also taking quite some time the court of late has started wherever possible dispensing with the preparation of records and hearing the appeals on special leave paper-book itself after the parties have filed their counter-affidavits and affidavits in reply.

[Translation]**Unutilised Machines in Ordnance
Factory**

4022. SHRI MOOL CHAND
DAGA : Will the Minister of
DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether machines worth Rs.
201.39 lakhs had been lying unutilised
in ordnance factories till March, 1983 ;

(b) if so, the names of those
machines and the dates on which they
were purchased ;

(c) the reasons for which those
machines had been lying unutilised

indicating the names of such machines
and the date since when these have been
lying unutilised ; and

(d) the persons responsible for no
utilising these machines or allowing
these machines to remain unutilised ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a)
to (c) : A statement is attached.

(d) While, as per the contractual
provisions, the supplying firms are
responsible for successful commissioning
of the machines/furnance, OFB have
been directed to closely monitor the
progress in the matters and take all
neccessary steps in this regard.

Statement

Name of the Machine.	Date of Receipt	Reasons for non-utilisation
1	2	3
1. Horizontal Boaring	December, 1979	Initial erection was delayed owing to late receipt of technical documents for design foundation and certain basic defects were found after the erection of the machine. Matter is being pursued with the firm.
2. Turning and Boring	June, 1979	Certain parts were found defective after commissioning and there were repeated breakdowns after recommsi-sioning.
3. Turning and Boring	October, 1979	Suppliers could not successfully commission the machine till March, 1983. It was however recommissioned in June, 1983.
4. Bailing Press	November, 1977	There had been repeated breakdowns due to defective design. Modifications have since been carried out and commissioned in Sep., 1984.

1	2	3
5. Hardening and Tempering Furnance	June, 1969	Various defects were found on trial which could not be rectified. The furnance had to be returned to the firm. It was received back in June, 1983 after removal of defects. All defects have been rectified and is under final inspection.
6. Electrically Heated chamber type Furnance	April-November, 1978	The furnance has a defective quench tank which is unsafe to work. Matter is being pursued with the Supplier.
7. Crane	October, 1978	The firm could not commission the crane successfully. They have not been able to rectify the defects and the removals has now undertaken the job at risk and expence of the firm. The crane is likely to be commissioned shortly.

Canister Industry

4023. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the exploitation going on in the canister industry ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps to meet the shortage of material required for its smooth functioning ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) : No specific case of exploitation in the Canister Industry has been brought to the notice of Government. Government

have, however, recieved some representations about the shortage of tin plates which is the main raw material for the industry. It was noticed that there was a shortfall in the indigenous availability of tin plates. In order to meet the domestic shortfall in supplies, non-oil can size general purpose prime tin plates to the extent of 15,000 tonnes were released for direct import by Tin Containers manufacturers dispensing with the requirement of 'no objection' certificate of Steel Authority of India who are the canalising agency for the import of tin plates.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Industrialization of Raigarh District (Madhya Pradesh)

4024. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Raigarh district in Madhya Pradesh is an industrially backward district ;

(b) whether Government had taken up programmes to industrialise the backward districts on priority ;

(c) whether priority has not been accorded industrialising Raigarh district despite the fact that the above district is an industrially backward district ; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in near future or during Seventh Plan for the development of industries in that part of Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The following incentives/concessions are available to entrepreneurs setting up industries in Raigarh district of Madhya Pradesh :—

(i) Central Investment Subsidy @ 10% subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs (MRTP/FERA Companies are not eligible to Central Subsidy).

(ii) Concessional Finance.

(iii) Interest subsidy to Engineer entrepreneurs.

(iv) Seed/Margin Money assistance.

(v) Tax concession.

(vi) Facility for purchase of machinery on hire purchase basis.

(vii) Consultancy for technical services.

(viii) Special concessional for nucleus plants.

[Translation]

Setting up of Electronic Training Complex

4025. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether UNIDO has set up any Electronics Training Complex at Ramnagar (Nainital, Uttar Pradesh) ;

(b) whether Government propose to open more such training complexes in future ;

(c) if so, the proposed locations thereof ; and

(d) whether Government would consider opening such complex at Almora and Pithoragarh also in Uttar Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has agreed to set up the Integrated Electronics Industrial Development Complex at Ram Nagar with the assistance of UNDP/UNIDO.

(b) No decision in this regard has been taken.

(c) Not applicable at this stage.

(d) No, Sir.

[English]

Progress in the Field of Aeronautics

4026. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress India has made so far in the field of aeronautics ;

(b) whether our scientists have achieved full control over the entire machinery of manufacture of aeroplanes indigenously ; and

(c) if not, by what time our scientists would achieve full independence and efficiency in the sphere ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO) : (a) Since 1949, the Indian Aeronautical Industry has produced nearly 3,000 aircraft, both of indigenous design and under licence from abroad, to meet the needs of the Defence Services. A number of indigenous design and development aircraft/engine projects are currently under progress.

(b) As stated earlier, a large number of aircraft and associated equipment have in the past been produced in the country and are under current production.

(c) Current and proposed aircraft and engine programmes are expected to progressively update indigenous capability and enhance our self-reliance in this field.

Increase in Commission to LPG Distributors

4027. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 10389 on 8th May, 1984 regarding demand for increase in commission paid to distributors for LPG cylinders and state :

(a) whether Government have received the Oil Cost Review Committee's report which was expected by the end of July, 1984 ;

(b) if so, the recommendations thereof ;

(c) whether Government have

accepted the recommendations and are issuing directions accordingly ; and

(d) whether Government are considering future increase in the commission in view of the percentage price hike in commodities and rise in salaries to enable the distributors to meet the increased expenditure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (d) : The Oil Cost Review Committee has submitted its report to Government which is under examination.

[Translation]

Complaints Regarding Sainik Schools

4028. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the present number of Sainik Schools in the country ;

(b) the number of students in the aforesaid schools receiving education ; and

(c) whether complaints have been received that neither proper care is taken nor nutritious food is given to the minor students in these schools ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO) : (a) There are 18 Sainik Schools in the country.

(b) 10,025 students are studying in the Sainik Schools in the current academic year.

(c) The Sainik Schools Society does its best to ensure proper care and provide wholesome food to the students from within the available resources. Prompt action is taken to rectify any shortcoming which may come to notice.

[English]

**Variation in Wholesale Price Index
and Consumer Price Index**

4029. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wholesale price index and the consumer price index are often at variance with each other ;

(b) if so, whether there is any basic defect in computing these indices ;

(c) whether Government feel that a more scientific system of computation of indices is required to be adopted ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) wholesale price index (base 1970-71) and consumer price index (base 1960) are not identical. While the wholesale price index reflects the price situation for the economy as a whole at the level of wholesale transactions, the consumer price index reflects the change in prices at retail level. Accordingly, the composition, coverage of commodities and weighting diagram for the two indices are different. However, despite these differences in the two indices, the movement of the consumer price index has in the long run followed the movement in the wholesale price index with some time lag.

(b) Both these indices are computed on the principle of weighted arithmetic mean according to the Laspeyre's formula with items, specification, markets/shops and weighting diagram remaining fixed in the base year.

(c) and (d) : With a view to ensuring that the two indices reflect the structural changes in the economy experienced

over the years, both the indices are under revision.

**Use of Foreign Brand Names in
Collaborations**

4030. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the collaboration agreements of Escorts with Yamaha Lohia with Vespa, Hero with Honda have a condition that they will not use foreign brand names ;

(b) which of these companies is using the foreign brand name and what action is proposed to be taken ; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any action against M/s. Godfrey Phillips for using the Foreign Trade Mark 'Chesterfields' without Government's approval and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) : Government have not given permission to Escorts, Lohia, Hero and Godfrey Phillips for use of foreign brand names on their products for internal sales. As per the policy of foreign collaborations, foreign brand names are not ordinarily allowed for use on the products for internal sales although there is no objection to their use on products to be exported.

The policy regarding use of foreign brand names is under review.

Setting up of Petro-Chemical Complex at Raigad, Maharashtra

4031. SHRI D. B. PATIL :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Petro-chemical Complex is to be developed at Nagothane District Raigad, Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, whether agricultural land to a large extent is being acquired for the Complex ;

(c) if so, whether his Minister has included the cost of rehabilitation of the displaced agriculturists in the cost of the project ; and

(d) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) to (d) : A petrochemicals complex is implementation in Nagothane, District Raigad, Maharashtra. Out of total area of about 558 hectares, agricultural land is about 226 hectares. Provision has been kept for rehabilitation of the displaced agriculturists. The cost of rehabilitation will be determined in terms of Maharashtra Resettlement of Project Displaced Persons Act, 1970.

Increase in Production of Cement to meet Domestic Demand

4032. PROE. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to increase the production of cement in order to meet the growing domestic demand ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the proposal to expand the existing units and establish new units as the present construction activities in the country require more quantity of cement than that is available in the country ;

(c) if so, whether the recent cement policy announced by Government is proposed to be amended ; and

(d) if not, the other alternate measures proposed to be adopted by

Government to maintain proper stock of cement according to the requirement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) : Every effort is being made towards increasing availability of Cement in the country by fuller utilisation of existing capacity and sanctioning additional capacity for installation. The policy of partial decontrol of cement is constantly under review and will be amended when the need for the same would arise.

Indigenous Production of Drugs in Small Scale Sector

4033. SHRI D. P. JADEJA :
SHRI MOTILAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in most cases, drugs allowed to be imported as raw-material into our country attract cheaper rates of custom duty vis-a-vis the custom duty on its intermediates ;

(b) whether Government policy is to encourage indigenous production of drugs if these are being imported ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in the matter in order to boost up indigenous production of drugs in the small scale sector ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) In general, imports of bulk drugs carry a basic duty of 60% ad-voluerum and auxiliary duty of 40% ad-voluerum. Similarly import of drug intermediates carry a basic duty of 70% ad-voluerum, auxiliary duty of 40% ad-voluerum and counter-vailing duty of 12% ad-voluerum. However, several bulk drugs, formula-

tions and drug intermediates are levied concessional rates of customs duty.

(b) Yes, Sir. if such production is cost effective.

(c) Small Scale Units, unlike organised sector Units are free to undertake the production of any bulk drug after obtaining the permission for manufacturing and marketing the bulk drug concerned from the Drug controllers of their States. Several other concessions have also been extended by the State Governments and Central Government to such units with a view to boost up production in the Small Scale Sector.

Theft of Insured Parcels

4034. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that certain insured parcels are stolen before these reach their destination ;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents during the last three years ;

(c) whether it is a fact that employees of postal department have been found involved in the theft of insured parcels ;

(d) if so, the details in this regard ; and

(e) the action taken against them ?

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

(b) to (e) : The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Pollution Caused by Hindustan Paper Corporation

4035. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state whether Government propose to take any steps to prevent the pollution caused by the waste thrown into the nearby Muvattupuzha river by the Hindustan Paper Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : The Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. is taking all steps to prevent pollution from the waste being discharged into the Muvattupuzha river. The effluent is given primary treatment for removal of solids and colour and secondary treatment for removal of B.O.D. and only after achieving the standard prescribed by the State Pollution Control Board, the effluent is discharged into the Muvattupuzha river. The Company is also taking in-plant measures to reduce the quantity of effluent to the minimum.

[Translation]

Linking of Chanderpur, Bhandara and Garhchiroli with Bombay and Delhi by S.T.D.

4036. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that Chanderpur, Bhandara and Garhchiroli are the developing districts of Maharashtra and new entrepreneurs have to face difficulties due to insufficient means of communications ;

(b) whether Government propose to link these three districts with Bombay and Nagpur as well as Delhi by STD service ;

(c) if so, when ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The STD services for Chandrapur, Bhandara, and Garhchioli is expected to be provided during the 7th Plan period, which will give them access not only to Nagpur and Delhi to the rest of the country.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Separate Ministry for Rehabilitation and Welfare of Ex-servicemen

4037. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a separate Ministry for Rehabilitation and Welfare of Ex-servicemen for speedy rehabilitation and helping the ex-servicemen; and

(b) whether Government are aware of the hardship being faced by the ex-servicemen in getting job opportunities and other benefits?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The problem faced by the ex-servicemen have been studied in detail by a High Level Committee in 1984. The recommendations of the Committee are being processed in the Government. To mitigate the difficulties of the ex-servicemen in securing employment, the Government have from time to time taken appropriate policy initiatives, some of the more notable of which are as follows:

(i) A policy of reservation in recruitment to posts within the purview of the Central Government has been introduced, accompanied by relevant relaxation in the statutory provisions for the requisite educational qualifications and age restrictions. Similar steps have also been recommended to the State Government.

(ii) The policy of reservation has been also made applicable to the Central Public Sector Undertakings (and has been similarly recommended for adoption by the State Public Sector Undertakings).

(iii) Training is being imparted under various scheme to equip ex-servicemen both for salaried employment in the private sector as well as for self-employment.

(iv) Support is provided to ex-servicemen in engaging in gainful self-employment by means of sponsoring, with the Ministries/Governments concerned, a policy of priority/preferential allotment of commercial booths, agencies in various trading activities, transportation service, etc.

Pharmaceutical Units Working below the Capacity

4038. SHRI THAMPAN [THOMAS]: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of pharmaceutical units under his Ministry have been working below capacity due to shortage of raw material;

(b) if so, the particulars of the units which have not completed their full capacity indicating their original capacity; and

(c) the steps taken to revamp the utilisation of full capacity of these erring units?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (c): Production of some pharmaceutical units was affected because of inade-

quate availability of concentrated Nitric acid and Industrial Alcohol.

One stream of the Nitric Acid Plants of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilisers Limited (RCF) had to be closed down due to objection from the State Government from the pollution angle. Following reports of shortage of concentrated Nitric Acid, the position was reviewed. RCF have been advised to ensure adequate availability of concentrated Nitric Acid to priority users like bulk drug manufacturers.

Imports of alcohol and alcohol based intermediates are being allowed wherever necessary.

Supply of Cooking Gas on "Cash and Carry" Basis

4040. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a scheme has been devised to supply cooking gas cylinders to consumers on "Cash and Carry" basis ;

(b) whether it has considered that this system will be dangerous, costly and will cause inconvenience to consumers ; and

(c) the reasons for changing the present system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) to (c) : The Oil Industry has introduced the "Cash and Carry" scheme on an experimental basis in certain markets where cylinders with self-closing valves are in use. This scheme is optional for consumers. The safety, cost and convenience aspects have been taken into consideration while introducing the scheme. It is intended also to relieve consumers desirous of using this facility from the occasional problems of the home delivery arrangement.

Revision Petitions Pending to Delhi High Court

4041. SHRI ANANDI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of revision petitions pending in Delhi High Court as on 31 March, 1985 ;

(b) whether there is heavy workload on the judges ;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the strength of Delhi High Court Judges to clear the backlog ; and

(d) the number of vacancies in Delhi High Court as on 31 March, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) :

(a) As per information furnished by the Registry of the Delhi High Court, the pendency as on 31.12.1984 of the civil and criminal revision petitions/cases is as follows :

Revision Petitions (Civil)	—	1788
Revision Petitions and cases (Criminal)	—	703

Total :		2491

(b) and (c) : Proposals from Delhi High Court for increasing the strength of Judges, based on the workload there, have been received and are engaging the attention of the Government.

(d) Two.

Proposals to Nationalise Drug Industry

4042. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of multinational companies which are manufacturing drugs in India ;

(b) whether the raw material used for manufacturing drugs is being imported ;

(c) if so, the value of the raw-material imported during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 ;

(d) whether the drugs imported by these companies are being exported ;

(e) if so, the quantity of the drugs exported by these companies during the above period ;

(f) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to nationalise drug industry ; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and the

steps being taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) These are 16 FERA drug companies where direct foreign equity exceeds 40%.

(b) to (d) : Imports of raw-materials are allowed as per Imports and Export Policy. Imports by individual companies are not being monitored in the Ministry.

(e) The quantities of drugs exported by the FERA companies are not available. However, the value of exports by these 16 FERA drug companies are as enclosed in the Statement.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) Does not arise.

Statement

Export of 16 FERA Companies during the Year 1983-84

S. No.	Name of the Country	Export
1	2	3
		(Rs. in '000)
1.	M/s. Burroughs Welcome & Co. (I) P. Ltd., Bombay	694.1
2.	M/s. Boots Co. (India) Ltd., Bombay	12010.8
3.	M/s. Bayer (I) Ltd., Bombay	1447.2
4.	M/s. Cyanamid India Ltd., Bombay	502.1
5.	M/s. E. Merck (I) Ltd., Bombay	12413.5
6.	M/s. Hoechst Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Bombay	147979.4
7.	M/s. Hindustan Ciba-Geigy Ltd., Bombay	52820.6
8.	M/s. Johnson & Johnson Ltd., Bombay	1189.1
9.	M/s. Merck Sharp Dohme of India Ltd., Bombay	173.5

1	2	3
10.	M/s. Pfizer Ltd., Bombay	5774.3
11.	M/s. Roche Products Ltd., Bombay	12060.0 (October, 1983)
12.	M/s. Saddoz (I) Ltd., Bombay	11166.8
13.	M/s. The Alkali & Chemical Corpn. of India Ltd., Calcutta	6422.0
14.	M/s. Uni Sankyo Ltd., Bombay	N.A.
15.	M/s. Wyeth Laboratories Ltd, Bombay	75.4
16.	M/s. Smith Kline & French	2032.7

Increase in Alcohol Cost

4043. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices has made a recommendation to Government for increase in the cost of alcohol ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendation ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices, after making a study of the cost and price structure of molasses and alcohol, has submitted a respect to the Government. The examination of the report is in progress.

Massive Investment Plan by Tatas

4044. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tatas have indicated a sizeable investment in new high technology areas like telecommunications, super computers, advanced materials etc. and alternative energy resources ;

(b) if so, whether Government have agreed to the massive plan investment offered by Tatas ;

(c) if so, the areas that have been agreed by Union Government : and

(d) the total investment proposed to be made by the Tatas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (d) : The various companies belonging to the Tata Group of companies have been granted Letters of Intent for the manufacture of items such as Saleable Steel, Truck and Bus Chassis, P & H Electric Mining Shovels, Moulded Case Circuit Breakers, Packaged Units etc., Gunning equipments for operating of slide gates, Grawler and wheel mounted Side/front dump loaders for underground mining, and Document encoders, during the period 1982 to 1985. The estimated investment as contained in the applications approximates Rs. 400 crores.

Other proposals from these companies awaiting Government approval relate to items of manufacture such as Portland Blast Furnace, Slag Cement, Modem, etc., MICR Cartridge Ribbons, Industrial Machinery Diglycol Carbonate Menomer etc., Process Control and management systems and EPABX, envisaging investment to the tune of Rs. 100 crores approximately.

**Augmentation of Storage Capacity
of Various Public Sector Oil
Companies in Orissa**

**4046 SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK :** Will the Minister of PETRO-
LEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the present storage capacity of the public sector oil companies in Orissa for storing dissel, petrol, kerosene, furnace oil etc. is most inadequate ;

(b) whether Government of Orissa had requested his Ministry to consider the issue of immediate augmentation of storage capacity of the various public sector oil companies in that State ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Union Government to implement the request made by Government of Orissa ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):**

(a) No, Sir. The product tankage capacity already available in Orissa is considered sufficient to meet the current demand for POL products in that State.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) With a view to augmenting the product storage capacity in the country in accordance with the existing policy of the Government, tankages to the extent of 6347 Kls. are being set up in Orissa under Phase-I of the Additional Product Tankage Programme and these are expected to be completed

by the end of 1985. Tankages to the extent of 10532 Kls. have been sanctioned under Phase-IIA and these are expected to be completed by 1986-87. A proposal to set up a terminal at Paradeep is also under consideration of Govt.

Exploration of Wells in 1985-86

**4047. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH
MALIK :** Will the Minister of PETRO-
LEUM be pleased to state :

(a) estimated number of new wells which are likely to be explored in the country during 1985-86 ;

(b) the names of the places where these wells will be explored ;

(c) funds allocated for the purpose ; and

(d) how much oil is likely to be achieved from these wells ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):**

(a) 159 exploratory wells are planned to be drilled in 1985-86.

(b) These would be drilled in the following basins :

Bombay	}	OFFSHORE
Andaman		
North-East		
Coast		

Cambay	}	ONSHORE
Assam		
Rajasthan		
Arunachal		
Pradesh		
Mahanandi		
Himalayan foothills and Gange Valley		

Kutch-	}	OFFSHORE AND ONSHORE
Saurashtra		
Krishna-		
Godavari		
Cauvery		
Bengal		

(c) Rs. 570 crores.

(d) It is not possible to quantify the production from these exploratory wells at this stage.

Use of Xerox Machines in Courts

4048. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce modern techniques in subordinate trial courts for the purpose of recording evidence, for the purpose of supplying instantaneous copies of evidence and judgement the litigant public by the use of Xerox machines etc ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDAWAJ) : (a) and (b) : In their 77th Report the Law Commission recommended that instead of typing the copies of judgements and depositions the whole thing could be done by Mechanical or Electronic process. The report was laid on the Table of the House and also sent to State Government and High Courts in 1979 as action was to be taken by them. The attention of the State Governments and High Courts was again drawn in June, 1982 with regard to the recommendations contained in this report.

Opening of Post Offices and Telegraph Offices in Bihar

4049. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of post offices proposed to be opened in Bihar during 1985-86 ;

(b) the total number of telegraph

offices proposed to be opened in Bihar during 1985-86 ; and

(c) of the above post offices and telegraph offices, how many are to be opened in the backward, hill, tribal and far-flung areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of post offices proposed to be opened in Bihar during 1985-86 is yet to be finalised.

(b) The total number of telegraph office proposed to be opened during 1985-86 in Bihar are yet to be finalised.

(c) Does not arise.

Monitoring Organisation

4050. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the functions of the Monitoring Organisation ;

(b) the projected plan outlay for this organisation in the Sixth Five Year Plan ;

(c) the total amount spent by this organisation so far ; and

(d) the steps being taken to remove the deficiencies, if any, in the working of this organisation and to activate it so that the Sixth Plan target can be achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The Monitoring Organisation is a "field" Organisation which provides the necessary technical and allied data on the basis of wireless monitoring carried out at the monitoring stations of the Ministry (Wireless Planning and Coordination Wing)

for efficient discharge of its role, as national radio regulatory authority, in radio frequency spectrum management including international coordination and registration of frequencies and positions of satellites in the Geostationary Satellite Orbit (GSO).

(b) Rs. 800 lakhs.

(c) Rs. 351.07 lakhs.

(d) There are no specific deficiencies. Some schemes which are under implementation have, however, spilled over to the Seventh Plan because of delays in delivery of equipment already ordered, etc.

Opening of New Telephone Exchanges in Kerala

4051. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to open new Telephone Exchanges in Kerala during current financial year ;

(b) if so, the places where these Exchange in Kerala circle are to be opened ; and

(c) the time by which these Exchanges are likely to be in operation ?

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

(b) The information is given in the attached Statement.

(c) The exchanges are likely to be commissioned during 1985-86 subject to availability of equipment and other stores.

Statement

Name of the places where the Exchanges are proposed to be opened.

1. Murickassery

2. Chela Chu Vadu

3. Sanelli

4. Teeky

5. Kadamath

6. Arattupuzha

7. Thirumeni

8. Parakadavu

9. Malur

10. Surianel

11. Thiruvegapuzha

12. Panthecrankavu

13. Puzhakattiri

14. Adiperanda

15. Panathur

Out of the 15 exchanges proposed to be opened exchanges at Sl. No. 2 and 10 will be Small Electronic Exchanges of ESAX 9 : 2 : 1 type and remaining MAX-III Type.

Increase in Price of Vitamin 'C'

4052. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have allowed increase in price of Vitamin 'C' manufactured by Indian Drug Companies recently ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ; and

(c) how many times during the last 12 months price increase was allowed and by how much ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) : The retention price of Vitamin 'C' and its salts manufactured by M/s. Sarabhai M. Chemicals, a Unit of M/s. Ambala

Sarabhai Enterprises was increased under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979 on 27th March, 1985. The increase in price was allowed based on the recommendations of the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Price.

(c) During the year 1984-85, the increase in price of Vitamin 'C' and its salts was allowed only once on 27th March, 1985.

Setting up of Fertilizer Factories with Naphtha as Feedstock

4053. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether more fertilizer factories with naphtha as feedstock are proposed to be set up ;

(b) if so, the number of such factories being set up and the location thereof ; and

(c) whether this decision was due to delays in setting up gas-based fertilizer units ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. A factory based on naphtha as feedstock is being set up at Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

Fixation of Prices of Medicines

4054. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of medicines are very high and common people do not find themselves in a position to buy them ;

(b) whether approval of Government is taken at the time of raising the prices of medicines by manufacturing companies ;

(c) if so, the details regarding the number and names of drugs which have been introduced in the market after the price index based order as per approval of Government ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to make them available for common people ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir. The prices of most medicines are regulated under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979.

(b) Prior approval of the Government is required to be obtained by the manufacturers under the provisions of the said Order before revising the prices of price controlled formulations.

(c) and (d) : There are 3-7 price controlled bulk drugs which are specified in the first and the second schedule to the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. Formulations based on these drugs run into large numbers. Statutory control on the price of these bulk drugs and their formulations ensure their availability to the consumer at fair and reasonable prices.

Manufacture of Civilian Items by Garden Reach Workshop Ltd., Calcutta

4055. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is aware that Garden Reach Workshop Ltd., Calcutta is also manufacturing some non-defence civilian items like road roller etc ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether there is any proposal that Garden Reach Workshop Ltd., should manufacture only regular defence items ; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Non-defence items have been taken up for manufacture to ensure better capacity utilization.

(c) and (d) : No, Sir. However, proposals to rationalise the product mix in order to improve the financial performance of the Company are under consideration.

**Inspection of Companies for Misuse
of Imported Raw Material**

4056. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inspections carried out to prevent the misuse of canalised imported raw materials during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 ;

(b) the names of the companies inspected and the nature of irregularities that have come to light ;

(c) whether instances of large scale procurement and import of bulk drugs and imported bulk drugs of some foreign companies and others have been brought to his notice ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No inspections in this respect were carried out.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The import and procurement of drugs is regulated under the Import and Export Policy in force from time to time. No instances of the nature referred to has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

**Release of Additional Levy Cement
to State Government**

4057. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal by Union Government for the release of additional levy cement to some State Government besides their normal allotment for their important projects ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Development of Telecommunications
Facilities in Koraput District of
Orissa**

4058. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the programme prepared and approved during the Sixth Plan for the development of telecommunications in Koraput District of Orissa by Orissa Circle and executed ;

(b) the name of the places provided telephone facilities, opened new exchanges and the blocks and sub-divisions connected with District and other sub-Divisional headquarters so far ;

(c) whether all the Sixth Five Year Plan programmes have been completed ;

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ; and

(e) the details of the Seventh Plan programmes prepared and submitted to his Ministry for tribal area, particularly Koraput District ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The information is given in Statement I.

(b) The information is given in Statement II.

(c) No Sir, a few of the programmes could not be completed.

(d) The information is given in Statement III.

(e) The information is given in Statement III.

Statement I

The Programmes Proposed and Executed during Sixth Plan in Koraput District

Proposed :

1. Commission 2 new MAX-II 25 lines.
2. Expand exchange capacity by 1085 lines.
3. Open 53 long distance public telephone/COs.
4. One telex exchange.
5. One manual trunk board.
6. Commission 6 open wire carrier systems.

7. Atomatise Koraput exchange by 400 lines MAX-II (electronic).

Executed :

1. Commissioned 9 new MAX-III (25 lines).
2. Expanded exchange capacity by 575 lines.
3. Opened 37 LDPTs/COs.
4. Telex exchange—nil.
5. Three manual trunk boards.
6. Five Open Wire carrier systems.

Statement II

1. Ambadola
2. Boipariguda
3. Borigumma
4. Bissam Cuttak
5. Balimela
6. Chitra Konda
7. Damanjodi
8. Damanjodi Township
9. Panchapatimail (Damanjodi Hill Tap).

II. The Names of Places Provided Telephone Facilities i.e. LDPTs/COs During 6th Plan.

1. Atigaon
2. Ambadola
3. B. Singhpur
4. Balimela
5. Baligaon
6. Bikrampur
7. Bhejahandi
8. Chandrapur

9. Charamula Kusumi

10. Chitrukonda

11. Chandili

12. Dangasurda

13. Digisalpha

14. Dombasora

15. Dumuriput

16. Gira

17. Jaltar

18. Jhaliguda

19. Kumuli

20. Kamta

21. Kunduli

22. Kalyan Singhpur

23. Kujendri

24. Kalimela

25. Kango

26. Limapadar

27. Maidalpur

28. Nuakote

29. Patraput

30. Putasing

31. Ramgiri

32. Rajoda

33. Sunkli

34. Sikapalli

35. Sikarpai

36. Timbarla

37. Ukumba

LDPTs Opened at Ambadela, Baltmela, Chittrakonda Subsequently converted to MAX-III

During 6th Plan

III. 1. Kalimela Block Headquarter connected to its subdivisional headquarter at Malkangiri.

2. Kalyan singpur block headquarter connected to its sub-divisional headquarter at Rayagada.

3. Chandrapur block headquarter connected to its sub-divisional headquarter at Gunupur.

Statement III

Details of Programmes not Completed During 6th Plan Reasons Thereof

1. LDPTs/COs could not be provided due to hilly terrain, power paralaliam and shortage of stores.
2. Koraput exchange could not be automatised due to non-availability of equipment and building.
3. Telex exchange could not be commissioned for want of requisite demand.

Details of 7th Plan Proposals for Tribal Area in Koraput District

1. Opening of 13 MAX-III new exchanges.
2. Increase in exchange capacity by 1800 lines.
3. Opening of 183 LDPTs/COs.
4. Opening of one new telex exchange.

5. Introduction of point-to-point STD on three routes.

(b) Does not arise.

6. 100 Kms UHF routes to be added.

(c) to (e) : Proposal for new Telegraph Sub-Division at Rayagada will be taken up when justified as per existing standards.

7. Seven manual exchange to be automatised.

Functioning of Legal Aid Committee in Supreme Court and High Courts

8. Introduction of integrated digital network plan in Koraput secondary area.

4060. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

The above proposals will be taken up subject to availability of stores, resources and financial viability of projects.

(a) whether Legal Aid Committees have been functioning in the Supreme Court and in the various High Courts for giving legal aid to the poor ;

Opening of New Telephone Sub-Division at Rayagada in Orissa

(b) if so, the procedure adopted in this regard ; and

4059. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(c) the details regarding the financial assistance being provided to the Supreme Court as well as High Courts?

(a) whether there was a move to delink the Gunupur area from Berhampur Sub-Division Telephone and to merge it with Jeypore Sub-Division ;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

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

(c) whether the new Telephone sub-division at Rayagada is going to be opened bifurcating the existing Jeypore Sub-Division ;

(d) if so, when this proposed new sub-division is going to be opened ; and

(b) The procedure adopted by the Legal Aid Committee functioning in the Supreme Court is governed by the Office Memorandum dated 10.7.1981 issued by Government, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—1091/85]. As the State Governments are concerned with the Legal Aid Programmes in their respective States, Government has no information regarding the details of the procedure adopted by the Legal Aid Committee functioning in the various High Courts.

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

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

(c) Government have provided financial assistance to the Legal Aid Committee functioning in the Supreme Court as under :

Financial Year	Amount of the Grant
1980-81	25,000.00
1981-82	1,00,000.00
1982-83	2,57,813.27
1983-84	3,46,186.30
1984-85	3,94,000.00

Giving of financial assistance to the Legal Aid Committee functioning in the various High Courts is primarily the concern of the respective State Governments. However, on the recommendations of the Committee for implementing Legal Aid Schemes constituted by Government, grants-in-aid to the Legal Aid and Advice Boards of States is provided in some cases depending on the programme or project concerned.

Coordination Activities of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation and I.P.A.G. with D.R.D.O.

4061. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to improve the coordination of the activities of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation and Information Planning and Analysis Group with the activities of Defence Research and Development Organisation ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) There is excellent scientific cooperation among Indian laboratories including research departments of Universities.

(b) As this cooperation is strictly on scientific exchanges and need-based it is not possible to enumerate them. Suffice it to state that there are no reservations in this cooperation.

Rejected/Pending Recommendations of the Sarin Committee on Telecommunications

4062. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any of the recommendations of the Sarin Committee on Telecommunications have been rejected or are still pending decision with Government ;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the reasons for rejection ; and

(c) the likely date by which a decision would be taken in case of those which are still pending indicating the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Out of 437 recommendations made by the Sarin Committee, 43 recommendations have been rejected and 18 are pending implementation decisions.

(b) The recommendations have been rejected due to either material and financial constraints or due to administrative, technical and technological reasons. The pending recommendations mainly pertain to formation of Telecom. Zones, splitting of TTI into two independent units and integration of Telecom. Engineering Divisions with Telegraph Traffic Divisions.

(c) Almost all the pending recommendations have been agreed in principle and the Department is now examining the details of their implementations.

**Residential Accommodation for
Postal and Telecommunication
Employees**

4063. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are according due priority to the provision of residential accommodation for Postal and Telecommunication employees in the urban/rural areas ;

(b) if so, the percentage of (i) Postal (ii) Telecommunication employees who have been provided with residential accommodation as at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan (31 March, 1985) in each Postal/Telecommunication Circle or district of the country ;

(c) whether it is proposed to increase the percentage significantly during the Seventh Five Year Plan ;

(d) whether any specific allocation would also be made for rural areas in which the employees find it difficult to have residential accommodation even on rent ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : Yes, Sir.

(b) As in Statement-I (Telecom,) and Statement-II (Postal).

(c) Depending upon the availability of funds the percentage will be increased suitably.

(d) Construction of staff quarters in various areas in planned taking into account the availability of funds and land for construction.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

**Statement-I
TELECOM.**

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Staff quarters satisfaction
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8.7 %
2.	Bihar	10.00 %*
3.	Gujarat	2.5 %
4.	J & K	3.5 %
5.	Karnataka	5.4 %*
6.	Kerala	5.61 %
7.	M.P.	7.1 %
8.	Maharashtra	4.6 %
9.	Orissa	9.77 + 2.02 = 11.79 %
10.	Rajasthan	11.34 %
11.	Tamil Nadu	3.38 + 1.54 = 4.92 %
12.	U.P.	6.33 %
13.	West Bengal	4.6 %
14.	T & D Circle	12.80 %
15.	G.M. (TF) Calcutta	4.5 %
16.	ALITC, Ghaziabad	60.50 %
17.	N.W. Circle	7.6 %
18.	North East Circle	9.3 %*
Telephone Districts :		
1.	Agra	6.5 %
2.	Ahmedabad	5.86 %
3.	Amritsar	5 %

1	2	3
4. Bangalore		2.35%
5. Baroda		2.83%*
6. Bombay		4.88%
7. Calcutta		4.3%
8. Calicut		5.2%
9. Chandigarh		13.84%
10. Coimbatore		12.37%
11. Delhi		7.76%*
12. Ernakulum		3.38%
13. Gauhati		5.62%
14. Hyderabad		6.3%
15. Indore		6.7%
16. Jaipur		11.00%
17. Jullundur		8.18%
18. Kanpur		8%
19. Lucknow		6.24%
20. Ludhiana		5.1%
21. Madras		5.4%
22. Madurai		1.8%
23. Nagpur		3.49%*
24. Patna		6%
25. Pune		5.97%*
26. Raikot		8.9%
27. Surat		1.08%*
28. Trivandrum		7.71%
29. Vijayawada		5.68%*

1	2	3
30. Varanasi		9.8%
31. Allahabad		4%

Marked * = — satisfaction as on 31.3.1984.

Statement-II

POSTAL

Circle-wise percentage satisfaction of residential accommodation for the Postal Staff as on 31.3.1985

Name of the Postal Circle	Percentage
Andhra Pradesh	2.8
Bihar	4.74
Delhi	8.81
Gujarat	3.31
Jammu & Kashmir	3.7
Karnataka	5.06
Kerala	10.00
Madhya Pradesh	6.58
Maharashtra	7.22
North Eastern	5.33
North Western	6.5
Orissa	6.06
Rajasthan	5.3
Tamil Nadu	6.9
Uttar Pradesh	4.16
West Bengal	4.15

**Opening of Petroleum/Diesel Outlets
and Gas Agencies in Himachal
Pradesh and Punjab**

4064 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places, in Himachal Pradesh and Punjab, district-wise, where the opening of Petroleum/Diesel outlets and gas agencies were approved during the financial year 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 and the details of the persons/parties to whom these have been allotted ;

(b) the names of such places among them, where the outlets/agencies have since been opened ;

(c) the likely date by which the remaining would be opened ;

(d) whether any cases for allotment are still pending with Government after their having been advertised and applications invited ;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not allotting them so far ; and

(f) the likely date by which these would be allotted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b) : The required information is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1092/85].

(c) to (f) : As indicated in the statement, allotment of dealerships is still pending at some locations. The selection process involves advertisement, scrutiny of applications by the concerned oil company; interviews by the concerned Oil Selection Board (OSB) and the field investigations of the cases recommended by the OSB. This procedure takes a considerable time. Similarly,

after the dealer is selected, the dealer-select is required to complete various formalities such as procurement of site; obtaining licences/No Objection Certificate from various authorities etc. Only after completion of these formalities, the construction and installation of equipment is possible. It is, therefore, not feasible to precisely indicate the time for selection and commissioning of dealership.

**Allotment of Gas Agencies in
Himachal Pradesh**

4065. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether gas agencies for the district headquarters of each one of the twelve districts of Himachal Pradesh have been advertised and allotted during the past three years ;

(b) if so, the names of the parties to whom the agencies have been allotted and whether any of the agencies was reserved for any particular group like the ex-servicemen/war widows/SC/ST or unemployed graduates/matriculates ;

(c) if so, whether all the allotments were made keeping in view the reservation ;

(d) if not, the names of such district headquarters for which the allotments were made on being deserved ; and

(e) whether any of the allotments are still pending the names of the district headquarters concerned and the likely date by which these would be advertised and allotted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) and (b) : The required information is given in the enclosed statement.

(c) and (d) : All allotments excepting the cases at serial numbers 5 and 7 of the enclosed statement were made in accordance with the reservation policy.

(c) The process for selection in respect of LPG distributorships at Una, Solan and Simla is under way. No

distributorship has been planned by the Oil Industry in respect of Kalpa (Kinnaur) due to inadequate potential.

Statement

The Particulars of LPG Distributorships Allotted at the District Headquarters in Himachal Pradesh Alongwith the Names of the Parties and Categories are given below :

Sl No.	Distt. Nos.	Civil Distt.	Name of party to whom awarded	Catogory
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Bilaspur	Bilaspur	Shri Tekchand Saini	Physically Handicapped
2.	Chamba	Chamba	Shri Dinesh Parashar	Unemployed Engg. Graduate
3.	Hamirpur	Hamirpur	Shri Ram Krishan Nanda	Freedom Fighter
4.	Sultanpur (Kulu)	Kulu	Shri Dharam Bir	Open
5.	Keylong	Lahul Spiti	HP Food & Civil Supplies Corpn.	On ad-hoc basis
6.	Mandi	Mandi	Shri Ratan Lal Rao Shri Kuldeep Rao	Scheduled Tribes
7. (a)	Simla	Simla	Smt. Vimla Mahajan	On compassionate grounds directly
8. (b)	Simla	Simla	Shri Kashmir Singh	Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe
8.	Nahan	Sirampur	Shri Abhilash Shankar Bansal	Open
9.	Solan	Solan	Shri Vipur Kumar Geel	Physically Handicapped
10.	Dharamshala	Kangra	Mrs. Rita Bhardwaj	Unemployed Graduate

(No allotments have been made so far Una and Kinnaur district).

Industrial Licences for Bulk Drugs

4066. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of bulk drugs for which high technology certificates have been given to foreign drug companies to enable them to submit proposals for industrial licence ;

(b) the considerations and basis on which such clearance are given ; and

(c) the number of requests for such clearances pending with the Ministry and the bulk drugs if any, for which they have sought clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) : A High Level Committee constituted by Government in April, 1978 considered the processes of 207 drugs and found 93 of these as involving high technology. This categorisation was intimated to the concerned companies as well as to public, vide the Press Note dated 29th December, 1979. List of these 93 drugs is attached.

This Committee adopted 12 technical criteria for identifying processes involving high technology.

Representations were received from 10 companies against the decision of the High Level Committee in respect of 37 drugs. These representations have since been rejected.

LIST

*List of High Technology bulk drugs
identified by the High Level
Committee*

1. Betamethasone
2. Vitamin 'A' Palmitate

3. Megestrol Acetate
4. Methdilazine HCL
5. Meclazine HCL
6. Vitamin E Acetate
7. Vitamin K4 Water/Oil soluble
8. Chloroquine Phosphate
9. Resotren Substance (Chloquine)
10. Diphenyl Hydantoin
11. Tetramisole
12. Halothane
13. Tetmosol
14. Phenothiazine
15. Crystalline Insulin
16. Ibuprofen
17. Dapsone
18. Diethyl Carbamazine Citrate
19. Digoxin
20. Pyrimethamine
21. Trimethoprim
22. Lynestrenol
23. Ethyl Estradiol 3-Methyl Ether (Mestranol)
24. Methyl Testosterone
25. Methanedione (if produced from DHA acetate)
26. Estradiol/Estradiol Propionate
27. Ethynyl Estradiol
28. Progesterone
29. Testosterone/Propionate/Valerate

- | | |
|--|--|
| 30. Phanquone | 55. Chloramphenicol |
| 31. Tetracycline HCL | 56. Tetracycline |
| 32. Chlorotetracycline | 57. Oxytetracycline |
| 33. Demethyl Chlorotetracycline | 58. I N H |
| 34. Trihexyphenidyl HCL | 59. PAS/Sodium PAS |
| 35. Baralgon Ketone | 60. Vitamin 'A' Acetate |
| 36. Tetanus Antitoxin | 61. Dehydro Emetine Dihydrochloroide |
| 37. FMD Vaccine | 62. Diazepam |
| 38. Hemacel Sterile | 63. Chlordiazepoxine |
| 39. Frusemide | 64. Calcium Gluconate |
| 40. Glybenciamide | 65. Calcium Lactobionate |
| 41. Surgical Catgut (Non-Sterile, BPC-1049) | 66. Ferrous Gluconate |
| 42. Needled Absorbable Suture (Catgut) Non-Sterile | 67. Calcibromate |
| 43. Metronidazole | 68. Magnesium Gluconate |
| 44. Vitamin B12 | 69. Intestopan Substance |
| 45. Dexamethasone Pure | 70. Betamethasone Valerate |
| 46. Testosterone/Decanoate/Isocaproate Phenyl Propionate | 71. Sporlac |
| 47. Testosterone Undecylenate | 72. Sanzyms (Fungal. Diastase) |
| 48. Nandrolone Decanoate/Phenyl Propionate | 73. Pyridine and Picolines and Heavy Bases (Drug Intermediate) |
| 49. Allysestrenol and Ethylestronol | 74. Hydrocortisone |
| 50. Ethisterone | 75. Hydrocortisone Acetate |
| 51. Desoxycorticosterone Phenyl Propionate (DOCPP) | 76. Prednisolone |
| 52. Progesterone | 77. Prednisolone Acetate |
| 53. Betamethasone Disodium Phosphate | 78. Prednisone |
| 54. Human Chorionic Gonadotrophin (HCG) | 79. Progesterone |
| | 80. 17-Hydroxy Proxyl Progesterone Acetate |

81. 17-Hydroxy Progesterone Caproate
82. Dehydro Epiandro Sterone Acetate (DHA Acetate)
83. Methyl and Rostenediol (Intermediate)
84. Vitamin E Succinate
85. Testosterone and its Salts
86. ETH-Oheptazine Citrate
87. Benzathine-Pencilline G
88. Mephenttrmine Sulphate
89. Phenyl Butazone
90. Oxyphenyl Butazone
91. Chlorthalidone
92. Carbamazepine
93. Imipramine HCL

Cash Award to Awardees of Sena Medal by State Governments/ Union Territory Administration

4067. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any cash award is given to the awardees of Sena Medals by the State Government/Union Territory Administration to which they belong ;

(b) if so, whether any reference has been made by the Delhi Administration to his Ministry for furnishing the particulars of the awardees of Sena Medal who have applied to Delhi Administration for each awards ;

(c) the date by which the required particulars will be supplied to the Delhi Administration ; and

(d) the number of applications pending for giving cash awards to

awardees of Sena Medal belonging to Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO) : (a) Certain State Governments and Union Territory Administrations give cash grants to awardees of the Sena Medal series.

(b) and (c) : Particulars of these officers who were awarded Sena Medal were asked for by the Delhi Administration from Army Headquarters and the same have been sent by the latter.

In addition, information in respect of two other officers asked for by the Rajya Sainik Board, Delhi has also been provided by Army HQrs.

(d) No application for cash awards in respect of Sena Medal awardees belonging to Delhi is pending in the Ministry of Defence.

Ban Orders to make any Appointments in P & T Deptt.

4068. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether imposition of ban orders to make any appointments has prevented the P & T authorities to open new D.P.G.S /E.D.B.Os. in the places where these were sanctioned earlier ;

(b) the steps being taken by Government to open them ;

(c) whether the E.D.As. & E.D.D. As. are not Government servants ; and

(d) if so, the reasons for extending the ban orders on their appointments ?

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

(b) Due to economy orders, no steps are feasible to be taken except that in some exceptional cases relaxation was obtained to open a few post offices during 1984-85.

(c) EDAs and EDDAs are part-time employees of the Postal Department.

(d) Economy orders are for creation of new posts and as the opening of post offices involve creation of posts, economy orders are attracted.

Declaration of Industrially Backward District in Tamil Nadu

4069. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Tamil Nadu have made any request for declaring some of their districts as industrially backward ;

(b) if so, the details thereof

(c) the funds earmarked by Union Government for the upliftment of backward districts in Tamil Nadu ; and

(d) whether Government have received any plan for the upliftment of the backward districts in Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No State-wise allocation of funds is made under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme. Tamil Nadu was the highest recipient of Central Subsidy during the years 1983-84 (Rs. 7.29 crores) and 1984-85 (Rs. 9.26 crores).

(d) No, Sir.

Delay in Announcing Results of Elections in Bihar

4070. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there had been an inordinate delay in announcing the results of elections in all the constituencies in Bihar ; and

(b) if so, how many days it took to complete the counting of all the constituencies and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) : There are 324 assembly constituencies in the Bihar Legislative Assembly. Poll was countermanded in four constituencies due to the death of contesting candidates and in one constituency all nomination papers were rejected by the Returning Officer. Thus elections were held in 319 constituencies on the 2nd and 5th March, 1985. The results were declared for all these constituencies within eight days. A statement is attached showing the number of constituencies and dates of declaration of results. The short delay in declaration of results in some constituencies was due to adjournment of poll, fresh poll or the need to recheck the counting of ballots in accordance with the directions of the Election Commission.

Statement

Date-wise declaration of election results, supplied by the Election Commission

Date on which declaration of result was made	Total number of constitu- tencies
1	2
5.3.1985	39
6.3.1985	198

1	2
7.3.1985	61
8.3.1985	2
9.3.1985	1
10.3.1985	1
11.3.1985	8
12.3.1985	5
13.3.1985	4
Total :	319

[Translation]**Original Drafting of Bills in Hindi**

4071. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Acts in English have been translated by the Official Languages Wing of the Legislative Department ;

(b) if so, the reasons why Official Languages Wing is not entrusted with the work of preparing original drafts in Hindi independently ; and

(c) the Government's scheme in this regarding the time by which it is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir. All the Central Acts included in the India Code, except 5 Acts of 1984 and Acts of 1985 have been translated into Hindi.

(b) and (c) : So far, the time and energy of the Official Languages Wing has been mainly devoted for making the translation of the Central Acts up-

to-date. Before the Official Languages Wing can be entrusted with the work of preparing original drafts of legislation in Hindi independently, the necessary expertise for the purpose will have to be built up for undertaking original drafting which is not the same thing as translation. For this purpose, the Officers of the Official Languages Wing will have to be actively associated and will have to work on the job along with Draftsmen preparing Bills in English and participate in the discussions and other processes leading to the finalisation of Bills.

Now that the translation of Central Acts into Hindi has been brought almost up-to-date, plans are under consideration for creating necessary opportunities for Officers of the Official Languages Wing to become actively associated with the original drafting of legislation and to learn the techniques necessary for the purpose of undertaking work of original drafting. A scheme in this behalf which would involve inter-alia augmentation of the strength of the Official Languages Wing so that the officers of the Wing can devote time for acquiring expertise in original drafting, is under contemplation.

It is not possible at this stage to give any accurate estimate of the time which would be required for implementing the scheme. To speed up matters, a phased programme of undertaking the work of original drafting of Bills in Hindi of simple Bills in the first instance and of undertaking of original drafting of more complicated Bills subsequently, can also be adopted. Once it becomes feasible to embark upon original drafting of Bills in Hindi, it would also be necessary to pass the necessary enabling legislation as contemplated by Article 348 of the Constitution to facilitate the introduction in Parliament of Bills in Hindi.

[English]**China's Submarines in Indian Ocean**

4072. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has deployed submarines in the Indian Ocean ;

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

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to keep our Navy on alert to meet any eventuality ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARSIMHA RAO) : (a) Government have no information as to whether China has deployed submarines in the Indian Ocean.

(b) Government have been in favour of the Indian Ocean being maintained as a zone of peace and have taken several diplomatic initiatives to this end.

(c) The Government of India keep all developments having a bearing on the country's security under constant observation, with a view to taking appropriate measures from time to time to maintain full defence preparedness. The Indian Navy is being constantly re-equipped, modernised and developed in keeping with the emerging threat perceptions.

Contract with U.S. Company for Oil Exploration in Saurashtra

4073. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a U.S. Company which had entered into contract for five years for all exploration in Saurashtra, has decided to quit the contract ;

(b) if so, whether such a course is permissible under the provisions of the contract ;

(c) the amounts of money so far paid to the American Company ;

(d) whether it is in accordance with the terms of the contract ;

(e) whether any excess payment has been made ;

(f) whether there is any clause in the agreement for claiming damages from the American Company for early closure of the contract ; and

(g) if so, the steps Government propose to take to implement the various clauses of the contract with this company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b) : The contract was for a period of three years and could be extended for a further period of two years at the option of contractor viz. Chevron Oil Company, which it did not exercise.

(c) None.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) Since no discovery was made and the company did not opt for further exploration, contract automatically terminated on the expiry of three years.

High Court Judges

4074. SHRI D. K. NAIKAR : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of High Court Judges in the country, State-wise ; and

(b) how many of them belong to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a)

The requisite information showing the position as on 1.4.1985 is given in the attached statement.

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

Statement

Sl. No.	High Court	Number of Judges in position as on 1.4.1985
1.	Allahabad	51
2.	Andhra Pradesh	20
3.	Bombay	36
4.	Calcutta	36
5.	Delhi	25
6.	Gauhati	7
7.	Gujarat	18
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	6
10.	Karnataka	23
11.	Kerala	16
12.	Madhya Pradesh	27
13.	Madras	19
14.	Orissa	10
15.	Patna	32
16.	Punjab and Haryana	17
17.	Rajasthan	14
18.	Sikkim	2
Total		365

New Telephone and Telex Exchanges

**4075. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI NARAIN
CHOUBEY :**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new telephones, trunk and telex exchanges commissioned in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Pune and Nagpur in 1983, 1984 and 1985 (upto 1 March, 1985) ;

(b) whether the expenditure in connection with the commissioning of new Exchanges during that period is considered as plan expenditure ;

(c) whether any posts of telephone operators, technicians, junior engineers, auto exchange assistants, wiremen, line-men and mazdoor and other class 'D' workmen were sanctioned for the above new exchanges in each city ; and

(d) if so, the category-wise, Exchange-wise and year-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Required information is given in Statement-I attached.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) : The details of staff sanctioned category-wise and exchange-wise are as shown in Statement-II attached.

Statement-II

Category of Staff (Posts) sanctioned

Place/Name of exchange	Year of commencing	Tele. Operator	Technicians	J.E.	Auto-Exch. Asstt.	Wiremen	Line-men	Mazdoor and Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
BOMBAY								
1. Ghatkopar-II	1983	42	—	5	—	—	3	16
2. Mazagaon-II	1983	22	6	—	—	16	—	4
3. Mankburd-I	1983	36	7	—	—	—	—	—
4. Villeparlie-II	1983	40	11	3	—	—	13	14
5. Cooperage-IV	1983	39	17	—	—	—	5	—
6. Worli-I	1983	42	4	1	—	—	—	13
7. Malabar Hill-II	1983	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Telex	1983	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trunk Auto Exch.	1983	3	—	—	—	7	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
DELHI :								
1. Shakti Nagar-II	1983	30	9	14	—	6	37	75
2. Shahdara (24)	1983	10	5	3	—	2	9	15
3. Ghaziabad-II	1983	29	15	9	—	5	35	22
4. Chanakypuri-II	1984	39	9	14	—	6	37	75
5. Tishazari (252)	1984	20	7	9	—	3	—	—
MADRAS :								
1. Harbour	1984	10	3	13	—	03	13	42
2. Mambalam-II	1984	10	3	13	—	—	14	36
3. Nungabakam	1984	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. SPC Tax	1984	—	5	8	3	—	—	3
5. SPC Telex	1984	—	57	13	—	—	—	4

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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CALCUTTA :

1. 25 Exch.	1983	15	6	10	—	—	1	—	47
2. 29 Exchange	1984	6	—	2	9	—	6	—	26
3. SPC Tax	1983	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	3
4. SPC Telex	1984	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	4

PUNE :

1. Mahadazi Shinde	1984	41	—	14	—	—	10	—	—
2. Nagpur	Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Loss in Industrial Production due to Strikes and Lockouts during 1983-85

4076. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the loss in industrial production due to strikes and lockouts during the period 1983-85; and

(b) the steps being taken to prevent loss of production in future ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIE MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) A Statement giving the available information on the loss in industrial production due to strikes and lockouts is enclosed.

(b) Government are keeping a constant watch on the industrial relations situation in the country. The Industrial Relations Machinery both at the Centre and in the States continue to make efforts to reduce work-stoppages through preventive mediation, conciliation, adjudication and arbitration.

Statement

Statement giving value of production loss due to strikes and lockouts during 1983-84

Year	Value of Production loss (Rs. in crores)		
	Strikes	Lockouts	Total
1983 (P)	247.72* (1259)	164.68 (270)	412.39 (1529)
1984 (P)	140.18 (786)	78.36 (99)	218.54 (895)

(P) = Provisional.

(*) = Excluding Bombay Textile Strike.

N.B.—Figures in brackets indicate the number of disputes to which the data relate.

Closed Paper Factories

4077. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several big paper factories are lying closed for a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to restart these factories ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Three large integrated Pulp and Paper Mills are lying closed at present.

(b) The reasons for their closure include management deficiencies, shor-

tage of raw materials and power, labour problems, machinery obsolescence, financial problems, etc.

(c) Government have initiated necessary dialogues with financial institutions/State Governments to work-out the specific measures required to restart these paper mills.

Review of Functioning of O.N.G.C.

4078. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE :

SHRI NARYAN CHOUBEY :

SHRI AJOY BISWAS :

SHRI RAM RATAN RAM :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA

PRASAD :

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an abnormal rise in the posts of General

Managers, Additional Managers and other top officials in the Oil and Natural Gas Commission during the last few years as has been reported in the 'Times of India' of 28 March, 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government had called for a thorough review of the Commission's functioning; and

(d) if so, the details of the review and its findings and action taken, if any, thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):
(a) and (b) : The following table gives the number of the Group General Managers (GGMS)/General Managers (GMS), Deputy General Managers (DGMs) and Additional Directors (ADs) in position during the last four years :

Date	GGMs/GMs	DGMs	ADs	Total
1.4.82	6	35	82	123
1.4.83	30	48	116	194
1.4.84	45	71	137	253
1.4.85	40	98	232	360

The activities of the Commission have grown substantially during last five years and therefore there has been an increase in total man-power also from about 28000 to 40000 during this period.

(c) and (d) : No general review of the Commission's functioning has been ordered. However, growth in manpower was reviewed and the ONGC had given various justifications for this increase.

Indigenous Production of Drugs for Treatment of Cancer

4079. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Vinca Rosia, Dioscorea etc. Indian plants are exported to foreign countries at cheap price and drugs like Oncovin (for treatment of

Cancer) and steroids made out of these plants are imported in our country at very high price;

(b) if so, whether Hathi Committee had observed that indigenous know-how for manufacture of drugs from these plants were available with us; and

(c) if so, the reasons why no action was taken by Government to manufacture indigenous products which could have been cheaper and would have saved foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c): According to Import and Export Policy a number of plant and derivatives including Diosgenin and Diosoorea roots are not normally allowed for exports.

The Hathi Committee had identified several essential drugs derived from plant materials and had opened that there was generally no need for importing technologies for most of these drugs. Oncovin (formulation of Vincristine) is not one of the drugs so identified by the Hathi Committee. Technology for the manufacture of Vincristine, Vinblastin from Vinca-rosea has recently been developed in our country.

Imports of steroids are limited to those which are yet to be produced in the country or whose production is inadequate. In order to encourage production of steroids industrial approvals and foreign collaboration are being approved on merits. In order to maintain availability of raw materials, for steroids several manufacturers have undertaken cultivation of Diosoorea.

[*Translation*]

Law Books Exhibitions and Sale

4080. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether no proper arrangements have been made for holding exhibitions and sale of books, magazines and literature published by the Official Language Wing of the Legislative Department and Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan and most of the literature gets damaged without being sold; and

(b) what remedial measures are proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b): The publications of the Official Languages Wing and the Vidhi Sahitya Prakashan of the Legislative Department are mainly in Hindi and they are in the nature of pioneering efforts to promote Hindi in the field of law. The sales of the publications will depend upon the demand therefor which in turn would depend upon the extent to which Hindi is being used in the filed of law in the various States.

It is true that the sales are not picking up fast. The sale of even publications which can compare with the best in English or other languages is not satisfactory. But it would not be correct to say that unsold publications are getting damaged as proper arrangements exist for the storing of such publications. It is also not correct to say that proper arrangements are not being made to promote the sale of the publications. All possible arrangements are being made, and further the arrangements are constantly reviewed with a view to improvement. The arrangements include : Opening of Exhibition-cum-Sales Centres at appropriate locations; participation in Book Faires and Exhibitions; advertisement and publicity programmes; tours by officers to contact clients; mailing of folders through the D.A.V.P.; sale through reputed book sellers, selling agents, etc. Recently, new selling agents have been appointed and the sale commission payable to book sellers and agents has also been raised

and made more attractive. Measures are being taken to further intensify the publicity arrangements. However, it would seem that unless the people become more enthusiastic in encouraging publications in Hindi and other regional languages, it will be difficult to expect any substantial improvement in the position with regard to the sales.

[English]

Opening of New Telephone Exchanges and Post and Telegraph Offices in Orissa

4081. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places in Orissa where automatic exchanges are proposed to be installed or new Exchanges proposed to be set up and linked by STD with Bhubaneswar and other cities inside and outside the State during the year 1985-86; and

(b) the details of new Post and Telegraphs Offices proposed to be opened in Orissa during the year 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The information is given at Statement I attached.

(b) 150 Telegraph Offices are proposed to be opened in Orissa during the year 1985-86. The details are given in Statement-II attached. The number of post offices proposed to be opened in 1985-86 are yet to be finalised.

Statement-I

The names of places in Orissa State where automatic exchanges are proposed to be installed during 1985-86 are :

- | | |
|--------------|----------|
| 1. Sambalpur | — MAX-I |
| 2. Balasore | — MAX-II |
| 3. Jepore | — MAX-II |

Balasore is likely to be linked by point-to-point STD with Bhubaneswar during 1985-86. It is proposed to open 30 new MAX-III type of exchanges in 1985-86. The stations have not yet been identified.

Small capacity electronic exchanges are expected to be received in 1985-86 at the following places :

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. Keonjhar | — | 400 lines |
| 2. Koraput | — | —do— |
| 3. Phulbani | — | —do— |
| 4. Sundergarh | — | —do— |
| 5. Baripala | — | 600 lines |
| 6. Dhenkanal | — | —do— |
| 7. Sambalpur Satellite | — | —do— |

Statement-II

Telegraph Offices proposed to be opened in Orissa during 1985-86.

Name of District	No. of Cos.
1. Balasore	10
2. Bolangir	10
3. Dhenkanal	10
4. Kalahandi	10
5. Keonjhar	10
6. Koraput	10
7. Mayurbhanj	10
8. Phulbani	10
9. Puri	15
10. Sambalpur	10
11. Sundergarh	10
12. Cuttack	20
13. Ganjam	15
150	

[Translation]

Central Capital Investment Subsidy
for Khandsari Industry

4082. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY
AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Khandsari industry is
eligible for grant under the Central
capital investment subsidy scheme ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ;
and

(c) whether any decision is being
taken to cover this industry under the
scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of Telephone Exchange at
Mandideep in Madhya Pradesh

4083. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI :
Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Madhya
Pradesh have allotted about 45,000
square feet land in Mandideep industrial
area in the State for setting up a tele-
phone exchange there and given its
possession to the Department ;

(b) if so, the time by which a well
equipment telephone exchange is likely
to be set up there ; and

(c) whether Madhya Pradesh
Government have written repeatedly
to Union Government regarding ineffi-
cient functioning of Mandideep auto
exchange and if so, the actions taken by
the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS
MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The strowgor MAX-II auto
exchange is likely to be commissioned
by the end of 1987 subject to availa-
bility of resources.

(c) No complaint from Modhya
Pradesh Govt. about inefficient function-
ing of Mandideep exchange has been
received. However, the department has
taken steps for the improvement of
service during the month of Feb. 1985
as a result of which the complaints have
come down from 25 to 15 per 100
subscribers.

[Translation]

Waiting List for LPG Connections
in Tribal Region

4084 SHRI R. M. BHOYE :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be
pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the
waiting list for LPG connections at
present in the tribal region including
Dhule district in Maharashtra ;

(b) the programme for giving LPG
connections to the persons on the
waiting list during the current financial
year ; and

(c) when all the persons on the
waiting list are proposed to be given
connections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) The total number of persons on the
waiting list for LPG connections in
districts having substantial tribal popu-
lation in Maharashtra is approximately
56,000.

(b) and (c) : Release of new LPG
connections is being done under a
phased enrolment programme which
includes opening of new bottling plants,
appointment of new dealers, procure-
ment of adequate equipments etc.

**Czech Know-how for Revamping Old
Ammonia/Urea Plants**

4085. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to allow Czech know-how for revamping old ammonia/urea plants and for saving energy in such units ;

(b) whether Government have made a comparative study of the available know-how in other countries in terms of inputs i.e. raw material(s), energy, capacity utilisation, cost of production etc. ; and

(c) if so, the tentative conclusion arrived at ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) : Such a study was made at the time of selection of technology for the new gas based plants. On the basis of the studies made, Haldor Topsoe and Kellog were selected for ammonia and M/s. Snamprogetti for urea plants.

**Linking of District Headquarters in
Tamilnadu with Madras by S. T.D**

4086. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the district headquarters in Tamilnadu which have not been connected by S.T.D. so far with the state capital ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to link all the district headquarters of the State with Madras by S.T.D. ; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the plan of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Out of the 18 district headquarters in Tamilnadu, the following district headquarters are not having S.T.D. facilities with the State Capital Madras :—

1. Cuddalore
2. Thanjavur
3. Sivaganga
4. Ramanathapuram

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Ramanathapuram is already a medium size auto exchange. Cuddalore, Thanjavur and Sivaganga are manual exchanges and are planned to be automated during 7th Five Year Plan.

After automatisation, it is planned to link Cuddalore to Madras Trunk Automatic Exchange, Thanjavur to Trichy Trunk Automatic Exchange and Sivaganga and Ramanathapuram to Madurai Trunk Automatic Exchange.

Transmission medium has been planned from these stations to respective Trunk Automatic Exchanges.

After completion of the above mentioned works, STD facility from these stations to Madras will become available. It is expected that this would be completed during the 7th Plan period except for Ramanathapuram where land for the transmission ling building is not yet available.

**Setting up of Telephone Industries
in Bihar**

4087. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to establish telephone industries in Bihar during 1985-86 ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government have licensed ITI for manufacture of 11.5 lakh numbers of telephone instruments. For meeting the increasing demand of telephones, the Government have further licensed Nine companies in the State Sector with a licensed capacity of 37 lakh numbers per annum. In addition, certain companies in the private Sector are also issued/being issued Letter of Intent for manufacture of telephones. Letters of Intent have been given to Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Limited for manufacture of two-way Radio Communication and allied equipment and 50000 lines of Rural Automatic Exchange Equipment per annum and jells filley cable.

Setting up of Petrol Pumps in Bihar

4088 DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minsiter of PETROLEUM be pleased to state ;

(a) whether there is any ban on setting up of new petrol pumps in Bihar ;

(b) if fo, when the ban is likely to be lifted ; and

(c) the criteria followed by Government in issuing of licences for setting up of new petrol pumps ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) After identifying the locations for development of retail outlets (Petrol/

Diesel pumps), the same are included in the Marketing Plans of the Oil Industry for award of dealershiop. Thereafter the concerned oil companies release press advertisements in leading newspapers in the area inviting applications. The applications thus received in response to specific advertisements are screened and forwarded to duly constituted Oil Selection Board (OSB) for holding the interviews of eligible candidates. On receipt of recommendations from the OSB, the concerned oil companies take further action for award of dealerships.

Acquisition of Land at Kalimpong by Military Authorities

4089. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the military authorities at Kalimpong in Darjeeling District are contemplating to acquire a vast chunk of land at Kalimpong ;

(b) if so, whether Government are also aware that the land in question is thickly populated by the civilian population who are the inhabitants of that area for generations together ;

(c) whether thousands of persons would be rendering homeless and uprooted from the very means of livelihood if the above plan is materialised ; and

(d) in view of the above, whether Government propose to drop the idea of acquiring this land ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (d) : The local Military authorities had approched the state Government for acquisition of about 1100 acres of land at Kalimpong, District Dgrjeeling. The State Government has not given their 'No Obiection Certificate' for the land identified by the local Army authorities.

No proposal has been projected to the Government for acquiring this land.

Industrial Relationship with U. K.

4090. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to promote better industrial relationship with United Kingdom ;

(b) whether Government propose to go for high British technology in different areas ; and

(c) the details of policy liberalised for the promotion of industrial relations with British Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) : Government Policy for foreign investment and technical collaboration is selective. Foreign Collaboration is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas in export-oriented or import substitution manufacturing, or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet efficiently domestic requirement and/or to become competitive in the export market. Proposals for foreign investment and technical know-how received from entrepreneurs are considered on merits, irrespective of the country of origin, taking into account the standing of the foreign collaborator in the field of specialisation. The areas for foreign collaboration identified during the last Indo-British Economic Committee Meeting held in New Delhi in January, 1984 include electronic, tele-communications, automotive industry, pollution control equipment, optical fibre cable, high pressure and low pressure sodium vapour lamps, fuel injection equipment, mining machinery, ECM machines

analytical instruments, precision balances etc. Several proposals in these fields have been considered by Government and approved.

Opening of Small Telephone Exchanges in Orissa

4091. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to open new small telephone exchanges and public telephones in rural areas of Orissa during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 ;

(b) if so, the names of the rural areas which have been selected for this purpose ; and

(c) the amount of funds earmarked for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the places where new small-telephone exchanges and long distance public telephones proposed to be opened during 1985-86 and 1986-87 have not yet been identified, however the number of small telephone exchanges and long distance public telephones likely to be opened in 1985-86 and 1986-87 district-wise are given in the attached Statement.

(c) The funds will be met from the lump-sum grant allocated to the circle for that year.

Statement

*SAXs and L.D.P.Ts. proposed to be opened in 1985-86 and
1986-87—District wise*

Name of District	1985-86		1986-87	
	SAX/MAX-III	L. D. P. Ts.	SAX/MAX-III	L. D. P. Ts.
1. Balasore	2	10	3	10
2. Bolangir	2	10	3	10
3. Dhenkanal	2	10	3	10
4. Kalahandi	2	10	2	10
5. Keonjhar	2	10	2	10
6. Koraput	2	10	2	20
7. Mayurbhanj	2	10	2	10
8. Phulbani	2	10	2	10
9. Puri	2	15	2	25
10. Sambalpur	2	10	2	25
11. Sundergarh	2	10	2	10
12. Cuttack	4	20	5	25
13. Ganjam	4	15	5	25
	30	150	35	200

Contravention of MRTTP Act by
Soft Drink Companies

4092. SHRI V. KISHORE CHAN-
DRA S. DEO : Will the Minister of
INDUSTRY AND COMPANY
AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have imple-
mented the amendment to MRTTP Act,
particularly relating to sales promotion
and contests;

(b) if not, whether in 1984 a large
number of soft drink promotions were

offered to the public contravening the provisions of MRTP Act and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether his Ministry is considering to ensure that such promotions and contests which violate the MRTP provisions are stopped immediately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Amendment) Act, 1984 came

into force with effect from 1.8.1984 which include provisions relating to unfair trade practices of sales promotion through contests, lottery, game of chance or skill.

(b) and (c) : The MRTP Commission have ordered investigation by the Additional Director-General of investigation of the Commission in respect of complaints received from 15 complainants against 11 manufacturers/suppliers of soft drinks. The details are furnished in the statement attached.

Statement

S. No.	Name of the Complaint	Name of the Manufacturer/Supplier	Details of Complaints
1	2	3	4
1.	Voluntary Organisation for the Interest of Consumer Education. (VOICE) Delhi and 38 others.	1. M/s. Pure Drinks Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.	1. The respondents are spending unreasonable huge amounts on advertisement of their products; wide margins between wholesale ex-factory prices of their products and market prices thereof enabling them to spend heavily by way of advertisements and promotion of sales, thereby eliminating/preventing competition from owners of the fruit based drinks and causing unjustified costs to consumers;
2.	The Consumer Unity & Trust Society, Jaipur.	2. M/s. Pure Drinks Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.	
3.	Consumer Education & Research Centre, Ahmedabad.	3. M/s. Pure Drinks, Nazafgarh Road, New Delhi.	
4.	Consumer Services Society, New Delhi.	4. M/s. Parle Breweries Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.	
5.	Shri Satish Mishra & 40 others, New Delhi.	5. M/s. Fiaz Drinks Pvt. Ltd., Faridabad.	
6.	Consumer Guidance Society of India, Dandeli, U.K.	6. M/s. Harayana Breweries Pvt. Ltd., Rohtak.	
7.	Kerala State Consumer Council, Cannanore.	7. M/s. Delhi Bottling Co. New Delhi.	
8.	President Garahkit Suraksha Mandal, Gujarat.	8. M/s. Herbertson Limited, Bombay.	2. The respondents have organised contests and lotteries to promote their sales and offered gifts and prizes, creating illusion that something is being given free of charge when it is fully covered by the amount charged for the drinks manufactured and
		9. M/s. Indo-lowenbran Breweries Ltd., Faridabad.	
		10. M/s. Agra Breweries Corporation Ltd., Agra.	

1

2

3

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>9. Balakdarare Vedike
(Consumer Forum) Udipi,
Karnataka.</p> <p>10. Consumer Association
Mahudha, Gujarat.</p> <p>11. Shri T. C. Jain, Green
Park, New Delhi.</p> <p>12. Shri H. V. Singh and 16
others, Jameshpur.</p> <p>13. Common Cause, New
Delhi.</p> <p>14. Women Equal Rights
Group, Ahmedabad.</p> <p>15. Consumer Education and
Research Centre Ahmeda-
bad.</p> | <p>marketed by them, eliminating
competition and causing injury to the
health of younger consumers;</p> <p>3. The respondents by failing to state
on the labels of the bottles contain-
ing their products that the drinks are
artificially flavoured, falsely repre-
sent that the goods produced and
marketed by them are of a parti-
cular standard, quality, grade or
model having characteristics which
they do not have and misleading the
consumers about their usefulness.</p> <p>M/s. Rasna Soft Drink Concentrate
for the purpose of promotion of
their sales by holding a contest have
given a misleading advertisement in
Gujarat Samachar dated 24.12.1984.</p> |
|---|--|

Industrial Growth in Kerala

4093. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :
SHRI T. BASHEER :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of industrial growth in Kerala during the past three years;

(b) how does it compare with the growth rate in other States, give State-wise break-up; and

(c) the special measures being taken to speed up industrialisation of Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) : C.S.O. does not compile State-wise Index of Industrial Production. However, based on the latest Annual Survey of Industries, a statement showing percentage growth rate in terms of value of output in Kerala and other States and Union Territories during 1979-80, 1980-81 and 1981-82 is enclosed.

(c) Reduction on regional imbalances through wider dispersal on industries is one of the objectives of Industrial Locational Policy. Besides, Government has been taking several steps to stimulate industrial production through appropriate changes in industrial licensing and import and export policies as well as through monetary and fiscal measures and improvement in infrastructure.

Statement

Percentage growth rate in value of output during 1979-80, 1980-81 and 1981-82 in Kerala and other States and Union Territories

Name of the State/ Union Territory	Percentage growth rate in value of output during		
	1979-80 over 1978-79	1980-81 over 1979-80	1981-82 over 1980-81
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	+15.2	+17.9	+ 9.6
2. Assam	+ 5.8	— 3.5	+10.8
3. Bihar	+11.0	+10.6	+43.8
4. Gujarat	+20.5	+22.7	+16.0
5. Haryana	+32.0	+17.0	+27.0
6. Himachal Pradesh	+33.7	+19.9	+25.2
7. Jammu & Kashmir	+32.5	+ 5.9	+ 4.7
8. Karnataka	+12.9	+11.7	+16.5
9. Kerala	+18.3	+27.8	+15.8

	1	2	3	4
10.	Madhya Pradesh	+23.5	+16.2	+24.0
11.	Maharashtra	+16.9	+16.3	+17.7
12.	Manipur	+29.7*	+51.9*	+266.9
13.	Meghalaya	+58.9	+65.4	-12.4
14.	Orissa	+14.3	+ 8.8	+27.5
15.	Punjab	+24.6	+17.8	+24.0
16.	Rajasthan	+22.0	+17.0	+19.1
17.	Tamil Nadu	+19.1	+18.7	+20.3
18.	Tripura	**		+21.5
19.	Uttar Pradesh	+11.2	+14.1	+47.4
20.	West Bengal	+18.1	+16.9	+12.9
21.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	+15.9	+23.4	+21.2
22.	Chandigarh	+34.2	+13.1	+14.8
23.	Delhi	+28.2	+14.0	+ 7.7
24.	Goa, Daman & Diu	- 2.6	+52.5	+12.1
25.	Pondicherry	+16.3	+24.1	+18.6
	TOTAL	+17.8	+16.9	+20.6

**Included in Manipur.

*Growth rates and value of output figures are for Manipur and Tripura put together as separate output figures for Tripura and Manipur are not available for 1979-80.

Industries Set up in No-Industry Districts

4094. PROF. P. J. KURIEN :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to
state :

(a) the number of industries which
have been set up either in public sector

or in private sector in the no-industry
districts in Kerala during the past three
years ;

(b) the total investment in these
industries and the employment generated ;

(c) whether new incentives are being
given to entrepreneurs who want to set
up industries in these district ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) : During last three years one letter of Intent has been issued to M/s. Kerala State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd. for setting up an Industrial Unit for manufacture of Colour Television in the No-Industry District of Kerala. The project is yet to be implemented.

(c) and (d) : The details of concessions/incentives admissible to entrepreneurs for setting up industries in No-Industry Districts, are given in the booklet "Incentives for Industries in backward Areas (Central Government and Central Financial Industries) April, 1984" read with this Ministry Press Note No. 14/2/83-DBA-I dated 9.4.85, copies of which are available in Parliament Library.

Rank of Field Marshal

4096. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rank of Field Marshal is honorary or advisory ;

(b) whether there are any proposals to confer this rank to some other Generals ;

(c) if so, their names ; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) The rank of Field Marshal is a recognised rank in the Army and is not honorary. The services of a Field Marshal are available for use by Government in an active or advisory capacity as required.

(b) to (d) : There is no proposal under consideration for conferring the rank of Field Marshal on any officer.

Memorandum Regarding National Industrial Growth Zone

4097. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received any memorandum for the formation of National Industrial Growth Zone comprising of Kanpur, Ghaziabad, Faridabad, Ludhiana, Kota, Ahmedabad, Pune, Bangalore, Cochin, Madras, Howrah, Asansol, Gauhati, Bhubneshwar, Dhanbad and Patna ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Plant for Monoethylene Glycol

4098. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any plant for Monoethylene Glycol (MEG) of 40,000 tonnes and 5,000 tonnes of higher ethylene glycol project was cleared by his Ministry in favour of Reliance Textile Industries Ltd. ;

(b) whether it is a joint sector venture or an exclusive private sector venture ;

(c) whether there is any foreign collaboration or there are other applicants also for the same project ; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) A letter of intent has been issued to

M/s. Reliance Textile Industries Ltd.
manufacture of :

Monoethylene Glycol—40,000
tonnes/annum

Higher Ethylene Glycol (by-product)—5,000 tonnes/ annum.

(b) The plant will be in private sector.

(c) and (d) : The proposal for foreign callaboration envisaging payment of know-how fee of US \$ 24 lakhs has been approved.

Manufacture of Drugs by Small Scale Units

4099. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that public sector units are getting bulk drugs manufactured from small scale units on loan licence basis for which they are licenced themselves ;

(b) if so, the names of items, quantities got manufactured from small

scale units, year-wise during the last three years ;

(c) the names of small scale units and the reasons for not utilising their own capacities ; and

(d) the reaction of Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : According to the information received from the public sector drug manufacturing undertakings, none of them, excepting Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) are now getting bulk drugs, for which they are licensed, manufactured by Small Scale units on loan licence basis.

During 1984-85 only, Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL) had got 1957.5 Kgs of Ampicillin Trihydrate manufactured by small scale units on loan licensing basis, as their own process for this item was not stabilised. Details of the manufacture on loan licensing are as follows :

Name of the small scale unit

Quantity of Ampicillin Trihydrate
got manufactured
(Kgs.)

1.	Priti Organics, Vapi	253.750
2.	Orex Pharmaceuticals, Bombay	1160.000
3.	Pisal Pharmaceuticals, Bombay	217.500
4.	Armour Chemicals, Bombay	145.000
5.	Jayco Chemicals Limited, Bombay	181.250

1957.500

**Review of Policies Regarding
Production of Bulk Drugs**

4100. SHRI D. P. JADEJA :
Will the Minister of CHEMICALS
AND FERTILIZERS be pleased
to state :

(a) whether the existing policies framed by Government for production of bulk drugs have been reviewed from time to time with the changing circumstances of the industry ;

(b) if so, the items, year-wise, for which review has taken place with a change in circumstances, of small scale units having produced a number of bulk drugs ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS
AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY
AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI
VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) : The
National Drugs and Pharmaceuticals
Development Council (NDPDC) had
recently made recommendations on the
changes to be made in the 1978 Drug
Policy; Government is seized of the
matter.

**Increase in the Compensation given
by H. P. C. to Victims of Kerosene
Tragedy in Kerala**

4101. SHRI SURESH KURUP :
SHRI T. BASHEER :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM
be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Chief Minister of Kerala to raise the compensation given by Hindustan Petroleum Corporation to the victims of kerosene tragedy in Kerala ; and

(b) if so, the details and the action taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) HPCL had earlier contributed Rs. 7.00 lakhs to the Kerala Chief Minister's Relief Fund with a view to extending relief to the affected families. The Chief Minister Kerala, had suggested for payment of compensation @ Rs. 1.00 lakhs in each case of death and from Rs. 5000 to Rs. 25,000 (depending upon the seriousness of injuries) in each case of injury. After due consideration of the suggestion of the Govt. of Kerala, the Central Govt. has decided that Rs. 25,000 should be paid in each case of death, and between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 10,000 be paid to each of the injured persons (the actual amount depending upon the seriousness of the injuries). The Govt. of Kerala, has been informed accordingly. HPCL has since contributed a further sum of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Relief Fund for the above purpose.

**Enquiry into Kerosene Tragedy in
Kerala**

4102. SHRI SURESH KURUP :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be
pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee enquiring into the kerosene tragedy in Kerala has submitted its report ;

(b) if so, the findings of the Committee ;

(c) the follow-up action proposed by Government ;

(d) whether Government are going to entrust any central agency like CBI to enquire into the matter ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir. A Technical Committee headed by Shri C. R. Jagannathan, retired Chairman and Managing Director of Oil India Limited, has already been appointed to invest the matter.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Extension of Departmental Building of Post Office in Pithoragarh, Uttar Pradesh

4103. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of accommodation in the head post office in Pithoragarh in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, whether it was proposed to extend further the Departmental building of this post office in the Sixth Five Year Plan ;

(c) if so, the reasons for not extending this building so far ;

(d) whether it is proposed to start the extension work during the current financial year ; and

(e) if so, the total estimated expenditure to be incurred on this work ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The departmental formalities were being completed.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) About Rs. 27.00 lakhs. only.

Criteria for Opening of D.E.T. and S.D.O. Offices

4104. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government agree to change the present criteria adopted for opening D.E.T. and S.D.O. Offices in hill areas keeping in view the need of expanding telephone services in these areas ;

(b) if so, whether new D.E.T. Office in Almora and S.D.O. Office in Ranikhet in Uttar Pradesh are likely to be opened in near future ;

(c) if so, when ; and

(d) if not, the difficulties on account of which these offices will not be opened there and the time by which Department will be in a position to open these offices in the aforesaid places by removing these difficulties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) At present no such proposal is under consideration. However, some weightage for the difficult terrain is being given while forming the Divisions and Sub-Divisions.

(b) to (d) : Presently the DET office at Almora and Sub-Divisional office at Ranikhet are not justified on standards. After the workload reaches the prescribed limit and subject to lifting of ban creation of new posts, these offices would be created.

Opening of New Engineering Divisional and Sub-Divisional Offices in U. P.

4105. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of present expansion of telephone services in U. P. circle, his Ministry is actively considering the question of opening of a few new Engineering Divisional and Sub-Divisional Offices there ;

(b) if so, the proposed location of these new Divisional and Sub-Divisional Offices of the time by which these are likely to be set up ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

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

(b) Two Engineering Divisions, one each at Almora and Gonda, are expected to be formed when the workload reaches the prescribed limit and subject to lifting of ban on creation of posts.

(c) Does not arise.

Safety Arrangements by Chemical Factories in Delhi

4106. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some such chemicals factories as use chlorine, etc. are located in densely populated areas of Delhi ;

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

(c) whether their safety arrangements have been checked by Government so as to ensure that any leakage of gas, etc. from these factories does not pose hazards to public life ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) : As per available information, there are two major chemicals factories, namely, M/s.

Shriram Food and Fertilizers Limited and M/s. Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL) located in Delhi which use chlorine.

Delhi Administration have reported that inspections carried out in the factories of M/s. Shriram Chemical Works, a unit of M/s. Shriram Food and Fertilizers Limited, revealed that prevention and control measures for the safety of the workers and the population around the factory were inadequate. In view of the inadequacies of safety measures, Delhi Administration is considering the need for re-locating of Shriram Chemical Works.

As regard Hindustan Insecticides Limited (HIL), senior officials of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers alongwith the Chairman, Central Water Pollution Control Board had visited the factory. Following the visit, HIL was advised to undertake an end-to-end survey for determining safety of operating the plant. HIL have since taken certain remedial steps.

Setting up of Chemical Fertilizer Industries Based on Bombay High

4107. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of any demand for setting up a chemical fertilizer industry based on Bombay High gas in Vidarbha ;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the pipeline laid between Bombay High and Burhanpur, touches Vidarbha also ;

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard and the estimated expenditure involved therein ; and

(d) the names of the places where chemical fertilizer industries based on

Bombay High Gas are proposed to be set up and the time by which these are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed gas pipeline route does not pass through Vidarbha.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The places where fertilizer plants, based on Bombay High gas, are proposed to be set up and their 'zero dates' are given in the Statement attached. The projects are scheduled to be completed within 36-39 months from the 'zero dates'.

Statement

Setting up of Chemical Fertilizer Industries based on Bombay High Gas

Serial Number	Location	Zero Date
1.	Vijaipur (District Guna), M.P.	1.6.1984
2.	Aonla, Bareilly District, U.P.	1.10.1984
3.	Jagdishpur, Sultanpur Distt., U.P.	1.3.1985
4.	Billopa Village, Sawai Madhpur District, Rajasthan	1.4.1985
5.	Babralla, Badaun District, U.P.	1.10.1985
6.	Shahjahanpur District, U.P.	1.4.1986

[English]

Amount Set apart for Cooperativisation of Coir Industry

4109. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount set apart in the Sixth Five Year Plan for cooperativisation of coir industry scheme ;

(b) the total amount spent under the said scheme during the Sixth Plan period ;

(c) the total amount earmarked for Kerala under the said scheme during the Sixth Plan period ;

(d) the total amount spent under this scheme in Kerala during the Sixth Plan period ; and

(e) the reasons for the shortfall in expenditure of any under (d) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (e) : An outlay of Rs. 9.50 crores was earmarked in the Central Sector in the Sixth Plan for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the co-operativisation of coir industry which came into force with effect from 21st August, 1982. Under the scheme, the expenditure is shared between the Central Government and the State Government/Union Terri-

tory in the ratio of 50 : 50, and the funds are released by the Central Government on the basis of the proposals made by the State Governments/ Union Territories and recommended by the Coir Board. During the Sixth Plan period, a total sum of Rs. 310.21 lakhs was released by the Central Government of which Rs. 289.83 lakhs was released to the Government of Kerala for this purpose.

Production of Newsprint

4011. SHRI MONANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of newsprint manufacturing units functioning in the country, their annual production capacity and the production made annually the year 1983-84 and 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : At present there are three units in the country manufacturing newsprint with an installed capacity of 2.30 lakh tonnes.

The production of newsprint from these units has been as follows :

1983-84	1,76,338 lakh tonnes
1984-85 (Provisional)	2,00,547 lakh tonnes

Survey for Oil in Saurashtra Region

4112. SHRI MOHANBHAI : PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state ;

(a) whether any survey has been conducted during 1984 to find out oil ;

(b) if so, the area and the States in which surveys have been conducted and the findings thereof ;

(c) the details of the new explora-

tion work undertaken during 1984 and and the findings thereof ;

(d) whether there is a possibility of oil in Saurashtra region ; and

(e) if so, whether any survey has been conducted there and the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) to (e) : The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Discoveries of Oil Bearing Areas in Seventh Five Year Plan

4113. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the process of discovering potential oil-bearing areas by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has slowed down during past few years ;

(b) if so, the details and break-up of the potential oil bearing areas discovered during the period between 1977-80 and 1981-84 ;

(c) the assessment of oil and gas reserves in areas discovered during the periods mentioned above ; and

(d) the prospects for discovering potential oil bearing areas during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. ONGC has identified the exploratory efforts during the past few years.

(b) During the period 1977-80, oil was discovered in 13 structures and during the period 1981-84 in 19 structures. The details are as under :

Period	State/Basin/Area	Name of the Structure
1977-80	West Coast Offshore	Heera, B-37, R-9, R-12, R-7, B-58.
	East Coast Offshore	G-1.
	Gujarat	Padra, Jotana, Viraj, West Sobnasan, Motwan, W. Motwan.
1981-84	West Coast Offshore	B-57, R-8, R-13, B-178, KD.
	East Coast Offshore	PH-9, G-2, PY-1.
	Gujarat	Mewad, Sisadra, Ognaj, Gamej, Wadu, Gandhar, Dahej & Lohar.
	Assam	Napama, Changmaigaon and Barak.

(c) The net addition to recoverable reserves of hydrocarbons in the country during 1-1-1978 and 1-1-1980 was about 105 million tonnes and about 110 million tonnes during 1-1-1981 and 1-1-1984.

(d) It is proposed to establish hydrocarbon reserves of the order of 680 million tonnes during Seventh Plan period.

Oil Reserves in West Bengal

4114. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN :
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has so far failed to produce any satisfactory results in West Bengal because it has so far not been able to drill to the targeted depth(s) where according to seismic data oil strike prospects exist in West Bengal ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the estimate of oil reserves in West Bengal at the depth of 5500 metres ;

(d) the depth upto which well-drilling has so far been possible in places in West Bengal where well-drilling works have been taken up by ONGC ; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to reach the targeted depths in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):
(a) and (b) : No, Sir. Most of the wells drilled to their target depths. However, in one well at Bodra drilling had to be terminated 800 metres short of target depth due to down hole complications.

(c) Oil reserves are not calculated for any particular depth in a basin.

(d) The maximum depth reached in drilling in West Bengal is 5655 metres.

(e) Does not arise.

**Suspension of further Licensing
to Cement Industry**

4116. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have suspended further licensing to the Cement industry ;

(b) if so, whether this was done because of the inability of the Department of Coal to allocate further quantities of coal for the proposed new cement plants ;

(c) whether this is expected to adversely affect the policy of not only attaining self-sufficiency in cement but also generating adequate exportable surpluses to pep up foreign exchange earnings ;

(d) whether Government are re-considering this decision ;

(e) whether suspending further licensing to the cement industry will greatly affect the various plans in the country ; and

(f) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) : Do not arise.

**Delay in Implementation of Guna
Plant of the National Fertilizer
Ltd.**

4117. SHRI D. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the six gas-based giant fertilizer projects will be delayed in implementation despite directives from the highest levels to ensure that the time-bound programme for these plants as maintained ;

(b) whether apart from the Guna plant of the National Fertilizers Ltd., nearly all the other projects are facing uncertainty of various kinds ;

(c) if so, the main reasons for delay in these projects ; and

(d) whether any solution has been found ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) : Of the six gas-based fertilizer plants, in addition to these at Thal and Hazira, which are proposed to be set up during the 7th Five Year Plan, the implementation of Vijaipur, Aonla and Jagdishpur projects has already commenced. While there has been some delay in the finalisation of the contractual arrangements in respect of the Jagdishpur project by the Company M/s. Indo-Gulf Fertilizers and Chemicals Corporation Ltd. (IGFCC) ; the progress of these three projects appears to be satisfactory at present.

The scheduled 'zero dates' for the remaining three fertilizer projects are given below :

Sl. No.	Location	Zero Date
1.	Billopa Village, Sawai Madhopur District, Rajasthan	1.4.1985
2.	Sabrala, Badaun District, U.P.	1.10.1985
3.	Shahjahanpur District, U.P.	1.4.1986

The fertilization of contractual arrangements in respect of the Sawai Madhopur Project has, however, been delayed by the project authorities, who have been expedited.

(d) The progress of these projects is reviewed and monitored periodically for ensuring that there are no delays in implementing them.

Production of Cement in Sixth and Seventh Plans

4118. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has urged the cement industry to improve the productivity level ;

(b) if so, whether he has pointed out that notwithstanding the infra-structural constraints, there was scope for improvement in capacity utilisation which was 76 per cent at present ;

(c) whether the target of the cement production has been achieved in the Sixth Plan Period and if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) the efforts being made by Government to ensure that the cement target is achieved during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir.

(c) Against the production target of 34.5 million tonnes by the terminal year of the Sixth Five Year Plan period, the production of cement achieved was around 30.10 million tonnes. The shortfall in production was mainly on account of infrastructure constraints.

(d) Efforts continue to be made to ensure that the targets for the Seventh Plan period are achieved by encouraging modernisation of the industry, establishment of new capacity and by closely monitoring availability of infrastructure services for the cement industry such as power, coal and railway wagons.

Cooking Gas Facility in Orissa

4119. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of the towns as well as cities of Orissa where cooking gas facility has been provided so far ;

(b) the number of cylinders supplied to the State annually for distributing ; and

(c) the number of towns where such facility is likely to be provided during the next two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) Presently LPG facility is available at the following locations in Orissa :

1. Aksa
2. Balagaon
3. Bolangir
4. Baleshwar
5. Baripada
6. Berhampur
7. Bhubaneswar
8. Brijrajnagar
9. Burla
10. Chattarpur
11. Cuttack
12. Basbil

13. Bhavanipatna
14. Angul
15. Beshampur
16. Dhenkanal
17. Jatni
18. Jeypore
19. Paradeep
20. Phulbani
21. Puri
22. Rayagada
23. Rourkela
24. Sambalpur
25. Sunabeda
26. Koraput
27. Balasore
28. Sundergarh
29. Jharsuguda

(b) Approximately 4.47 lakh cylinders are supplied to Orissa annually.

(c) The following locations in Orissa are proposed to be provided LPG facility during the next two years :

1. Keonjhar
2. Bhadrak
3. Parla Khemundi
4. Bargarh
5. Chowdwar
6. Talcher
7. Jharsuguda
8. Kajgangpur (2 locations)
9. Titlagarh
10. Khorda
11. Joda
12. Anandpur

13. Kendrapara
14. Behrampur
15. Jajpur Road
16. Rourkela (2 locations)
17. Bhubaneswar
18. Kulad
19. Bhanjanagar
20. Birmitrapur
21. Jeypore
22. Damanjor
23. Burla

**Public Sector Industries in Adivasi
and Backward Areas**

4120. **SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated any policy for setting up public sector big industries in Adivasi and backward areas for their industrial development ;

(b) whether any proposal for setting up of any public sector industry for Defence production in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh is under consideration of Government ; and

(c) if not, whether Government would take some action in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Industrialisation of specific areas is primarily the responsibility of State Governments concerned. The Central Government supplements their efforts by providing various concessions and incentives for industries in identified backward areas. The central investments are primarily in large industrial projects of a basic

character. The locations of such projects has, therefore, to be decided on broad techno-economic considerations. It has been the policy of the Government that subject to these considerations comparatively backward regions are given preference in the location of Central Projects.

(b) and (c) : At present there is no proposal to set up any public Sector Industry for Defence Production in Jhabua District of Madhya Pradesh.

[Translation]

Prototype Development and Training Centre in Jhabua

4121. **SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to advise the National Small Scale Industries Corporation to open a Prototype Development and Training Centre in backward Adivasi district Jhabua of Madhya Pradesh to ensure provision of proper training facilities for small entrepreneurs in this district ; and

(b) if so, the time by which such a facility is likely to be made available there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (**SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN**) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Administration of Justice in Tribal Areas

4122. **SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO** : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by his Ministry to strengthen the administration of justice in Tribal Areas of the country during the Sixth Five Year Plan ;

(b) whether the Seventh Finance Commission had provided funds for strengthening the administration ;

(c) if so, the funds provided by his Ministry to the States as per the recommendations, State-wise ; and

(d) the emphasis given by the States to provide funds for tribal areas and advertisements made so far, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (**SHRI H. P. BHARDWAJ**) : (a) to (d) : During the Sixth Five Year Plan period the Ministry of Law and Justice was concerned with the recommendations of the Seventh Finance Commission relating to the upgradation of standards of judicial administration in general and not with any particular reference to Tribal Areas. The amounts released to the States for this purpose is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Upgradation of Standards of Judicial Administration on the basis recommendations of Seventh Finance Commission—Release of Grants

Name of the State	Amount released upto 31.3.1985
1	2
(Rs. in lakhs)	
1. Andhra Pradesh	83.97
2. Assam	165.23
3. Bihar	487.88

1	2
4. Himachal Pradesh	6.02
5. Jammu & Kashmir	2.50
6. Kerala	1.95
7. Madhya Pradesh	27.53
8. Manipur	27.37
9. Nagaland	70.00
10. Orissa	92.88
11. Rajasthan	209.46
12. Tamil Nadu	15.64
13. Tripura	30.68
14. Uttar Pradesh	470.43
15. West Bengal	123.87
Total :	1815.41

**Allotment of Kerosene Depots Diesel
Cum Petrol Outlets and LPG Agen-
cies in Tribal, Hill and Backward
Areas in Orissa**

**4064. SHRI GIRIDHAR GO-
MANGO :** Will the Minister of
PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has identi-
fied the places of tribal, hill and back-
ward areas to provide Taluk Kerosene
Depots, Diesel-cum-Petrol Outlets and
LPG agencies ;

(b) if so, the details thereof and
the places notified so far, with parti-
cular reference to Orissa ;

(c) the places reserved for Schedul-
ed Tribes and Scheduled Castes ;

(d) the criteria adopted for the
selection of the places to reserve them
for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled
Tribes ; and

(e) how many of them have been
recently notified in Tribal District of
Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :
(a) Yes, Sir. The oil industry conducts
market surveys to identify locations for
development of retail outlets, Taluka
Kerosene Depots (TKD) and LPG
distributorships, depending upon the
volume/distance norms in case of retail
outlets, anticipated refill sales in case
of LPG distributorships and the need
for supply of kerosene at reason-
able price to the people of remote and
hilly areas in case of TKDS. While
identifying such locations, tribal hilly
and backward areas are also covered.

(b) and (c) : The particulars about
the places identified in the State of
Orissa is furnished in the statement
enclosed.

Collections of this information for
the entire country will involve consi-
derable time and labour which may not
be commensurate with the purpose pro-
posed to be achieved.

(d) Locations falling within re-
served Parliament/Assembly consti-
tuencies as well as areas predominantly
populated by Scheduled Castes/Schedul-
ed Tribes are earmarked for these
categories.

(e) Under 1984-85 Marketing Plan
following dealerships have been notified
in the Tribal Distt. of Orissa :

(i) Retail outlets = 6.

(ii) LPG distributorships = 2.

Statement

Sl. No.	Location	District	If reserved, the category for which reserved
1	2	3	4

I. Taluka Kerosene Oil

1.	Keonjhar	Keonjhar	—
2.	Phulbani	Phulbani	—
3.	Mayurbhanj	Mayurbhanj	—
4.	Angul	Dhenkanal	—
5.	Boudh		—
6.	Bolangir	Bolangir	—
7.	Nayagarh		—
8.	Bhubneswar	Puri	—
9.	Baripat	Mayurbhanj	—
10.	Talaswar		—

*II. Retail Outlets**1980-81 Marketing Plan :**I.O.C.*

1.	Bhadrak	Balasore	—
2.	Udala	Mayurbhanj	ST
3.	Paradip	Cuttack	—
4.	Koira	Sundergarh	—
5.	Chatarpur Bypass	Ganjam	ST
6.	Rairakhol	Sambalpur	—
7.	Amarda	Balasore	—
8.	Khariar	Kalahandi	SC
9.	Nagagarh	Puri	—
10.	Puri	Puri	—

1	3	3	4
11.	Bisori	Mayurbhanj	—
12.	Suakat	Balasore	—
13.	Baliapal	Balasore	—
14.	Basudevpur	Balasore	—
15.	Champua	Keonjhar	—
16.	Banki	Cuttack	—
17.	Bolgarh	Puri	—
18.	Niali	Puri	SC
19.	Purushottampur	Ganjam	—
20.	Malkangiri	Korapur	—
21.	Umarkoti	Korapur	—
22.	Motter	Kalahandi	ST
23.	Madanpur	Rampur	—
24.	Sonepur	Bolangir	—
25.	Bhuvaneswar	Puri	ST

BPCL

26.	Vedvyas	Sundergarh	ST
27.	Behrampur	Ganjam	—

*1981-82 Marketing Plan :**I.O.C.*

1.	Cuttack	Cuttack	—
2.	Rourkela	Sundergarh	—
3.	Rajbhavan Premises	Bhubaneswar	—

B.P.C.L.

4.	Chandaneswar	Balasore	ST
5.	Januganj	Balasore	SC
6.	Buguda	Ganjam	—

1	2	3	4
7.	Jagatsinghpur	Cuttack	—
8.	Digapahandi	Ganjam	—
9.	Paradip I	Cuttack	—
10.	Nimapara	Puri	—
11.	Paradip II	Cuttack	—
12.	Padiapahal	Sambalpur	—
13.	Padampur	Sambalpur	—
HPCL			
14.	Boinda	Dhenkanal	—
15.	Balasore Bypass	Balasore	—
16.	Rambha	Ganjam	—
17.	Rourkela (Lone MS)	Sundergarh	—
18.	Phulankara	Cuttack	SC
19.	Khandagiri	Bhubneshwar	—
20.	Atgarh	Cuttack	—
21.	Kurda Chowk	Balasore	—
1982-84 (Part I) Marketing Plan :			
IOC			
1.	Cuttack Link Road	Cuttack	—
BPCL			
2.	Tengarini	Keonjhar	ST
3.	Bhuban	Dhenkanal	SC
HPCL			
4.	Panposh	Sundergarh	ST
5.	Angul	Dhenkanal	—
6.	Baliguda	Phulbani	SC

1	2	3	4
1982-84 (Part II) Marketing Plan :			
IOC			
1.	Boriguma	Korapur	—
2.	Chandragiri	Ganjam	ST
3.	Damanjodi	Korapur	—
4.	Binjarpur	Cuttack	SC
5.	Jagajpur	Cuttack	—
6.	Barang	Cuttack	—
7.	Bargaon	Sundergarh	ST
8.	Papadhandi	Korapur	ST
9.	Keonjhar	Keonjhar	—
BPCL			
10.	Kakriguma	Koraput	ST
11.	Kanasbahal	Sundergarh	ST
12.	Dhemnagar	Balasore	SC
13.	Chenapadi	Keonjhar	SC
14.	Pattamunde	Cuttack	SC
IBP			
15.	Salepur	Cuttack	SC
16.	Betnoti	Mayurbhanj	—
17.	Bolangir	Bolangir	—
HPCL			
18.	Sohela	Sambalpur	SC
19.	Tirtol	Cuttack	—
20.	Tangi	Cuttack	—
21.	Jeypore	Korapur	—

1	2	3	4
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*1984-85 Marketing Plan :**IOC*

1.	Cuttack Ring Road	Cuttack	---
2.	Sambalpur On NH-6	Sambalpur	—
3.	Kulad On NH-42	Dhenkanal	—
4.	Similguda/Sunabeda on NH-43	Korapur	ST
5.	Keonjhar NH/SH-6	Keonjhar	ST
6.	Nilgiri	Balasore	—

BPCL

7.	Khukhia	Cuttack	SC
8.	Dharamgarh	Kalahandi	SC
9.	Khurda-Bypass	Puri	—

IBP

10.	Maneshwar NH-42	Sambalpur	—
11.	Birmaharajpur	Bolangir	ST

HPCL

12.	Patnagarh	Bolangir	—
13.	Rajamunda On NH-23	Sundergarh	ST
14.	Hindol Road On NH-42	Dhenkanal	SC

*III. L.P.G. Distributorships**1980-81 Marketing Plan :**IOC*

1.	Cuttack	Cuttack	—
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HPCL

2.	Brijrajnagar		ST
3.	Bolangir	Bolangir	—

1	2	3	4
---	---	---	---

1981-82 Marketing Plan :**IOC**

1.	Cuttack	Cuttack	—
2.	Bhubaneswar	Puri	—
3.	Rourkela	Sundergarh	—
4.	Bhavanipatna	Kalahandi	—
5.	Sundergarh	Sundergarh	ST
6.	Cuttack	Cuttack	—

HPCL

7.	Cuttack	Cuttack	—
8.	Phulbani	Phulbani	—
9.	Rourkela	Sundergarh	—
10.	Koraput	Koraput	—
11.	Baripada		—
12.	Dhankanal	Dhankanal	—
13.	Paradip	Cuttack	—
14.	Keonjhar	Keonjhar	ST
15.	Chatrapur		—
16.	Bhubaneswar	Puri	—

1982-84 (Part I) Marketing Plan :**IOC**

1.	Rajgangpur	Sundergarh	—
2.	Barbil	Keonjhar	—
3.	Angul	Dhenkanal	SC
4.	Berhampur	Ganjam	—
5.	Sambalpur	Sambalpur	ST
6.	Jharsuguda	Sambalpur	—
7.	Dhenkamal	Dhenkamal	—

1	2	3	4
<i>BPCL</i>			
8.	Berhampur	Ganjam	ST
9.	Jaypore	Cuttack	—
<i>HPCL</i>			
10.	Cuttack	Cuttack	—
11.	Bhadrak		SC
12.	Parla Khemundi		—
13.	Jharsuguda		ST
<i>1982-84 (Part II) Marketing Plan :</i>			
<i>IOC</i>			
1.	Bhanjnagar	Ganjam	—
<i>BPCL</i>			
2.	Rourkela	Sundergarh	ST
3.	Bhubaneswar	Puri	SC
<i>HPCL</i>			
4.	Sambalpur	Sambalpur	—
5.	Chowdwar		—
6.	Bargarh		—
7.	Talcher		—
8.	Kendrapara		—
<i>1984-85 Marketing Plan :</i>			
<i>IOC</i>			
1.	Birmitrapur	Sundergarh	ST
<i>BPCL</i>			
2.	Rourkela	Sundergarh	—
3.	Kulad	Dhenkanal	—
<i>HPCL</i>			
4.	Bhubaneswar	Puri	—
5.	Rajgangpur		—
6.	Titlagarh	Bolangir	SC
7.	Cuttack	Cuttack	—
8.	Rourkela	Sundergarh	—

Knowhow Collaboration with "Union Carbide" for LDPE Plant

4124. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'India on threshold of petrochemical Revolution' appeared in 'Commerce' Bombay of 1st September, 1984, which states that the Centre is also expected to approve a proposal to appoint Union Carbide a U. S. Company for supplying know-how collaboration low density polyethylene (LDPE) plant ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto in view of the involvement of this American firm in the recent Bhopal catastrophe ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) and (b) : The news item has come to the notice of Government. There is no proposal for technical collaboration between Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited and Union Carbide Corporation, U.S.A. for manufacture of Low Density Polyethylene (LDPE).

Manufacture of Pesticides

4125. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sent directives to the chemical industry to implement proper safeguards in the manufacture of pesticides ;

(b) if so, the number of pesticides manufacturing units in the country which have so far implemented proper safety measures ;

(c) the name of those pesticide manufacturing units ; and

(d) the details of the safety measures adopted by them ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : The Factories Act, 1948 contains provisions for implementation of safety measures during manufacture. The Central Govt. have circulated a model schedule relating to manufacture or manipulation of dangerous pesticides for introducing control measures in the manufacturing processes in registered factories. State Governments are the enforcing authorities under the Factories Act and model schedules are also required to be enforced by the State Governments through appropriate provisions in the concerned factory rules.

The Central Govt. have also advised all State Governments to undertake a thorough review of the existing rules and regulations under the Factories Act and its implementation, particularly with reference to industries using hazardous operations and processes including highly toxic substances. They have also been requested to set up Task Forces/ Study Teams to review the existing safety measures in factories connected with chemicals and hazardous substances. Govt. have also identified 20 industries, including pesticides industry, as highly polluting industries and have in respect of these industries prescribed special conditions for site clearance from the environmental angle and installation of appropriate equipments for the prevention and control of pollution.

Expansion of Plastic Processing Units

4125. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand the plastic processing units ;

(b) if so, the number of plastic processing units proposed to be set up in the country in 1985-86 ;

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on the expansion of plastic units ; and

(a) the estimated cost of the new units proposed to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA):

(a) to (d): The plastic processing industry is expanding and this trend is expected to continue. It is not possible to indicate the number of new units likely to be set up and the investment thereon.

Setting up of Chemical Industry

4127. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of chemical industries set up in different States ;

(b) the location of those industrial units in different States ;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to set up some more chemical industries during 1985-86 ; and

(d) if so, the names of the places in different States where such chemical industries are proposed to be set up in 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b): The details of the industrial licences, issued from time to time, to the industries including chemical industry are published in the weekly Bulletin issued by the Director of Statistics in the Office of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi.

(c) and (d): The industrial licence applications for manufacture of chemi-

cal items, from whichever State they emanate, are examined on merits as per the existing policy.

Process-cum-Product Development Centres for Small Scale Sector

4128. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the scheme for setting up Process-cum-Product Development Centres for the purpose of upgrading the technology of small scale sector;

(b) the details of location of these Process-cum-Product Development Centres that have been set up so far ; and

(c) whether the Committee set up to suggest a modernisation programme of Photo-type Development and Training Centres has submitted its report and if so, the action taken on the recommendations on the report of the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) With a view to provide institutional support in the field of R and D for the small scale industries, the Government of India have introduced a scheme for setting up Process-cum-Product Development Centres for the purpose of upgrading the technology of the small scale sector. The main aim of these Centres is to develop better processes and bring about technological improvement in this sector so that their products not only improve in quality but also become more competitive. Besides the Development of process, these Centres are intended to develop improved products through better designs and use of improved materials etc. In addition these Centres would provide testing facilities and also train entrepreneurs/

personnel of the small industries in use of improved tooling and processes etc.

(b) The Process-cum-Product Development Centres that have been or are being set up are :

(i) PPDC for Glass and Ceramic Industries, Ranchi.

(ii) PPDC for Sports Goods and Leisure Time Equipment, Meerut.

(iii) PPDC for Casting and Forging Industries, Agra.

(c) Yes Sir, action is being initiated.

Rubber Factory in Joint or Private Sector in Kanyakumari District in Tamil Nadu

4129. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that optimum rubber production takes place in Kanyakumari District in Tamil Nadu ; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken to set up a rubber factory either as a joint venture or in the private sector there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) : A large area in Kanyakumari district is under rubber cultivation. However, Government has received no proposal for setting up rubber-based industries in the joint sector in Kanyakumari District nor has any application been received from the private sector for grant of industrial licence for setting up such industries in the district.

Formation of Corporations to Manage Telephones in Bombay, Delhi and some other Metropolitan Cities

4130. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to form Corporations to manage telephones in Bombay, Delhi and some other metropolitan cities ;

(b) if so, the main objective of forming such Corporations ;

(c) the financial implication of the proposal ; and

(d) the time by which the above proposal will be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (d) : The Government has not taken any decision on the suggestion to form Corporate body to operate the telephone services in Bombay and Delhi.

Declaration of Raigarh as a Backward District and No-Industry District

4131. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh have requested his Ministry to declare Raigarh, a backward District of the State as category 'C' and no-industry district ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to declare the above District as category 'C' and no-industry district instead of category 'B' ; and

(c) the steps taken to set up more industries in Raigarh District, Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Raigarh is already a Category 'C' backward district :

(c) The following incentives/concessions are available to entrepreneurs setting up industries in Raigarh District.

- (i) Central Investment subsidy @ 10% subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs. (MRTP/FERA Companies are not eligible to Central Subsidy).
- (ii) Concessional finance.
- (iii) Interest subsidy to Engineer entrepreneurs.
- (iv) Seed/Margin Money assistance.
- (v) Tax Concession.
- (vi) Facility for purchase of machinery on hire-purchase basis.
- (vii) Consultancy for technical services.
- (viii) Special concession for nucleus plants.

Open of Petrol Bunks in Bangalore

4132. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of petrol bunks in Bangalore city ;

(b) whether these are incommensurate with the number of vehicle plying ;

(c) the number of petrol bunks in Jayanagar ; and

(d) whether Government have given permission for more number of petrol bunks in areas where the bunks are less to help the public who are using vehicles ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) 134 retail outlets (petrol/diesel pumps) are presently operating in Bangalore city.

(b) Opening of retail outlets (petrol/diesel pumps), dealerships by the oil companies is a continuous process to take care of the increased demand. Locations for opening of petrol/diesel retail outlets are identified by the oil industry on the basis of periodical surveys and the volume-distance norms laid down for the purpose. Potential for more such outlets exists in Bangalore City and is being provided for by the Oil Industry.

(c) Three.

(d) Keeping the demand potential in view, selection of dealers for four new retail outlets in Bangalore City, including one in Jayanagar area has already been made and the outlets will be commissioned as soon as the selected dealers complete/procure the required facilities, four new retail outlets have also been planned for which selection of dealers is under way.

Production of L.P.G. Cylinders

4133. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government had taken a policy decision two years ago to step up production of L.P.G. cylinders to make available cooking gas to every household ;

(b) whether D.G.T.D. had issued registration to 600 units with an aggregate installed capacity of 128 million cylinders per annum ;

(c) the number of units gone into production and the number of units ready to go into production ;

(d) whether Indian Oil Corporation has advised new units not to go in for production as there is no scope for placing orders with the new units ;

(e) whether on account of inability of Indian Oil Corporation to place orders with new units, about 15,000 workers are facing retrenchment and the capital outlay on these units is becoming irrecoverable ; and

(f) whether Government propose to find out any immediate solution before this problem becomes grave ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :

(a) In the context of shortfalls in the availability of LPG cylinders, steps were taken two years ago to improve the availability from the existing units.

(b) D.G.T.D. have issued registration for manufacture of LPG cylinders to around 650 units with a registered capacity of around 130 million cylinders per annum.

(c) Fifty four units are in production while approximately 14 are ready to go into production.

(d) The oil industry has advised those who have recently set up units or are in the process of setting them up to consider diversifying their facilities and investment to production of other items.

(e) and (f) : As the new units have not gone into commercial production the possibility of large scale retrenchment of labour does not arise. Ways of rendering help to the manufacturing units are being explored.

Import of Photographic Colour Paper and Film by Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

4134. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the import prices of photographic colour paper and photographic colour film have been declining during last few years in the world market ;

(b) whether Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd., a public sector undertaking, has imported jumbo rolls both of Photographic Colour Paper and photographic colour films ;

(c) if so, the import price thereof ;

(d) the cost of their conversion by Hindustan Photo Film by slitting and confectioning ; and

(e) the present selling arrangements and their prices of the Hindustan Photo Films ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd. (HPF), during the last year, had imported a small quantity of photographic colour paper in jumbo form. No imports of jumbo rolls of photographic colour film have been made.

(c) The cost per sq. m. of imported material in jumbo form on the basis of lowest price of US \$ 1.88 works out to Rs. 66.33 inclusive of customs duty.

(d) No costing has been done by the company separately for conversion of photographic colour paper in jumbo form.

(e) HPF's products are sold through stockists and dealers as well as directly to the customers. Selling price of HPF for these products ranges from Rs. 84 to Rs. 96 per sq. m. plus applicable taxes and levies depending on the brand of the product.

Seeking of Military Help by States and Union Territories

4135. SHRI D. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times military help was sought by the States and Union Territories during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 ;

(b) the type of incidents due to which military help was sought ;

(c) the strength deployed each time ;

(d) what was the shortest and longest duration of development in the above mentioned incidents and where ; and

(e) the number of deaths occurred in firing by police personnel and military personnel where military help was sought ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b) : The details regarding the type of incidents for which Armed Forces rendered assistance to the States and Union Territories and the number of times such assistance was rendered during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 are as under :—

Type of incidents for which Aid provided	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
1. Maintenance of Law and Order	19	5	95
2. Natural Calamities	20	43	34
3. Maintenance of essential services	7	1	5
4. Miscellaneous	36	47	41

(c) and (d) : The strength deployed each time and the duration of the deployment depended upon the task involved. It will not be in the public interest to disclose details in this regard.

(e) Information regarding casualties as a result of firing by military or police personnel would be available with the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administrations.

Recommendations of Women Status Committee

4136. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the recommendations of Women Status Committee regarding employment of women have been implemented in Indian Oil Corporation and other units under his Ministry ; and

(b) if so, the main recommendation of the Women Status Committee and the action taken and/or proposed to be taken during 1985-86 in Indian Oil Corporation and other units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Promotional Avenues for Women
Staff in I.O.C.**

4137. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of PETROLUM be pleased to state the details of promotional avenues for the women staff in Indian Oil Corporation and other units under his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : There are no separate rules for the promotion of female employees of the Indian Oil Corporation and promotions to various categories of posts are made in accordance with the agreed promotion policies which cover female as well as male employees.

Industry in Cannanore

4138. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any industry under the Union Government in the industrially backward district of Cannanore ;

(b) if so, give the names and nature of those industries ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to start new agro-based industries in Cannanore district keeping in view the availability of agricultural products like rubber, cashew, coconut etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c) : Under the administrative control of the Ministry of Industry and Company Affairs, no industry has been set up in Cannanore (Kerala) nor there is any proposal; under consideration of this Ministry, for setting up agro-based industry in that district.

Production and Import of Antibiotics

4139. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of many antibiotics is below targeted capacity and also lower than previous year's production ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) the target and production year-wise antibiotics wise, for last three years and reasons for shortfall ; and

(d) the quantity of each of these antibiotics imported and foreign exchange spent in the last three years (year-wise) ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : The Country has achieved near self-sufficiency in many antibiotics. There had been negligible import of penicillin, streptomycin, erythromycin and doxycycline. The total imports of antibiotics has been declining as below :

Rear	c.i.f. value of Import (Rs. in Crores)
1981-82	11.00
1982-83	8.7
1983-84	5.5

These imports mainly consists of tetracycline, oxytetracycline, Gentamycin, ampicillin and amoxicillin. Imports are due to inadequate production due to reasons such as technological problems, industrial relations, cheaper imports and raw material constraints. Details of production and import of these antibiotics is as per Statement attached.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the antibiotic	Year	Production	Import	C. I. F. Value (Rs./lakhs)
1.	Tetracycline	1981-82	188.93 T	90.30 T	254.52
		1982-83	209.14 T	66.67 T	160.65
		1983-84	208.54 T	58.18 T	121.24
2.	Oxytetracycline	1981-82	114.28 T	42.27 T	92.30
		1982-83	119.57 T	40.95 T	116.35
		1983-84	104.99 T	23.00 T	57.76
3.	Gentamycin	1981-82	70.00 Kg.	672.35 Kg.	51.95
		1982-83	472.76 Kg.	585.00 Kg.	30.57
		1983-84	644.15 Kg.	653.85 Kg.	30.71
4.	Ampicillin	1981-82	79.69 T	39.03 T	338.25
		1982-83	122.50 T	33.17 T	228.32
		1983-84	123.62 T	27.21 T	232.15
5.	Amoxycillin	1981-82	0.92 T	24.73 T	229.03
		1982-83	10.36 T	22.03 T	187.37
		1983-84	22.33 T	6.55 T	53.86

Production and Import of Vitamin

4140. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether production of vitamins is far below targets ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) whether production is being kept low purposely by interested parties ; and

(d) the imports of various vitamins for the last three years indicating the value in foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS. (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (d) : The Country has achieved near self-sufficiency in various vitamins. Imports of Vitamins A, B1, C, D3, E, K, Folic Acid, Nicotinic Acid and Nicotinamide had been negligible during 1983-84. Production of vitamin B6 has commenced recently.

Imports of vitamin A, B2 and B12 are due to inadequate production due to reasons such as technological problems, industrial relations and raw material constraints. Total imports of Vitamins for the past three years had been as under :—

Year	c.i.f. value of Imports (Rs. in Crores)
1981-82	4.0
1982-83	4.5
1983-94	3.3

Telephone Connections in Sagar and Bhopal Cities in Madhya Pradesh

4141. SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applicants for telephones connections in Sagar and Bhopal cities in Madhya Pradesh placed on the waiting list as on 31 December, 1984 ; and

(b) the steps taken to provide telephone connections to these applicants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of applicants waiting for telephone connections in Sagar and Bhopal cities in Madhya Pradesh as on 31.12.84 is as given below :

Sagar — 377

Bhopal — 4085

(b) Waiting list as given in (a) above has been cleared to the extent of 20 in Sagar and 1165 in Bhopal during

the period January, 1985 to March, 1985. Existing exchange will be expanded to the extent possible in the present building. Bigger telephone exchange have been allotted and sanctioned for both places for which building construction is expected to be commenced in a year. The present waiting list is expected to be cleared in three years time.

STD Link between Cities of Madhya Pradesh and Metropolitan Cities

4142. SHRI DALCHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the important cities in Madhya Pradesh proposed to be provided with STD facilities with metropolitan cities in 1985-86 ; and

(b) the plan of Government for providing STD facilities between the metropolitan cities and important cities in different States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) In Madhya Pradesh the following cities are already provided with STD facilities to metropolitan cities :

1. Bhopal
2. Indore
3. Jabalpur
4. Khandwa
5. Gwalior
6. Durg
7. Bilaspur
8. Saugar
9. Burhanpur
10. Raipur
11. Ujjain
12. Mhow

No new city in M.P. is likely to be linked with metropolitan cities by STD during 1985-86.

(b) Provision of STD facilities between the metropolitan cities and important cities in different States is a part of the nation-wide subscriber trunk dialling through a network of Trunk Automatic Exchanges which is being progressively implemented in the five year plan programmes.

By the end of Sixth Plan 267 cities are connected to Trunk Automatic Exchange network for nation-wide subscriber trunk dialling. During the 7th plan period the number of cities in the country to be connected to nation-wide subscriber trunk dialling through Trunk Automatic Exchanges is proposed to be increased to about 1200.

Entry of Foreign Companies in Consumer Goods Industry

4143. SHRI D. P. JADEJA :
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :
SHRI MANORANJAN
BHAKTA :

Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government wants more foreign companies to enter the consumer goods industry which hitherto was considered low priority ;

(b) whether it is for technology or for foreign capital ;

(c) the impact it will have on our indigenous production ; and

(d) whether this shift of policy is helpful to self-reliance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (d) : Government's policy regarding import

of technology is selective. Import of technology is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas, in export-oriented or import substitution manufacturing, or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet effectively changing consumer preferences and/or become competitive in the export market.

[Translation]

Amount Allocated to Bihar for Industrial Development in Rural Areas

4144. SHRI R. S. KHIRHAR ;
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any separate allocations have been made in the current central budget for the industrial development of the rural areas in the country ; and

(b) if so, the amount, out of it allocated for Bihar, which is a backward State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) : An amount of Rs. 60.00 crores has been provided in the B.E. 1985-86 under the Central Incentive Schemes for industrial development of backward areas. No State-wise allocation of funds has been made for the purpose.

Construction of Houses in Kanpur City for Defence Employees

4145. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the great accommodation problem faced by thousands of employees working in several offices of the Department of Defence located in Kanpur City, Government have formulated any scheme to construct houses ;

(b) if so, the outlines thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed ; and

(c) if not, the measure proposed to be taken by Government to solve this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE
(SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) : Statement is attached.

Statement

The details of houses to be constructed for the employees working in the various offices of the Department of Defence located in Kanpur city are as under :

(i) Ordnance Factories :

Sanction for construction of 600 Type I and 250 Type III quarters has been issued in February, 1985. These are expected to be completed between the period Jan., 1987 and March, 1989. In addition, it is proposed to construct another 316 Type II and 108 Type III quarters for employees working in the various Ordnance Factories at Kanpur.

(ii) Defence Civilians (Army) :

Sanction for construction of 40 Type I, 24 Type II and 6 Type III quarters for Defence Civilians (Army) at Kanpur has been issued in March, 1985. These quarters are expected to be completed by mid 1986.

(iii) Civilian Employees of Air Forces Station Kanpur :

Sanction for construction of 36 Type I and 12 Type II quarters has been issued in May, 1984 for the Civilian employees at Air force Station Kanpur. These quarters are expected to be ready by June, 1987.

(iv) Defence Research and Development Organisation :

Sanction for construction of 47 Type I, 75 Type II, 84 Type III, 17 Type IV and 6 Type V quarters for employees of Defence Research and Development Organisation at Kanpur has been issued in September, 1983. These quarters are expected to be completed by end 1987.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE
(Rajapur) : What about the issue I have raised ?

MR. SPEAKER : At 4 O'clock the statement is coming. Then we shall do it. There is a difficulty for me. I always face this difficulty whenever the questions relating to States come. So I cannot decide one way or the other.

PROF. MADAU DANDAVATE :
I am not raising the questions relating to the State. I am talking about suppression of the freedom of the press and in spite of the Army, the police is revolting against the Army. All these problems are very important.

MR. SPEAKER : First I have to see the statement and then I will decide

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) :
Of course, the situation in Ahmedabad has taken a very ugly turn. But we should not forget, if we want a solution to the problem and I think, nobody in this house opposes the case for reservation.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We shall discuss it.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I am not allowing you anything.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : You are allowing him.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed him. It is not going on record.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : But he is going on. We would not hear a lecture from him. Let us have a proper discussion.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Professor, I am not going to allow you anything. You are taking undue liberty. I am not going to allow you to do it.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I have stated my point of view.

MR. SPEAKER : Might be, but I have not allowed you.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow any discussion on this subject. I will discuss only after hearing the statement and then I will decide as to what is to be done.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I want a clarification on your ruling.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : You have to maintain . . . There cannot be double standards.

MR. SPEAKER : What is that ? There is no double standard ; there is single standard here.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You have said that the Minister is going to make a statement on Ahmedabad situation and after that you will decide as to how it can be discussed. The moment you have announced that he is going to make a statement, we have given a notice under rule 184 that this statement be taken into consideration. Please assure the House whether we will be allowed to take the statement into consideration.

MR. SPEAKER : There are certain rules. Under these rules we shall see to it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Rule 184. The rule is very clear.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let the statement come first and then we shall see.

Yes, Mamtaji, what to do you want to say ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot listen.

[Translation]

Two Professors do not allow me to listen to anybody. What should I do ?

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : When the Minister is to make a statement on the floor of the House, then the matter cannot be ruled out for discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not ruled it out. I want to assure you that I will consider it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Let him make a statement, then I will see . . .

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I am not opposed to anything ...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed anybody ...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Well, all of you sit down ...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : They have all sat down, you don't sit down ...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Tewary, have you got no respect for the rules ? Are you an exception ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I want your ruling, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I have stood up to give now. What I am saying ...

(Interruptions)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Sir, the Home Minister ... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Now you say it first and then I will say. You just stand up and say whatever you like to say, Mr. Tewary.

(Interruptions)**

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you take your seat, I have a small submission to make.

MR. SPEAKER : I will take my seat, Sir.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Sir, would it be proper for this House to discuss a matter like this which is substantially within the purview of the State Govern-

ment and the State Legislature, when that Legislature is in session ? ... (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : Although you may have your own way of thinking, the proceedings of the House are to be conducted according to the rules laid down. There have been statements and those statements have been discussed later on under Rules 193 and 184, but there have been also occasions when there have been only statements and no discussions.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sometimes no statements at all.

MR. SPEAKER : Sometimes no statements, you are right, only discussion ? I agree with you. Now, after the statements is made, I will have to look into it and I might have to consult others also as the Business Advisory Committee, also Leaders of the Opposition.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please look here. Let me finish. I have to lay down a rule which will be applicable in each and every situation which arises. I cannot be discriminatory in one way or the other. I have to plough a furrow which goes straight irrespective of this or that. So I will have to find out, I have never barred anything, I will never bar anything which comes under the rule. If the House agrees then we will discuss or not discuss accordingly. So simple it is.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We leave it to you.

MR. SPEAKER : That is what it is. I mean, even leaving it to me is the wish of the House. I take the advice of the House, I take the counsel of the House, I take the consensus of the House and whenever I am in difficulty, I call on you and find a way out. That is how I proceed.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram) : Sir, let me make a submission.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What are you going to do ? I think I have already stated now. What more do you want from me ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What do you want more from me ? Any other subject or this subject ?

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar) : This subject.

MR. SPEAKER : I have already done with it.

I have already made it amply clear.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is all right. Now Papers Laid. Shri Arif Mohammad Khan.

— — — —

12.10 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notification under Industries (Development and Regulations) Act, Annual Discounts etc. of and Review on Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay for 1983-84, Annual Report etc. of and Review on National Federation of Industrial Corporatives Ltd., New Delhi for 1983-84

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI (ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of Notification No. S. O. 237(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette

of India dated the 26th March, 1985, regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Mahadeva Textile Mills, Hubli, beyond five years under sub-section (2) of section 18AA of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—758/85].

- (2) (i) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay, for the year 1983-84 together with Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 23 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on Audited Accounts of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay, for the year 1983-84.
- (3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—759/85].
- (4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1983-84.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Federation of Industrial Cooperatives

Limited, New Delhi, for
year 1983-84.

- (5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above. [Place in Library. See No. LT-760/85].

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : About what I have told you, don't you follow English? Mr. Amal Datta, don't you follow? I have already stated that I will discuss it after the statement is made, I will see the pros and cons and then decide my action. Now, please sit down. Don't take my time.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I know the rules and I am going to follow them and you must also understand what I have told you. You must listen properly.

Now, Calling Attention Motion—
Shri Harish Rawat.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Everything comes under that. Listen to me. All right, I do not have to spread any further. Nothing goes on record of whatever they say.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : What more clarification do you want of that? You explain it to him. If he does not listen, how can I make him listen? If he is sleeping I can awake him, but if he is awake but pretends to sleep, how can I wake him up?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, if he wants to seek a clarification, why don't you allow him to seek the clarification?

MR. SPEAKER : I have already told him that I have to decide after the Statement is made after examining the pros and cons of it. What more can I say to him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It seems you have developed allergy for my colleague.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : He is unnecessarily trying to make me allergic.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Amal Datta, you are an advocate, you may explain well, you know everything and still you try to smother it. That is all.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S JAIPAL REDDY : I am seeking a clarification about what you said.

MR. SPEAKER : I think your leader understands more, Mr. Reddy. Why don't you follow him?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am really shocked. You are unnecessarily trying to take the time of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : You give a Ruling. This is a matter of importance.

MR. SPEAKER : I will give my Ruling when the Statement comes, and I will decide whether or not to allow discussion. This is my privilege and I am going to decide that. So simple it is.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : This House must discuss this issue.

MR. SPEAKER : You might. Sit down now. This is not your problem only, the whole House is concerned with that. Please sit down, Mr. Reddy, it is my privilege which I have to exercise. As long as I am in the Chair, I am going to exercise that right. So simple it is. Finished.

As long as I sit here, I decide according to the rules to be fair and impartial. It is simple.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will give my ruling. Let him object it. So simple it is.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am also here for the people. I have been sent by the people and not by you.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : Sir, I rise to speak...

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduar) : Sir, point of order.

MR. SPEAKER : What is your point of order ?

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : The Home Ministry as well as the Bihar Government had disregarded the adivasis. They have treated them like sub-human beings.

MR. SPEAKER : This is not so.

[Translation]

You should not make a wrong statement.

[English]

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : One ex-Hon Member has died...

MR. SPEAKER : I have already allowed a discussion. This is call-attention. It is the same subject. What are you doing ? Your point of order is over-ruled.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is all. Not allowed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He refers to the Obituary reference to the former MP who has died in the police firing. No obituary reference has been made to him.

MR. SPEAKER : When it comes to me officially, I will do it. What is the point of order in it.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Because he was an adivasi MP, no news has come to you and nobody has ,
(Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER : It takes time. It is not adivasi MP or otherwise. Every Member is a Member. Every human being is a human being. We do not treat them otherwise. Look here. . .

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You unnecessarily complicated the things.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He only wants to know what an ex-MP has died, no obituary reference has been made. Even for obituary reference, have we to fight in the House ?

MR. SPEAKER : No, Sir. The problem is, when we get the information, we have the rule, which you laid down, that it must be confirmed beforehand. When JP Ji died, it happened like that. That was the problem.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : If there is such a delay in the obituary reference, I would never like to die.

MR. SPEAKER : I appreciate your decision. I think, the House unanimously approves your decision. I will follow your decision.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : I have given a notice about the gas pipeline.

MR. SPEAKER : We will take one by one. All subjects cannot come in a single day.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : We have not heard from your office.

MR. SPEAKER : How could you hear ? When I will decide it, then you will hear.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : When will you decide ?

MR. SPEAKER : There is one call-attention a day. You cannot take three. Is there any magic with me ? The magic is only with Shri Ashok Gehlot and he can do it because he is a magician.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Look here. Gentlemen, he is an advocate ; he is a very intelligent friend of mine ; he is a good friend of mine. He is haranguing me unnecessarily.

Look here. I have got the call-attention. All the time we take only one. It is one call-attention a day. Now, you see, how can I get three call-attentions a day or 7 call-attentions a day ?

SHRI SAIFUDIN CHAUDHARY (Katwa) : You can have two in a day.

MR. SPEAKER : Now you wanted adivasi subject first. So, I gave the call attention on adivasi. I go according to what has been decided. You are getting something which you have decided yourself. It is the Business Advisory Committee which decide and according to their instructions, I am doing it. If you do not follow, what can I do about it ?

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : If there is no substance in it, I cannot help it. If there is nothing, then I cannot help it. If there is no substance, I cannot discuss with you.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Whatever Amal Datta said will not form part of the record.

(Interruptions) *

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed you. You are unnecessarily taking the time of the House. This is not proper for you. If you are going to debate with me on the floor of the House, I am going to name you now.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : You are exceeding your limit.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have always heard you with rapt attention and great attention. I always respect you. I always hear you. When there is no substance, I cannot help it.

(Interruption.)

MR. SPEAKER : You are taking the whole time of the House unnecessarily.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : We cannot be silent spectators to atrocities and so many things happening around us.

MR. SPEAKER : You come to me, listen to me and I will tell you what I am doing and what I have done. Have I barred any discussion. On the floor of the House ? Anyone can say that I have been the most liberal person in allowing discussion.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : On a number of days, there was no Calling Attention.

MR. SPEAKER : It was decided that way.

This is very bad. I don't like it.

12.20 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO
MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC
IMPORTANCE**

**Reported death of many Adivasis and
Injuries to other as a Result of Firing by
Police in Sahebganj District of Bihar**

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I call the attention of
the Minister of Home Affairs to the
following matter of urgent public
importance and request that he may a
statement thereon :

"Situation arising out of the
reported death of many Adivasis
and injuries to others as a result of
firing by Police in the Sahebganj
district of Bihar and the action taken
by the Government of India in the
matter".

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF HOME
AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAWAN) :**
Sir, I rise to speak on the unfortu-
nate incident that took place on 19th
April in village Banjhi, District
Sahebganj, Bihar.

2. As reported by the State
Govt. of Bihar, it appears that on
25th March, 1985, a dead body of an
Adivasi was found floating in a tank in
village Banjhi, P. S. Borio whose fishing
right was settled on one non-Adivasi
(known as Diku) Moti Bhagat of the
same village. Adivasis had resented
this settlement and suspected hands of
Moti Bhagat in this murder as he did not
allow fishing by Adivasis and other
villagers in the tank. In reaction,
Adivasis had damaged the house of Shri
Moti Bhagat and set fire to wood stock
near the tank on 25th March, 1985.
On getting information, deputation of
armed force with Magistrate was made
and necessary preventive measures taken.
On getting further information of possi-
bility of trouble on 26th March addi-
tional armed forces with a Magistrate was
sent along with Sub-Divisional Magistrate
and Dy. S.P., S.D.O. assured the
Adivasis that appropriate action would

be taken against those responsible for the
said murder and that traditional fishing
right in the tank would continue as
usual. Thereafter, the Adivasis dis-
peresed. As a precautionary measure,
proceedings under section 107 Cr. P. C.
were initiated against both the parties.
In order to maintain law and order, two
sections of Armed Police Force, two
A.S.Is., and one Inspector with
Magistrate were deputed at the place of
occurrence.

3. However, the atmosphere
seemed to have become vitiated.
After organising a meeting in village
Rekso, P. S. Borio on 15th April, 1985
in this connection, which was addressed
also by Shri Sibu Saren, and Shri Simon
Marandi, the two sitting MLAs, Adivasis
started agitational programme in different
parts of the district against non-Adivasis,
Mahajans and Police Administration.
In this meeting, provocative speeches
were made and tribals were asked to
assert their rights vis-a vis non-Adivasis.

4. As further reported by the State
Govt., on 19th April, 1985, Adivasis
put up road blocks around village Banjhi
P. S. Borio, distt. Sahebganj. Before
the police reinforcement could reach the
village in the afternoon, the tribals who
had gathered in strength, started attack-
ing non-tribals and looting and burning
their properties. In this process some
houses and a post office was burnt. The
mob there surrounded the police camp
and attacked it with bricks and arrows.
After taking all precautionary measures
and finding no alternative to save life
and property, Police had to fire twenty
five rounds in which 15 persons have
been killed including Anthony Murmu,
former M.P. Divisional Commissioner
and range D.I.G. have visited the spot
and reported that situation is fast
returning to normal. Supply of essential
commodities has been arranged for every
village since the market is still closed.
On inquiry by them from villagers, it
appears that around half a dozen
Santhals have received injuries but are
not coming up for treatment to any
hospital. They are being persuaded to
receive treatment in the villages under

the supervision of doctors who have been sent from Sahebganj. No report of any untoward incident or tension has been received from anywhere thereafter. Police pickets accompanied by Magistrates have been deputed at all police stations. Intensive patrolling is continuing.

5. Chief Minister along with Chief Secretary and Director-General of Police visited place of occurrence on 22nd April, 1985 and talked to Adivasis and non-Adivasis. State Ministers Shri Thomas Hansda and Shri Sarju Upadhyaya accompanied him. Shri Somon Mandhaya, MLA, was also present there. Peace Committees comprising prominent local members from Adivasis and Non-Adivasis have been formed to restore complete normalcy in the area. Divisional Commissioner has already commenced an inquiry into the police firing. He has been instructed to submit inquiry report early. Chief Minister announced ex-gratia payment of Rs. 5,000 each from Chief Minister's relief fund to the next of kin of each deceased person and Rs. 1,000 to each injured person.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : The statement made by the Hon. Minister shows that if the local administration had taken precautionary measures in time, this unfortunate incident could have been averted. According to this statement, there was not one but three opportunities when the senior officers of the area could visit the spot and settle the issue then and there through persuasion, but none of the senior officers tried to do so. When, the Adivasis became violent and tried to *gherao* the police station and started looting the people belonging to a particular community, the action taken by the senior officers of the area was that they resorted to the police firing.

I would request the Hon. Minister to apprise the State Government of our feelings that senior officers should not have shown such indifference in this matter.

It is a matter of great regret that ever

since the Adivasis and Tribal people have become conscious of their rights, the number of crimes has been increasing. This is the reason for the increase in resentment in the areas inhabited by the Adivasis. It may be North eastern States, which are governed by the Adivasi people, or Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, U. P. or Himachal Pradesh, which have non-adiyasi governments, there is resentment among the Adivasis on account of varying reasons. These may relate to 'Koolistan' or 'Gorakha-land' or creation of separate States for Bastar and some other areas in Bihar. Various separatist forces are raising their heads. There is need to go deep into the causes of all these things.

According to my information, we have formulated many schemes for the welfare of the Adivasis. Many laws have been enacted. Parliament and State Assemblies have passed resolutions on many occasions to implement the welfare programmes meant for them, but there is need to see whether these resolutions are being implemented or not in the real sense. I feel that the major reason for resentment among them is that they are being evicted from the lands on which they have been traditionally doing shifting cultivation, irrespective of the fact whether they had the proprietary rights with them or not. Under various laws they are being prevented from making use of their lands. At many places certain people had purchased their lands because of their being illiterate. The State Governments enacted laws to make this purchase of land null and void, but these laws could not be enforced properly. In my area the people of the Tharu community live in Tarai region. Their lands were purchased by the affluent people. These affluent people own 100 to 200 acre farms at present and these people, who were once owners of those lands, are working with them like bonded labour. The State Government have enacted the law, but has not been able to enforce it. The Madhya Pradesh Government have taken an initiative in

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this respect. I would suggest that you ask other State Governments also to take similar initiative so that the traditional right to property is restored to the tribals. I further suggest the Hon. Minister to bring forward a Central legislation in regard to the tribal land so that they may not remain the mercy of the State Governments or remain dependent on their implementation machinery. You should bring a Central legislation and a Central machinery should look after it.

Moreover, I would like to submit that the Adivasis living in any region of the country earn their livelihood through forests. The legislation passed by the State Governments or the Central law enacted in 1980 in regard to forests has hit at their traditional rights in respect of forests. The Adivasis feel that the Forests Conservation Act, 1980 and the State Acts have hit at their traditional rights. They used to earn their livelihood through forest products and now they are living at the mercy of the Forest Officers, Police Officers and others. I would like to submit that you should advise the State Governments to restore the traditional rights to the Adivasis, whether they are Banjaras or other people. At many places, the cultivated land in the Adivasi areas is in the possession of State Governments or the pressure groups and almost all the big projects are generally built in tribal areas. The Adivasis are evicted from there and they have to vacate that land. But when the question of their rehabilitation comes, they are not given any preference in the matter of providing employment or alternative sites to them. You should take steps to ensure their timely rehabilitation.

I feel that another reason for resentment among Adivasis is that the outsiders exploit them because of their simplicity. You have said in your statement that they have expressed their resentment against a particular community, i.e.,

Mahajan. They have looted their property. The Adivasi problem is a big one and there is no scope for detailed discussion here. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what steps are proposed to be taken to save the Adivasis from the middlemen and the exploiters.

As I said in the beginning, we have given many incentives and have taken initiative in regard to the welfare of the Adivasis. In the Fifth, Sixth and the Seventh Five Year Plans, we have tried to ensure more allocation for them each year. There has been an increase in allocations also. Large funds have been provided. But it is seen that the officers, who have been entrusted with the job of implementation, do not have any understanding about the tribals. They do not have sympathy towards their problems. Generally they lack the requisite sympathy and the spirit of commitment towards implementing the programmes, resulting in great resentment among the Adivasis. Hence, I would urge you to set up a permanent machinery, other than the Ministries in the States, which may implement the programmes meant for the welfare of the Adivasis.

I would also like to submit that different Ministries allocate funds for the tribal Sub-Plans, but many of the States do not spend the entire funds. I would like to know the amount spent by the States out of the funds given to them under the Tribal Sub-Plans during the years 1983, 1984 and 1985 and the amount spent by them for other purposes. There was a press report in 1982 or 1983 in respect of Uttar Pradesh that only 50 percent of the funds allocated to the State under the Tribal Sub-Plan for implementing the welfare programmes for these people were utilised. Similar may be the case of other States also. You provide funds to the State Governments under the Tribal Sub-Plan and the State Government reallocate those funds to the different departments. Will you ask the State Governments to give these funds to only that department which is

responsible for the tribal development? Will you spend that money through that department only?

In addition, will you see whether the funds allocated to the States under the Sub-Plan have been properly utilised or not? Have the funds provided by you been spent for the purpose for which they were provided? Will you make some monitoring arrangements? Are you prepared to go into these questions?

Then, it is necessary to preserve the culture of the tribals. We have to see that all the programmes meant for their social development are in accordance with their culture and way of life. One of the reasons for the resentment among them is that Government are working against their culture and way of life or contrary to their feelings. If we undertake any welfare work for them, it should be done after persuading them. In this work you should engage those persons, who may keep all these things in mind. They should implement welfare policies meant for them without hurting the feelings of the Adivasis. What steps are being taken by you in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, if I go into the questions raised by the Hon. Member, it will be a full-fledged debate on the work being done in the tribal areas.

I want to make it clear that *prima facie* my impression is that perhaps, this incident could have been averted had the police officers of the State Government acted in time. But, it would not be proper for me to give my opinion while sitting here. I cannot say anything about what situation the local officers were facing at that time and particularly when the inquiry into it is going on, it will not be proper on my part to express any opinion about that. But, *prima facie*, I agree with your opinion.

It is true that a new awareness is

being witnessed in all the tribal areas. A new awareness for their rights appears to be gaining ground. It is very heartening to note that how an awareness is there among them about the rights which they have been given and the rights which should have all along been given to them. But, at the same time, there are some extremist elements, the elements who are forcing them to adopt a wrong course by taking advantage of their resentment.

We have requested all the State Governments that the schemes in the tribal areas, whether they are Central Government schemes or State Government schemes, or whether they have been started by the banking institutions for their benefit, should be properly implemented and good officers having faith in the welfare of the tribals should be assigned the job of implementation of such schemes. We have told all the State Government about it and we have also given financial incentives to these people, so that all these schemes could be implemented properly under their supervision.

The report that I have received from the Government of Bihar says that they have constituted a monitoring committee to see how the programmes for the tribals are being implemented at the project level, the district level and at the state level and that they have appointed such officers as coordinate their efforts to find out, how the programmes for the tribals are being implemented.

I agree with your opinion to a large extent. The tribal people have their main interest in their lands, but due to poverty, the dominant section usucaps their lands because of their riches and money lending business in spite of a ban on such land transaction. The State Governments have enacted laws in this regard, but in spite of inalienable rights, the land is sold to them and they will have to return that land. Such laws have been enacted by each State, but

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the position in all the States is not uniform. In same States, the work in this regard is done efficiently whereas in the case of some other States, this work has not been done properly. I shall again write to all the State Governments, particularly about the fact that the laws enacted to restore the lands of the tribal people should be properly monitored and efforts should be made to do as much work as possible to restore the lands to the tribals by fixing specific targets year-wise.

Mention was made about the Forest Conservation Act and it was said that it affected the traditional rights of the tribals. I do not agree with it. The Forest Conservation Act is aimed at checking the illegal felling of trees and large scale deforestation. The true culture of the tribals is in the forests and this Act has been enacted for their protection.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT : I want to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister the fact that when the tribals go to the forests to bring tree levels for feeding the sheep, goats and other cattle, they are prevented by the Forest officers from doing so.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : So far as I know, there is no such restriction in the Act. Still, I shall try to gather information in this respect so far as my information goes, it can be a matter of harassment by the lower level officers. Under the provisions of this Act, there is no restriction on the traditional rights, if somebody brings tree leaves for cattle feeding. This is the position as far as I know and *prima facie* also it does not appeal to me. I agree that with a view to harassing the people or extracting money from them, the local officers might be indulging in such kind of things, but I do not think there is any such restriction in the Act. Still, I shall try to get information in this regard.

Then comes the question of middlemen. Steps have been taken to emancipate the Adivasis from their clutches. Today, an impression has gained ground among the tribals, which is true also, that whosoever comes there comes to exploit them. An impression is gaining ground among them that the people who come for the welfare of the tribals, actually go there for their exploitation. This impression needs to be removed. With a view to removing this impression, if the people who want to sincerely work among them go there and provide them with all the facilities, only then we shall be able to restore confidence in them. Efforts have been made to minimise the role of the middleman. The contract system prevailing there has since been abolished. Efforts are made to get all the forest work done through forest societies and labour societies. About 120 Forest Labour Co-operative Societies have been formed there and the entire work is done through them. The forest labour rate which was Rs. 4.50 till 1982 has been enhanced to Rs. 8.50. Thus, they have been benefited by eliminating the middleman.

Fair Price Shops are also being opened there. Low Societies, which are called 'LAMPS' by the tribals have also been opened there in large numbers so that the tribals could be protected against the exploitation of shop-keepers. Arrangements have been made in this connection. We hope that the committees which have been functioning for their welfare, would implement the schemes formulated for the welfare of the tribals. The funds provided by the Central Government and the State Government would be utilized in a proper manner. I think the work done by these committees would benefit these people very much.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, by going through the Statement of the Hon. Home Minister, it appears that the Bihar

Government have not tried to deal with this matter very seriously, which has been admitted by the Hon. Home Minister also. If efforts had been made to deal with this matter tactfully and keeping in view the feelings of resentment among the tribals, I think this tragic incident would not have occurred. Yesterday, our Hon. Speaker had expressed a very good feeling that the efforts at creating an atmosphere of violence in the country should be checked and the people of the entire country, the Members of all the political parties and this august House, should condemn the incidents of violence. First of all, I would like to express my sympathy to those people who have been killed or injured in the Police firing. There is a resentment brewing for a long time in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bengal and Central parts of India, which have a large concentration of the tribals. Economic or social factors might be the cause of this feeling of resentment. The tribals have been accustomed to a particular way of life. They have been leading a particular way of life for centuries in the forests. Now, there is development of Science and Technology. It is a coincidence that our mineral deposits are located in these very areas. Power plants and canals have also to be constructed on the land in these areas. Therefore, with development, these people are coming in contact with the outside world and naturally this is causing a feeling of resentment and hostility among them. This feeling of hostility and resentment is aggravated. When they do not get justice as a result of the growing development. These people have been deprived of their lands because of the development projects which have been completed and are in the process of implementation and appropriate compensation has not been paid to them for their lands. They have been paid a nominal compensation. In the places, where development projects are being undertaken, factories are being set up, railway lines are being laid or canals and hydro-electric projects are being constructed, there also the lands belonging to the Adivasis have been acquired.

In such cases, it has been the policy of the Central and the State Governments to provide job to at least one member of a family whose land has been acquired, but this policy is not being implemented. This matter has been raised many a time in the House. We have raised this matter in the consultative committees of Unions Ministries as well, but one person from each family is not being given employment. The persons residing in Rourkela Steel Plant area have not been provided with jobs. In the areas where Railway Projects are being undertaken, the people have not been provided with jobs. The people living in those areas where hydro-electric projects are being constructed have also not been provided with jobs. When the public sector units have not provided them with jobs and have not done justice to them, how can one expect justice in the private sector where people from outside areas are always appointed?

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, according to my information, the employees of the Forest-Department are appointed from outside areas even in these forests which are surrounded by the tribals and the local tribals are not provided with any jobs. Naturally this causes a feeling of resentment among them. This feeling of resentment is being exploited by those who want to create an atmosphere of terror and violence in the country. This has led to demands for separate States. Sometimes there is the demand for a separate Jharkhand State and sometimes the demand is raised for a separate Kaihan State, to which our Minister of State for Home Affairs Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha had referred sometime back in Rajya Sabha. Sometimes some elements try to incite this feeling of resentment among them and some foreign agents are also active in this work. We have also received complaints that some foreign missionaries, active in these areas, are also involved in this activity. These people are also inciting and inciting them to adopt a hostile attitude. Under such a situation, it becomes imperative on our part to pay attention to the basic

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problems of these tribal people, because economic and social problems are the cause of their resentment. I agree that these people do not have any political ambition which might be exploited by some people. I would, therefore, like to ask the Hon. Home Minister if he has got any clue regarding the involvement of foreign elements in inciting them? When Gianiji was the Home Minister, he had said that in any foreign involvement was found, we would put to an end such an involvement. Has he found any foreign involvement or not? Has he conducted any inquiry in this regard? Has the Ministry of Home Affairs conducted any inquiry to know about the activities of the foreign missionaries functioning in such areas? If any inquiry has been made in this regard, what has been the results of that? There is volcano of disintment in the tribal areas and it might erupt at any moment. It is high time that we redressed their grievances and in the background of the atmosphere of unrest, terror and violence all around the country, we should pay special attention to these tribal areas. I still hold the view that these people do not have very high political ambitious, but they have economic and social problems which must be solved. I cannot blame the Bihar Government for the recent incident, because I do not have full details thereof, but the gap between the number of people of various castes and classes in the Police and the administration in Bihar has grown so much that the possibilities of excesses being committed on the tribal people cannot be ruled out. The report in this regard, which would be submitted later in or the information which would be collected by the Heme Minister through his sources would provide complete details, but *prima facie* it appears that the way the Bihar administration is falling a victim to casteism, communalism and class, considerations and the position of the Bihar Police there is good deal of likelihood excesses have been committed against the tribal people. The reason for this likelihood is that

every time it is the tribals and Harijans who are killed. Sometimes caste Hindus kill Harijans and sometimes other people kill tribals and sometimes the Police kill in collusion with both. Therefore, there are possibilities of excesses being Committed on them. Keeping in view all these factors, it becomes imperative on the part of Government to keep a close watch on the Bihar administration and to remain alert specially with regard to the Police. In addition, the recruitment of tribals in the Police Department should be increased

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, whenever riots have occurred in the Counting, whether there riots were communal riots or riots in the basis of caste, time and again a demand has been made in this House that the minorities, the Harijans, and the ex-servicemen should have reasonable representation in the State Police forces. I am happy to say that this section of the society has got sufficient representation in the CRPF and the BSF and that is why there are no complaints against the personnel of the CRPF and the BSF. On this basis, letters on behalf of the Central Government have been written to the State Governments that these people should be given more and more representation in the Police but the State Governments are not paying any heed to it. I would like to know from the Hon. Home Minister if he would take any action in this regard so that the minorities and the tribals could be given greater representation in the Police Forces of various States.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in the end I would like to urge Government that there should be a judicial inquiry into this incident of firing. The inquiry to be conducted by the commissioner is meaningless. In an incident where fifteen persons have been killed in firing and there is an atmosphere of terror among the tribals, if becomes necessary that judicial inquiry through a High Court Judge or Supreme Court Judge be ordered into the entire episode, and only then the true picture would emerge.

The moneylenders, traders and contractors get the land settlement done in their own favour with the help of the Administration. In the first instance, they grab the land which has been in the occupation of the tribals for 100 years or 150 years and thereafter they are between up by their goondas and then land settlement is got done in their own favour with the help of the Administration. Such things are being frequently reported. This love and attachment of the tribals towards their land sometimes leads to riots. I would, therefore, like to ask the Hon. Minister if any Central agency would make a detailed survey for a new settlement and whether it would be decided in such a survey that there will not be any encroachment on the lands of the tribals and the laws for the sale of their lands will be strictly implemented ?

With these words, I would request the Hon. Minister that he may kindly reply to my questions.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is very difficult to reply to all the points which have been raised through this Calling Attention Notice. I have noted all these points. I agree with your view that their economic and social condition under which they live and the manner in which they have been exploited by the people have created a feeling of frustration among them and they want that they should be relieved from such a situation and this feeling of getting freedom from such a condition has emptied sporadically. I would also like to add that there is a growing feeling of discontentment among them. If the people who have been suppressed till now raise their voice, it is also not liked by some people. It is a sign of social awakening among them, which should be supported by us. It is a good thing among them. Even if they go on the wrong path, we should not put the blame on them. Instead we should provide relief to them and protect them and check their exploitation. We should provide them protection against harassment by the middle men and the officers.

These are the basic issues for which guide-lines could be issued by the centre and the Union Government could advise the States. But it would not be proper for us to take over this responsibility.

13.00 hrs.

Just now an Hon. Member asked if the centre had any plan to make a comprehensive survey regarding the alienation of land by some people. We have no objection to making such a survey, but a parallel machinery would have to be set up there. In my view, if a parallel organisation is set up and such a survey is made by the Centre, it would not be possible to take any follow up action if the State Government do not take interest in it. This work should be done by the State Government. We shall have to motivate them and provide them incentives and only then this work could be done. The Central Government can impress upon the State Governments to speed up this work to the maximum extent and this we would certainly do.

I have come to know that there is a new feeling of awakening in the tribal areas in various States and slowly they are plucking up the courage to raise their voice against those who have been exploiting them. It is a good sign. Some people who want to have political advantage out of this situation as also some extremists and missionaries have penetrated into these areas.

In the name of providing education, social service and other facilities, organisations have been working there for the last 10 to 20 years or even for longer than that. If social organisations are banned, it is likely to be misconstrued. Social service should continue, but a strict watch should be kept by the Central Government as well as the State Government to check anti-national activities in that area and to thwart the efforts of the people to take political advantage of the situation in the tribal areas. But I am not perturbed about it so much as I am perturbed

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about the diversion of crores of rupees meant for their welfare and benefit. This is a matter of great concern for me. I would myself visit those areas and find out if any schemes could be formulated in consultation with the people of those areas, which could benefit them directly. I would apply my mind towards this. I am happy to say that I have made a special request to my colleague, Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha, to visit those areas and she has accepted my request to go there. She would go there tomorrow and study the entire situation and we would decide about the future course of action.

So far as the judicial enquiry into this matter is concerned, it should be left to the State Government. Although it is a State Subject yet as it concerns the Adivasis, we are also concerned with it. But law and order, in any case, is a State subject. In the matter of law and order when a judicial enquiry is pending it will not be within our jurisdiction. The Chief Minister has returned from there only yesterday and if he thinks it proper, he can make an announcement to this effect on behalf of the State Government. But we do not think it proper to give our opinion in the matter from here.

About money-lenders and contractors, I have dealt with it just now.

Whatever has been said about employment or the compensation being less, when their lands are acquired for various projects, is true and some people should come forward to help them. There are still some shortcomings in this matter.

If all the political parties and political organisations support their case to provide justice to these people, these people would be able to get whatever is due to them under the law. At least one member from each of their families must get a job. A law has been enacted in some of the States for their rehabilitation. We would ask the State Governments to make amendments in

the laws for their rehabilitation in a proper manner without delaying other schemes.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER : They are not being taken in many Central projects.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Without apportioning blame to the public sector, the private sector, or the State sector or the Central sector, I would say this much that none of them has been as careful as they should have been. I do agree that this lacuna should be removed. We would have to think in a different manner in this regard. I do not think it proper to reply through a calling attention notice in this regard.

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : The statement of the Minister does not clearly show about the action taken by the State Government after one Adivasi was murdered in that particular village. It is last month, about five weeks ago that this incident occurred and before that series of incidents had occurred in Santhal Parganas because of the proposal of the State Government to divide Santhal Parganas which is inhabited by the Santhals and other tribals into 3-4 small districts and they were feeling that the Adivasis will be in minority in all the districts. There was agitation about this, a lot of discontent about this and the situation of tension, existed in the whole of Santhal Parganas. It was easier for the State Government to know that this murder was likely to lead to a lot of law and order situation.

I would like to point out that this particular incident in Santhal Parganas is not an isolated incident, as has been pointed out by other Hon. Members. In other States similar incidents had occurred during the last 2-3 years. I am reminded of a very serious incident which occurred in Adilabad District. In the Indravali firing, about 40 tribals were killed and hundreds of tribals

were wounded and a reign of terrors started after that. Then there was an incident in Maharashtra, I remember in Dule District. I suppose On the Bhils of the District, There was an attack by the armed gang employed by the landlords in which about 8-10 persons were killed. The whole settlement of the Bhils was wiped out and their cattle were driven away and so on and so forth such incidents occurred in Gujarat, in Madhya Pradesh, in Bastar. Mandias suffered such incidents. In several places, such incidents occurred and there is a uniform pattern of these incidents. I agree with the Hon. Minister that there are certain extremists who are trying to exploit the situation.

But I feel that since this is of a recent occurrence, particularly because we used to hear of the insurgency activities only in the North-East Provinces, that were going on for a number of year. But in the Central India and in the Eastern India such incidents were rare. But today we see that in all these tribal areas there is trouble. State Governments had promulgated a number of measures including Land Transfer Regulation Act. It is good that the land which the tribals had lost and alienated illegally should be restored to them. Law should be made and implemented to see that these lands are restored to them. But we must remember that all these tribal areas even though we have some concentration here and there, are mixed peopulation areas. The tribals live along with the Harijans and other people. All types of people go there, purchase lands there and settle down. We have to see that the lands alienated 15 to 20 years back, may be illegally, are taken back and restored to the tribals people. The lands should be restored to the original land owners, but in the process we are creating bitterness. Some States have barred the interference of courts. But several States have not done it. On the one side the tribals are not happy because of Court's stay orders, and on the other side the non-tribals are also unhappy. There is a talk in some places that non-tribals will have to vacate and go away, that

a day will come when the non-tribals will have to go away from the tribals belts. I have seen many cases where the non-tribals could not alienate the property to some other non-tribals. The non-tribals has to sell only to the tribals which means that the property has no value, because these are interferences with the property rights of the individuals.

Now, if such is the case, naturally there is a feeling of insecurity among the non-tribals and the tribals are not feeling very safe because both the tribals and non-tribals are on the path of confrontation. We should have such a policy in the tribal areas which will not lead to confrontation between the tribals and the non-tribals. They have to live happily and they have to live peacefully.

The Hon. Minister was talking about the money-lenders and the imerchants who are there, in the tribal areas. The money-lenders are going because the credit is required by the tribals. The so-called Kangal banks in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are still in operation. It is a shame that we still have these Kangal banks in operation in these areas, and we have failed to supply the credit to the tribals, or to take care of the credit needs of the tribals.

Now, coming to the Santhal Parganat 19th April incident, I am aware that an inquiry is going on. But I feel that this type of inquiry is no good, because unless we have a judicial inquiry the truth will not come out. We are particularly anxious to know why action has not been taken and why nobody has been arrested when a murder has taken place. Had they taken action immediately after the murder this thing could have been avoided. I feel the Hon. Minister would agree to a judicial inquiry. I know that this is a State subject, but tribal welfare is a central subject. Even though law and order is the subject of the States, because tribal welfare is involved, and

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it is a very serious situation, having its repercussions elsewhere, we can suggest to the State Government that they should institute a judicial inquiry into it.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Most of the points which the Hon. Member has raised, I have clarified in the beginning in reply to two other colleagues of ours, who spoke in the beginning.

I am not aware of any such proposal of having divided Santhal parganas into three or four districts as the Hon. Member has alleged here. I have inquired from my esteemed colleague, Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha, who happens to come from Bihar. She is also not aware of any such proposal of dividing Santhal Parganas into three or four districts and reducing the Adivasi population to a very small minority. Certainly, we will have to look into it. I think, this is not a solution to the problem. The solution to the problem does not merely lie in reducing them to a minority. Actually their socio-economic conditions have to be improved. There are many welfare schemes meant only for them. We have to take special care to see that the benefits definitely reach these people. This is exactly what we are thinking of doing.

There can be a large number of incidents which can be quoted from different areas. I will not be able to reply to any of those points. But the fact of the matter still remains that under some of the Acts where alienation is prohibited and in spite of that if the lands are being sold to non-Adivasis then it is the primary responsibility of the State Government to see that those lands are restored to the Adivasis. We will have to take special care in this respect. I have been given to understand that in Bihar they have set up monitoring committees at the district project and State Government levels. But merely setting up committees is not

going to solve the problem unless the objective with which these committees have been set up, is fulfilled. I cannot ask the State Government to hold any judicial inquiry. It is primarily a State subject. Looking into the circumstances which arise if the Chief Minister feels that a judicial inquiry is necessary, then it is entirely within his domain to order a judicial inquiry. The Central Government cannot interfere in the matter.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonapat) : I know that certain points have already been touched. I would like to highlight the remaining points.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : But be brief. Do not take more time.

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : The Adivasis have been agitating for a long time against non-Adivasis at both political and non-political levels. There is no denying the fact that Adivasis have been exploited over the centuries both by non-Adivasis Indians and outsiders. The Jharkhand Mukti Morcha has, for a long time, been operating as the so-called representative of the Adivasi interests. There is every reason to believe that the foreign powers are out to destabilise India. They are jealous of our progress. Those foreign powers are behind the Adivasis versus non-Adivasis differences. There are reports of anti-national elements inciting the Adivasis. Naturally, this is a cause for great concern for this august House. But the point is that what our intelligence agencies are doing. After all, the attack on the Banjhi village must have been planned and then the plan was executed. How is it that our intelligence agencies could not foresee all this ? I would like to be excused if I say that our intelligence agencies need to be very cautious. We have lost our beloved leader and former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. These agencies begged their share of blame for this. This House is greatly concerned

over this type of incidents which are developing in Assam and Punjab. It would not be surprised if those very powers who are operating in Punjab and Assam are also operating actively among the Adivasis. The Adivasis are simple folks. They are innocent though poor and neglected. They have definitely been misled by anti-national and anti-social elements.

In the circumstances it is my humble submission that no time should be lost to improve the economic, social and cultural lot of the Adivasis and other tribals of this great country so that nobody could dare to incite our brethren in order to jeopardise the integrity of this great nation headed by our dynamic Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Now, the question arises when the Government was already aware of this dispute about the fishing rights between Adivasis and non-Adivasis, sufficient steps should have been taken to prevent this incident. If it was not done, then who is responsible for it and what steps the Government propose to take against those officers who are responsible for this ?

Secondly, as stated by the Hon. Minister, the dispute about fishing rights was settled between the Adivasis and one Mr. Moti Bhagat. May I know from the Hon. Minister who is this Moti Bhagat and what right he has got to oppose the ancestral fishing right of Adivasis, and how he has got this dispute settled ? I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government machinery was involved in setting this dispute or not.

Thirdly, what steps the Government propose to take to safeguard the ancestral fishing right of Adivasis so that no such incident takes place in future ?

And lastly, may I know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any

proposal of the Government to give more liberal assistance to the victims of this incident from the Central funds ?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Sir, I have clarified most of the points which Hon. Member has made, excepting perhaps the point on which the clarification has been sought by the Hon. Member and that is about who is this Moti Bhagat and how is it that he has been able to settle the fishing rights between Adivasis and himself. The fact of the matter, as it has been reported by the Bihar Government to us, is that this tank was leased to Moti Bhagat for fishing purposes and traditionally, whosoever gets the lease, he uses to allow the traditional rights of the local Adivasis for fishing in the tank. But, for the first time, or might be that in this particular case, though this was a traditional right, which had been going on for a number of years, Moti Bhagat did not allow them to fish in that pond and that is how the whole trouble started. Later on, when the officers intervened in the matter, they brought about the settlement and prevailed upon this Moti Bhagat to allow the Adivasis their traditional right of fishing in that area. So, this was kind of settlement which was arrived at. I do not think that I need clarify all other points. Most of points which the Hon. Member has made, were also raised by other Members and I have replied to all those points.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduar) : Sir, before I begin, I would like to record my unhappiness. You have mentioned here that a former M.P. was killed by the police firing but you had not informed the house at the time of his arrest. Earlier, it was done whenever some M.Ps. were killed or they died. Secondly, Sir, you have to be very serious. It is not a question of State Government alone. The President is looking after the interests of the entire tribal areas of the country, so, it is the duty of the Home Ministry also to see that wherever the tribals are harassed, the Government of India

[Shri Piyus Tiraky]

should come forward and see why or who are the people who are harassing them politically, economically or otherwise. The tribals do not want to live on the mercy of the State Governments. We have seen the Assam problem and we have also seen how that problem has spread over a number of other places like Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, etc. They are still fighting for their political rights. The tribals India is asking for its political rights. They do not like to be ruled by anyone. They have got their own common laws. They were very peace-loving people but their culture and everything is being exploited by all sorts of people going into the tribals areas in the name of politics or otherwise because corruption is spreading to all the Departments. So, before I come to the tribal problem, I would ask the Government whether it is serious about their problems, whether it has discussed their problems with their leaders here. The leaders are Sibhu Sorong, Suraj Mondal, Krishna Hemrom Anand Toppno and Narayan Jonko. If they want to have some solution there, are the Government ready to sit and discuss with them as to what can be done for Adivasis? They are working with the political party there. Are the Government ready to sit with the Adivasi leaders working in different political parties in the area? If you want to have a permanent settlement there, can you tell what they want, what their suffering is and what they would like to have? They do not like to go outside India, they were the first persons to come to India, they loved India and they remained in India with others, but they will not tolerate this sort of harassment and corruption and they do not want to be treated as second-class citizens. Perhaps you have not given information to the House about the killing of the ex-MP, who was a Member of this House. I know that because he was an Adivasi, the House was not informed.

Sir, they had a demand for a separate State in that area. What is wrong in

it? Bengal asked for it, Punjab asked for it, Haryana was divided and a number of States were divided according to the language the people speak in a particular area. If tribals have their own culture, language and tradition and common laws and if they want to live in India having a separate State, what is wrong in it? Do you like bloodshed to be there like in Punjab or Assam? In Assam what is happening? Many Assamese are coming to West Bengal because Bengal is their former State. It is the same case with Orissa and Madhya Pradesh also. So, it is a just demand. You should not neglect the voice of the tribal India; otherwise, it will be too late for you to get out of this turmoil. It is tribal blood. Once they become angry, nobody will be able to save you. So, be careful about this tribal India and take concrete and sincere steps to go through their demand. You have got the Chotanagpur Tenancy Act there. What is it? Please give a copy of it to all the Members of Parliament. Let the Members know what this Chotanagpur Tenancy Act says to protect the rights of the tribals in Chotanagpur area and the tribal area so that they will come and speak about this here. You have already said that all the land which has been taken by non-Adivasis will be returned. Please ask the Bihar Government to what extent they have taken action on that question.

Jarkhand wants to be a separate State. For that you will say that anti-national movement is going on there. You do not want to accept Adivasi leadership. Wherever an Adivasi leader comes, you say that he is an agent of Missionaries or he is an anti-national or he is an extremist. This is the situation. You still think that Adivasi cannot think properly, they are sub-human and these people should not be given political rights. If this is the understanding of the Government of India, it will fail on this issue and just now you are seeing that in Punjab they are fighting for a petty religious thing. But tribals are fighting for their

existence. Everywhere they are fighting for their existence. So, I warn the Government and specially the Central Government and appeal to them to see that these poor people are not exploited anywhere. Even in the case of services, they are treated as second-class citizens. Even in officers cadre, even in promotion cases also, the Adivasis are not there. In Bihar, there are many Adivasis. How many Adivasis are there in the police and in the administration? Chota Nagpur, Santhal Parganas and Singhbhum are mostly tribal districts. But how many of them are in the services? I will say none. From North Bihar, outsiders, those who have no regard for Adivasi culture, no regard for Adivasi language, no regard for their way of life come. These people are worse than the Britishers. They go for exploitation. They go for looting the adivasis. They go for raping the adivasi women. So, be careful about it. This is the first warning bell. 15 people have been killed by the police. You have said that the quarrel has erupted. Who others have been killed? You have not mentioned. Why have the police concerned not been arrested or dismissed otherwise? Because it was adivasi, you do not take any action. Had it happened in Punjab, Ministers would have gone there. Had it happened anywhere else, you would have had a sleepless night. It is because they are Adivasis, you have nothing to do and you speak with smooth-tongue.

You blame the missionary. If the missionary is not there, the tribals would have been doomed. You take Meghalaya. Your Government has been there and it is boasting that it has recruited a number of tribal people. Who have done it? It is the missionaries who have educated these tribals. They have regard for the tribals language, they have regard for the tribals culture and therefore they have helped the tribals. Your Government should be more concerned now about the welfare of tribal people. They should be brought on the mainstream of the Indian national life. No politics should be brought in the case of adivasis. Lot of

money is being spent in the name of their welfare. For whom are you spending? You never call for any record. How much of this money has done good to them? You have no record of it. You are satisfied that crores of rupees are spent. But adivasis do not want your help. They want political rights. They want that they must be able to survive and stand on their own legs. They do not want your help. They do not want corrupt Government and those corrupt officers who go there for exploitation.

I would now ask the questions. I have already put some questions. Are you serious to sit with the leaders? I will tell the names of the leaders also. They send the instructions that the police should kill their leaders and no leadership should grow. You have mentioned the names of two or three leaders also. I will request you to sit with those leaders and find an amicable solution. I will give some names. They are Narayan Jonko, Krishna Hemron; Anand Toppno, Suraj Mondal; and Sibhu Sorang. They are the noted people and the Bihar Government have pointed out that any-how they must be killed. They have sent the instructions, "It is your duty that no tribal leader whichever party he may belong to, should be saved. Otherwise, the thing will go on the wrong way." So, if you are clear in your mind to find the solution, you please sit with these people and sort out the issue and work out the programme. There is still time. If it goes on like this, it will go the Punjab way or the Assam way or even the Tamils way or the Gujarat way. So, Sir, I repeatedly tell the Hon. Minister that he should sit with these leaders who are in a position to sort out the issue and find a solution.

They have asked for the continuance of their laws and customs. Common laws of the adivasis should be respected. They have their own laws. Those laws should not be disturbed. You have put your own panchayat there. That panchayat is of corrupt people. The

[Shri Piyus Tiraky]

adivasis have no faith at all in your police and your judiciary. It is because, they have become a purchasable commodity. The justiceis being purchased in our country. How can you hope that adivasis can get justice? Your police can be purchased. Your police there and here also are helping only those who have money and who can pay them. The police goes to the help of those people who can give them good *Khana-Peena*. That is why the poor Adivasis are being harassed and killed. You must immediately stop that.

The Opposition in Bihar have demanded the dismissal of the Bihar Government. Bihar is caste-ridden State and they speak on caste lines. Such a Government should not be authorised to rule Bihar. Ours is a democracy. We do not speak on caste lines or religious lines. If the voting system in Bihar is on caste lines, if it still exists and it is going on like that, the Government is not worth its name to rule Bihar. And that should be dismissed immediately.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : Only two points I would like to clarify. The first is about the information which is supposed to be given about the ex-M.P. who has died. I will mayself find out if the Home Ministry is supplying the information about all the MPs and, if so, why it is that in the case of an Adivasi ex-MP this kind of a dicrimination has been done. I do not think this is going to be correct. But still unless I check it up, it will not be possible for me to saying anything positive on this matter.

The second question is about asking the Bihar Government to find out as to how far they have been able to implement the law in restoring the land to Adivasis which normally they were not supposed to pass on to non-Adivasis. If non-Adivasis have purchased the land in spite of the fact that there is a ban on alienation of this land and if they have taken a decision to restore the land, we will certainly look into it as to that progress they have made in this matter.

When I talked about consultation with different people in regard to welfare schemes meant for the welfare of Adivasis, whoever is prepared to give us any concrete suggestions so that the midlemen do not get away with the money which is being provided for the welfare of Adivasis, if any suggestion can be put forth by any section of people, we are prepared to welcome any suggestion on behalf of any section of society.

I am not aware about the names which the Hon. Member has put forth. But we have the Members of Parliament who represent Adivasi constituencies. They can definately put forth their suggestions and we will welcome any suggestion, which they should be able to put forth in order to see that full benefit reaches Adivasis.

SHRI PRIUS TIRAKY : You have mentioned in your reply that certain Mukti Morcha is leading there and you have given the reply. My request is that you call them and you find out what difficulties they have get.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : My colleague, Shrimati Ram Dulari Sinha, is going to that area. She will also be accompanied by some of the officers. She will certainly try to find out who are the pepole with whom she must have negotiations in this matter. She will definitely go and tour that area and have the first-hand information.

These were the only points which I thought I should clarify.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What about the demand of the dismissal of the Government of Bihar ?

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : What about the Jharkhand demand ?

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN : I do not think it has any relevance with the Calling Attention Notice.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : It is relevant because the trouble is coming out of that.

13.38 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[*English*]

Sixth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD) : I beg to move :

“That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd April, 1985, subject to the modification that in paragraph 3, line 3 of the report, for the words “Friday the 26 April, 1985” the words “Monday the 29 April, 1985, be substituted.”

That is the Minister of State in the Ministry of External Affairs will make a statement on Sri Lanka on 29th to be followed by discussion instead of on 26th.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

“That this House do agree with the Sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd April, 1985, subject to the modification that in paragraph 3, line 3 of the report for the word “Friday the 26 April, 1985” the words “Monday the 29th April, 1985” be substituted.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So, the Report is adopted, as amended.

13.42 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

- (i) **Neda for contribution of a new National Highway from Gopalpur**

to Orissa border near Kharion Road Railway Station connecting National Highway No. 6 at Raipur in M.P.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi) : Sir, Development of infrastructure facilities such as roads, railways and ports is an essential pre-requisite for the development of the mineral and forest resources of Orissa. The West-Central region of the State comprising the districts of Phulbani, Kalahandi, Koraput and Western portion of Ganjam district, inhabited mainly by tribals and having rich potential of mineral resources and forest products, is deprived of the benefit of a National Highway and the economic advantages.

With a view to bring this tribal belt for social and economic upliftment, Government of Orissa proposed in 1983, formation of a new N.H. from Gopalpur to Orissa border near Kharion Road Railway Station which will connect N.H. 6 at Raipur entering Madhya Pradesh. Government of India should take favourable decision in this regard.

[*Translation*]

- (ii) **Demand for construction of a rail bridge over the river Saryu and to convert the Manakpur-Allahabad rail line into a main line.**

SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI (Faizabad) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention towards railway facilities in the Faizabad area. No major improvement in the railway facilities has been made in that area during the last fifty years. In view of the demand of the people of the area as also for the development of the area, it is necessary that a railway bridge should be constructed over Saryu river (Ghaghra) in Ayodhya in order to connect the same with Katra station of North Eastern Railway. Mankapur-Allahabad railway line via Ayodhya, Faizabad, Sultanpur and Pratapgarh should be converted into the main line

so that this area could be connected with other parts of the country. In this way, Gorakhpur and North Bihar would have a direct link with South India and it would also help in the development of this backward area.

I would request Government that keeping in view the religious importance of Ayodhya and with a view to provide facilities to the pilgrims and the tourists, this work may be undertaken. Besides, an Express train should also be run between Ayodhya and Prayag, which are places of pilgrimage.

[English]

- (iii) Need to start the proposed construction of Mathura-Alwar Railway line immediately and from the Alwar town.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Sir, Mathura-Alwar (B.G. 119.75 RM) new railway line has been approved and inaugurated by the former Minister of Railways.

Total cost of the project was estimated at Rs. 34.75 crores approximately. Inaugural function was performed of village Ramgarh and foundation stone was laid by the Railway Minister. Financial allocation of Rs. one lakh was provided in the Railway Supplementary Budget, 1983-84. Indian Railways Year Book, 1983-84 has also specifically mentioned that Mathura-Alwar (B.G. 119.75 KM) new railway line has been approved and construction work inaugurated.

In the Railway Budget, 1985-86 an allocation of Rs. 1,31,84,000/- has been made for construction of Mathura-Alwar (B.G. 119.75) new railway line. Agricultural lands of villages of Alwar and Ramgarh Tehsils are being acquired for construction of this railway line. Land Acquisition Officer, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur has already initiated proceedings for acquisition of agricul-

ture lands for the railway track. But the proceedings need to be expedited and construction work should immediately start from Alwar town.

I, therefore, urge upon the Minister of Railways, Government of India that construction work should start immediately and it should start from Alwar town.

- (iv) Need to launch a special drive to clear all pending cases for sanction of pension to certain waiting freedom fighters

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur): Sir, A large number of freedom fighters/ex-INA personnel who are in their old age are still waiting for the sanction of the Freedom Fighters pension to them. Many of them are nearing the point of death. It is, therefore, essential that the Union Government launches a special drive to clear all cases for the sanction of this pension and ensure that applications pending on flimsy grounds/objections/verifications are disposed of quickly.

I request the Union Home Minister to launch this drive immediately.

- (v) Need to set up a fishing harbour at Paradeep without further delay

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack): The proposal for establishment of a modern fishing harbour at Paradeep was initiated in 1972. The Government of Orissa had pursued this matter at the level of Union Ministers at different periods. The Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission has submitted the report in favour of the construction of a fishing harbour at Paradeep Port.

The estimates on development of fishing harbour at Paradeep Port were prepared and sent to the Government of India about nine years back. The former Union Minister of Agriculture

had given an assurance on the floor of the House to take up the project. But it is regrettable that the proposal has not been implemented so far.

The estimate for Paradeep fishing harbour has been updated from time to time. At present about 500 boats are operating in Paradeep area and these boats are being accommodated temporarily at wooden jetties in a very limited space inside the turning basin of main harbour without any facility. In the absence of fishing harbour facility, the boats are creating problems for the Port Authority. It is, therefore, absolutely necessary that a fishing harbour is set up at Paradeep without any further delay. I request the concerned Ministers to take necessary steps in this regard.

- (vi) Need to declare birthday of Jagajyothi Basaveswara a national holiday and instal his statue in front of Parliament House

SHRI G S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur):
Sir, in the 12th Century, on the auspicious day of Vyshaka Akshaya Thadige, which falls this day, the great Jagajyothi Basaveswara, the socio-economic reformer of this country was born in Karnataka. Under his leadership, he tried to unite the whole nation as one. He was the greatest social, political, economic and philosophical reformer. He did this in a more effective manner than Karl Marx. He created a casteless and classless society in those days. His preachings and lyrics deserve to be followed. He was the first man to organise a Parliament, called as '*Anubhavamantap*' wherein every person was free to take part in the debate. He was responsible for the union of the upper and lower classes into one society, irrespective of profession, status, wealth, etc. In addition, he arranged for marriages between the upper and lower classes. As Prime Minister of State, he was a great administrator and he was also simple and humble. He made the people work, earn and eat, i.e., "Work is Worship" (*Kayakave Kylasa*).

Hence, I request our beloved Hon. Prime Minister. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, to take the following action immediately in the interest of developing a better socialistic pattern of society for our country on the lines of what Jagajyothi Basaveswara had thought of :

- (1) His birthday should be observed as a national holiday to perpetuate his preachings to create a more healthy society.
- (2) His statue should be installed in front of the Parliament House to provide inspiration to one and all from his preachings and actions.
- (3) All his writings, together with the writings of other great men and women contemporaries; which are now in Kannada language, should be translated into all the national and world languages and published all over the world to create an atmosphere for every human being of this world to live as one and feel as one.
- (4) His birth place and places of preachings and the places of practices are all to be declared as ancient monuments of our country and thus protected to inspire the minds of the present and future generations.
- (vii) Need to allocate more railway wagons for movement of Steel materials to Coimbatore daily

SHRI N. SOUNDARARAJAN (Sivakashi): Sir, there are about 400 foundries in Coimbatore district in Tamil Nadu. All these foundries are on the verge of closure due to non-availability of pig iron, a raw material, throwing thousands of workers out of jobs at present in Coimbatore.

[Shri S. Soundararajan]

Every month foundries are in need of 5,000 tons of pig iron. For the past few months, pig iron is not available in full quantity. The officials of Steel Authority of India in Madras and Coimbatore have been saying that the shortages of pig iron in these foundries are due to non-availability of wagons for transport.

So, I urge upon the Hon. Railway Minister to allocate adequate wagons daily to the steel plant for movement of steel materials to Coimbatore on a war footing.

[Translation]

(viii) Need to direct the Archaeology Department to take over Shantigrama troubles in Hassan district of Karnataka

*DR. V. VENKATESH (Kolar) : The village Shantigrama in Hassan district, Karnataka State is named after the most famous dance exponent of the 11th century, Shantaladevi, the queen consort of Vishnu Vardhana of Hoysala Dynasty. In this village there are Soumyakeshave temple, Yoganarasimha temple and a Jain temple, the monuments of architectural aesthetics of Hoysala kings. They are about ten miles away from Hassan and on the way to Shravanabelagola, the abode of Gomateswara, the God of Jains. All these three temples are in a dilapidated condition and have become the victims of vandalism of 20th century. There is none to look after these temples. In fact the Jain temple has been under lock for the last several years. The great temples, namely, Chennakeshava temple, Hosaleswar and Shantaleswar temple and Gomateshwara temple in Halebeedu, Belur and Shravanabelagola respectively have attracted the attention of internationally renowned insatiable art lovers. The temples of Shantigrama need the protection of the General Government's Department of

Archaeology. I urge the Education Minister to direct the Department of Archaeology to take over these temples under its protective wings immediately and preserve them for posterity.

(ix) Need to arrange adequate supply of diesel to Gorakhpur district for the use of agriculturalists

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD (Bansgaon) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to raise the following matter under rule 377.

Sir, through you, I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the scarcity of diesel in District Gorakhpur. Threshing of wheat is in full swing and there is acute shortage of diesel in the entire district of Gorakhpur and the eastern region. The farmers are suffering a lot on this account. Nature is also not favourable to the farmers this time, because the weather has also been inclement and there has been acute shortage of power in the entire State. Under these circumstances, the condition of the farmers can well be described through this couplet of "Ramayana" :

"Grih grahit puni baat bas,
tappar bichhi Mari,
Tahi bijavai vahani,
kahu kanu upchaar"

This means that the condition of the farmers has become very pitiable.

Sir, through you, I would request the Central Government to make arrangements without delay for the supply of diesel to the farmers in sufficient quantity.

* The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

13.32 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(GENERAL) 1985-86
—CONTD.

[English]

Ministry of Communications

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 14 to 17 relating to the Ministry of Communications for which 4 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move.

A list showing the serial numbers of cut motions treated as moved will be

put up on the Notice Board shortly. In case any member finds any discrepancy in the list he may kindly bring it to the notice of the Officer at the Table without delay.

Motion moved :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 14 to 17 relating to the Ministry of Communications.”

Demands for Grants, 1985-86 in respect of the Ministry of Communications submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		1	2	3	4
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS :					
14.	Ministry of Communications	92,46,000	7,12,33,000	4,62,30,000	35,61,67,000
15.	Overseas Communications Service	7,54,20,000	2,33,33,000	37,71,00,000	11,66,67,000
16.	Postal Services	1,31,59,16,000	5,91,33,000	6,57,95,84,000	29,56,67,000
17.	Telecommunication Services	2,43,73,32,000	1,51,59,83,000	12,18,46,67,000	7,57,99,17,000

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Dr. G. Vijaya Rama Rao.

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO (Siddipet) : I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to place before the House some important aspects relating to the development of telecommunications.

We have completed our Sixth Plan and entered the Seventh Plan. It is, therefore, appropriate for us to have an objective assessment of the achievements and failures of the Sixth Plan against the targets set at the beginning of the Sixth Plan. Such an evaluation will help in identifying our gaps and limitations. Accordingly a more rigorous and rational policy has to be adopted to deal with the situation.

The subscribers for telephones are growing every day. According to a recent study all India demand for telephones is projected to be growing from 24 lakhs DELs in 1980 to 55 lakhs in 1985 and somewhere around 81 lakhs DELs in 1990.

Against this fast growth of demand the supply of telephones is not picking up satisfactorily.

Thus there is a wide gap between the demand for and the supply of telephones in our country. Sir, communication services are so important for the development of quality of life of the mankind for the nation as a whole. When your communication is effective you can save your time, your energy and can speed up your activities within no time.

I draw the attention of the House to the need to concentrate on the problem of this increasing gap whenever the Ministry is asked to explain the problem, they come forward with the plea that they do not have enough financial resources for expanding the network and do not accept their inefficiency and irregularities.

In addition to this there is a long standing problem of inefficient quality of services for the already existing telephone network. Most of the telephones are either out of order or faulty for most of the time. We have a big army of telecommunication engineers in our country to manage the network but they are not clear about the problem and defects of the existing network and, as such, they are not setting in right.

Sir, we are giving consultancy service to developing countries. We are planning to adopt the latest electronics system. Science and technology has developed so much that man could land on the moon but we are not able to rectify the defects in the telephone network and we are unable to provide effective telephone services in rural areas even after so many years. For example in my constituency, Jeedimatl, which is a big industrial estate in India and ranking fourth place in Asia there we have got a manual exchange. Whenever we lift the phone, before getting a response from the telephone exchange somebody will ask us some other number or we will hear some other conversation. Not only this but from Delhi also I had tried to contact my place several times in the morning and evening hours but even after fifteen days of trying I could not get contact. Although we are having telephone contracts with Capitals of some foreign countries yet in India we are not able to contact some of our cities and villages. The problem which I have mentioned is not limited to my constituency but is there in almost all rural segments and also in the cities some of the people are facing this problem.

What is the main cause for it? Most of the staff working with the Telephone department at field level are daily wage workers and they are unskilled workers also. So, the sophisticated network is being mishandled or damaged by non-technical and untrained people.

Another important feature is that 80-90 per cent of the telecommunica-

[Dr. Vijaya Rama Rao]

tion facilities are confined to the urban areas whereas 80 per cent of our population lives in villages. They are having a number of emergency problems like fire accidents, cyclones, floods, etc. but this communication facility is not available to them with the result they face lot of difficulties. I request the Government to extend the telecommunication system to rural areas so that the backbone of our country could make use of this facility to some extent.

In post Independence year the service oriented professional people like doctors, lawyers and social workers used to get a telephone within a few days after applying.

14.00 hrs.

But, nowadays, after 37 years of independence, our people are not able to manage even the transfer of telephones when people change their residences. This is the condition which we are facing now.

In Parliament it was declared two years ago that every subscriber of every telephone, every telephone user, will be issued with a Telephone Service Card. But nothing has come out of it. You may be aware that in U.K. they change nothing as rent. But here what happens is, even when your telephone is not working, you are asked to pay inappropriate bills. You get inappropriate bills and you have to pay the money although your telephone is not working at all. This is a thing which is happening. Instead of paying them for their efficient work, we are paying them for the inefficient work of the telephone system.

We also find that number of high officials and Ministers are having 3 or 4 phones in their offices or in their residences. I don't think that an individual can use 3 or 4 phones at the same time. So it is not known why they use 3 or 4 phones. Probably it is because they

are not depending upon the sincerity of the telephone system or the efficiency of the telephone system.

We give telegrams. When does the telegram reach the person concerned? It reaches the person concerned after many weeks. What about letters? Letters reach after a month or after two months. What about parcels? You get the parcel cover only but the article inside is missing. This is the picture of the entire system. Can we not do something to improve the system?

With these words, I request the Hon. Minister to look into the suggestions which I have made and take immediate action wherever necessary. Thankyou.

SHRI NARAIN CHOUBEY (Midnapur): I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the Head Postal Services be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to open the post office at Golebazar, Kharagpur, West Bengal sanctioned more than 3 years back and for which the Railways have allotted a suitable plot.] (6)

"That the Demand under the Head Postal Services be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to improve the telephone services in the country.] (10)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to hold the meetings of the Office Council (JCM staff side) regularly on quarterly basis] (13)

"That the Demand under the Head Ministry of Communications be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to pay quantity to the canteen employees.] (29)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The cut motions also are before the House.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : I rise to support the Demands for Grants presented to this House by the Hon. Minister of State for Communications for 1985-86.

The Report under review have been clubbed together for the years 1983-84, 1984-85 and the Demands are for 1985-86.

The report is no doubt a good document, giving some of the achievements and highlighting some of the difficulties.

One important aspect of the functioning of the postal sector is the opening of branch post offices. The opening of 62 branch post offices in one year is the lowest number for any year since our independence.

However, it is not the Department which is to be blamed for this. It is only the ban imposed upon the creation of new posts and the filling up of existing vacancies which is primarily responsible for this poor performance.

Sir, I fail to understand as to how the Ministry of Finance is so very strict with a rural oriented department. The post office is the only thing which a village can aspire for. After so many years of independence, if the Finance Minister takes pleasure in depriving the luxury of a post office to the village, it is not fair. In the branch post office, only 2 or 3 hours of work is carried on. So, you should not grudge the opening up of branch post offices which is to serve the rural masses. The Ministry of Finance should see to it that no injustice is inflicted on the rural masses of India.

Also I would like to point out that efficiency is going down in the depart-

ment, because of the ban imposed by the Ministry of Finance. I would plead with the Minister of State for Communications to use his good offices with the Ministry of Finance, with the Prime Minister and with the Planning Commission and all other high-ups to decide and settle these things once for all. They should implement these things in a manner in which we often declare our intention of serving the rural people.

Sir, it passes one's imagination as to how it is more important to launch a TV tower in this country than to open simply a branch post office or to open a telephone exchange. The result of the ban has been very disheartening and I may point out to you that even in the case of those people who have been given training, there have been no appointments made. For more than one year now, this ban has stultified the growth of postal network and telecommunication work and caused deterioration in the functioning of the department. Whereas in the rural areas, formerly there was one line man for one telephone exchange and now because of the ban, perhaps two or three exchanges are looked after by one line man and efficiency has gone down. So, the earlier the ban is lifted, the better it would be for the department. If it is not to be lifted now, then I would plead with the Hon. Prime Minister through you that the P and T should be given total exemption from it because it is one department that reaches the village while the other departments simply stay in the towns and cities.

Sir, recently, P and T Department has been bifurcated and it is a welcome decision. This has been done in pursuance of the recommendations made in the Sarin Committee Report. They had made very useful recommendations and one of them was to bifurcate the Postal and Tele-communication Wings. Sir, it is not my intention to denigrate the postal wing in any way because it is a social service department and it is the poor man's hope that from somebody a letter would reach him or his

[Prof. Narain Chand Parashar]

letter would reach some of his relatives, though losses are incurred by the Postal Department as many social burdens are put on this department. So, while I would congratulate the Hon. Minister for his bifurcation, I would also plead with him that the activities and the output should be doubled in both the wings because it was keeping in view the efficiency that the Sarin Committee recommended the bifurcation of the Department and it was also thought that the expansion should be on the higher side.

Sir, some sorting sections were abolished and transit sections were introduced in a phased manner. The then Communication Minister had informed us—some of the Hon. Members who were interested in the working of the Ministry of Communications—that a review would be conducted to find out whether the abolition of sorting sections in the running trains and the introduction of transit sections in the stationary places had actually resulted in faster delivery of dak or elimination of delay. I do not find anything of that nature. No review, I hope, has been conducted and I would plead that before other remaining sections are abolished, some review would have to be undertaken as to find out whether as a result of operational monocuvres, a man in the street has benefited in any way or not. If he is not benefited at all, we should reconsider the whole process and revert to the old system. Formerly dak used to be delivered quickly. Now, I find that it has been delayed. Whether my observation is correct or not, I leave it to the department to judge. But anyhow it is to be ensured that any new arrangement which is introduced does not result in dislocation at various points but result in better efficiency and the speedy delivery of mails. If it does not do well, then there is something inherently wrong. As a result of this, some of the people who were employed on a temporary basis or on an *ad hoc* basis have not been absorbed permanently. So, their cases have to be

looked into and I plead with the Hon. Minister that he should see at least there should be no inconvenience or hardship caused to the poor workers who have been given training in the hope of getting employment and they should remain employed even on a temporary basis or no daily wages basis.

Similarly, I would also plead for the revision of the norms for the creation of postal divisions and sub-divisions. It is because these norms for bifurcating divisions and sub-divisions are based on the basis of the workload; but the present norms are very old, something of a colonial nature, though it has been. It should be ensured that for some areas like the hilly areas, desert areas, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal and Rajasthan, new norms should have to be adopted because the workload alone has not to be taken into account. These hilly areas, some far-flung areas, may not be able to produce that amount of workload which would require the creation of a postal division. Therefore, the idea should be service-oriented, and efficiency-oriented. It has to be attuned in such a way that in some cases at some point of time the workload has to be adjusted. In our State, for example, or some three or four neighbouring States, what happens is that in one postal districts where a Postal Superintendent is there, he may not have a jeep or a vehicle to go around, if his vehicle goes out of order or it is destroyed in some accident. For years together it may not be replaced and there may be so many far-flung areas to be visited in the State and your Postal Superintendent may have to travel in a bus and he may not be able to do much supervision. The result is lack of supervision, lack of efficiency, and therefore adoption of proper norms for the creation and bifurcation of postal divisions and head post offices is a must for hill areas.

After so much of experience we should have been able to revise and develop our own new norms consistent with our geography and the conditions

prevailing in our country. We should have revised the old norms which were devised by the British people. The beauty of England is that no part of England is more than 70 miles away from the sea. But in a country of India's size we should have new norms to alleviate the misery of the people in this vital sector.

I would also congratulate the Hon. Minister and his predecessor Shri Gadgil, for launching the scheme for the release of commemoration stamps entitled "India's struggle for Independence" series. This is one scheme which has caught the imagination of the country. The first stamp in this series was released to commemorate the Quit India Movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi at Bombay on the 9th August, 1942. Since then stamps commemorating the memory of India's freedom fighters in this series have been issued and it is carried on right up to 1990. This is a very good series and I congratulate the department on this. I remember in reverence Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who went to Jwalamukhi in Hamirpur Parliamentary constituency of Himachal Pradesh to release the commemorative stamp on Pandit Gandhi, Baba Kanshiram, on this day one year back, on the 23rd April, 1984. She is no more; but her memory is everlasting for us and for the whole world. And I once again congratulate the Department for depicting this picture on the annual report of the Department, where the prime Minister is shown receiving the album of stamps from Shri Gadgil at Jwalamukhi. So, in a way, it is the anniversary of the release of that stamp and I hope that the Hon. Minister would carry on this noble task further.

We also want that, to commemorate the 80th birth anniversary of Shri Y. S. Parmar, which would fall next year, a stamp may be released. He was the builder of Himachal, whom we call Himachal Nirmata in affectionate terms. Shri Parmar had many great dreams for the State. He sacrificed the Chief

Ministership for the sake of retaining it as one entity based on linguistic basis. Therefore, he earned the title, Builder of Himachal Pradesh.

There are many other good things on the Postal side. But I would like to refer to the difficulties that are faced by the people of our regions. With utmost respect I would say that we have to reach the grass-root level to serve the people.

In 1978, a circular was issued debarring the department from accepting the offer of NRC from Panchayats for the upgradation of post offices, in case of loss in their villages. I think this was not a democratic measure, and the Government that took the decision was also not democratic. Democracy was restored in 1980, but this decision could not be reversed. I would request the Hon. Minister to strengthen the panchayats and democracy at the grass-roots level, by reversing the decision and by accepting the offer of NRC, from whichever panchayat it is available, may be on a provisional basis. If they are unable to pay the losses further, let the post offices be downgraded further. It may be a provisional upgradation, but it has to be ensured that the voice of the panchayats is given due place in a democracy. It is not the Assemblies and Parliament alone that ensure the survival and flourishing of democracy. It is the panchayats, the panchayat *samitis* and zila parishads also which should be given some voice and respect.

I am happy that the Hon. Minister has already taken note of the sentiments, and Shri Gadgil had also assured me in one of the meetings earlier, that this would be done. But so far it has not been done. It should be done.

Similarly, I have learnt from reliable sources that there is a move to revamp the system of post offices in the country, and some incentives are to be offered. I think it is a very welcome

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step. In case of Branch Postmasters who are able to show income and earnings, revenue surplus, you should be able to link their initiative, and bless them with some incentives in their pay packets etc., so that this system flourishes. In the countryside, there are more than one lakh of these branch post-offices; and there fate hangs in the balance because the EDDA staff or the ED staff as it is called, gets a very paltry sum. And they have no manoeuvrability. If they earn more, you do not pay them more. If they produce a loss, you don't punish them. The result is that they are languishing, and one way of ensuring their upgradation or promotion, would be that their activities or capabilities as Postmasters are linked to their performance and revenue-earning capacity.

The most important sector in the Ministry of Communications is the Telecom sector, because it is the sector of the future. Now, every village looks to faster communication, and looks for a telephone. The Department is to be congratulated for having contacted the Council of Applied Economic Research for dividing the whole country into hexagons of a radius of five Kms. each, so that nobody has to walk more than five miles to get contact with a public telephone, or a public call office, whatever you call it. Now, this is a huge exercise, and it has to be done efficiently; and the blue-print is raddy. But where are the funds? They have developed a system also, called MARRS or Multi-Access Rural Radio System, whereby one public call office would be able to link a village with the nearest exchange, all that. But this has not made headway, and we are very poor in the advance of telephones, which is evident from the fact that while in developed countries, the number of telephones per thousand people is 900 and above, our poor country it is something like three. And most of the telephones in India are concentrated in the cities.

According to one estimate, only 7% of the telephones are available for the rural parts of our country, and 93% are available for the cities. This can be verified from this Report also. On pages 58 and 59, there are two Tables—Table 11 and Table 11 (Continued). In Table 11, it is shown that in all the Telecom. Circles, we have as many as 12,11,264 direct exchange lines whereas in the 31 Districts which are cities, we have 14,55,726. So, the number of telephones in 31 Districts is larger than the number of telephones in the rest of the country taken together, which shows an inherent distortion.

The most important thing in this is that telecommunications development in rural areas requires larger funding. I want to plead for increased investment in the Telecom. sector. In our country, 1.2% of the gross fixed capital formation has been invested in the telecommunication sector, whereas the average for 10 selected developed and developing countries has been 3.52 per cent. This is a big figure and our country is far below in this investment. Only in the 5th Five Year Plan, Telecommunications got justice at the hands of the Planning Commission and the investment was made three times. Now, the Department has proposed an outlay of Rs. 12,500 crores for investment in the 7th Five Year Plan; and unless this is done, it is not possible to give telephone to everybody or telephone within a reasonable distance. I would plead with the Planning Commission and with the Prime Minister and the Government of India to look to the vital sector of Communications and Telecommunications because it is much more important to allow people to raise their voice, to communicate their demands to the Governments at the State Capitals and the Union Capital. It is not so easy for them to do so. Whereas we are spending much on everything else, we must think of this thing and we can have many new schemes; we can give telephone to the villages and these hexagon schemes can be successful; only the level of investment has to be raised. So, let the

plea of telecom. sector for increase in their allocation and investment be accepted ; and whereas in the 6th Plan period, we had invested only Rs. 2,300 crores, the demand for Rs. 12,500 crores should be considered ; and that alone can give voice and mejeesty to the people who are living in the rural India. With these words, I commend the good work done by the Postal and Telecommunications in the Ministry. I congratulate the two Secretaries and the Hon. Minister. I look forward to the hope that by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan, by 1990, as they have promised, there would be telephone within every 5 km for everybody to reach and at least a Branch Post-office in every Panchayat Village.

14.22 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the Chair*]

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar) : In view of constraint on resources and the money that the Planning Commission is allotting to these sectors, whatever achievements have been made, I think, we should congratulate the Department and the Minister for the achievements that have been made in these two sectors.

Today, I want to confine myself only to some of the problems that my State Orissa is facing so far as Postal and Telecommunications activities are concerned, I find in the Report that the Postal Department has proposed, to open 12,000 new post offices in the 7th Plan ; and they have also decided to construct 1,600 post office buildings, 100 RMS buildings, 75 administrative office buildings and 25 postal stock depots and also to appoint 4000 extra departmental delivery agents for manning these rural branch post offices. These are very good targets they have fixed. But if we go through the targets they have fixed and the achievements made during the 6th Plan, we will find shortfall in many directions. I hope in the 7th Plan, we shall try to improve upon them so that whatever targets we fix we achieve those targets

I have been meeting th Hon. Minister very often and for the last one or two months perhaps I am sursuing him. I went to the Finance Minister. What is the use of your target of opening 12,000 post offices when in the last 8-9 months you have not opened even one post office because you have not lifted the ban on the creation of new posts ? I do not understand this. First, you have to declare today when you answer to these demands that the ban is lifted so that new post offices can be opened from tomorrow onwards. I think this is a general demand of the House ; and I hope that this will be accepted. So, first, this ban should be lifted so that we can open up new post offices. Now, even sub-post offices you cannot open because the ban is there. Generally, opening up of branch post offices and sub-post offices are developmental works ; we can consider them as developmental works ; it is not a kind of any financial burden about which we are considering. Therefore, first we must hear this announcement today that this ban is lifted. When I was looking at the all India figures, I found that whatever achievements that have been made so far as Orissa is concerned, were very meagre. You will be surprised to see the figures. I am giving only three instances just to bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister and the Department concerned. In Andhra Pradesh till 1983-84, the number of branch post offices opened were 16,403 ; Bihar—10,870 ; and in Orrissa—7,536. Now let us come to the number of P.C.O s. Andhra Pradesh—1,048 ; Bihar—2056 ; and Orissa—634. About telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh, the number is 1,639, in Madhya Pradesh it is 1,013 and in Orissa it is only 245. Same is the case with telegraph offices and other posts and telegraphs facilities.

Bhubaneswar is the capital city of Orissa. Old Town Bhubaneswar, thae is the original city of Orissa, wherf this new capital was constructed when Pandit Nehru came and laid the foundation, is a huge area. The post office

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi]

there, which has been serving a large number of people, is no longer functioning as a telegraph office. It is near to my residence in my constituency. If you want to send a telegram from here, that message has to be transmitted to the Head Post Office in the Secretariat area and then only the telegram can be sent. It is really wonderful. Why should it be done so? I have asked the Department again and again. Why cannot you make old town Post office as a telegraph office which was already functioning like that previously?

I must bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister that our Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has given a call to this country—"let us go forward to the 21st Century." For that purpose, we have to develop our communications system with the highest technology that is available in this world. With this present system of communication facilities can this country ever expect to lead itself to the 21st Century? I ask the Hon. Minister what can be achieved with this kind of obsolete instruments. Moreover, the Department cannot even make a decision and make up its mind as to what instruments and which system it is going to build for this country. They are trying to visit every country. Sometimes, some decision is taken and then again it is reversed. If we think and act in this manner, how can we lead this country to 21st century? As a result of this we are running our telecommunication services with mixed up equipments. We have to be about the instruments and the type of system that we are going to adopt to improve the tele-communications system, so that our country looks like a modern country and we can compete with other advanced countries in the sphere of telecommuni-cations and all those things.

Now, I come to another very important and specific question about my State. I do not know really where to begin and how to express my concern. After long years of effort, we

have got staff quarters in Bhubaneswar itself. Even from 1957 onwards, the developments I have seen are negligible. Recently, five to seven days back, I visited the P & T colony. It is summer and there is acute shortage of drinking water. But when it comes to the payment of bills, I find that the PMG pays the bills full. They are not getting the water in the required quantities. Still, the entire bill has to be paid. The employees have written to the PMG, to the highest quarters and to everybody. But what is happening? All those employees, their children and wives, they have to go to other's quarters to bring water to satisfy their needs. I told the Hon. Minister about this problem. I gave it in writing also that it should be immediately taken up with the State Government. 700 families are living there. Why should they suffer like this? Why not direct Supply of drinking water be ensured to the P & T colony.

Now, I would like to refer to staff quarters. You have bifurcated Posts and Telecommunications now and they are separate. About the staff quarters, the All India average is given as 10.5, so far as postal side is concerned and on telecommunications side, it is 6.7. If you see the number of residential accommodation provided to tele-communication employees throughout the country you will find how much neglected Orissa is even in this sector. The figures are like this: In 1981-82 Andhra—1111; Bihar 663; M.P. 1474; Maharashtra 2655; Rajasthan 674; Tamilnadu 1053 and Orissa 480.

Similar is the case with postal staff. Here the figures for 1980-81 are: Karnataka 61, Kerala 91 and Orissa 4.

If you see all these things, you will get an impression as if there are friends there who do not want to see that Orissa progresses in the field of telecommunication. Therefore, I would submit that there was a proposal before the Department that where sufficient number of staff quarters could not be

provided, at least there should be bachelor's hostel accommodation. Such a proposal was there for Bhubaneswar. But money is not being released for that.

What about re-structuring the cadres in the Department? After long years of struggle they got one promotion, during a service period of 25 years. Why not give them a second promotion also?

There are more than 3 lakh extra-departmental employees, who are getting a monthly allowance of Rs. 271. I moved a resolution in 1957 for enhancement of their emoluments. Then it was raised from Rs. 25 to Rs. 50. It has now been revised to Rs. 271. I would request the Minister to look into their service conditions. You have appointed Savor Committee to look into their conditions. Why do you not expedite its report?

I have been pressing for the last so many years to declare Bhubaneswar, which is the capital of the State, as a B-2 city. It is a city of pilgrims. Thousands of pilgrims come there. After long years of effort it was declared as a city in 1971. After 1981 census I have been requesting the Government to raise it to B-2 class city. The Finance Minister says that unless there is a four lakh population, this cannot be upgraded to B-2 class city. The Third Pay Commission has recommended that if in any city the population may not be four lakh but there is a large floating population or pilgrims and its price index is dearer like other cities, that can be upgraded to B-2 city so that the Central Government employees can get pilgrimage allowance. But what happens is that all the time they say that they will consider it. On the one hand you want family planning and on the other you ask Orissa to increase its population. They can do it. But I do not understand the logic of it.

Recently, I have been to Orissa. I am grateful to the Government of India

that they are giving house building loan to the employees so that they can build their houses. But Rs. 7 lakhs out of Rs. 13.5 lakhs are going to be surrendered by the General Manager, Telecommunications Circle in Orissa under this head. The applications are lying there but they do not want to give this loan. An amount of nearly Rs. 20 lakhs under capital head is being surrendered. Therefore, no new postal building is coming up in Orissa. In Cuttack for the last 15 years there has not been a single staff quarter constructed. When it comes to percentage of staff quarters, Cuttack's percentage comes to 1.5 as compared to other places. An amount of Rs. 5 lakhs has been surrendered from construction of office buildings. You have taken up the programme for construction of office buildings. But the money is being surrendered by Orissa Circle. These are some of the major problems of my Circle which I liked to bring to the notice of the Hon. Minister. Both in posts and in telegraphs, the Orissa Circle is not getting the treatment that it deserves. When Orissa is developing in many directions, the postal and telecommunication facilities should also develop commensurately. The two departments—Postal and Telecommunications—have been bifurcated and the surplus in the Telecommunications Department is perhaps more than Rs. 300 crores whereas in Postal Department there is a deficit of Rs. 183 crores. The Minister might ask how with this deficit, he can do it. You know, Sir, that this Rs. 183 crores is charged to the General Revenues. Why don't you make yourself free from the General Revenues? If you really want to do something, then why burden the General Revenues for that? If you have a surplus of Rs. 383 crores, you have achieved it by bifurcating the two Departments. So, you can utilise this surplus for further development of telecommunication facilities.

We have been pleading with your Ministry for the last three to four years to bring out a postal stamp in

[Shri Chintamani Panigrahi]

memory of Shri Samant Chandra-
sekhar. He was one of the great
scientists of India but this stamp has
not yet been released. Similarly, Pandit
Neelakantha Das was also a great free-
dom fighter—Prof. Ranga must be
knowing. We have been requesting a
postal stamp in his memory but that
stamp has also not yet come.

Even about the postal buildings, in
Khandapara Garh in my constituency
itself, the land is there for a postal
building. There are 120 such places
where the post offices have got the
land for the last 10-20 years but no
building is coming up because there
are interested persons who have given
their houses on rent to the postal
department and are trying to see that
no building of the department comes
up on those pieces of land. For how
long can they go on like this? Having
their own land and possessing every-
thing, they are not constructing their
own buildings. There are encroach-
ments by the people on those pieces
of land and those encroachments
should be removed from there. This is
the outlook of the persons in charge of
the Department unless the attitude
becomes development oriented progress
cannot be quick. Therefore, I would
request the Hon. Minister that at least
all these problems which Orissa is
facing, should be looked into. Thank you
so much for the time given to me.

[Translation]

*SHRI P. SELVENDRAN
(Periakulam): Mr. Chairman, Sir, on
the demands for Grants of the Ministry
of Communications for 1985-86, I
wish to say a few words on behalf of
my party the Dravida Munnetra
Kazhagam.

For decades the Posts and Tele-
graphs Department have been the two
sides of the same coin; they have been
the two leaves of a single branch. Now
these two Departments have been
bifurcated. This is the last joint report
of the Departments; next year we will

be having two separate Annual Reports.
I am not able to appreciate the
compulsions of the Government to
bifurcate the two sister departments.
In the post-offices we have the telegraph
office. Will the telegraph-offices be
located elsewhere after this bifurcation?
I would like to hear from the Minister
the reasons for this bifurcation.

The Postal Department has been
doing the work of other Departments.
We have the Savings Account in Post
Office; the deposits made in these
accounts go to the credit of National
Small Savings Organisation under the
charge of the Finance Ministry. The
Finance Ministry may now be tempted
to take over this work and hand it over
to public sector Banks. The licences
for TV, Radios etc. were being issued
by the Postal Department. The Infor-
mation and Broadcasting Ministry is in
overall charge of this work relating to
TV, Radio etc. The 1985-86
Central Budget has removed the
system of licensing of TV,
Radios etc. The Postal Department
has been relieved of this burden. Now
the Postal Department through the
post offices is collecting the Telephone
Bills. With the setting up of a sepa-
rate Telecommunication Department the
collection of telephone bills may also be
entrusted to that Department. What
remains then of the Post Offices? They
will sell post cards, send M.Os, under-
take postal life insurance business.
They will be selling inland letters,
covers, postal orders etc. Even the
Railway Mail Service has been stopped.
Naturally the work-load on Post Offices
has been substantially reduced.

As on 31.3.1984, according to the
Annual Report of the Ministry we have
15323 post offices in urban centres and
1,29,394 post offices in rural areas.
On an average for 21.87 square kilo-
metres we have one post office. We
have 5.6 lakh villages in the country.
It takes more than month for a post-
card to reach an interior village. Even
Express telegrams take more than a

*The speech was Originally delivered in Tamil.

week to reach a village. It is claimed that there are 70,000 mobile postal vans in the rural areas. But in my Periakulam Parliamentary Constituency, I have not seen even a single mobile van anywhere. Sir, as there is a gap between work and deed, there is also a gap between what is contained in the Annual Report and what can be seen on the terra firma. The common people are not concerned with what is claimed in the Annual Reports. They are worried about meeting their basic minimum requirements. So long as they do not get them, they continue to remain as mute sufferers. They cannot raise their voice on the basis of what is claimed in these Annual Reports.

Now that the work-load of post offices has been reduced, we should open more post offices in the rural areas. There should be a post-office for every 5 kilometers. According to the Report of the Estimate Committee of 6th Lok Sabha, the Life Insurance Corporation has miserably failed to undertake business in rural areas. There is great chance for postal life insurance to pick up in rural areas. The Communication Ministry should open more post offices in rural areas and try to do more life insurance business.

I need not repeat the deficiencies of our telephone system. Many Hon. Members have done that. It is no use beating a dead snake. But I would emphasise that the Ministry should look into the question of inflated telephone bills, which have caused heart-attacks in many subscribers and a few of them have also collapsed. Suddenly, instead of a telephone Bills for Rs. 50 or Rs. 100, one gets a Bill for a few thousands. You can imagine the shock of the subscriber, particularly the one who has gone on holiday locking the house and locking the telephone. If he approaches the telephone authority, the officer concerned in a stiff voice tells him : first remit the money and then represent ; otherwise we will out the telephone. The officer seems to be deprived of all logic and reasoning.

What can the poor subscriber do in this environment of hostility from the authorities ?

If it adding insult to the injury. Firstly the telephone is dead almost all the time. Occasionally you get the correct number. While you are talking, some gruff voice interrupts me and orders you to disconnect. When two politicians are discussing national problems, such interruptions are common. I know when two lovers were exchanging some sweet—nothings, there was sudden interruption from the father of the girl and I need not narrate in detail what happened to that poor girl in love. When the telephone is working in this manner, it is really a matter of great concern to receive telephone bills for huge amounts. I would say that this is day-light robbery of the telephone Department. During the past 38 years, more than 30 Ministers of Communications have been told about the malfunctioning of our telephone system. It has not improved so far. At least our present Minister Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha will look into this and do the needful immediately so that the Telephone Department is not blamed for creating hundreds heart-attacks in the country.

Sir, I would remind the house of what was said by late Shri C. M. Stephen in the 7th Lok Sabha when he was the Communications Minister. He claimed that it is the bounden duty of the Government to tap the telephones. I would say that this is not conducive for democratic working of the Government. I want that proper guidelines should be formulated for this kind of tapping. I am sure that the Hon. Minister of Communications will do the needful in this matter also.

In my Periakulam constituency, we Cumbum and Bodinayakanur, which are the centres of international trade for cardamom. We should have STD facilities in these two towns enabling the cardamom traders to contact their counterparts in foreign countries and

[Shri P. Selvendran]

also in other metropolitan towns within the country, I want similarly an Electronic Exchange at Periakulam also. Before I conclude, I would urge upon the Minister to lift the ban on opening post-offices ; otherwise, his proposal to open 10000 new post offices during VII Plan will be just on paper only. The opening of post office is a social commitment of the Government. I want that this ban should go immediately. One word about ED postal employees. Sir, their fate deserves a better deal in the hands of the Department. I am sure that the Hon. Minister of Communications will give that better deal to the ED employees.

[English]

SHRI P. R. S. VENKATESAN (Cuddalore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to say a few words on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communication for 1985-86. This is my maiden speech and therefore I request your indulgence.

At the outset, I would convey the gratitude of the people of our country to the Hon. Minister of Communication for having agreed to the abolition of licence fees for radio and television. But this has gripped the P & T employees in a grave fear. There will not only be no expansion of the Department simultaneously with more and more people buying radio and TV sets but also there may be reduction of staff because of fall in the work-load. The promotion avenues will also be blocked for them. Their apprehensions are not unfounded. I would request the Hon. Minister of Communication to allay their fear by assuring the employees that their services will be better utilised on the Postal Life Insurance side and also on the small savings side. In fact, it is very necessary to develop Postal Life Insurance business. The small savings through post offices are concentrated only in urban centres. The small savings in rural areas are completely neglected. As on 31st March, 1984, there are 1,29,394 post offices in rural areas. Sir, we have 5.60 lakh

villages. But we have not covered even 25% of the villages with postal services in the past 38 years of our independence. The Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that 80% of our population lives in rural areas, and we have brought about Green Revolution in the country, besides White Revolution; i.e. expansion of milk production. The rural wealth savings remain untapped. In the 7th Five Year Plan, there must be a serious effort to cover 50% of the villages with post offices. Now that there will be surplus staff in the P & T Department, more post-offices can be opened in rural areas.

Sir, I would refer to the problems being faced by the staff of extra-Departmental post offices. They are neither here nor there. They have been agitating in vain for years for better service conditions. It is really a case to be considered on humanitarian and compassionate grounds. I want the Hon. Minister to look into their genuine demands and do the needful.

There is a rumour that the proposed 5-days week will not be made applicable to P & T employees. This will be an injustice to them. If that is not extended to P & T employees, then they must be paid overtime allowance.

The post office employees discharge all the functions of Bank employees. They handle lakhs of rupees in cash every day. Unfortunately, the Postal employees do not get even one-hundredth of physical amenities and fiscal facilities being enjoyed by Bank employees. The Hon. Minister should at least give some more benefits to Postal employees.

Throughout their service, they do not get Government residential accommodation. They may be brought under general pool of accommodation instead of limiting them to P & T staff quarters.

Much is being said about our telephone system. The Government concedes

that the service to subscribers is not satisfactory. Now, the General Manager of Delhi Telephones has said recently that this was mainly because of inadequate investment, increasing number of calls per line and over-loading of exchanges which have a snow-balling effect on the entire tele-communication system. I concede all this. But I wonder why the girls working at telephone exchanges should be so discourteous towards subscribers. They treat the callers like filth. They do not lift the phone for some minutes and they reply in such disgust that the caller is taken aback. I demand that they should be given special training as to how they should converse with the subscribers.

Again, the wrong billing is another headache. The house is locked for three months and the phone is not at all used. Yet the bill comes for several thousands of rupees. The Telephone Department treats the subscribers as *thugs*. They demand payment first; otherwise, the phone is cut. Is this proper? Should there be no mutual faith in human dealings? It is not that the subscribers are all cheats. But for the Telephone Department all the subscribers are uniformly cheats. They do not understand the genuine pleas of the subscribers. The Hon. Minister must be an exception to over-billings. Many MPs are victims of the vagaries of Telephone Department. Sir, some drastic action must be taken in this regard. There must be computerisation of telephone billing system. The Telephone Department must be made more humane and reasonable as also amenable to honest pleadings of subscribers.

Cuddalore is the headquarters of South Arcot district and Pondicherry Union Territory is just 27 km. away from it. In Pondicherry we have got the Auroville, the international township. In Cuddalore, the building for auto-telephone exchange is ready. The electronic exchange was also sanctioned for Cuddalore. But the equipment which was to come to Cuddalore was

diverted to Karur. The people of Cuddalore are disappointed. The coal coming from northern coal fields is now unloaded at Cuddalore port. There is urgent necessity for having an electronic exchange at Cuddalore at the earliest. Kindly consider this request favourably.

With these words, I support the demands.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, as is known to everybody, this is a very important Department, a Department of great public utility. But as more days are passing, its prestige and image is coming down. In pre-Independence days, this was the only Department which was regarded as the best Department of the Government of India. Gone is its glory.

Now, I do not know, if you drop a letter at Delhi, whether your family members will get it at home. I do not know, if you send a telegram from Calcutta to Delhi, whether it will reach. A person may come but telegram will never come. And about telephone, the least said the better. I am from Bengal; I come from Calcutta. Your finger will be having pain but still you continue to dial, dial and dial. Still you will never be able to get the connection and, if you get the connection, it will be a wrong connection. As was stated by my Hon. Friend opposite, even if you get the correct connection, somebody will interfere when you are talking on telephone.

This is the condition of the telephones. Inefficiency is growing. In my Constituency, in the year, 1977 one post office at Golebazar, a very important place, was sanctioned. 1984 has ended. The Post Office has not yet come into being. Such is the efficiency of this Department.

In the Midnapore Circle, we have not got Telephone Directory for the last five years. It is supposed to be issued every year.

[Shri Narayan Choubey]

Is this the way how we enter the 21st Century? You must put a halt to these things and you should see that we really enter 21st Century with good things done. We are entering 21 Century but the way we are going shows that perhaps we are going backward to the 19th Century.

Some officers think that mechanisation and electronics and computers are the panacea for all evils. Of course, we must have maahanisation. Of course, we must make use of electronics and computers wherever needed. But Shri Ram Nivas Mirdha is a patriot and he will not imitate the Western countries because in those countries, there is shortage of unskilled human power. But in our country, there is surplus of unskilled human power. We should make use of that in our planning. How we make use of our surplus human power is also very important.

The P & T Department can improve a lot if they can employ the number of employees which is required for this Department. The total ban on recruitment which is now effected should be withdrawn and this department should be allowed to make recruitment of person required.

Since independence, the volume of our Postal Service has grown. It has really grown ten times more. But the accommodation of our Post Offices has not grown as it should have grown. It might have grown in Delhi but in our parts in Calcutta and at other places, it has not grown. Something is being done recently. But the accommodation should grow in due proportion as Postal Service is growing.

Another factor which is impeding our activities in the P & T Department is the RMS. Previously, sortings were being done in the RMS but now Postal activities have increased in number but the number of RMS Vans has not been increased by the railways and naturally the sorting is done on the platform. That creates trouble. I

suggest that the Railway Ministry should be approached to give as many RMS Vans as the Department requires.

Previously there were no multi-storey buildings in cities. Now in Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay, multi-storey buildings have sprung up and the Postman has to go to the 11th and the

14.59 hrs.

[SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHA-MAN in the Chair.]

12th floor and again has to come down and again go up. I would suggest that all these owners of multi-storeyed buildings should be asked by the Government of India to make their letter boxes on the ground floor so that the postmen suffer less and the service can be effective.

Regarding telephones, actually there is acute shortage of telephones in the country. We require more telephones and, therefore, more telephone factories. Great delay in the installation of telephones is taking place. I know that when a man applies for telephone, his name is registered promptly and there is no malpractice in the matter of registration. But then when everything is ready, when the man is going to get telephone, then some unscrupulous people will be coming and saying "Your number has come. You kindly shell out something" and you will be getting a telephone quickly." If the Government makes an advertisement in the press that in such and such areas, so many numbers of telephones are going to be installed during this period, then all this malpractice will come to an end.

15.00 hrs.

Another problem is this. More telephone exchanges are coming up in small towns and townships. In cities like Calcutta, Delhi and Bombay, I can talk over phone to a person who is

residing 15 or 20 kilometers away from my house. But, suppose, there is a telephone exchange at Mekhly Gunj and there is another exchange, say, in 'B' which is five or ten kms. away from Mekhly Gunj; is a person in Mekhly Gunj wants to speak to a person living in 'B', he has to book a trunk call and spend more money. If the people living in cities like Calcutta, Bombay, Delhi and Madras can get the facility of making local calls without having to spend more money on booking trunk calls, why should those people living in small towns and townships not get this facility? I think, this should be considered.

Another problem is wrong billing by the Telephone Department. I have personally told him about this. Today also I have given one application from Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan, ex-M.P. I was myself a victim of that and only late Shri C. M. Stephen could save me. Bills for Rs. 28,000 were imposed on me, and on inquiry it was found that these bills were wrong. They say that there are two types of things happening. One is, the meter jumps. If meters jump, why should we suffer? Let them jump. But we should not suffer in the process. The other thing is, some unscrupulous people in the Exchanges play some mischief in such a manner that the STD call booked by another person is metered in my telephone. Such things are happening. This should be looked into and a proper mechanism should be devised so that neither the meters jump nor are persons charged for the calls made by some others.

I want to draw your attention to one more aspect. Of course, we require better knowhow and better techniques. For that reason, the officers are going from pillar to post—to different countries. Stop sending the officers on deputation to other countries for some time. The trouble is, after returning from foreign countries, they do not do work here. Mr. Stephen himself has given expression to this. When our officers go to U.K. or U.S.A. or Belgium, they work properly

there, they do all the jobs, but when they come back to India, they become 'bada sahebs' and do not work. This should also be looked into.

When we go in for collaboration with foreign countries for knowhow and technology, we should see that our country benefits. You know very well how the companies of Western countries try to dump on our country their discarded technology. You should see that discarded technology is not dumped on us.

I would like to suggest another thing. I know, we try to make collaboration with USA and other Western countries in this particular field. With USSR we have no such collaboration in this field. Of course, we collaborate with USSR on many other things like arms and ammunitions, etc. Perhaps, in this field, the technology of USSR is not so high as that of the Western countries, but I think it is not so bad as ours. I would make one suggestion. Let the Minister in-charge visit USSR, and if he finds that we can take something from them on easy terms, on rupee payment basis, we should try to make use of that.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants. I cannot help supporting because, the country cannot go without telephone and other services of P & T. But, while doing so, I would request him to move in such a manner that we really go to the Twenty-first Century and not go back to the Nineteenth Century.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the Hon. Minister that contrary to what Shri Choubey has said, his Department has done a very commendable job this year. In fact, the Hon. Member has judged the performance of the Departments and Ministers of the Government of India in comparison with the working of his party's Government in West Bengal.

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

It is true that where the Department of Communications and the Telephone Department do not get cooperation from the State Governments, the schemes are not implemented there. If land is not required for opening a post-office at a place the construction of the post office is delayed. Besides, you use the Telephone Employee's Union for your personal ends and if these employees do not work properly, the Government of India are held responsible for that also. It is better if this point of view of the Hon. Member remains confined to West Bengal. It does not apply to other States.

A demand had been outstanding for a long time that the Postal Department and the Telecommunications Departments should be reported. The Hon. Minister has taken a bold step in separating these departments, for which I congratulate him. This was a long standing demand in respect of the department, which has now been met.

At the same time, I also thank the Hon. Minister that he has established a network of television, telephone and radio facilities in the entire country in such a way that it has led to social and economic development throughout the country. India has the privilege to chair the international organisations like the International Telecommunications Union and the Asian Pacific Telecommunity for the last many years. I want to thank the Hon. Minister for occupying such an important place in this field also. Various villages of the country have been linked through INSAT-1B. The benefit of this has reached even the person living in huts. Besides, the people living in the country side and towns are evidently getting its benefits.

Apart from this, you have formulated a scheme to link the small townships with their Panchayat Headquarters by telephone system. This in itself is a very important scheme. While offering thanks to the Hon. Minister for this, I want to give some

suggestions for his consideration. My first suggestion is that there should be P.C.O.s. at all such places which have branches of the banks, whether they are the commercial banks, the cooperative banks or the Land Department banks. You have not provided telephone facility to all the Panchayat Headquarters. The scheme which you have formulated is aimed at providing telephone facility to link the remote villages with their panchayat headquarters. I would like to submit that all Panchayat headquarters may be provided with telephone facility by the year 1990, which will be the last year of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

The Hon. Minister is aware that Bahrar is in my Parliamentary constituency(Interruptions). Bahrar Telephone Exchange has been linked with Kotputli. Whenever the Hon. Minister goes to Delhi from Jaipur, he takes the National Highway No. 8. If we book a call from Bahrar for Delhi, the call does not materialise for 24 hours. Therefore, I request that . . .

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, it does not mean that I should discontinue my speech.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : A certain time is allotted for each Party. You must understand the Party decides the time for each Member.

Please now wind up.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : My suggestion is that the telephone exchange in Bahrar, an Assembly segment of my constituency, is not connected with Alwar, but it is connected with Kotputli which is a different district.

As a result, the telephone calls, whether they are for district headquarters or calls from collector or D.M., take 10 to 12 hours to materialize. We want that this telephone exchange should also be linked with micro-wave system which we have at present between Alwar and Delhi, so that the people of that area may not feel that their communication system is different.

You have already sanctioned electronic telephone exchange for Alwar. The work on that exchange was also about to start, but you have diverted some of its equipment to Jodhpur and Pali due to which work on the project could not be started and, thus, we are behind the schedule by 1 to 1½ years. My submission is that when you have sanctioned this exchange for Alwar, funds have been sanctioned and even the administrative sanction has been issued, efforts should be made to complete it as early as possible. Alwar is an industrial town. An automatic telephone exchange of 400 lines has already been sanctioned one each for the Mats industrial area and the Bhiwani Industrial area. Both of these exchanges should have been commissioned by 1983-84, but have not been commissioned so far. I would request the Hon. Minister that he should give an assurance to the House that this work will be completed soon by providing the required equipment. All these three projects—Electronic Telephone Exchange for Alwar, one telephone exchange of 400 lines each for the Mats Industrial Area and the Bhiwani Industrial Area—are very important for my constituency. Therefore, you should get them completed by sending the required equipment.

The employees of your E.D.B.O. Post-offices have placed their problems before you by continuously holding meetings at different places. I had also attended these meetings held at this State and district levels. Their demands include upward revision of their pay and payment of dearness allowance. The facilities being given to

other employees by the Government should be given to them also. This problem relates to the entire country. Mr. Chairman, Sir, this organisation was started in your own State, Kerala and the Secretary of their Union belongs to that State. I hope you will do justice to E.D.B.O. employees. At the same time, I would also submit that the employees engaged in the E.D.B.O. Post offices in the villages are part-time employees. They want that these post-offices should not be upgraded to branch or sub post-offices, because if they are upgraded, their services will be terminated. These employees in E.D.B.Os. get Rs. 200 to 250 per month. If these post offices are upgraded to sub post-offices, they will lose their jobs. That is why they show less daily workload. What I mean to say is that all the work being done there should be fully reflected and a true picture should emerge and their upgradation should be done properly according to the rules.

In the end, the only submission I want to make is that a point relating to your department was examined by the Public Accounts Committee. Earlier you used to sum Railway Mail Service and the sorting of mail used to be done in the running train and the mail used to be handed over at the stations for which it was meant. This process used to speed up the distribution of mail. Now, sorting of letters has been stopped in the Railway Mail Service and as a result of it the time taken in the delivery of mail is more than what used to be taken 150 years ago during the British rule. . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . The Public Accounts Committee has examined it and I am placing it before the Hon. Minister. This is an issue concerning 70 crore people, which I am raising here. The mail used to reach in time and used to be delivered speedily 150 years ago, but, now the mail which which you are sending by bus service is reaching quite late. The delivery of mail in my constituency is quite late and it is the responsibility of your Ministry to ensure timely delivery of dak. You are changing the system being followed hitherto and

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

sending the mail through private buses instead of trains. The buses do not run on time, as a result of which the mail reaches its destination late. The boy who gets an interview letter from the Public Service Commission reaches there late and due to non-delivery of letter on time, he cannot attend the interview and thus, is deprived of the job. Therefore, I would insist that the system of sorting of letters in the postal coach in the running trains should be continued and the mail bags distributed at the station enroute. You are an efficient Minister and I hope you will solve these problems.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry.

[English]

SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI (Sikkim): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Discussion on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Communications has provided me with an opportunity to highlight some of the problems faced by the States in North East India and particularly Sikkim, in this vital sector. Compared to the other parts of country, the State of Sikkim woefully suffers from lack of communication facilities.

Take the case of the telephone facility. The only one exchange in the State Capital Gangtok is overloaded and it is very difficult to get a telephone connection. I have not heard of any scheme to expand the present exchange in order to provide telephone connections to those who are in the waiting list for years.

Gangtok is blessed with STD facility. Perhaps all the State capitals have this facility. Its functioning so far as Gangtok is concerned is very erratic, to say the least. Sometimes it takes hours to get Delhi or Calcutta. One feels lucky if the line is clear. Otherwise in most of the times the line is ricketty. It seems that there is disturbance all along the line. Sometimes,

when one gets tired of not getting the particular city through STD, one tries what is called Lightning Call. Hardly this lightning call materialises in Gangtok. Even some have bitter experiences in Delhi if the call is booked for Gangtok. We now call it Lightning Hit Call. The call has been hit by lightning and so there is no chance of its getting materialised.

Along with the people who have suffered because of the poor service there are the news agencies like the PTI, UNI and Hindustan Samachar. The lines remain so much disturbed that the impression at Gangtok end of creed messages can hardly be deciphered. This situation needs to be remedied at the earliest and I would request the Hon'ble Minister to look into it and take remedial measures.

Sir, while Hon. Members from other States are telling about linking villages and panchayats by telephones, Gangtok which in the capital town of Sikkim state is linked with only district headquarters only through overhead telephone wires. Sikkim is a mountainous region and it suffers from frequent landslides during rainy days. Because of high velocity of wind, sometimes rains and landslides, the lines do not function properly. Hence, it is always difficult to get in touch with District Headquarters through telephone. The States Government has, therefore, been forced to depend almost entirely on Police Wireless to pass on messages to district Headquarters and vice versa. No better is the functioning of telegraph service. I would, therefore, urge the Centre to consider connecting the States capital with district headquarters through micro-wave link. Such micro-wave link will not suffer from the vagaries of nature and above all it will provide quick and reliable service in Sikkim, which is a sensitive border state. From the point of order of Defence, it is highly necessary that the communications network in Sikkim needs to be strengthened and I am sure that the Hon'ble Minister will entirely agree with me in this.

Postal Service in Sikkim is in a deplorable condition. A letter posted in Gangtok today will take almost a week to reach Gauhati or Shillong. It takes not less than four to five days to reach Delhi. But why so much of delay in the delivery of mails. The surprising part is that there is a daily air service connecting Bagdogra, the air terminus for Sikkim with the North-eastern States, Calcutta and Delhi. The mails can easily be lifted by this service. The delivery of mails inside the State can be quickened by streamlining the present sorting and delivery arrangements.

These are some of the acute problems towards which I wanted to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister. Sikkim, as the House is aware, joined the main stream of national life only ten years ago and hence we have been only the execution of two Five Year Plans, whereas other States having completed Six Five Year Plans are on the threshold of the Seventh Five Year Plan. Other States are obviously miles and miles ahead of Sikkim in every sphere of development including that of Communications. We need to be helped in all possible ways so that we can catch up with the rest of the country as early as possible. In such a vital sector like that of communications, Sikkim, being a strategically placed border State, needs all the consideration to expand the communications network in the region, not only for the sake of Sikkim alone but in the larger interest of the country.

I would, therefore, plead humbly with our Hon'ble Minister for a comprehensive survey of the communication requirements of Sikkim and other border areas in the region. I resume my seat with the hope that he would give sympathetic consideration to my earnest pleading for better communication facilities in Sikkim.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank

you for giving me an opportunity to speak. Some of the Union Cabinet Ministers belong to Rajasthan but I want to tell you about the plight of the Post-offices in Rajasthan.

Rajasthan ranks 17th in the matter of Post-offices, whereas Kerala is at the top, Andhra Pradesh is at No. 3 and Haryana at No. 4. We have a Minister in the Centre from Rajasthan and we stand at No. 17.

The Hon. Minister had told us in reply to question—

[English]

The question put to the Minister was like this :

“With the Ministry of Communications be pleased to state when his Ministry took a decision to introduce STD facility between Jaipur and the district headquarters in Rajasthan?”

The reply given by the Minister was :

“Provision of STD facilities between district headquarters and respective State capitals was approved during the Fifth Plan period which includes linking Jaipur by STD with district headquarters in Rajasthan.”

[Translation]

The period of Fifth Five Year Plan has already expired and you have not provided these facilities to us so far.

[English]

Out of the 27 districts headquarters, Ajmer, Alwar, Bharatpur, Kota, Udaipur and Jaipur have been connected with the State capital Jaipur, and Dholpur, Jodhpur, Bikaner and Sriganganagar are proposed to be linked by STD with Jaipur.

[Translation]

Thus facility has not been provided to our Pali district. You had said that

[Shri Mool Chand Daga]

all districts would be linked with Jaipur by cable during the Fifth Plan period. The facility is available between Jodhpur and Ahmedabad but the work of laying cables is lying incomplete in our Pali district. This work should be started soon. Ordinary telegrams are not accepted after 5 P.M. Earlier, this facility used to be there. The telegrams which are looked thereafter are despatched through mail. You should enquire into it. They charge money for telegram but send them by mail. This is your position. A copy each of all the telegrams booked after 5 P.M. is sent by mail. Even in R.M.S., the work is not being done properly. The entire dak is sent to Jodhpur or Pali for sorting and despatched therefrom. Thus, due to discontinuation of R.M.S., the letter which used to reach earlier, in 2 days now reaches in five days. A parallel postal service is being run in our country called *Angantiya System... (Interruptions)*... This should be inquired into. Eighty percent of telephone operators are such do not put through the calls of even politicians in time. They known to whom to give priority. Telephone Calls of businessmen and the Ministers are put through within a minute but others are told "Please wait" and they have to wait for hours. The operators invent their own methods. The postman go from house to house for collecting their presents on the occasion of Holi, Dimali, New Year Day, Baisakhi and numerous other festivals. If you do not give him a tip, your letters will disappear. This is the state of affairs. On the one hand, you are paying them so much by way of salaries and on the other hand they indulging in such practices. All these festivals are celebrated with liquor. Communication services have become very poor. Therefore, you will have to run it on commercial lines. You should start giving advertisements on postcards and envelopes which could earn you crores of rupees...*(Interruptions)*. Tribal areas named Chamudery and Nava fall within my constituency. We demand that a branch post office should be opened there. You must take steps

to open post-offices in the tribal, backward, desert and hill areas. You have engaged postman on temporary basis at many places. At some places, your department appoints illiterate people; people who can bribe the district superintendent are appointed and the literate, matriculate youths are ignored. Such people do not know their work; still their job remains secure, because they offer bribes to their officers. This is badly affecting the performance of your department. They idle away their time and do not deliver letters in time. When this is the condition of your services, you may kindly appoint rural literate youths, competent and literate young men belonging to Scheduled Castes on these jobs. You should give opportunity to them also, because such elements are working in your department. I have said all these things in brief and I want that with a view to judging the efficiency of your department, you should write letters and send telegrams and book telephone calls yourself. Then only you will be able to get proper information about the condition of your Department. As long as you do not make surprise checks, send surprise letters and telegrams, you will not be in a position to know how the personnel of your Department work. With these words, I thank you.

[English]

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : Sir, The P&T is one of the most important public utility services in our country. The Postal service, especially, caters to the poor man's communication needs.

At the outset, I would like to say that we should have a clear perspective regarding the P&T service. This should not be carried on, on a commercial basis.

Some of the measures now being adopted by Government in this vital sector raise serious doubts about the concept of the Government regarding this service. Government is trying to reduce the cost of running this Depart-

ment. We were having one of the most efficient Postal services in the world, but now the measures being adopted, are sounding the death knell of the Postal services in the country. For example, for cutting the cost, one measure being implemented is to reduce the number of deliveries on a day. This is already being implemented in some areas; and in some other areas where it was about to be implemented, it was postponed due to stiff resistance by the workers.

We see the post boxes in every nook and corner of our country, and the Department is thinking of reducing the number of post boxes placed on the streets. Why? In order to reduce the cost.

R.M.S. is going to be wound up. Train sorting, which was there, is already closed. Now, the RMS employees have given a strike notice for 6th June, against this policy of the Government. All this is done in order to cut the cost of this Department, to some 40%. This is done as per the instructions of the Universal Postal Union, which is controlled by IMF and the World Bank. This reduction is done at the cost of efficiency. Of course, the Postal service caters to the needs of the poor people of our country. By the present measures job opportunities are also reduced. In the name of modernization, mechanization is introduced in this sector. Who ever voices or expresses doubts about this mechanization process, is dubbed as a person who stalls our progress towards the 21st century.

Mechanisation in this sector means about 3 lakh EDS people working in the P&T Department will not be absorbed; 18,000 reserved training pool people will not be absorbed and one lakh casual labourers are going to remain as casual labourers. Now, all the employment opportunities are stalled; vacancies are not filled up. All these things are done to cut the cost in the name of modernisation; and the government have resorted to the step

of bifurcation of the Department. Why? This is done at the instance of the multinationals. This telecommunications field in our country is going to be a play ground of multinationals. Already moves are afoot to entrust the management of telecommunications network in the major cities to a separate corporation; and in the end, it is going to end up by entrusting all these things to private agencies, to multinationals.

In the name of modernisation, the government is eager to import foreign technological know-how in this Department. India is having our own technology and technical personnel who are very efficient. If it is so, then why the government showing unnecessary eagerness to import foreign technology in this field?

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur): It should not be.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: It should not be. Our people will not allow it. All these measures that are adopted are already resented by the workers. Therefore, I request the Hon. Minister to ensure the cooperation of the workers in this field, whatever measures you adopt, whatever modern technology you are going to adopt, you need the co-operation of the workers.

RMS people had given a strike notice for 6th June. Government is seriously thinking of winding up this whole business of RMS. I request the Hon. Minister to call the representatives of the workers and have an amicable settlement of this serious problem facing the workers. Also in our State, Kerala, more than half a dozen people are put of service only because they are organizational workers. I expect the Minister to know their cases. I request him through you to review their cases and reinstate them in the service.

Coming to the telephone, I think it is one of the worst managed depart-

[Shri Suresh Kurup]

ments in the country. Government may claim that modern technology is there, STD facilities are there, etc. It is a good luck of a subscriber to get the right number especially in major cities. Of course, STD facilities have increased, but, then the difficulties of the subscribers have also increased. It is said in our State that STD means that a subscriber try and die ; for the whole day you may try a number and you would not get. This is what is happening regarding STD.

The Government should ensure proper staff and adequate staff as there is shortage of staff in this department.

Another thing I want to mention is regarding the teleprinter and telex services under this department. This service is mostly used by the Press people and they are paying—I know personally—high rent. In this capital city dilapidated machines are being supplied and for this they are paying rent ; about one lakh of rupees is paid as rent. When some complaint is lodged the reply is that the Government does not have sufficient number of machines. As far as my understanding goes these machines are supplied by the HMT. I would like to enquire why such machines are supplied and good machines are not there. Why is such mismanagement there regarding these teleprinter and telex services ?

Lastly, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the so-called Postal Research Centre in the major cities and some important towns. It may sound as if it is a part of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs under Department of Communications. But it is managed by the Intelligence Bureau people of the Home Department, and I feel the funds are also allotted by the Home Department for this purpose. In all these centres, in a systematic way letters and parcels are intercepted and censored. This is not good in a civilised democracy. These postal research centres are there in big cities and some towns only to systematically censor the letters.

PROF N. G. RANGA : In spite of this their may be mischief.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : This is against the law of this country and before concluding I once again request the Hon. Minister to take note of the modernisation process, the number of jobs it is going to reduce, and this is a very serious problem.

With these words I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications. Telephones have a very important role in the development of a country. Our country is also making constant progress in this field. But, the old telephone exchanges which were installed many years ago need to be replaced and there has been a persistent demand for their replacement for a long time. I want to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister particularly to any constituency Bhilwara. The exchange there is very old and there is so much demand for additional lines that more than 1000 applicants are in the queue for telephones. But the telephone exchange is so old that there is no scope for its expansion.

You have given approval for a new building for the telephone exchanges for which land has also been acquired and boundary wall has been erected, but its foundation stone has not been laid, although two years have passed. I request that the foundation stone of this telephone exchange should be laid as early as possible and work started soon, so that the difficulty of telephone, at least for Bhilwara is removed by providing them with new lines. I hope the Hon. Minister will surely tell us about it while replying.

There are two tehsils named Jajpur and Aaseen in my constituency. Out of 11 tehsils there, 9 tehsils have already been linked directly with the headquarters, but these two tehsils have no direct link. I request that direct link of both these tehsils with headquarters may also be provided.

My third request is this there is a scheme to link Gangapur with Kankroli. If Kankroli is linked with Udaipur, the people can have a direct link with Bombay and Ahmedabad. Ours is a commercial centre and the people frequently need to have a direct talk with Bombay and Ahmedabad, but in the absence of a direct line, they are not able to have a direct talk. Therefore, you should arrange to provide a direct link. This will provide a direct link with Bombay and Ahmedabad. This should be done as early as possible.

You have said that P.C.Os. will be provided in the villages having a population of more than 2,500. But in my district, P.C.Os. have been set up only at 4 to 5 places. Still, there are 70 to 75 places about which I have written and Our M.L.A. has also been writing to your department from time to time, where P.C.Os. should be opened so that the people could be benefited, as early as possible, but no action has so far been taken. It is most essential to make such a provision.

My constituency is Bhilwara where telephone exchanges are quite old and generally remain out of order. But no action is taken to repair them, as a result of which we face a lot of difficulty. I do not know how much outdated equipment has been installed in all the old telephone exchanges that they do not function properly in spite of repairs. I request you to get them replaced so that the telephone service functions properly.

There are a number of industries in Bhilwara, but there is no provision of S.T.D. This should be linked with

Jaipur and Delhi so that the people of that area could be provided with adequate telephone facility.

Similarly, the buildings housing your telephone exchanges are all on rent. All of them are located at worthless places. Arrangements should be made to construct buildings for them at the proper places.

You have opened a post office at Shahpur. It will be kind of you if you open Head Post Offices at Mandalgarh and Gangapur as it will provide a lot of facility to the people. It will be better if this work is done as early as possible.

Many of our post offices are located in tehsil headquarters, but you have not been able to construct buildings of your own there. For instance, there is no building either for post office or for telephone exchanges at Banera and Gulabpura. It will be better if you make a provision for this at the earliest. We have 500 districts in the country. If you construct 1200 buildings for 500 districts, we could have 2 to 3 buildings. It will be a very good step if you could provide the same.

I appreciate the provision of extra departmental staff which you have made. You do not pay them the minimum wages, but pay only Rs. 5 to 7 per day. You should arrange to pay them at least Rs. 11 which is the minimum wage. In this connection, I request Shri Ranga to pursue this case so that these poor people could make a proper living. This arrangement needs further improvement.

Sir, you are aware that there are very old staff in the Telephone Department against whom there are a number of complaints. Today there are people who are occupying the same seat for the last 10 to 15 years and are acting arbitrarily. You say that you have no income. They usucp half of your income. They pocket the entire amount.

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

An arrangement should be made to ensure that nobody remains at a place for more than a year.

There is a lot of bungling indulged in by D.E.Ts. in giving telephone connections. The condition of the Department which was appreciated throughout the world and about which it was said that no other department was as honest as the Posts and Telegraphs Department, has now deteriorated in this extent. There is urgent need to improve it. Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha is a very honest person and we respect him to bring about honesty in this Department also so that the entire country could be benefited.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants.

[English]

SHRI D. N. REDDY (Cuddapah) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a dependable efficient, and modern communication system is absolutely essential for the economic growth of a nation. Bifurcation of the Communications department, one for telecommunications and the other for postal services is a welcome step.

Any change in a system should be beneficial, first to the common man in the remote rural areas. India lives in the remote villages, so said the Father of the Nation.

As at present, a post office, on an average, serves a population of 4,734 and 21.87 sq. Kms. area. This is barely sufficient. Post is not only a link between man a man but also a link between nations. There ought to be at least one post office for every 2,000 of population which means the number of post offices should be doubled keeping in view the remote hill areas and other backward regions.

However, we should admit that the postal department has been serving the nation well. The telegraphic system should be modernised and there should be a system developed by which the

telegram should reach the common man within the minimum time.

I would like to say a few words about the commemoration stamps also. Philately reflects the various aspects of national life, combining international themes with national subjects. About 38 stamps presenting a judicious blend of various trends of great events and personalities have been released so far, the latest being that of our national leader, the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I am sorry that proposals pending for a long time to release stamps in honour of Bhakta Pothana, the author of the immortal classic Bhagavatham in Andhra Pradesh and Shri Alluri Setharama Raju, a great freedom fighter, have not materialised yet. I hope the Government will consider it expeditiously. One of the great sons of Andhra, Prof. Ranga also is here, he is also appreciating my stand. I am told that the present Hon. Minister for Defence also at one time had pleaded for commemoration stamps for these two great sons of Telugu Desam.

The present system of telecommunications remains most unsatisfactory. Wide gap between promises and performance of the telephone authorities is causing continuing misery to the telephone subscribers. We expect a dependable service with minimum break down through proper maintenance and rectification of faults. There is need for replacement of some of the exchanges with modern sophisticated equipment. The subscribers is greatly handicapped. He neither sees nor hears the other side. The way the subscriber is treated is really most miserable. Therefore, the Hon. Minister must see to it that something is done about it. Often, the operator is not present at the other end, and we get wrong numbers more than once a day. It causes real headache to the subscriber.

It is suggested that the Department should maintain a register at various exchanges to record all complaints from

telephone subscribers which are made either personally or by telephone, and action should be taken promptly. When required, the Department should instal check-metres at the subscriber's residence at a reasonable charge to record both local calls and S.T.Ds. As it is in operation abroad and also in some of own states, the numbers of STDs installed in the towns should be increased. Any town with nearly 20,000 population should have STD and the number of telephone subscribers should also be increased. As at present, any subscriber, who applies for a telephone, has to wait for four to five years. The Department should make special arrangement to see that the applicants get a telephone at least within six months.

The whole telephone system has to be revamped to give a better and prompt service.

I would like to inform the Hon. Minister of a personal experience of mine a few days back. When I got a quarter, the Parliament Office asked me at what time I would like to have a telephone installed. I indicated the time and date by which it should be installed. After twenty four hours somebody came and drew the wires. After another twenty-four hours the telephone was installed, but I am even now waiting for a connection. Up till now they neither given me its number, nor its connection. This is the state of affairs in Delhi and that too with Member of Parliament. Even in my own quarter provided by Parliament I am waiting for the last one week. I fail to understand that would have been the condition of other people at other places. Through you I would request the Minister to come to my rescue and see that I am given telephone connection as early as possible. If this is the state of affairs in Delhi, what would be the condition in rural areas. Many Hon. Members have pointed out that the telephone system is the worst. They do not deserve any sympathy except that they should be given warning and the whole system should be revamped and modernised.

SHRI. S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahabubnagar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know when the Minister would make his statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please wait.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Is this the way that we are handled? How long should we wait now for the Home Minister to make his statement?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has not informed me anything.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : We were told much in advance that he would make a statement.

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Sabarkantha) : From All India Radio we got the news that he will make Statement at four.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister has informed here that he will make Statement at five.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : All India Radio announced it is at four.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : It said he will make Statement in the afternoon.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : Our complaint is how long we are to be treated in a cavalier fashion? The whole House is being taken for a ride.

SHRI H. M. PATEL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it was announced on All India Radio that he will make Statement at four.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But All India Radio may not be correct.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : Anyhow you are sitting here upto six.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapur) : Let the Government say that All India Radio is not correct. It gives bogus news.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I go by the information given by the Minister.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : All India Radio is a department controlled by the Government of India and you say the news is not correct.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may not be correct.

[*Translation*]

***SHRI T. V. CHANDRA-SHEKHARAPPA** (Shimoga) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am happy to support the demands for grants of the Ministry of communications. While speaking on the demands I want to bring certain vital issue to the kind consideration of the Hon. Minister. It is gratifying to note that this Ministry has been made an independent Ministry and for that I want to congratulate our Government.

The Ministry has covered programmes especially in the field of telecommunication to make use of modern technology. Sufficient efforts have been made to expand and modernise telecommunications during the 6th plan period. Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore has made rich contribution in this development.

Several Committees have been set up to look into the modernisation of telecommunications and other related matters. Sarin Committee has suggested short term and long term developmental programmes. I urge the Hon. Minister to implement the suggestions made by Sarin Committee.

To achieve fast technology in the field of telecommunications it is essential to make optimum utilisation of INSAT-1B and Microwave facilities.

Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore has thousands of skilled and efficient technicians. It is using latest technology and there is vast improvement in the development of communication system. Earlier there was a proposal to set up a complex for manufacturing Digital Electronic Switching equipment close to the existing ITI complex in Bangalore. It had been approved by experts and most of the arrangements were made. But this complex for manufacturing digital electronic switching equipments was shifted to Gonda in Uttar Pradesh.

16.00 hrs.

A delegation of all the Members of Parliament from Karnataka Cong. (I) met our former Prime Minister late Smt. Indira Gandhi in this connection in 1983. She was kind enough to assure the delegation that the second unit of the digital electronic switching equipments would be set up in Bangalore. Therefore, I plead with the Hon. Minister to fulfil the assurance given by our former Prime Minister. In Gonda, the said unit is not functioning to the expected level due to lack of infrastructural facilities. Karnataka Govt. has allotted land for the establishment of the second unit. It has also promised to provide infrastructural facilities like water, power etc. But now there is an apprehension not only in the minds of Members of Parliament but also in the minds of the people of Karnataka that the second unit also would be shifted to Uttar Pradesh. People of Karnataka had been expecting establishment of this complex very eagerly.

ITI Bangalore has sufficient number of skilled workers whose services may be utilised in the new complex. It will solve the unemployment problem also to some extent. Therefore, I earnestly request the Hon. Minister not to shift this complex to any other place, but to have it established in Bangalore itself. I want a categorical

*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

statement from the Hon. Minister in this regard on floor of angust House.

Now, I would like to express my views with regard to Post and Telegraph. The efficiency in this department has gone down. This is the only media of communication which establishes link among the poor villagers who live in remote areas of our country. I request the Hon. Minister to streamline the whole administration to provide best services to rural masses.

I urge the Hon. Minister to link all taluks and district headquarters with the nearest parent telecommunication centre so as to enable them to have STD facilities. Top priority should be given to this aspect in the 7th plan period. I thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are an advanced nation. It is presumed that we always move forward. But so far as P & T is concerned, we are moving backward. In spite of having a dedicated Minister, the P & T is moving backward. It is the biggest organisation in the public sector in our country and it is spread over the entire length and breadth of the country.

After becoming a Member of Parliament, I wanted to study in detail why there have been such inordinate delays in postal delivery. Unfortunately, I have not got a reply except that there is a usual delay in the letters . . . Sir, when there is a holiday, I generally go to Bangalore. I write to them letter that such and such date I am coming to Bangalore. I used to write three days before my departure. But I myself will receive such letters at Bangalore. From Bangalore to Delhi, it takes 4 days. I remember very well a decade ago, a letter posted under QMS, was delivered to Bangalore the very next day in the evening. In the evening,

they used to deliver. Now, it takes 4 days. I do not understand the reason where they say they are technologically and scientifically so much advanced.

Even in regard to local delivery, I have bitter experience. I hope, everybody must be having the same experience. Letters posted locally either at Delhi or Bangalore takes a minimum of two days. Is this the efficiency ? I do not know where we are. Of course, our Minister has taken over this Department recently, I suppose. Probably he does not know me. I know him very well and of his capacity. He must put his head to this matter and he must set it right. I will speak for another 5 mintes, with your permission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no discrimination to any Hon. Member.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : So far as the postal employees are concerned, a decade or even a little more than that, we could easily recognise the postal employees. They used to don with uniform ; they used to wear badges. Now, how can you recognise the P & T employees ? Now, a number of ladies are also there. They do not have uniform. They do not have even badges. I do not know whether labour leaders or employees are opposing it. But is absolutely necessary that we should give them uniform. They should wear badges. You give them uniform allowance. You give them three or four sets of uniform. Even for ladies, there should be uniform, because a number of ladies are recruited now-a-days and posted as peons or post-women.

In the postal Department, just now, my Hon. friend Shri Suresh also said about it. There are extra-Departmental agents. Labour leaders know it very well. I have been receiving letters from them. Many Members must have also been receiving letters. Thousands of them are paid consolidated pay of Rs. 200 per mensem. They are supposed to work for five hours. But actually,

[Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer]

they are asked to do everything from 'A' to 'Z' by the Post-master there. They do everything—sorting, delivering and also the home work of the post-master. They are not permanent employees. Any moment, the post-master can send them home and dispense with their services. They have put more than 15 or 20 years of service. It is very necessary that we should think about them. It is heart-burning that at an age of 40 or 45 years, married with children, they are not permanent.

What do you do with such employees? Either you confirm them or you should not recruit them at all. They are working as extra-departmental employees for the last 20 to 25 years even. If you do not require them, you should dispense with them in the beginning itself. But if after 20 or 25 years, you send them away, where will they go? They would have got married and got their own families. What will they do to maintain their families if they are without work? You should make the service permanent and pay them decently. You make them permanent.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : You cannot dispense with them. How can you do that? If there are no extra-departmental employees, many villages will go without that service.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : You make them permanent. You give them decent salary. We do not want them to be sent away. That is what he says. You treat them well. You give them a decent salary. You just given them Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 per month. Who will work on such a paltry amount? It is almost whole-time work.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Coming to post offices, I would urge upon the Government and the Hon. Minister to see that every village must have a post-office. Telegraph service

must also be there. That must be the target in the Seventh Plan.

About telephones, many of us have got bitter experience. Many times, there are wrong connections coming; at times, we got lady's voice and, particularly, the ladies will mistake us very much. Something should be done to see that wrong connections are minimised.

Then, there are inflated telephone bills coming to us. I would request the Hon. Minister to go into this matter and see that over-billing is not there.

About the facility or "Assistance", what is the necessity for that when you do not get it. When you do not get a particular telephone number, you take the help of "Assistance". But that is worse than getting a connection. They are supposed to give us assistance. But hardly there is any assistance given to us.

Even for getting "Enquiry", you will have to dial and dial; you will have to wait for many minutes to get any information. This was not so about a decade back. The service has worsened. You must improve the efficiency of telephone service. We are now in an electronics age. Something must be done about it.

In regard to allotment of telephones, there is a provision in the Indian Telegraph Act itself that telephone advisory committees are to be constituted for the purpose. I have myself been a member of the telephone advisory committee, in Bangalore. For the last 3 years, there is no advisory committee. It is left to the whims and fancies of the officers in the Telephones Department. In Karnataka, even the Ministers do not come under "special category". The General Manager of Telephones says that there is no provision for that.

I was myself a Minister and I have got my experience. The General Manager said, "I cannot give a special category to Ministers." He gives the telephone to any person he likes. I would request the Hon. Minister to enquire into it. He must have received a letter from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka about this matter. If a Minister cannot get special category, who else can get special category. You must spell out what is special category. That is very necessary. You must define it. You please see that telephone advisory committees are constituted wherever necessary.

About S.T.D. facility every district must have S.T.D. facility.

Lastly, I would point out that there is the most prestigious organisation in the public sector, that is, the Indian Telephone Industry at Bangalore. This is the mother of all the telecommunication organisations. It is one of the best managed industries. The employees of ITI are always facing the threat of retrenchment because they have stopped manufacturing exchanges which they were manufacturing previously. I would strongly urge upon the Government to see that the Digital electronic switch gear system factory is established at Bangalore. We were deceived once in the past. We should not be deceived once again.

With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI R. S. KHIRHAR (Sitamarhi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Communications. It is true that there has been a lot of technological advancement in the field of telecommunications during the last few

years and the Telecommunication System of our country has reached an advanced stage of development, but the benefit of the development made in this sector has not reached all the areas of the country. The rural areas have been deprived of the benefit of the progress made in this field. I would like to refer in particular to the rural areas and the northern part of Bihar State as also my own home district Sitamarhi. There is a provision of one post office each for a population of 2,500. There are post offices at a distance of six to seven miles in our area even today, but there is no telephone facility in any of the post offices. In my view, until this facility is provided, it could not be utilised fully. I would like to request that telephone facility must be provided in post offices which are being opened in the rural areas. There are many Development Blocks in my district Sitamarhi. No telephone facility has been provided in them also which causes a lot of difficulty. Neither have the postmen who are working in the post offices of rural areas been sanctioned any pay-scale, nor have their services been regularised. In the absence of such facilities, these persons lose the enthusiasm for work. I want that their services should be regularised and their pay-scale should be prescribed the micro-wave system has not been installed in District Sitamarhi so far. For the last two years, the equipments from this Ministry are brought there, but they are not installed there. We have come to know that there is shortage of land. It should be examined how the land would be available. This work should be done without delay. With these words, I support the Demands of this Ministry.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): Sir, I am really very thankful to the Hon. Members who have taken part in this debate on the Ministry of Communications. They have shown a lot of interest and a number of suggestions have been given as to how we can improve the Services which, I would readily admit, are not all that we wish them to be.

There is a long history behind if we want to know why our telecommunication services particularly, are not to our expectations. We have neglected this Sector in our previous Plans with the result that after every Plan, the number of persons in the waiting list increased and it is only lately that it is gradually being realised in the country as a whole that telecommunication is really an important Sector of national importance and development and that it is not just an elitist concept which can be confined to certain sections of people in urban areas.

Just to give an example of what has happened in the past, I would like to give some figures. The first Five Year Plan started in 1951. At that time, the waiting list of telephones was 29,101.

At the end of the Second Five Year Plan (1956-61), the waiting list increased to 1,89,405.

At the end of the Third Five Year Plan (1961-66), the waiting list went up to 3,49,226.

Today at the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan, the waiting list stands at 8.6 Lakhs.

We will have to put in quite a lot of efforts as well as a massive investment if we want to substantially improve the Services. It is with

this end in mind that, compared to the Sixth Plan all location which amounted to about Rs. 2,700 crores, we have proposed in the Seventh Plan an allocation of Rs. 12,000 crores. Even then the waiting list would not vanish, and it will take a long time for it to become a thing of the past.

Most of the difficulties about operation of telephones arise from this fact that, because the number of telephones is less, more calls are made from, and more people use, one telephone. The number of people using per telephone in India is much higher than in other countries. To give some examples, in the United Kingdom, only two calls are made per day per telephone. In Japan, 16 minutes are used for making and receiving call, at both ends, per instrument, per telephone, per day. This is the situation in other countries whose instances are sometimes quoted to us and it is asked: if they can have such an efficient system, why can't we have? Most of the difficulties about calls not going through, enquiry not responding, are because our system is so clogged all the time, and when one does not get a response, one goes on dialling and dialling; as an Hon. Member mentioned, the fingers really get cramped. He mentioned about Calcutta particularly. This is what happens, and as it goes along, it becomes all the more difficult. So, in this Plan we want to mount a very serious effort, given the allocations by the Planning Commission, to introduce the latest instruments, latest switching instruments, exchanges and all the rest of it, so that our system gets modernised.

Another feature of our Seventh Plan is to take telecommunication to the rural areas which have been neglected uptill now. For that also, we want to use the latest techniques and not treat them as places where we can dump our old machines and things like that. Just to give one or two examples, in some of the hilly areas which are

inaccessible and where open wires are difficult to instal and maintain, we want to use microwave links and satellite—to reach those remote areas.

Another thing—and this was mentioned by Prof. Parashar—is the multi-access radio system that we want to have and which will cover a group of villages with a few telephones in each village. That will also be on wireless and no cable will be necessary. As a matter of fact, our idea is to do away with cables, open or underground, as much as possible, so that we can give a service which is reliable and which can be relied upon.

Another feature of our Seventh Plan projects is that we want to introduce the latest technology in every area of tele-communication operation. We have already gone in for a digital switching system which, as has been mentioned, is the latest technique. We have gone into this, we have started installing this, we have even started manufacturing at Gonda as was mentioned. This is the system which we want to adopt now for our future expansion apart from what we are manufacturing at ITI.

Another thing is this. In order that we may not be compelled to import foreign technology for ever, we are developing a system which is going to be completely our own. We have made very special arrangements; we have started an organization called the Centre for Development of Telematics, and the mandate to this Centre is this : we have given them three years and a sum of Rs. 35 crores because that is what was computed and we have asked them to produce a system which is completely indigenous with certain peripheral areas to be covered by imported technology and that they should develop a system which would in future to our standard system so far as expansion of tele-communications is concerned. Till that happens we have adopted this digital system from France for

which a factory with a capacity of 500,000 lines is already starting work in Gonda.

About the second factory about which the Hon. Member, Mr Chandra-sekharappa was keen, it is still under consideration. The proposition was to have another factory of the same type in Bangalore. There is no question of shifting it to Uttar Pradesh or anywhere-else. We do hope that a decision on this second factory would be taken very soon. No decision has been taken to shift it anywhere and we still believe that Bangalore would be a good place for establishing this factory. We have our Indian Telephone Industry, a pioneer—public sector undertaking—I think it is the major public sector undertaking to be started in our country...

PROF. N. G. RANGA : It is running on profit.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Yes, it is running on profit. It is run in an efficient way with the co-operation of the labour. Very highly skilled and motivated people work there and with the other infra-structure which exists there, Bangalore is certainly suitable for having the second factory. It will receive our utmost attention when the question of the Second factory comes up...

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Why still doubt ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Because we have not yet taken a decision whether to go in for a second factory. ... (Interruptions) You are going to get it anyhow.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : In the first factory also the same thing happened. The same hope was given.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I have clearly said that there is no intention to shift it to UP or anywhere-

[Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha]

else. ... (*Interruptions*) I have said what needed to be said on this. I have given compliments to the labour force there, to the infra-structure in Bangalore. I am trying to build up the case for you which I am not trying to refute. We are speaking on the same wavelength. Then Sir, we are going to see that the equipment that will come out will be what we want to use it for our future developments. A lot of non-resident Indian experts in this line have not only shown their willingness but are actually ready to co-operate in developing this system. We lay great store by this effort and we hope to get a system which is completely our own and about which we can be proud of. About digital thing I answered a question in this House a few days ago and as I said then, we are going in for optical fibre transmission which is again the latest technology in the world. It is, just a wire like a hair. It is made of glass and light impulses travel along the light on that glass wire. They are transmitted at a very fast pace. It has a tremendous capacity compared to the normal run of cables. We want to adopt this as part of our future development including its manufacture in our own country.

I would like to mention in passing the use that we make of the satellite communications. We have the INSAT-IB which is to be completely loaded to the extent of 4000 channels by the end of this year. Another satellite IC is going up. We would also have some spare capacity from that. We want to fully make use of the satellite communications for reaching farther areas like the North-East, Andamans and even the metropolitan centres where all these things are necessary.

A lot of things were mentioned about the Telex service and the telex machines which are poorly maintained. I readily admit that so far as telex development is concerned; we are really backward. That word is permissible. Because the type of machines that we

are producing are old models, they are mechanically operated, the parts are not readily available even with our own manufacturing factory and we have decided to have in the Seventh Plan a very well integrated modern network for not only telex, teleprinters but for all communication services. For example, newspapers are printed through satellite by facsimile. Sitting here you send your impulses to the satellite which beams to the other places and the paper gets printed. All these latest technologies which are non-voice side of tele-communication development would receive serious attention and we want that by the end of the Seventh Plan telexes of high quality should be available on demand anywhere in the country. They are now available in Delhi and some other places. We want this type of network to be established so as to cater to banks, press and computer terminals.

Sir, a lot has been said about the billing complaints, telephones being out of order and other things. These grievances and complaints are very real. As I tried to explain in the beginning, the main cause is that our equipment is inadequate, old and all types of equipments are being used at the same time and to coordinate becomes difficult. To give an example, recently an exchange in Connaught Place was closed. It was 50 years old at that time. A new exchange has been started. If this is the type of equipment we have inherited, the system cannot work to the efficiency that we expect to have. Therefore, these faults and complaints occur.

Sir, overbilling is another thing. For overbilling as well as for attending to other complaints we are streamlining our grievances procedure. Our Prime Minister is very keen that public services should be responsive to public wishes and demands. They have to be answerable to the people whom they are expected to serve. Taking cue from what he wants to do, we are trying to

streamline our existing grievances procedures and evolve procedures by which a sort of public relations approach would be adopted where people could put their things across the table. A mention was also made that it should be entered. It is already being done and followed up by our officers. I would not like to quote how many calls are put through and what percentages fail because I am of the view that even 1 per cent is so substantial that we cannot take credit of...

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
We invariable fall in that 1 per cent.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :
For Hon. Members of Parliament, I am trying to devise a system in consultation with the Parliament Secretariat which would case the whole thing considerably. The whole thing is that STD is there. When we use it or others use it on our behalf we do not know how much time has gone by or how much billing has gone through. But there are complaints in respect of non-STD connections as well. We are evolving a system that if there is a complaint and if it is completely out of tune with what has happened in the last year then we would ask the subscriber to deposit an amount which could be half of the amount or even less and the remaining amount could be inquired into. Even for dis-connections we are trying not to dis-connect a telephone without giving notice. We would like to see that every subscriber whom we are pledged to serve would be treated properly.

Another thing that comes is that there is large amount of absenteeism in our exchanges. There is as much as 30-40 per cent absenteeism and it has been going on for years. We are trying to evolve some system of incentives so that they may not take short leave or they can encash their leave. With 30-40 per cent absenteeism what sort of service can we expect? Although we make *ad hoc* arrangement yet really trained persons cannot be dispensed with in that manner.

So, we are having some system of incentives so that he could be encouraged, could be made to work and come regularly and not have absenteeism. And in this, we have had discussions with the trade unions and we want to secure your cooperation. As Members of the House said, I have always impressed upon our trade union friends that if this is the type of image we have of our service, then, there is not really much that we can enthuse ourselves about or even for their getting support for their own demands.

Incidentally talking about mechanisation and other things we have always consulted the union representatives and would continue to do so in any programme of modernisation of any type or computerisation that we want to introduce. But it must be admitted that some induction of mechanisation including computerisation is absolutely necessary looking at the volume of work whether in the Posts or Telegraphs side. Sometimes, particularly in the big cities, things get completely out of hand and they cannot be handled manually in an efficient way. So, we are already feeling the strains and mechanisation or computerisation is gradually being introduced. But I can again certainly assure the House itself. There is no question of retrenching any one who is working in those areas. There is no question of not consulting them. We want to take them into confidence. The aim should be on the part of the management and the people who work with us (or their representatives) that we should both cooperate and provide a service to the consumer which would really bring us credit as a nation, as an organisation. It is again with this idea to modernise the functioning that we have set up a committee to examine whether the present working could be improved by converting the telephone system in Bombay and Delhi into a corporation.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about Calcutta ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : We have set up a Committee. If our experience in this is good certainly Calcutta will be brought in. Now, Sir, about Calcutta I can mention that we are very keen to improve the services in Calcutta. I was myself there a few weeks back; I had been to the Electronic exchange. We have decided to replace all exchange lines which are more than 25 year old in a phased manner. We are keen. We have problems in Calcutta. For example the streets are narrow. Particularly in monsoon the cables get defective.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Exchanges are very bad.

SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : Through you, I like to inform the Minister that in the last week end I was in Calcutta I tried to telephone to different people. But I did not get any exchange except 46. I had to spend quite a lot of time to get those telephone connections which I wanted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He told you, some improvement is there.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Calcutta is horrible; you cannot get any telephone.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is improvement; he has already assured. He said he is going to make some improvement in that.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I would like to say why the system is bad. I will not give all the reasons. There is theft of cables and of wires in plenty. We have asked State Government to set up a special squad for checking it as some of the States have done. They say they cannot do it. It is taxpayers' money, and if it is not their function. Let us not go into too much details. There are lot of difficulties there. The streets are narrow. There is no coordination between

municipal corporation and various authorities of water, Electricity etc. and Telephones. They cut the roadside in an indiscriminate way. Now we are having a sort of a coordination committee not only in Calcutta but in other places also, so that this problem is minimised. But, then, to improve the services in Calcutta is very much on the cards and we have already started schemes as to how it could be done. Fortunately the trunk services which go from Calcutta to a large number of places are connected through satellite and micro-wave. It is much better these days. We are again taking steps to improve this.

One of the tasks in our 7th Plan is development of rural areas through satellite, wireless and through all the latest techniques available. We want to push it through because telecommunication is not just an elitist luxury but it is a very important thing in any development programme; it is now being realised gradually. And with the assistance of the House and Hon. Members who have pleaded for substantial allocation to this sector I hope Planning Commission will respond and we will be able to do some things in this respect. There is a problem about some of the projects that were sanctioned for which building are ready but they have not been commissioned. There are certain States where the problem is that many projects were started because I.T.I. could not actually supply the items. But I will try to remedy the situation even by importing of certain critical items. We will certainly see that they all work.

Shrimati Bhandari spoke about Sikkim and North-eastern region. It is really true. I was in Gangtok a few days back. There, the telex service and postal and telephone services are really not satisfactory at all and we are trying to do whatever we can. As regards telephones, there is a 800-line exchange in Gangtok. One hundred lines were added last year, that is in 1984-85. Now, the total capacity is 900. We want to increase this by at

least 200 lines more during the current year and by this some relief would come. For the Eastern region we have a very ambitious programme to cover the North-Eastern States, particularly with satellite network, what we call the integrated digital network. We have selected some 10 areas for this and 7 areas are in the North-Eastern region. We have given a very high priority for the development of the region so that the communication could improve and they would be able to participate in the national mainstream. I can assure the House that Sikkim and all the connected areas will be looked after and we will try to do whatever we can.

AN HON. MEMBER : Why are the people kept for longer time at the same place ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : We have introduced a system of rotational transfer. After a period of 4 to 6 years, stay, I will try to transfer them so that vested interests do not develop. Sir, something were mentioned about the type of collaboration with the USSR. In this connection, one example is the Indo-USSR Troposcatter link which we have installed. I am going to examine possibilities of obtaining electronic telecommunication equipment from the East-European countries, particularly Hungary and of Cooperation with the Comecon countries.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Please tell something about Bhilwara also.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : We cannot forget Bhilwara.

[English]

We are getting a building for a 2000-line crossbar exchange ready and it will start working in a few years. A similar containerised exchange of 3000-lines would be installed in Alwar this

year. We are hopeful that during the Pali will also have it.

Now, I can refer to some other points regarding the postal service to which many Hon. Members showed a lot of interest. Our Postal Service is the biggest in the world, in the geographical sweep. A number of post offices we have and we have a type of service which other countries do not have. We really have a good system of postal service. It is the biggest postal administration, if we can easily say so. We have 1,44,000 post offices and we employ 6 lakh people. Half of this number, that is, three lakh people are in E.D.P. Agents and the other three lakh people are regular employees.

We handle 1200 crores of mail items per year and it is a subsidised service because we think that it has some sort of a public service aspect also. Our deficit on this side in 1983-84 was Rs. 82 crores, in 1984-85, Rs. 130 crores and this year it is expected to be Rs. 183 crores. Many items are heavily subsidised, for example, for a post card, we charge 15 paise, but to produce, handle and deliver a post card, it costs us 59 paise, and similar is the case with other things also. One post cards, we subsidise to the extent of Rs. 40.85 crores, on letter cards, Rs. 28.63 crores, on registered newspapers Rs. 14.99 crores, on registered articles Rs. 40.74 crores and on money orders Rs. 25.59 crores. Our rates are very reasonable though they have not been revised for a long time. Our policy is to continue with this public service aspect of the postal services and not to recoup all that we spend on this.

Here again, the question of automation comes, because in Bombay and other cities, the mass of mail that comes, one has to see to believe it. It is littered all over and it is getting physically impossible to handle it manually. So we have initiated an inquiry and we have asked our own technical consultants, which is a branch

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of our own Department, a creation of our own Department to project a report as to how sorting of mail can be mechanised, to start with, in Bombay and in other big cities.

Another very important aspect of postal working is the Savings Bank, about which many members mentioned. It is a wonderful, system, reaching all the nooks and corners of the country. There are 657 lakh Savings Bank accounts, that is six crores and fifty seven lakh accounts and the small savings holdings exceed Rs. 14,000 crores. We are also gradually getting into the bigger cities like Delhi and others in the direction of normal banking channels like clearing facilities. We have got them and our cheques etc., are treated like any other bank cheques and they are cleared right there. That incidentally would involve having very special type of cheques because clearing operations are being mechanised and they want to use computers and other things. So we may have to go in for special cheques, magnetised or something like that, so that we can join this thing. We are making every effort by way of improvement of the printing of the pass-books and other types of services, to give a new orientation to our Savings Bank side because it needs a lot of mechanisation.

Incidentally, Choubyji mentioned about the multi-storeyed buildings and the problem that the postmen have to undergo in this regard. This is a serious problem. We have been trying to compel the owners of these multi-storeyed buildings to have letter-boxes at the base/ground level, where the mail can be delivered easily. But we find that it is not possible and they are not cooperating. We are prepared to amend the law to make it compulsory for the owners of the multi-storeyed buildings to provide letter boxes at the ground level itself. It is a very serious problem and we will certainly try to do something on this.

Now, I come to the RMS side, about which a lot has been said. Sorting of the mail in the trains is abolished mainly because our trains are getting faster and the time available in the trains for sorting is very limited and these fast trains do not have space also for sorting.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : It is an excuse.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is a very real excuse. Sureshji said that we wanted to use buses instead of the rail transport. It is not correct. Last year, we ordered 16 Railway mail coaches from the Railways. This time we are buying 15 more. So, they will be moving in Railways, because they are getting faster and better. We pay Railways very well for hauling our mails.

But the RMS system was sort of introduced because it was getting impossible to have it in all trains. So, this was introduced as an alternative. Some people have become surplus to the immediate needs. But there is no question of retrenching them. We have not even posted them outside. We are so careful that they should not be disturbed, least of all those who have been in those stations for many years. We will not move them, unless it is absolutely necessary.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Are they working for 36 hours or 48 hours ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I would not say that, because the working hours have remained the same. Some reviews have been conducted to see how this system has been working. A couple of reviews were done, and we have been changing with experience; but on the whole, it is not correct to say that this has led to delays. On the other hand, it has speeded up the mail. We want to further improve the system, so that we can give a good services on the Postal side.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : There is one difficulty. Suppose the mail is collected from Alwar from all the trains. If to-day is Sunday, tomorrow is Monday. Even upto Monday, this sorting work will not be complete.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : There are all-night mailing stations, in many places. In Krishanganj, the other day I had enquired about all-night mailing. In Ajmer, they have had all-night mailing. Mails are received from all stations all the night. They were sorted out in the morning, or at any odd hour when the train was available. They were sorted out. So, this question has again come before us, viz. that it should not lead to delay. We would not have done this, if this were so.

Now about ban on posts. I share the feelings of Hon. Members that this ban on posts should be relaxed so far as the operational side of our activities is concerned, because these are not normal, administrative posts on which we can save. We could not achieve our Plan targets last year namely, for post offices because of the ban. We opened some of them; but since the ban was there, it was just not possible to do so. And with the support that the Hon. Members of the House have given to this idea, I again will approach the Finance Minister. We are already in touch with him; and we will say that something should be done either to exempt us or to accommodate our developmental needs at least, to some extent in this respect. We are conscious of it; and we will do that.

About E.D. employees, about whom Hon. Members have spoken, there is a lot of misconception about this system, when we say that they do not get the minimum wage. The whole idea seems to be that they are whole-time Government servants. They are not. The whole system has been introduced at places where there is not much

work, and a whole-time person could not be appointed because of various economic reasons. So, he is not expected to work for more than five hours, as such; and mostly, he works for much less than that. So, to equate him and his wages with others—there are no wages, in the normal sense—is not correct. We have been revising his emoluments from time to time. Even now, a committee is going into this. Mr. Savor has been given the task of reviewing the whole thing, and doing something.

We also want to introduce some incentives. Some complaints were made by hon. Members that they were not working and not increasing the revenue, because they might then be displaced, and a regular Postmaster might be appointed. So, there also, we wanted an incentive schemes, so that their earnings could improve, because in some of these places, for the last 15 years the revenue or the amount of traffic has not increased—which means that they are not serious about it, and they have not taken pains, to see that the mail service is expanded. We wanted to have some sort of...(Interruption)

SHRI B. K. GADHVI (Banas-kantha) : They have to walk for 30 Kms. for doing ten minutes' work. Perhaps your figure is not correct.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : I clearly say that they are not expected to work for more than five hours.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : They are not expected to work, but they work.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : If they work, and if there is enough work for more than five hours, there are other norms for upgrading the whole thing. (Interruptions) We have been increasing their emoluments, Prof. Ranga. You will be glad to know this. Even now we have a committee to

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revise their emoluments. We are conscious of it. They are a very important part of our set-up. There is no question of treating them in a casual manner because the basis on which our rural services are maintained, they are doing excellent work and we want to strengthen his system by giving incentives and other things.

About commemorative stamps and the welcome that was given to the idea of having a freedom fighters' series in this, we want to continue it next year. As regards the suggestions which are coming regarding inclusion in this commemorative stamps series of all other freedom fighters or otherwise, will, we have a system and certain set of norms. We have an Advisory Committee which goes into this; and even otherwise, we have tried to accommodate a lot of suggestions in that respect. So, whatever the Hon. Members have suggested we would have a relook at them.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : What about the parallel department run by the parivate companies ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : There is nothing like that parally service. It is illegal to have a services of that nature. We have caught some people. We have proceeded against them and we are going to be strict on that. There is no question of running a parallel a service. We want our service to be the sale service in this connection.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : What about the postal research centres ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :

The postal research centre is not meant for it. (*Interruptions*) Whether it is censored or not, it is part of our legal system which we need not discuss right now. We have some legal provisions in that respect which may be invoked or may not be invoked; that is a different matter altogether. So far as our research centre is concerned, to say that it is used for some sort of clandestine activities of this nature is completely wrong. Our research centres, wherever they are, real research centres. Somebody mentioned why don't you write letters yourself. We do that; almost in every route we have a system in which we send letters of our own to a certain destination just to see how long they will take to reach there. This is our research centre if you want to know about it.

SHRI SURESH KURUH : How it been manned by Intelligence Bureau people of the Home Department ?

PROF. N. G. RANGA Why not ? There is so much CIA business here in our country.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Why should it be ?

SHRI B. K. GADHVI : Why could it be ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Mr. Panigrahi raised lot of problems about Orissa. Well, Orissa is not that badly served at least in respect of staff quarters. The all India average is 6 per cent; in Orissa, it is 13 per cent. As regards the colonies, there is a real problem and he told me about it and I

made an enquiry. They are getting 50,000 gallons per day.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
Orissa Government is not getting it.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :
They have inherited a bad system. In Orissa, also we are trying to see that everything works well.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
What about JCM ?

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :
JCM has been meeting. It did not meet for the last two years. The first thing I did was, when I took over, to see that it must meet. But, there is some part of a valedictory meeting, because the Department got bifurcated. But they did meet once and now the unions are reconsidering whether to have one JCM or two; whether the confederation is made into one or they want to split along the department lines; they are also thinking about it and we are awaiting their reaction and in the light of which we will now recast our JCM. There are lot of things which the Hon. Members have mentioned which I may not be able to reply, but I assure all of them that whatever suggestions they have given would be taken note of, would be acted upon; and once again in the end I assure the Hon. Members that all their difficulties including excessive billing that they have mentioned would be looked into; we would improve our system for dealing with these things; we would strengthen our telephone Advisory Committee which we want to be really a representative body of the subscribers in the interest of the public and with the cooperation

of the members of the House, we do hope that we would be able to give a particular level of service in the P&T Department which would do credit to our country.

17.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put all the cut motions to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Communications to vote together, unless any Hon. Member desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Communications to vote.

The question is :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 14 to 17 relating to the Ministry of Communications.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I now request the Hon. Home Minister to make a Statement.

17.02 hrs.

STATEMENT ON AHMEDABAD
RIOTS

[English]

THE MINISTRY OF AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : Sir, The House is aware that since the middle of February, 1985 disturbed law and order situation is prevailing in Ahmedabad and part of Gujrat. I had made a statement in the House on 21st March. Very recently, on 18th April I had made another statement and informed the House of the prevailing situation. I had also expressed a hope that all sections will contribute to the restoration of normalcy and ensure that there is no breach of peace in Ahmedabad and elsewhere in the State. It is unfortunate that despite steps taken by the State Government to take concerted positive measures, the situation took a serious turn on 22nd April.

The communal trouble that had erupted on 17/18th night was brought under control by the morning of 18th April. The Chief Minister and his colleagues held discussions with various sections of the society including representatives of the various associations, leaders of opposition parties and other political leaders, educationists, etc. A common appeal was issued by all concerned on 19th April to call off the agitation. Unfortunately, certain political leaders, although their party had subscribed to the common appeal, continued to engage in activities which lead to intensifying the agitation. There were wide-ranging allegations against the police.

In the meantime on 20th April, the High Court of Gujarat gave two directions in order to ascertain the veracity of the contents of certain petitions moved before the High Court. Firstly, a committee of two members was appointed to hold a discreet enquiry into the incidents which had been averred in the petitions as well as into

the newspaper reports and statements of persons from the locality. This Committee consisted of two members, namely, Shri P. P. Rathod, Secretary, Revenue Department of the State Government and Shri J. N. Bhatt, Registrar of the Gujarat High Court. The Committee was asked to submit report to the High Court in sealed cover not later than 25th April, 1985. Secondly, the High Court directed their Joint Registrar, assisted by the Additional Registrar to arrange for taking photographs of the properties alleged to have been damaged. The petitioners were asked to furnish a list of places which such petitioners want to have photographs to be taken.

The State Government was directed to render all facilities in carrying out the two directions issued by the High Court.

Earlier on 20th April, 1985 in Khadia area, a determined mob of 1000 persons had indulged in pelting stones on the police men on duty. Despite police urging the mob to go back to their places and not to defy the curfew order, the mob insisted that police should not be present in their area. On the same day, i.e. on 20th April, the Gujarat High Court was moved by certain individuals of the Khadia-Raipur area to restrain the police from using undue force against women and from entering into their houses. It is reported that these developments emboldened the people to insist complete withdrawal of the police from their area. This demoralised the police personnel and they became restive and started assembling at one place. As soon as this was known, senior police officers urged the police to go back to their duty points which they did almost immediately. However, as a precautionary measure, the Commissioner of Police decided to deploy Army in Khadia and Raipur area following which most of the police personnel were withdrawn from that area.

It is with deep regret that I have to inform the House that while carrying

out the directions of the High Court on 22nd April, 1985 a grave incident took place. A team consisting of Additional Registrar, and Joint Registrar of the High Court accompanied by a photographer, the petitioners and the representative of the State Government visited Raipur and Khadia areas of Ahmedabad city for taking photographs of the property alleged to have been damaged. At about 11.00 hours, a hostile crowd collected in the area. When the team reached Raipur gate, the crowd following the team attacked one head-constable and one Home Guard with lethal weapons. The Head-Constable succumbed to injuries immediately. The Home Guard was also seriously injured.

The death of the head-constable compounded by adverse reporting in the Press on an earlier decision of the Judicial Magistrates' Court restraining certain police offices from entering into Raipur and Khadia areas had deeply hurt the feelings of the police force which was already demoralized. With this background, it would now appear that the visit of the team appointed by the High Court during which the head-constable was dastardly attacked and killed lead to outbursts of pent up feelings in the police force. The funeral procession of the deceased head constable was attended by large number of police men. As the funeral procession moved on the police men got restive and unfortunately some of them indulged in acts of arson, damage to private properties, including vehicles on the road. The premises of the Gujarat Samachar Press and the Indian Express—the Jansatta Press were set on fire. Further, most of the city unarmed police deserted their duties and even the mobile police wireless communication system was disrupted.

As soon as the death of the head-constable was reported to the Chief Minister, he condemned the death and announced Rs. 1 lakh as relief to the family of the deceased. He also issued

an appeal to the police men to go back to their duties. Simultaneously, Home Minister and the Director General of Police also appealed to the police men. The DGF and the Commissioner of Police of Ahmedabad city and other senior officers moved from police station to police station persuading the police men to go back to their duties. All these conciliatory efforts were able to bring the police men on duty by 19.00 hours on 22nd April.

Following withdrawal of the police from duty, the State Government took a decision to strengthen the Army reinforcements and move the same to the riots effected same areas in the city. Very promptly the Army took positions in all the areas badly affected by violence. The Army had been called in to assist civil authority and information given out by certain news agencies that Ahmedabad city was handed over to Army is completely incorrect.

It has been reported that the High Court has since suspended till 25th April, the action on the directions and the matters would be reviewed by the Court on the 26th April. Directions regarding the movement etc. of certain police officials in some specified areas have also been reportedly stayed/suspended till the 29th April.

I have said in the past and the House has shared our feelings that all violence must be condemned. All sections of society and all political parties must act in a way so as to contribute to the restoration of normalcy not only in Ahmedabad but throughout the State of Gujarat. There has generally been positive response to the efforts of the State Government in this regard. Although it is a matter of regret that some individuals have continued to indulge in activities which has vitiated the atmosphere. Although the press has been extremely cooperative yet there were highly exaggerated and distorted versions of the incidents in some sections of the press. All this coupled with dastardly act which took

[Shri S. B. Chavan]

place during the course of implementing the High Court's directives, perhaps led to a situation and behaviour by the policemen unbecoming of a uniformed service.

I am sure, the House will join me in condemning the action of the mob which resulted in the death of the Head-Constable and serious injury to a Home Guard. Wholehearted and very positive efforts must be made by all to get rid of the violence and to restore law and order. Again I appeal to all sections of the House and also the Paes to co-operate in this task and help to restore normalcy in Ahmedabad and other parts of Gujarat.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now we will take up item at serial No. 6...

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Raipur) : Sir, in the morning both at 11 O'clock and at 12 O'clock
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down, all of you. I will hear each one of you. I do not want others to stand up. If any Member wants to say anything, let him stand and say. If all Members are standing like this, I would not be able to hear anything and I will not allow anything to go on record. I request all of you to sit down first. I am very firm in this matter. First, all of you please sit down. I will call each one of you but not like this. Yes, Professor Dandavate, what do you want to say ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, in the morning
(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will call you also, I will call both the sides.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, in the morning when we demanded that a statement be made by the Home

Minister, I had also suggested that the moment the Speaker had announced that Home Minister will make a statement, we took it for granted that the matter was already on the List of Business and we had given notice under Rules 194 and 193 that actually we take the statement of the Home Minister into consideration and proceed with the discussion. If you go through the records, in the morning, the Speaker had not rejected, he said, "I am not barring the discussion but I will decide on merits after the statement is made by the Minister". According to the rules, when the Minister makes a statement in the House, he has to provide a copy of the statement to the Speaker before he makes the statement. It is approved by the Speaker and then the Minister is granted permission to make the statement. So, he is already in possession of the text of the statement. By this time, knowing the seriousness of the situation, he must have made up his mind. I would like to quote a precedent. On 21st of February, 1982, when the Nellie massacre took place, at 11 O'clock I had demanded the actual cancellation and suspension of Question Hour. The entire House was agreed that we should suspend the Question Hour. Since the Speaker has said in the morning that he will consider the question of discussing the statement, I want to know what the decision of the Speaker is. This matter is extremely serious... ..
(Interruptions).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He only said that he will consider.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Don't speak like the Minister, Sir, that the matter is under consideration. That is the standard reply given for the last hundred years. Let not the Deputy-Speaker speak in the language of the Minister... ..
(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down, all of you. I shall answer him.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down, I want to reply. Unless all of you sit down, I would not allow any Members to speak.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Kindly don't take the instructions from Prof. Tewary, Sir, go through the record.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Speaker had said that he will go through the statement and then decide.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He has gone through the statement ... *(Interruptions)*. Without the Speaker going through the statement, the Home Minister cannot make it. That is the Rule of Procedure.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister has made the statement. If you want any further discussion, please give a notice, I will consider it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We have already given it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Give a notice based on the statement.....

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Then you do not know the rules. When it is announced that the statement is going to be made, it appears in the List of Business. From that moment, the notice is considered to have been given. I have already given a notice in the morning and I have told the Speaker also that I have given it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Minister has made the statement now. You please give a notice.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have already given.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You give fresh one.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If it is not in the List of Business, I cannot allow it now. If you want further discussion on this, please give notice, I will consider it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I had clarified this point in the morning and the Speaker had accepted it..... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You give a new thing, I will consider it. Now only he has made the statement. You give a fresh notice.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : My notice is already accepted. I am told by the office that it is accepted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then I will speak to the Speaker about this. Yes, Professor Tewary, what do you want to say ?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : Sir, I have only one point to make. The matter is very clear. Professor Dandavate and other Members had placed their point of view before the Speaker. The Speaker, after hearing them, gave his ruling that the Home Minister will make a statement and after that he will consider this matter and on merits, under the rules, he will give his ruling whether a debate was necessary and it is, I think, up to the Speaker to waive his ruling. They cannot force a discussion now. The Speaker has never promised a discussion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I gave the ruling. Please sit down, Mr. Tiwary. I have told this already. I want members to be brief. Don't take time.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI (Hawrah) : In this House there is a practice, I am not quoting precedents, that any State law and order matters are not permitted to be discussed in the House. We have been watching this practice. Now, in the context of Gujarat, the Opposition has demanded...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your statement is enough.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : You have to listen to me. You cannot stop me like this. I am a Member and I am within my right to speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What do you want to say ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : You cannot shout me out. If law and order in Gujarat is to be discussed in this manner, why not the Home Minister goes to Tripura ? This is a demand. I have a right to demand like this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : You cannot shout me down. The Minister will have to visit Tripura and West Bengal. If the Minister makes a statement like this, the Minister cannot avoid this also. If you allow this, then he will have to go there. If the Opposition demands on Gujarat question, we can also demand on Tripura and West Bengal.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am not allowing you. Please sit down.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : I have a right to demand like this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have not allowed. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, I have heard enough.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will come to you. Please sit down.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : In Tripura, the extremists have killed our security forces.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will come to you, please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : The extremists are posing serious danger to the country's integrity on the border. Why does not the Minister go there and make statement ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Unnecessarily you are making trouble. I request all of you to sit down. Whatever views you have expressed, I have heard. Now I will take a decision. You cannot compel me like this.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : This is a State subject. The Hon. Minister has made a statement. It is not enough. There has to be a thorough discussion on that incident.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have told you I will consider it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Are you admitting our notice or not.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will see. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, may I have a clarification from you. You had observed a little while ago that this is not no the List of Business. I do not understand it because the moment the Speaker announced that the Hon. Minister will make a statement, the List of Business stands amended. So you cannot take a position like this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I want to clarify it to you. What he said was that after the Minister's statement he wou'd consider it on merit. That is all. He never accepted that thing.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : I have not completed.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : He said discussion would be allowed. How do you deny that ?

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : We are not discussing the law and order situation in Gujarat on a white canvas. We are discussing specific issues which affected the minorities and depressed sections of the people as well as the breakdown which has forced the Central Government to send the Army to assist the civil authorities. We are discussing that situation which is well within the competence of the House. There is also the question of right to the newspapers and the freedom of expression. I am shocked to find from the statement that there is not a word of condemnation that the Press has been set fire While he has widely condemned the action of the mob resulting in the death of a Head Constable—rightly so—he has not spoken a word to condemn the setting on fire of the Press. Therefore, this House is fully competent to discuss this issue. This is why I say that you cannot take away our right by saying that this is not in the List of Business.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We cannot now discuss the Minister's state-

ment. Whatever you feel, we will see.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The Chief Minister has no moral authority to continue when the police had become criminals in the State.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSHI : No, you cannot say that.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : All of you may please sit down.

(Interruptions)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : ...The remark of Mr. Dandavate should be expunged.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am very sorry, I am repeatedly telling all the Members to sit down and raise their hands if they want to speak. When I go on requesting like this, nobody is following it. In the circumstances I cannot allow others to speak. I am going to the next item of the business. That is all I can do. I am very sorry, you people are taking too much advantage of it. Nobody is following that.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I am requesting once again. Hon. Members, if you are particular about discussing this Gujarat matter, if you want to raise it, you give notice, I will consider it. There is no further discussion. You give notice. That is all.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You

give notice, I will go through it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram) : We had given notice regarding Gujarat out of a particular situation that had arisen. Now the Home Minister's statement has added nothing new to the situation that existed before he made the statement holds good.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That cannot be debated now. You give notice, I will allow.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO : There is a complete breakdown of constitutional machinery in Gujarat, the Government there has failed.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. I cannot hear any of you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar) : This House is discussing this issue because the constitutional machinery in Gujarat has completely broken down.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please sit down. Mr. Reddy, you please sit down.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BAUSDEB ACHARIA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, after the Home Minister's statement, it is clear that the...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I cannot allow you to discuss on the

Home Minister's statement. Anything you want to say further on this I will not allow. Nothing will go on record.

(Interruption)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I can't allow. What do you want to say ?

SHRI B. K. GADHAVI (Banas-kantha) : Sir, I want a clarification that despite the appeal made by all the Opposition Parties, whether it is BJP or Janata,...**

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. We will go to Item No. 6.

(Interruptions)**

17.24 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL)
1985-86—CONTD.

[English]

(ii) Ministry of Defence*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 18 to 23 relating to the Ministry of Defence for which 6 hours have been allotted.

Shri V. Sobhanadreeswra Rao has tabled cut motions to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Defence. I would like to know if he is present in the House and desires to move his cut motions.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : We want to know whether

**Not recorded.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

you are allowing a thorough discussion on this subject.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, I will request Shri Ayyapu Reddy to initiate the discussion.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

“That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue

Accounts and Capital Account shown in the Fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 18 to 23 relating to the Ministry of Defence.”

Demands for Grants, 1985-86 in respect of the Ministry of Defence submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha

No. of	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985	Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	4
1	2	3	4	
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE :				
18.	Ministry of Defence	79,48,33,000	3,97,41,66,000	1,34,59,35,000
19.	Defence-Pensions	84,74,79,000	4,23,73,96,000	—
20.	Defence Services—Army	7,97,84,70,000	39,89,23,55,000	—
21.	Defence Services—Navy	1,00,32,50,000	5,01,62,50,000	—
22.	Defence Services—Air Force	2,88,32,23,000	14,41,62,17,000	—
23.	Capital Outlay on Defence Services	1,54,25,33,000		7,71,26,67,000

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, we want a discussion. We want to know whether you are allowing a thorough discussion on this subject. Sir, we want an assurance...

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please give it in writing, I will consider it and will let you know. That is all I can say. Mr. Ayyapu Reddy, please carry on.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Sir, this is a very serious matter.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No. Now we have taken up the next item. I won't allow. No further discussion. I won't allow.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We have already done it. That is all.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No. We have gone to the next item.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : We strongly protest and we walk out.
(Interruptions)

(Shri C. Madhav Reddi and some other Hon. Members than left the House.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri Ayyapu Reddy—not here.

Shri Ajay Mushrpn to initiate the discussion on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Defence.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, at the very

beginning, I would like to pay my homage to those people, during the last financial year, from the Defence services, who have laid down their lives for the integrity and unity of the country. As you know, in the last year, we have undergone a very big turmoil and a large number of people have laid down their lives in the best traditions of the Defence forces. They not only saved the country from disintegration but without any consideration of caste, colour creed or religion, they saved the religion from the clutches of the extremists. It must go on record of this august House that we have an institution in the country which honours whatever principles have been laid down by our freedom fighters and by those people who had made this country what it is today, i.e. the country of which we are all proud of.

At the very beginning, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Defence Minister on showing awareness to the strategic needs of the Armed Forces and to keep the Defence forces at the highest state of fitness and morale. We have recently read in the newspapers the achievement of the indigenous production of the Main Battle Tank, Ajmer. I hope and wish that in the near future, the Light Fighter Aircraft which is also in the pipeline, so far as production is concerned, will make its appearance. Nothing is more exciting than to reply, slow but sure progress, towards self-reliance and complete indigenisation. I hope that in times to come, a stage will come when slowly we will get rid of the habit of importing things from outside so far as our Defence requirements are concerned. As you know, Sir, we have to pay a very heavy price and a very heavy exorbitant cost which we cannot afford keeping in view our meagre resources.

There has been a marginal increase in the Defence Budget for the year 1985-86 as compared to 1984-85. The increase is welcome. Some people from the Opposition Benches would like to say that the increase is unwarranted,

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Some even go to the extent of saying that we are buying equipment which is not very much required, which is not useful, which is not appropriate and that the Government of India is not properly controlling various expenditure and purchase.

My submission is, if we see at the horizon of the country today, all around us, there are either satellites or countries who have been made to go by the interest of big powers of the world. Their threat is increasing not only on land but also on air and, very recently, on sea. It is, therefore, very imperative for us that we obtain modern arms, weapons, aircraft, ships and, I would like to go on record to say that, if necessary even certain curtailment of developmental plans may have to be reconsidered because nothing is more dear to us and the country than our freedom, integrity and sovereignty. Every time we think of our development, it is not possible to have it till we maintain a high standard of peace, an element of safety, an element of welfare of the people and the sovereignty of the country. Hence, I pray and hope that the sovereignty of the country will always come first.

Now, although the achievements of the Defence Ministry have been very laudable, I wish to make certain suggestions. As we know, since 1958, the Defence forces have increased three times in their size. But our basic structure remains the same. In the modern world of warfare, the materials management and the logistic system will play a very important and big role in times to come. As we all know, the future wars are going to be fought with great intensity at short notice and will not give us any time for the development of forces to which we are patterned at the moment. It was long lines of maintenance of strategic defences and long lines of communications which necessitated us to have repairs cover, and so on and so forth in Second World War. So, there is a need that we must modernise our systems.

I would like to suggest that the time has come that, like American, British and other modern armies in the world, we do have a unified command of all the three Services. The future wars being total, intense and short-notice wars, all the three Services will be involved simultaneously and will be taking part in the operations. Therefore, it is necessary that we have a unified command of the three Services. At the moment, we have a loose and ceremonial Chiefs of Staff Committee which may not be as modern as the Hon. Defence Minister may like it to be.

It is said that the future wars will be fought on the maintenance lines of command in the vulnerable areas, in the areas from where the war effort is generated, the war effort is initiated and in the lines of communications through which these efforts will pass to the hands of people who fight. If that be so, we have got to have a very broad-based logistic system. I even go to the extent of saying that we may like to have a united logistic command.

Just as the chiefs of Staff of the Army, Navy and Air Force, we may like to have a Chief of Logistics which is being tried and, tried very successfully both from the point of view of economy and efficiency in certain Armies.

As we all know, in the Budget of 1985-86, a total of about 35% has been earmarked for Stores and Equipment. If that be so, it is very necessary that Rs. 15,000 crores or Rs. 16,000 crores earmarked are spent in a manner where Defence Forces get our requirements in time, in the correct quantity and to the correct forces. Unfortunately, in the 1985-86 Budget, very little is left for modernisation. There are certain amounts and grants earmarked for modernisation. But that is for the purpose of railways coaches and specialised means of conveyance of various Defence Stores. I do not mean this when I say modernisa-

tion. I mean modernising the Logistics command, of modernising the way we produce things, the way we control the production, the way we monitor the production and the way we supply it to the Defence Services.

In the American Army, there is an Army Material Command. As I say, there should be Logistics Command or there should be the Chief of Logistics and this Army Material Command in the American Army has the Director-General of Ordnance Factories, Supply and Disposals, and Movement, and the Director General of Inspection; and the Director General of Technical Development, altogether under one Head.

We are at present following the same system which we were following when the Britishers were ruling us. It has certain inherent drawbacks and these drawbacks are as well-known to the Hon. Minister of Defence as to anybody else because at the moment the Ministry of Defence controls all the levels of strategic requirements but when it comes to getting involved in monitoring, expediting and receiving, it is left to the respective Services. There are nearly 12-13 lakhs of items which are required by the entire Defence Services and there are certain items which are obsolete and obsolescent and surplus to the requirement of Service. There is no inter- and intra-action so far as the three Services are concerned. If the entire gambit of production and supply comes under one Head, it will ease the production. It will get on the same net between the producers monitors and the Defence Services. At the moment, the Ministry of Defence is a very distant witness to the entire exercise which ultimately results in non-availability of very common user items which are readily available in the market and are bought later on through local purchase at exorbitant and sky-high prices. This can very well be avoided if we have a unified logistics approach.

At the moment, we have over 40 Ordnance factories under the Director General of Ordnance Factories. This establishment has its inherent defects. When it was designed, it was designed to suit the conditions which prevailed nearly 200 years ago. In Calcutta, all the factories were under DGOF. The capacity of these factories, the industrial discipline and peace of each factory has played a major negative role in production. I have first-hand knowledge that there is certain idle capacity of production which is not shown. Their actual capacity to produce, what they are targeted to produce in a particular year and what they produce, is not commensurate with one another. I would very much request the Hon. Defence Minister to get this point explored with a view to maximising the capacity of these factories and increasing production.

So far as industrial peace and discipline is concerned, as you will know the foundation is laid from bottom to top, but discipline is maintained from top to bottom. I would suggest that the best way to maintain discipline and in industrial peace is by example. There should not be two sets of examples: one, those who are in the good books and the other, those who are not in the good books of management. I would even suggest to the Defence Minister that a work study be done and every factory under the DGOF should be exposed to the work-study by specialised people. Then you will come to know where the lacunae are, where the inefficiency in production lies.

Now I come to the question of ex-servicemen, which is very close to our hearts. We all know that at the moment we have got about four lakh ex-servicemen who are yet to be employed and every year we are adding 60,000 defence personnel who become ex-servicemen.

On 4th May, 1984—I am very glad and I must congratulate the then Minister of State, Shri K. P. Singh Deo—a

[Shri Ajay Mushran]

reply was given by the Hon. Minister of State for Defence :

"As census has not been carried out so far in all the States, accurate figures regarding the total number of ex-servicemen in the country are not available. However, on the basis of available information, it is estimated that there are approximately 40 lakh ex-servicemen in the country. The exact figures of ex-servicemen Jawans and ex-officers are also not available separately. However, the approximate number of officers and jawans is estimated to be about 70,000 and 39,30,000, respectively."

This is consequently published in one of the papers from Chandigarh, the *Tribune*, on 4th May—and I quote :

"The Committee has been asked"

As we all know, there was a high-powered Committee for ex-servicemen's welfare organised under Shri K. P. Singh Deo.

"The Committee has been asked to submit its final report to the Government by September this year. The fact that Mr. Singh Deo himself does not know how many of the 35 lakh ex-servicemen need rehabilitation indicates the casual attitude of the authorities to the issue. All that the Minister could say was that a majority of the nearly 55,000 defence personnel who retire each year required State assistance. However, the Union Government is not the only guilty party. Most States to worse : they simply ignore the Central guidelines on the rehabilitation of ex-servicemen."

This is exactly what I want to highlight. If the Central Government's directions to the State Governments are

not carried out, whose fault is this ? Is it the fault of the ex-servicemen or is it the fault of the State Governments ? Can't we, with a little more deliberation, with a little more persuasiveness, make the State Governments come to an understanding to ensure implementation of the Centre's directive ? Wherever these people were to be absorbed whether in the State Government or in the Central Government or in the public sector undertakings, if they had really been taken, then the problem would have been solved a long time ago. It was only in 1984, when this question was asked and the question was covered in the paper, that something started was being done.

There is another question which was answered on 20th March, 1984. The approximate number of ex-servicemen at the end of 1981 was 38.47 lakhs. After a little bit of effort, I must congratulate the Hon. Minister —quote the reply :

"The number of ex-servicemen re-employed through Employment Exchanges during the period from 1.1.1961 till 31.12.1981 is about 2.7 lakhs."

That is, in 20 years you could absorb only 2.7 lakhs ex-servicemen. At this rate it will take 40 years to clear the back-log.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Many of them must have died in the meantime.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Again there is a reply on ex-servicemen welfare and absorption in various jobs which was given on 18 January, 1985. I quote :

"These connected efforts have resulted in the placement of as many as 18,898 ex-servicemen in employment during the half year January - June, 1984. (As reports from some areas had not been received

the actual figure is likely to be higher.) When compared with the full year achievement of the previous years (1981 : 16,639, 1982 : 17,439 and 1983 : 29,629), the year 1984 would appear to show considerable improvement."

I think the Hon. Minister deserve our congratulations for whatever is being done, but it is not enough. I personally suggest that if each member of this House decides to send one child to the Army, I think it will be a better way of settlement of ex-Servicemen than any other method.

There are chances that the ex-serviceman is lost sight of because of various activities going on at the national level. But one should not forget that a recruit or a gentleman cadet who joins at the the age of 15-18 and serves for about 25 to 30 years, when he comes out as an officers is about 50 and when he comes out as a jawan, is about 35 to 40. He has led such a disciplined life that when he comes back to the civilian milieu—pardon my saying that—he does not fit into the chaotic environment. And that is the time when you require the ex-serviceman to be protected and that is the time when you can make use of this well-disciplined, dedicated, honest and full-of-nationalism force which can be employed anywhere you like. There is a person who has passed Higher Secondary. He goes into the Indian Military Academy, serves the Army and retires as a Major General. When he comes out he is still a Matriculate. When he goes for employment, all he can quote as his qualification is his loyalty, integrity and hard work which goes not pay in the long run. You know that. I would, therefore, suggest that a very concerted national level approach is to be adopted. It is not only for the Ministry of Defence which is doing a very laudable job so far as ex-servicemen for concerned. Now the exserviceman insatisfactory welfare is directly connected with the poor stuff we are getting as an officer or as a

jawan. There have been cases when courses have been cancelled because youngmen are not coming in good number to become an officer or to become a jawan because he looks at his father, he looks at his uncle or cousin who has retired and who is made to run from pillar to post. That is the time when he needs to be protected. There are various armies who have a golden hand-shake waiting for ex-servicemen. They have different approaches and I am sure with the approach which is taken by some of the countries and which is being taken by us with a little more impetus given to it not only by the Defence Ministry which can absorb in a very large number on the ordnance factories but by the public sector undertakings and various other Ministries like Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, we can do a better job. You cannot get a more disciplined force anywhere in the country to-day—60,000 people every year.

I would give in the end certain suggested places where ex-servicemen can be usefully employed and an atmosphere created. We have presently a very fine army of which we are proud of various times. The defence force have proved that in spite of inferior armament and equipment and circumstances, we have beaten our enemy decisively always and every time. It is the men behind the gun who matter and not the gun.

Sir, I give the following suggestions for employment avenues which can be considered not only by the Defence Minister but also by all Ministers who can give a hand in this laudable contribution towards settling the ex-servicemen.

(1) They can be employed as various security guards in banks and other State-owned financial agencies. (2) Fix reasonable percentages of dealership of cement, steel, clothing, food items, petrol, oil, lubricants, cooking gas, fertilizers and pesticides and such like items. (3) Allotment of vehicles

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such as lorries, trucks, auto-rickshaws and tempos at manufacturers' price to ex-servicemen under self-employment scheme. Even disposal service vehicles be given to ex-servicemen on concessional rates for selfemployment basis. (4) Allotment of government wastelands for forestation and collective farming to ex-servicemen. (5) Allot plots for construction of houses by ex-servicemen in Cantonments. This will also stop forcible occupation and encroachment of Cantonment lands by local inhabitants. This aspect had been considered but it requires to be considered again. (6) Reservation in admission towards of ex-servicemen in schools, colleges and technical institutions. (7) Final settlement of all claims and pensionary benefits by Defence Accounts Officer within three months of going on pension of jawans and six months of officers' cases. (8) Free legal aid. (9) Banks loans on liberalised interest rates. (10) M/s. Praga Tools Ltd. are not following government rules regarding fixing pay of ex-servicemen pensioners on re-employment. Payment of LTC must also be made by them. (11) Free rail travel for wife and husband once in two years to respective Regiment/Corps Centre or to any place equal to same distance.

I am very very grateful to you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to speak more than what was scheduled.

SHRI SANTARAM NAIR (Panaji) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, India is emerging as a great force in this world and all the eyes are set towards this country. Therefore certain powers are out to de-stabilise this country. There are several examples that we have seen during the last course of several years how the eyes of certain powers are set on this country. It is in this light that our Defence policy has to be remodelled and re-set.

They do not want this motherland of ours to be strong, to be powerful and united. They have an eye on this

motherland of ours. They have taken our mother from us—Mrs. Indira Gandhi and they have now an eye on our land. They have seen that so long as our mother is there no one can set eye on this country. Therefore, their target was first our mother and they, unfortunately, have succeeded in taking away our mother. Now, to protect our lands, our defence policy has to be remodelled.

As far as Kashmir is concerned and Goa is concerned, from where I come, in both these places, these powers tried to see that these two pieces of land which belong to our country, do not get annexed to it. They wanted to keep them separate from the country. But their designs were not successful. Ultimately Kashmir and Goa formed part and parcel of India.

As just now said by my learned colleagues here, it is the interests of servicemen which are to be seen first. Unless their morale is strong we cannot have a strong force whether it is army, navy or air force. Because, it is the men behind the guns which matter. When they are about to retire, their problems start. They see how they will clothe their children, how they will provide food for their children, etc. These thoughts come into the mind. It is during the last few years of their retirement that unfortunately there is possibility that their services may get affected. This problem should not remain as far as our persons who come from service forces are concerned. 60,000 servicemen approximately retire per year. The backlog it has been said is more than 4 lakhs today. Hardly even one-fourth of these people get employment. This is the situation. Here I would like to specify that there are cases where after retirement certain officers get employed with private firms. I learn, there is a ban for a particular number of years. But it has to be extended for a period of 5 years. But the defence personnel in general have to be employed suitably at proper places.

As far as modernisation is concerned I know our Defence Minister is well aware of it. We need not say in so many terms that there should be modernisation. But what I say is this, Defence should be modernised to such an extent that even if we presume cases of atomic wars in such cases also, we have to see whether we have got tanks and other weapons and various other things to face the atomic war. We have to go even to that extent presuming that atomic wars are there and we have to face them. In such circumstances we have to see whether we have got weapons and other things to face them.

There are a few other important points which I would like to make now. Today we see certain incidents in Ahmedabad and other places. We have seen in many parts that our army had to look after our internal law and order problems. This has to be curtailed in this sense that a force, equivalent to the army, has to be created in this country. The people who fight on the borders should not be made to look after law and order situation. You may have a force equivalent to the army. You may call it by any name; an equivalent force to the army has to be created. Because, sometimes, we see in riot-hit areas people throwing stones at army people, people throwing missiles at army people. These are the very people who fight on the borders. Miscreants should not throw stones or missiles against them. So, army people should not be made to go to such places. Even where it is needed, an equivalent force, which is not called Army must be created. That is the substantive point which I would like the

Hon. Defence Minister to taken into consideration.

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) :
It has to be explored.

18.00 hrs.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : As far as communication is concerned, there is an electronic boom now; it is this electronic boom and the electronic machines which have got to be used, as far as communications are concerned. In defence, it is the first and foremost thing, that this electronic system should be used as far as communication is concerned. At the same time, it is a sensitive areas and we have to see to it that there is no leakage of any classified documents and no documents of important defence nature go out of our hands, to the detriment of our national security. This has to be strictly followed taking into account the past examples in civil and other cases.

Lastly, I would like to make one important submission. Sir, there are demands from various sections to increase the regiments based on caste, region, etc. like Andhra regiment, Harijan regiment, etc. I would appeal to you, Sir, that such regiments should not be considered under any circumstances. On the contrary, if possible, the existing regiments based on caste and regions should be abolished.

18.01 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday,
April 24, 1985/Valsakha
1907 (Saka).*