

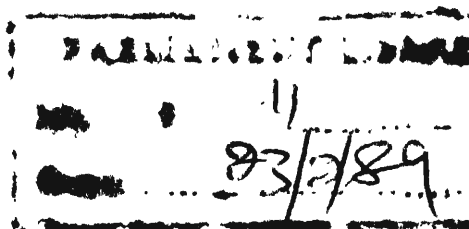
Eighth Series, Vol. XLIII, No. 10

Thursday, November 24, 1988
Agrahayana 3, 1910 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Twelfth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XLIII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, November 24, 1988/ Agrahayana 3, 1910 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

OBITUARY REFERENCE

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Honourable Members, it is my sad duty to inform the House of the demise of a former colleague, Shri Nitiraj Singh Choudhary who was a Member of the fourth and fifth Lok Sabha from 1967 to 1977 representing Hoshangabad constituency of Madhya Pradesh.

A veteran social workers and an advocate by profession, Shri Choudhary was associated with many local bodies, educational institutions and cooperative organisations in various capacities. He took keen interest in the uplift of the weaker sections of the society and worked with great zeal for the resettlement of displaced persons from West Pakistan in 1947-48. He was deeply interested in the development of irrigation and agriculture.

A widely travelled person, an able parliamentarian and administrator, Shri Choudhary served as Minister of State in the Union Council of Ministers and held the portfolios of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals during 1970-71. and Law,

Justice and Company Affairs during 1971-74.

Shri Choudhary passed away on 28th October, 1988 at the age of 79.

We deeply mourn the this friend and I am sure the House will Join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while to express its sorrow.

The members then stood in silence for a short while

WELCOME TO PDR YEMEN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members, 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 extending our warm welcome to His Excellency, Dr. Saeed Abdul Khair Al-Noban Member of the Presidium and Chairman of Social and Cultural Committee of the Supreme People's Council and Hon'ble members of PDR Yemen Parliamentary Delegation who are on a visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon'ble members are:

1. Mr. Ahmed Mahfood Omer, M.P.
2. Miss Hasina Mohsen Obaid, M.P.

The Delegation arrived at Delhi on 23 November, 1988 evening. They are now seated in the Special Box. We wish them a happy and fruitful stay in our country. We also convey our warm greetings and very best wishes through them to His Excellency the Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, the Supreme People's Council, and the friendly people of PDR Yeman.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Coconut Research

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

(a) the amount spent for coconut research; and

(b) practical application of the research findings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). A Statement is give below:-

STATEMENT

(a) Sir, an amount of Rs. 1245.16 lakhs was spent during the VI Plan, while Rs. 917.94 lakhs have been utilised during the first three years (Upto 1987-88) fo the VII Plan for research on plantation crops, bulk of which was spent on coconut.

(b) The Practical application of the research findings have been in respect of improved varieties and hybrids. efficient management practices, control of common diseases and pests, rejuvenation of root-wilt disease affected palms, and development of

use of improved post harvest devices and equipment.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : As all of us are aware, coconut is a very important cash crop. But unfortunately, it has not received the attention it deserves. Every part of coconut is useful to the community right from the root to the top, including its leaf. And coconut as such is used for cooking. Also, one seventh of the oil production in the country is from coconut. When such an important crop is there, I am very sorry to note that research made so far has not been able to control the dreaded disease which is attacked. Whenever a disease is attacked, the whole coconut grown in that area will be destroyed. My understanding is that the research is made but the amount provided so far is meagre. It is there is your statement that on amount of Rs 124516. lakhs was spent during the Sixth Plan. Even that is not for coconut alone. Coconut is also used for other purposes.

I understand that there is only one coconut research centre in Kerala at Kasargod. It is absolutely necessary that there should be research centres for coconut development in maidan areas because most of the coconut is gown in maidan areas in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. It is very necessary. There is particularly a very congenial atmosphere in Karnataka for the development of coconut. May I know what steps the Government is going to take to develop, particularly the research in coconut and whether Government propose to establish a centre in Karnataka, where all the infrastructure is available for research centre for the coconut?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : I do not think that the Hon. Member is correct in his assessment that much is not being done for the development of coconut. On the contrary, sufficient provision has been made and steps have been taken to develop it. Hon. Member said about some disease. No doubt there are disease but research is going on. We have established as he will be pleased to know, in different parts of the

country the research centres. There is one at Kasargod in Kerala and then at Kayamkulam, and then one in Goa also. Other one is at Lakshadweep. There is one Coconut Germ Plasm Centre at Citighat in Andaman. Not only that. But all-India coordinated research projects on palm is going on at eleven centres in the whole of the country and that includes Andhra Pradesh, Andaman, Assam, Bihar, Karnataka in Arsekare and then another in Maharashtra, then in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Tamil Nadu and at four places... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P.M. SAYEED : All the places except in Lakshadweep.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : There is one at Citighat in Lakshadweep. (*Interruptions*) I do not find that much work is being done in Lakshadweep. About the main disease that is affecting the coconut is the root wilt disease and research is going on... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIT. BASHEER : How long will it go?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Efforts are going on since 1976. No doubt, we have been able to find out the microplasma like organism (MLO) which is the main virus in the disease. Some efforts are being made. I think this research is going on the different parts of the country at our institutes to find out some method. Certain methods have been suggested for eradication of the disease.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Most of the places which the Hon. Minister has mentioned are on the coastal areas. Of course, the research is concentrated on the coconut growth in coastal areas. There are a number of areas in dryland also where it is possible to grow coconut. We have been doing it in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. I would like to know specifically whether in any Maidan area you propose to have a full fledged research station.

Another point which I want the Minister to clarify is that the Karnataka Government

has sent a proposal for the development of coconut. This is a project costing Rs. 36 crores spent over a period of five years. May I know at what stage that proposal stands now?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : The Hon. Member will appreciate that coconut is mostly grown in the coastal states. They are the major coconut producing states. The figures that I have got show that mostly in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Kerala is the largest grower—Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal—the yield in West Bengal is almost the highest—and Karnataka, coconut is grown. We have coconut growing areas in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep also. I may inform the Hon. Member that we have got a centre which is working on coconut growth in Lakshadweep.

Regarding the proposal received from the Karnataka Government, I think that is being processed.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What about my constituency? I will give you the sweetest coconut... (*Interruptions*)...

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Research should be oriented in two ways—firstly to increase productivity; that is OK. But the most important problem is that 50% of the coconut trees in Kerala which is the largest producer are affected by the Root wilt disease. This disease is not seen in any other State...(*Interruptions*). For the last fifty years this disease is there. If you find out, over these years only a meagre amount is spent on the research. If this disease is not checked, it will affect all the States. It is being gradually spread. The loss to the Kerala State alone in a year is more than Rs 400 crores by this particular disease.

I would like to know specifically from the Minister whether there is any specific research going on this particular disease and whether the cause of this disease has been found, if so what is being done to ensure that the disease is eradicated.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : As I told earlier, we have been able to identify and confirm the involvement of microplasma like organism which is called MLO. That is a type of virus which affects the trees and causes the Rootwilt disease. That thing has been isolated.

Now research is going on to find out an effective medicine or insecticide which can cure this. There are certain ways in which we can remove the plants affecting the areas. We have to make effort for eradication of 13 million diseased palms in the early stages or advanced stages in Kerala. The steps suggested are:

(c) Varietal reaction to disease: The disease incidence was lower and the cumulative under yield higher in hybrid chowghat crange Dwarf.

b) Organic recycling and (c) Management Practices, etc. These are very necessary in order to reduce the incidence of disease. For that we have to provide irrigation during January to May along with fertilisers etc. to improve...

PROF. P.J.KURIEN : Have you got the medicine so far?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : As I have said earlier research is going on but it has not been possible to get an effective medicine so far.

SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL : I have one of the largest coconut plantations in India. Unfortunately during the last sixty years this disease has affected in Kerala but no remedy has been found out.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, allow half-an-hour discussion on this.

SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL : During the last 60 years they have not been able to find any remedy. Can they collaborate research with foreign countries so that quick remedy can be found ? Secondly there is no fund for irrigation facilities to

coconut trees and coconut trees need irrigation. Further long-term and sufficient loans are not available to the farmers. There is also lack of superior quality seedlings.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : So, far as first part about finding of some medicines is concerned as I have said earlier research is going on and we have not been able to find an effective medicine. Virus has been isolated and even outside nowhere effective medicine has been found out. Efforts are being made. As far as irrigation and loans facilities are concerned I would to say that irrigation facilities are provided and what ever facilities are there the State Government can augment them. As far as loan is concerned there is no dearth of loan. I have myself visited many places near Mysore where loans are being distributed by the nationalised and cooperative banks for coconut growers. As regards seedlings and seed-nuts there is demand of 150 lakh per year and as supply is concerned we are trying to provide ordinary seedlings and seednuts but also hybrid seednuts and seedlings are being provided to the tune of 3 lakh per year.

Import of Seeds Under OGL

*187. **SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to permit the import of seeds including hybrids of oilseeds, pulses and course grains under Open General Licence in order to secure for the farmers high quality seeds available anywhere in the world to maximise their yield and farm income;

(b) the steps taken to procure such high quality seeds;

(c) whether any company has approached Government in this regard and if so, the names of those companies and the companies which have been permitted to import seeds and how these imported seeds will be distributed amongst farmers; and

(d) the other measures being taken to increase the production of oilseeds, pulses and other course grains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). Import of seeds of vegetables flowers/ornamental plants and tubers and bulbs, cuttings and saplings of flowers only is permitted on OGL by identified categories who after obtaining registra-

tion and an import permit may import.

(c) A Statement is given below.

(d) In order to increase the production of oilseeds, pulses and other coarse grains, various central/centrally sponsored programme like National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP), Oilseed Production Thrust Project (OPTP), National Pulses Development Programme (NPDP) have been sanctioned.

STATEMENT

NAME OF THE ELIGIBLE COMPANIES TO WHOM PERMISSION HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY PLANT PROTECTION ADVISER (PPA) FOR IMPORT OF SEEDS UNDER OPEN GENERAL LICENCE (OGL)

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Date of Receipt of Application</i>	<i>Name of the Seed</i>	<i>Quantity in KG.</i>
1.	M/s. Nizzer Seeds., Nizzer Farm, Amritsar.	2.11.1988	Tomato Watermellon Pea	4.750 108.00 2.00

NAMES OF THE COMPANIES WHO HAVE APPROACHED PLANT PROTECTION ADVISER (PPA) FOR IMPORT OF SEEDS UNDER OPEN GENERAL LICENCE (OGL)

- | | | | |
|----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | M/s. Pocha Seeds Private Company, Poona. | 8. | M/s. Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company Limited, Bombay |
| 2. | M/s. Ankur Hybrid Seeds Corporation, Ahmedabad. | 9. | M/s. Preet Gardens, Chandigarh. |
| 3. | M/s. Joseph Thomas, Kerala. | 10. | M/s. Devappa & Sons, Bangalore. |
| 4. | M/s. M.S. Virayaghavan, Madras. | 11. | Mr. George Philip, Kerala |
| 5. | M/s. Premasrinivasan, Madras | 12. | Dr. K.C. Azad, Simla. |
| 6. | M/s. Punjab Agro Industries, Chandigarh. | 13. | M/s. Sandoz India Limited, Bombay. |
| 7. | Dr. T.B. Garud, Maharashtra. | 14. | Dr. S. Natesh, New Delhi |

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, I must congratulate the Government particularly the Minister for taking this decision of importing hybrid seeds which may give more yield. In this connection may I know from the hon. Minister which are the countries which are

selected for import of their hybrid and high-yielding seeds, the quantity of such high-yielding seeds, hybrid seeds, cuttings, vegetable seeds, etc., to be imported from different countries during 1988-89 and 1989-90 and the policy for fixing up the price of those imported hybrid seeds?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : A new policy has been announced recently. It is effective from 1st October 1988. It has been mentioned in that policy that the National Seeds Corporation, the State Seeds Corporation, private companies, farmers and individual can import the seeds. Therefore, we do not know from which countries these identified or designated agencies are going to import.

However, I have got the figures for 1985-86. During this period, the seeds of fruits, flowers, etc., were imported from Japan, Netherlands, USA, Denmark, Australia, Federal Republic Germany, Guinea, Nepal, Zimbabwe. From these countries, different seeds like those of cabbage and other vegetables, grass, flower seeds, bulbs (horticulture), other bulbs, tubers, other live plants, etc., were imported during 1985-86.

The countries to which we exported seeds of cabbage, onion, radish, fruits, bulbs (horticulture) other bulbs, tubers, flowering plants, etc., are Australia, Netherlands, UAE, UK, USA, Oman, Japan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Germany....

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Lay it on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : You lay it on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Yes, Sir. I think, we do not have any control on the price. It is left to the market which will take over. It will itself control it. The demand and supply position will fix up the price.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Now I put my second supplementary. According to the statement annexed, the hon. Minister has stated that among the 14 such private companies and firms, except Punjab Agro Industries, all the private firms and companies who have approached the Government for getting such licences under OGL.

May I know when the private companies and firms have shown their keen interest to import such hybrid seeds from the foreign countries, why is the Government not thinking to at least encourage our National Seeds Corporation to import such seeds?

Besides, in part (c) of my question, I had asked how the imported seeds were to be distributed amongst the farmers. On that issue, the Minister is silent. He has not answered anything on this point. May I know what is the Government policy to distribute those seeds to the farmers, especially the small and landless and marginal farmers who have shown their interest to use these? Why I am asking this question is...

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right. You have to put the question. You have not to explain why you are putting it.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : The Government policy was to distribute some 5-10 grammes of hybrid seeds to the farmers.

MR. SPEAKER : Please let it go now.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : That policy has been stopped. So, in this connection, may I know how it will be distributed to the farmers, especially to those belonging to the small and marginal category?

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you repeating it all the time?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : If the hon. Member cares to go through the new Seeds Policy, he will find that the National Seeds Corporation, State Seeds Corporations and other Government agencies, Directorate of Agriculture etc. Have been placed on a bit

higher position. They can import and they will not be tied up to the conditions imposed on private companies, because the companies will have to import only for two years and within two years, they will have to have the parental line from the foreign collaborators.

So far as the Government agencies are concerned, they are not tied up with this condition and are free to import at any time. They are given preferential treatment and have been provided with special facilities, and liberalised conditions.

About the distribution, it is the National Seeds Corporation and other State agencies which will distribute as they are required to do and as the demand is received from the States. So far as the private dealers are concerned, they will be free to sell it in the market.

As regard hybrid seeds, they are supplied by the State agencies; they do not contain imported seeds. No doubt, they have improved varieties of seeds which are available in our country.

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU : The oilseeds production has remained at around ten to twelve million tonnes for the past five-six years and there is no scope of increasing the production in oilseeds. Even though the irrigation facilities have been increased, they are still inadequate. Will the hon. Minister state by the import of oilseeds how much production will increase and when we will be self-sufficient in oilseeds?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : The present policy does not allow import of oilseeds under OGL. It is mostly vegetables, fruits, sapplings etc. Though there is shortage, we will have to meet it out of our own resources. That is why we have taken up the National Oilseeds Development Project and such other programmes and for that special efforts are being made to increase the production of oilseeds. We have been providing free input kits to the small and marginal farmers like 50 per cent subsidy on cost of plant protection equipment, subject to Rs

300, 50 per cent cost of sprinkler irrigation sets, 50 per cent cost of implements, plant protection chemicals at subsidised rates and other facilities. We hope that the production will increase with all this assistance.

[Translation]

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the benefit of the seeds being imported at present is going either to the licencees or the shopkeepers? Sir, I would like to know whether the imported seeds would be useful in the changed climate and soil of this region; and whether the small farmers would achieve any benefit out of it. If so, how much? May I know whether the Government propose to provide high quality seeds suitable for the climate and soil of the country so that the farmers may have good yield. May I also know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the imported oil seeds prove beneficial for the farmers?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Sir, the Government is fully aware that the imported oil-seeds are rich in yield in the climate and soil of this region. If the imported oil-seeds do not give rich yield, there will be no demand for them. This fact would be kept in mind while importing such seeds. All the agencies, whether National seeds Corporation or any private agency, would be very careful about it. So far as the facilities provided to the farmers are concerned, they wouldn't be deprived of those benefits which they are already enjoying.

[Translation]

Interests of Small Scale Industries In Food Processing

*188. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA†:
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total export of processed food;

(b) out of total export how much is processed by small scale sector;

(c) whether the production in small scale sector is likely to be affected adversely because the facilities and concessions announced recently for this industry would benefit big industries in this field in a greater way; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to safeguard the interests of small scale industries?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) According to available data, total export of processed food in 1986-87 was of the order of Rs 299.00 crores.

(b) Out of the above, the exports of processed foods from small scale sector was Rs. 179.00 crores.

(c) Production in small scale sector is not likely to be affected adversely as a result of the concessions announced recently.

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

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : As the Minister has mentioned, the export of processed food from small scale sector was Rs 179. crores. According to the date published by the Small Industries Development Organisation, food products comprised 17.9 per cent of the total production of small scale units in the country with 21.7 per cent of total investment and 18.6 per cent of employment in that sector. It means that the small scale units are contributing a lot. With the coming of the big houses into the food processing industry, will the Minister look into the problems being faced by the small scale units and will he do something to create appropriate linkages between the large industries and the large number of small ancillary units?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I would like to inform the hon. members that most of the products which are manufactured by the small scale industries are already reserved for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector. When the big houses come, they are not at all going to affect the small scale units. Even when the big houses come, the small scale sector has to be mostly involved in intermediate work such as preparation, processing etc. for the final products. The exports of Rs 170 crores which I just now mentioned are mostly from small scale activities like achaars, chutneys, papads, etc. And these are not going to be affected. It is very important that the big house are brought in because over Rs 3000 crores worth of fruit and vegetables are going to waste due to lack of proper manufacturing facilities.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : The new Ministry has taken a decision that the food processing, packaging and preservation industries will be treated as high priority industries for securing bank credit. Will the Minister provide the same facilities to small scale producers whose units are working as ancillary units?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : The Government will do anything to help the small scale industries. We will never take any decision which will be in any way, adverse to the small scale industries.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : One of the processed food items which is very much in need in foreign countries is the curry powder. There is also an export promotion free trade zone in India. This Ministry has no control over it. It is with the Commerce Ministry. More encouragement can be given to small scale units to develop the food processing industry.

I would like to know whether Government has got any plan for promoting this through the export promotion zones i.e. for starting the food processing industry.

Secondly, 16 units of the public sector Modern Food Industries are there in India

viz. at Bangalore in Karnataka, in Kerala, Delhi Bombay and other places. But they are now used mainly for making bread alone. One unit is also there, being used for making fruit juice. In fact, we have got a very big potential to organize export-oriented trade. After your taking over this important Ministry, have you given any scheme or plan to develop this Modern Food Industries, which was earlier called Modern Bakeries, and also to use the free trade zones for this purpose?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : We are already working on Modern Food Industries. We are working on different proposals which should be involved not only in bread-making and soft-drinks utilizing fruit pulp; we are looking into every sphere in which this Modern Food industries can be used.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the entire export of processed foods is undertaken by the small scale industry and private sector. The farmers do not have any direct benefits out of it. What are the facilities and policies the Government is going to decide for the benefit of the farmers from the export of the food processed from the items produced by the farmer and for setting up co-operatives for the purpose and by what time these co-operatives are going to be set up?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry was formed to assist the farmers and their families. New policies and the new concessions are meant for those who provide help to the farmers directly or indirectly. The Government is going to introduce a new policy of deep-freeze which would enable the farmers to have adequate concessions and also facilitate them to keep their surplus produce in the stores to be built at district level with captive power.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants to know as to when these factories would start functioning?

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : We are working on it. As far as our Ministry is concerned, as soon as proposals come, we can assure you that we will never sit on them. We will consider whether they can be taken up.

SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO : In my areas, all varieties of fruits and fish are available. There is no small scale industry for food processing. I want to know whether any proposal is there for Government to set up food processing industry in the East Godavari district.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : There is no proposal as yet, but I would suggest to the hon. Member that he get some of the local people interested in it. We will see that my Ministry gives maximum help as far as financial institutions and this Ministry are concerned, so that small scale industries come up in your area.

Taking Over of the Houses of National Personalities by Government

*189. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently taken over/proposed to take over some houses connected with important national leaders to be preserved as national monuments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the residential houses, of Mahatma Gandhi and Kasturba Gandhi at Porbandar and that of Sardar Patel at Kasmaset in Gujarat are being maintained as national monuments; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to release sufficient amount for their upkeep?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) to (d). On the recommendations of appropriate bodies and requests from different quarters, proposals for purchase/acquisition of birth place of eminent personalities are taken up in consultation with the State Governments concerned as the subject matter is basically their concern. However, it has not always been found possible to purchase/ acquire birth-places for various reasons.

The residence of Mahatma Gandhi at Porbandar is a centrally protected monument and is being maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India. The Survey is also considering taking over of the ancestral house of Dr. Rajendra Prasad in District Chhapra, Bihar for maintenance as a national monument. The residential building of Kasturba Gandhi at Porbandar is a protected monument and looked after by the State Archaeology Department. Although the residence of Sardar Patel at his birth place Karamsad is not a protected monument, a grant-in-aid of Rs 50,000/- was disbursed to Sardar Patel Smarak Trust in 1975-76 for construction of Sardar Smarak at Karamsad by the Gujarat State Government.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : My question is very specific. I wanted to know from the Government whether Government intends to take over residential houses of some of the outstanding national leaders.

The reply is that the matter is basically the concern of the State Government. When I am referring to the houses of the national leaders, the government avoids their responsibility and ultimately says that it is the concern of the State Government solely.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : National leaders are the State subject!

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : It is also said that appropriate bodies must

come forward with recommendations. What are those appropriate bodies? It is also said that from different quarters recommendations should come forward. What are those different quarters? Did not the government so far think it necessary to consider acquisition of the houses of the Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and various other outstanding national leaders who have been so far left out? Do you think that it is just a State subject and the Central Government has got nothing to do with it? In what way it is a State subject?

SHRI L.P. SHAHI : The representatives of different governments have some understanding and they are divided to some extent. The acquisition of house creates certain problems and it is already on going along certain lines. Some of the houses have changed hands; some of the places have been disfigured and necessarily involve acquisition proceedings. Acquisition is a State subject; that is why we depend upon the State Government. There are a number of examples. As far as acquisition of birth places of different national leaders or other leaders is concerned, the State Governments are already moving in the matter.

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : I specifically referred to the question of taking over houses of national leaders like Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and various other outstanding national leaders. There is no specific reply; to that. I am not asking whether the State Governments have been cooperating with the Centre, as far as acquisition proceedings are concerned. I want to know whether the Government, the Central Government, the Union Government, intends to take them over. First of all, have they got any intention to take over such houses and declare them as national monuments? Apart from that, as far as Sardar Patel's residence is concerned, it is neither declared as a national monument nor it is a protected monument. It is woeful and regrettable that the government continues to exhibit enormous indifference and callousness, as far as this residence is concerned. From 1975-76, only Rs.

50,000 were disbursed and that too by the State Government; and the Central Government has done nothing about it. Also, as far as Dr. Rajendra Prasad's residence is concerned, still the matter is under consideration by the Archaeological survey of India; they are yet to move in the matter; nothing has been done so far. Is it not shameful on the part of the Government not to do anything about it? (*Interruptions*).

SHRI L.P. SHAHI : I have already stated that we stand for it. There are certain criteria. If a monument is more than 100 year old and has certain architectural value, history and cultural value, then the Archaeological Survey of India comes and takes over that building as a protected monument. So far as taking over of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's residence, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's residence or other names referred by my friends here today is concerned, I can only say that I take note of it and we will do whatever is possible. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Is it not a fact that, apart from taking over other houses, a house worth Rs 20 lakhs or more of Konda Venkatappaiah of Guntur was offered to be handed over to the Government of India—when the Prime Minister himself visited Guntur—by his daughter Parvati Devi a very famous social workers, who died recently, but till now no action has been taken? I have myself written about it to the Government, the Minister of Human Resource Development. I have neither received a reply nor have they received a reply. The late Parvati Devi wanted to hand over the whole building to the Government provided the government would make use of it for social purposes.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : I am sorry, I regret that statement of the hon. Member. I have not received any letter of his making a suggestion. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. N. G. RANGA : I wrote to your predecessor.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : It is your fault. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, order. What is this?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : My hon. friend says that he has addressed the letter to my predecessor. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The Prime Minister is responsible because he changed the Ministers.

SHRI . P. SHIV SHANKER : He says that he has addressed the letter to my predecessor. I am going into. But so far as the Archaeological Survey of India is concerned, it is governed by an Act and we have got to conform ourselves to the Act and the guidelines thereunder. There is no question of taking over the monuments merely because you consider them to be of greatest importance. (*Interruptions*). They have got to conform to the guidelines that have been laid down in the Act and the rules themselves. I appreciate the suggestion that is coming forth; for example now some hon. Members have suggested something. (*Interruptions*) Why can you not listen? What is wrong with you (*Interruptions*)

Now, the point is even with reference to the residential house of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, no request was made so far. (*Interruptions*)

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Why can the Central Government not do it. Do you require a suggestion for it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I do require it. I am sorry this is not way to have a debate. Either you debate a matter or you do not debate a matter.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : He requires a suggestion! (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I am sorry. If this is the attitude then I will not try to answer the question. If they are not prepared to listen to the answer, I cannot reply. (*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot allow you. Nobody is allowed. Nothing goes on record without my permission. I have not allowed them.

(*Interruptions*)*

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed. Sit down. this is not proper. Behave yourself. Sit down.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I am rather surprise the way some of our hon. Members are behaving (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : We can take it up. We can take it up even now.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : There is an Act and that Act has got to be followed. And if he has said that primarily it is for the State Government to do, there is nothing wrong in it. Why did the State Government not act in the matter? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : We can take it up. There is nothing wrong. We all can take it up.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : The question of taking over the house comes at a later state. My question to the hon. Minister is, and I am sure that he will agree, in old Delhi one of the greatest poets of Urdu, Mirza Ghalib, whose centenary we have celebrated, there is a house; you will be surprised that his birth place and the place where he wrote the Urdu classics in poetry,

is a place where there is now a coal godown , and there is a coal depot. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, since we have celebrated the centenary of Mirza Ghalib at a national level, if he would inquire into the matter and at least see that the coal depot is removed from the birth place of Mirza Ghalib. Taking over of the house will come at a later stage.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I shall go into it.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Shontosh Kumar Singh. Absent. Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha.

New Varieties of Wheat Released

*191. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether new varieties of wheat have been released for the current rabi season;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether existing varieties have become vulnerable to pest attack?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the released and identified varieties along with their areas of adoption and general characteristics are given in statement I and II below.

(c) During the course of commercial cultivation some of the varieties become vulnerable to pest attack due to the evolution of new raduces/biotypes of diseases and pests.

STATEMENT —I

Wheat Varieties released for general cultivation during 1988

Name of the Variety	Recommended		Main Characteristic
	Area	Production conditions	
1	2	3	4
1. HD 2402	For Eastern Zone	Timely sown, good fertility, irrigated	Double dwarf medium early maturity and highly resistant to rusts. Grains amber hard and medium bold, very good for „Chapati making with 12% protein. Yield upto 50-60 q/ha under irrigated conditions.
2. HI-977	Penisular Zone	Late sown, good fertility irrigated.	Double dwarf; medium early maturity and highly resistant to rusts, Good for Chapati making with protein over 13% . Yield potential 45-50 q/ha .
3. PBW-154	Northern Plains Zone	Timely sown, irrigated good fertility.	Double dwarf, high yielding with medium duration, Highly resistant to rusts and tolerant to Karnal bunt. Grains bold and hard with protein over 10.3%. Yield potential 50-60 q/ha.
4. HD 2270	Northern Plains Zone	Late sown, Good fertility, Irrigated.	Double dwarf, medium early maturity, and highly resistant to rusts, Grains hard, medium bold and very good for Chapati making.

STATEMENT II

Details of the Wheat Varieties identified for release by the All India Wheat Workshop.

<i>Name of Variety</i>	<i>Region of Adaptability</i>	<i>Cultural conditions.</i>	<i>Yield potential and special characteristics</i>
HS 240	Hills of Uttar Pradesh Himachal Pradesh & J&K	Timely sown, irrigated, high fertility as well as rainfed low fertility conditions.	Medium duration, resistant to yellow and brown rusts and and powdery mildew, Yield potential of 45-50 q/ha under irrigated and 25-30 q/ha under favourable rainfed conditions.
PBW 226	Punjab, Eastern Haryana, Western U.P. parts of Rajasthan.	Late sown, irrigated medium fertility conditions.	Short duration, resistant to rusts, tolerant to Karnal bunt, yield potential of 50-55 q/ha under irrigated conditions.
WH 416	Haryana Rajasthan Northern parts of Gujarat.	Timely sown, irrigated high fertility conditions.	Yield potential upto 60 q/ha under well managed irrigated conditions. Has wide adaptability.
Raj 3077	Haryana, Rajasthan, Northern parts of Gujarat	Late sown, irrigated medium fertility conditions	Short duration, resistant to brown rust, to lerant to saline/alkaline soils. Yield potential 40/ q/ha.
HD 2380	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh.	Timely sown, irrigated, high fertility conditions.	Resistant to Brown rust and tolerant to black rust. Yield potential 35-40 q/ha under good management. Suitable for hill areas also.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware that even in the case of cultivation on a small scale, these new varieties are susceptible or vulnerable to pest attack. If that is so, what precautions the Government propose to take and if the cultivators suffer loss on account of this, whether the Government propose to compensate those farmers for the losses they have suffered.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : So, far as the new varieties are concerned, they are good at least for four to five years without any disease. But after that, we need to change the seeds by new varieties. So, in that period, the chances are very little for any pest attack. So far as the lessees suffered by the farmers are concerned on account of disease or other things, it is covered under general schemes regarding the development of new varieties of seeds, etc.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Sir, in reply to part a of the question, the Minister has given in the statement that HD 2402 variety has been released for the Eastern zone. I would like to know when it has been released in the Eastern sector. Has it been released to this year? If so, what has been the off-take of this variety and what is the coverage in terms of acreage by the seeds in this cultivation.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : I had given the four varieties in Statement I. Out of which, the hon. Member is referring about the first item, i.e. HD 2402. This is for the Eastern zone. It will include Bengal and Assam. It may include Bihar also. But mostly, it will cover Bengal and Assam. The other variety HD 2270 can also be used by the farmers of UP and West Bihar. This is being introduced this year. So, it will depend on how much farmers take it and how much they use it. We cannot give the exact figures because it is still being sown in this season ... (Interruptions).

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Please let us know which variety you have

released for Bihar? ... (Interruptions).

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : In some parts, sowing is late and irrigation facilities are there. HD 2270 can be cultivated. HD 2402 and HD 2270 HD can be used by the farmers of Bihar also and this is being released in this rabi season for the first time... (Interruptions).

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : What has been the off-take? (Interruptions).

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : I cannot give the details since it is just being introduced.

Oil Palm Cultivation

*192. **SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY†** :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage cultivation of oil palm in the country to increase production of palm oil;

(b) the estimated land under oil palm cultivation;

(c) whether an estimated 50,000 acres of land is suitable in Andaman and Nicobar islands for oil palm cultivation;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to take up cultivation of oil palm in Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An area of 5,298 ha. have been brought under oil palm cultivation so far.

(c) to (e). In Andaman and Nicobar Islands, an area of 1593 ha. is under oil palm cultivation. On account of ecological reasons, further plantations have not been raised.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister in which States does this area of 5928/ of oil palm cultivation come. What are the prospects of oil palm cultivation? What are the facilities the Government extended for this cultivation?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Sir, the area under palm oil cultivation in Kerala under Oil Palm (India) Limited is 3,705 hectares and in Andaman and Nicobar Islands under the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Forest Plantation and development Corporation Ltd. is 1,593 hectares. The total area under palm oil cultivation is 5,298 hectares.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : What are the prospects and what are the facilities which are being extended by the Government, you have not answered that part of the question.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Sir, about the facilities that are going to be given to the farmers, the Working Group that was set up has made certain suggestions. These suggestions are under examination at present. We are working on it that the farmers must be given something because the plantation takes four to five years to yield. For that purpose, we have to provide some facilities but that has not yet been finalised. The suggestions are there that we should give subsidy. The Report has suggested that we should give as much as possible, otherwise it is not possible for the farmers to grow because they will have to wait for some time. The yield at this stage I think will be good and the farmers will be getting sufficient profit later on.

SHRI A. CHARLES : Sir, a large quantity of the palm oil is being imported and it will be in the interest of the country that palm oil cultivation is encouraged. Recently, along

with a group of M.Ps., I have been to Andaman and Nicobar Islands. We had actually visited the palm oil cultivation project. The Lt. Governor has appealed that the whole project originally proposed by the Government of India may be sanctioned. Unfortunately, about 500 hectares of land was left which was cleared and for which seedlings were also there. When they were about to be planted, some direction was given by the Government of India that due to ecological reasons, further cultivation need not be proceeded with. Eighty-five per cent of the total land of all the 300 islands is forest land and only six per cent will be deforested for this cultivation. So, it would be very much doubtful whether there will be any ecological problem. I would plead with the hon. Minister that he may look into this personally and see that clearance is given for the pending five hundred hectared of land which has already been cleared and for which once the Government of India has given the sanction. this is a national problem and I would appeal to the hon. Minister to look into this.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Sir, as the hon. Member himself has said, it was the ecological problem that has come in the way and, therefor, the project has not been sanctioned. I do not know what the Department of Environment and Forests will decide ultimately. So far as our Ministry is concerned, we had agreed to this proposal originally but that Ministry did not agree. You know, Sir, that today the environmental importance is very much there. We cannot override them or outright reject their opinion.

[Translation]

New Varieties of Bajra Seeds

*193. **SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the new varieties of bajra seeds developed by National Seeds Corporation, State Seed Corporation, Agricultural Universities, various units of ICAR and by Central Arid Zone Research Institute, jodhpur;

(b) the benefits of these varieties and the time by which the crops grown by using these varieties are ready for harvesting;

(c) whether any variety of bajra developed is suitable for Thar Desert and can give good yield within 60 days even with out sufficient rainfall; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below:-

STATEMENT

New Varieties of Bajra Seeds

(a) Sir, It is the function of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and associ-

ated research organisations to evolve and bred new varieties of Bajra and the National and State Seed Corporations are basically engaged in multiplying them. Details of the nine varieties and 16 hybrids developed during the period 1981- 87 by ICAR Institutes and State Agricultural Universities are given in the Annexure below.

(b) The promising varieties and hybrids have a maturity duration of 70 to 100 days. Their benefits include high grain yield and other specific desirable traits such as resistance to diseases and pests.

(c) and (d). Bajra varieties/hybrids such as Pusa 23, MH 123, MBH 110 RCB-2, MH 169 and MH 143 with a maturity range of 70-80 days have been developed for Rajasthan. They are high yielding and drought resistant varieties/hybrids. Central Arid Zone Research Institute at Jodhpur is testing a particularly promising variety (CZES-2) which matures in 70 to 75 days.

ANNEXURE

Varieties/hybrids developed by ICAR Institutes and Agricultural Universities during the period 1981-87

<i>Name of Institution</i>		<i>Varieties/hybrids</i>
A. Agricultural Universities		
1.	Gujarat Agricultural University, Jamnagar.	GHB-27 GHB-30, GHB-32
2.	Haryana Agricultural University, Hissar	HHB-45, HHB-50, HC-4
3.	Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.	PHB 47, PSB-8, PSB-15
4.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	X 4 (COH-2), X 5 (UCH-9) Co.6
5.	Rajasthan Agricultural University, Durgapura.	RCB-2

Name of Institution	Varieties/hybrids
6. Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri.	RHR-1
<i>B. ICAR, Research Institutes</i>	
7. Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi	Pusa 46 (M46) Pusa 763 (BD 763), Pusa-23
<i>C Other Institutions</i>	
8. Mahendra Hybrid Seed Company, Jalna.	MBH 110, MBH 118, MBG 136
9. International Crop Research, Institute for semi-arid tropes, Hyderabad.	MH 179, MH 169, ICMS 7703, WCC 75, ICTP 8203

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Central Arid Zone Research Institute, Jodhpur and many other institutes have developed such new hybrid varieties of seeds. My question is whether you have developed such a millet seed, crop of which may be ready for harvesting within the time of 60 days; if not, whether efforts are being made in this direction or not? It has been observed that the crops of millet which gets ready for harvesting in 60 days do not provide rich yield. So, I would like to know whether any research work is being undertaken in this connection or not?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: Sir, research work has been undertaken in this regard. The hon. Member has himself stated that a research work has been undertaken in

Jodhpur in order to find out the type of seed which would give good yield in minimum period in the area of Thar desert. But water is essential for every type of seed and the minimum quantity required is 20 per cent. No seed will germinate otherwise. Anyhow, some new varieties like 5 MME-67 have been developed which can give yield within 60-65 days but they also need a specific quantity of water. It wouldn't do without water. Four types of seeds have been developed which are supposed to give positive results regarding production of millet in Rajasthan.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS*[English]***Directions by Central Board of Secondary Education Regarding Three Language Formula**

*185. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a circular has been issued by the Central Board of Secondary Education in September, 1988 detailing steps to implement vigorously the three language formula;

(b) whether students are required to study Sanskrit along with Hindi, English and one of the modern Indian languages;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) whether it conforms to three language Formula?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). The Three Language Formula requires teaching of Hindi, English and a modern Indian Language, preferably one of the southern languages, in Hindi speaking states, and of Hindi, the regional language and English in non-Hindi speaking States. According to the information furnished by the Central Board of Secondary Education, it has prescribed Sanskrit to be taught along with Hindi because knowledge of Sanskrit helps in learning Hindi and most other Indian languages. The scheme of studying languages, prescribed by the Central Board of Secondary Education is in conformity with the three language formula.

Invitation to Representative of Small Entrepreneurs in Fishing Field for Consultation

*186. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Food processing strategy finalised" appearing in the National Herald dated 5 October, 1988 wherein it is reported that a comprehensive strategy to harness and upgrade the food processing potential in the country has been finalised;

(b) if so, whether representatives of organisations of small entrepreneurs in fishing field are proposed to be invited for consultations before finalising/working out plans in respect of fishing industry; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the names of the organisations to be invited for the meeting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir. The news item appeared in the National Herald dated the 15th October, 1988.

(b) No decision has yet been taken to invite any representative of organisations in respect of fishing industry in order to finalise/work out the plan.

(c) Does not arise.

*[Translation]***Agreement with DTC Employees**

*190. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an agreement with DTC employees in 1983 which took care of the interests of the employees;

(b) whether it has since been implemented; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No agreement with any DTC Employees Union was entered into in 1983.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

[English]

Production of Power Alcohol from Tapioca

*194. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a process has been developed for using tapioca for production of power alcohol by the Central Tuber Crops Research Institute of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Trivandrum several years ago;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether this process has found commercial application in industry and for use as fuel;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether this process has helped the farmers by providing value added revenue?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The process involves fermentation of tapioca flour for production of ethanol. The Technology has been patented for production of 420 litres of alcohol from 1000 kg of dried tapioca flour. The alcohol so produced could be concentrated or diluted to obtain power/industrial/potable alcohol.

(c) and (d). Mixing of such alcohol from tapioca, to the extent of 20% with petrol, has been found to be feasible for running vehicles and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has secured a patent for this process. The National Research Development Corporation has been approached for further commercial exploitation.

(e) Since the commercial utilisation of the process developed has not started, the question of value added revenue to farmers does not arise.

Joint Venture with Gulf Countries for Fertilizer Production

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up an expert group consisting of Chief executives from public and cooperative sector fertilizer companies to survey and explore the scope for joint ventures with Gulf countries for fertilizer production; and

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made by this expert group and to what extent the recommendations of the group have been accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir, a Group consisting of the Chief Executives of some public/cooperative fertilizer companies has been constituted to make a survey and

explore the scope for setting up some joint ventures for the production of fertilizers in the Gulf countries.

(b) The Group has not yet submitted its report.

Plan to Integrate Engineering Education with Technical Needs

*196. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH:
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI) and the Department of Education have jointly prepared an action plan to bring about an effective integration between the capabilities of regional engineering colleges and technical needs of the engineering industry;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed action plan;

(c) whether Government have decided to implement the action plan, and

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) and (b). The Department of Education has facilitated preparation of an action plan for interaction between Regional Engineering Colleges and industry with the help of the Confederation of Engineering Industry (CEI).

The salient features of the action plan include: re-orientation of students' project work, continuing education programmes, industrial assignments for faculty, voca-

tional training for students, promotion of joint projects, annual lecture series by industrial experts, annual research review and industrial associates programme.

(c) and (d). The Regional Engineering Colleges have just started implementing the action plan. This is a continues process.

Raising of Kashmir Issue in U.N. by Pakistan

*197. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI:
SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan raised the Kashmir issue in UN in September, 1988 in violation of Simla Agreement:

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the number of times Pakistan has raised the Kashmir issue in UN and other international for a after the signing of Simla Agreement?

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

(b) Government exercised its right of reply, pointing out that the Simla Agreement provides the basis for resolving all outstanding issues between the two countries through bilateral negotiations and peaceful means, and regretting the reference to the so-called question of Jammu and Kashmir by the Pakistani delegate.

(c) Since the signing of the Simla Agreement, Pakistan has raised the so-called Kashmir issue on several occasions at vari-

ous international fora, most notably, in the UN General Assembly where it was taken up in 1973 and every year since 1976.

[Translation]

Proposal to Link Ranchi and Jabalpur with National Highway

*198. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to link Ranchi (Bihar) and Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) with the National Highway via Mandla-Mungeli-Bilaspur-Korba or Raigarh-Ambikapur; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Shortage of Certified Cotton Seeds

*199. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a growing shortage of certified cotton seeds leading to low yields and poor quality of kappas;

(b) whether the yield per acre in India is the lowest among the cotton growing countries; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to ensure supply of certified seeds to the farmers at a subsidised rate?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) There was shortage of certified seed of a specific hybrid of cotton during 1988-89.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The distribution of certified seeds to the farmers is undertaken under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programme in operation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan during Seventh Five Year Plan.

Identification of Rivers for Declaration as National Waterways

*200. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some more rivers in various States in the country have been identified for declaration as National Waterways for movement of freight and passengers;

(b) if so, the names of the rivers?

(c) whether the Inland Waterways Authority of India has completed hydrographic survey and techno-economic feasibility studies in these cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In addition to Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly and Brahmaputra a few other waterways namely the Sunderbans, West Coast Canal (Quilon—Cochin Section), Godavari, Krishna, Narmada, Mahanadi, Tapi and rivers Mandovi-Zuari have been identified for consideration for declaration as National Waterways.

(c) and (d). The details of hydrographic survey and techno-economic studies on

these waterways are given below:

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Waterway</i>	<i>Hydrographic Surveys</i>	<i>Techno-Economic studies</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Sunderbans	Partly completed	In progress
2.	West Coast Canal (Quilon-Cochin Section)	Completed	Completed
3.	Godavari	Completed	In progress
4.	Krishna	In progress	In progress
5.	Narmada	The work on these waterways is not included in VIIth Plan.	
6.	Mahanadi		
7.	Tapi		
8.	River Mandovi Zuari		

Study on Development of Port Sector by Asian Development Bank

*201. SHRI V. TULSIRAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Asian Development Bank has been approached by Government for undertaking a comprehensive study on the development of port sector in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the report is likely to be received; and

(c) the details of ports proposed to be covered under the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). An offer of Asian Development Bank to conduct a Study of the requirements of the Ports Sector including major, intermediate and minor ports during the period 1990 to 2000 AD has been accepted by Government. The period for completion of the study is nine months from October, 1988.

Rare Palm Leaf Manuscript in Orissa State Museum

*202. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa has

made a request to Union Government to grant assistance for the preservation and publication of rare Palm leaf manuscript lying in the State Museum; and

(b) if so, the Central assistance provided so far to the State of Orissa for the purpose? —

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It was not found possible to extend a grant to State Government as there is no scheme for provision of such assistance to State owned museum.

Monitoring Cell to Tackle Congestion at Ports

*203. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a monitoring cell to tackle the problem of congestion at Bombay, Kandla and New Mangalore Ports; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up similar cells for other ports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Government have directed the ports to set up operation groups for monitoring the congestion and for taking corrective action. The position regarding congestion at all the ports including Bombay, Kandla and New Mangalore is being closely monitored by the Government and the Port Management.

[Translation]

Installation of Tube Wells

1802. SHRI S.D. SINGH:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise targets for installing tube-wells under Special Food-grains Production Programme in the current financial year and the amount of foodgrains made available for this purpose;

(b) the names of the States which have achieved their targets;

(c) the reaction of Union Government regarding States which have not been able to achieve their targets; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the installed tubewells function properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c). A statement indicating state-wise targets and Central share released so far and achievements for installing tubewells for Special Foodgrains Production Programme under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production during 1988-89 is given below. The programme was reviewed in September and States were advised to accelerate the implementation of the programme as soon as rainfall ceases.

(d) The assistance for shallow tubewells is being provided to individual small and marginal farmers who himself will ensure the proper functioning of the installed tubewell.

STATEMENT

INDICATING STATE-WISE PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL TARGETS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SHALLOW TUBEWELLS/DUGWELLS PROGRAMME FOR SPECIAL FOODGRAINS PRODUCTION PROGRAMME UNDER CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF ASSISTANCE TO SMALL AND MARGINAL FARMERS FOR INCLEASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION DURING 1988-89 AND ACHIEVEMENTS MADE SO FAR

Sl.No.	State	No of districts/ blocks selected for shallow tubewells/dugwells programme	Allocations during 1988-89 No. of shallow tubewells/ dugwells	Central Share (Rs. in lakhs)	1st instalment of Central funds released (Rs. in lakhs)	No of shallow tubewells/dugwells constructed under SFPP upto 15.11.88
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8 (127)	41392	620.88	310.44	6458
2.	Assam	3 (25)	8148	122.22	61.11	RA
3.	Bihar	18(327)	106576	1598.64	799.32	11138
4.	Gujarat	7 (99)	2160	32.40	16.20	RA
5.	Haryana	5 (43)	13400	201.00	100.50	1099
6.	Karnataka	8 (73)	30000	450.00	225.00	2053
7.	Madhya Pradesh	22(273)	30000	450.00	225.00	8592
8.	Maharashtra	7 (80)	26073	391.10	195.55	RA
9.	Orissa	5 (148)	48236	723.54	361.77	2860

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Tamil Nadu	3 (218)	13400	201.00	100.50	RA
11.	Uttar Pradesh	36 (651)	212175	3182.62	1591.31	60000
12.	West Bengal	7 (188)	61274	919.10	459.55	RA
TOTAL		134(2252)	592834	8892.50	4446.25	92200

RA : Report awaited.

[English]

Removal of Barriers of Permits for Carrying Tourists in Private Buses and Care

1803. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether with a view to promoting tourism and also generating employment in the self employed sector, there is any proposal to remove all barriers of permits for carrying tourists all over the country in private buses and cars; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 through Sec. 88 provides for removal of quote restriction on the number of permits to be issued by State Transport authorities and provides for grant of all India tourist permits to the eligible applicants, subject to the ceiling of 10/20 for individual/company.

Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Animal Disease

1804. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Centrally sponsored scheme on animal disease surveillance is in force in the State of Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) when was the same enforced in Goa; and

(d) the details of achievements made under this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme envisages the establishment of an epidemiological unit in the Directorate of Animal Husbandry for monitoring incidences of major livestock diseases on a monthly basis.

(c) Financial sanctions were issue by Governments of India for the implementation fo the scheme from 1983-84 onwards.

(d) As envisaged, data on incidences on major diseases are being monitored. The grant-in-aid released by the Government of India to Goa is as follows:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Central grants released (Rs. lakhs)</i>
1983-84	0.25
1984-85	0.14
1985-86	0.20
1986-87	0.40
1987-88	0.35
1988-89 (upto 6/88)	0.60
Total:	1.94

Financial Assistance to Indigent Scholars of Sanskrit

1806. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received by Union Government in the inordinate delay in the disbursement of financial assistance to old and indigent scholars of Sanskrit and other classical languages in the country on account of slow action on the part of State Government concerned;

(b) if so, whether Union Government propose to decide to send the financial assistance directly to such scholars so as to eliminate the delay in payment;

(c) if so, the likely date by which it would be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the number of such scholars, alongwith the amount of assistance disbursed during the last three years, yearwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) Disbursement of financial assistance directly to Sanskrit scholars in indigent circumstances is not proposed, since it is not possible to verify either the latest income of the beneficiaries or their physical existence through other sources. The number of such scholars and the amount of assistance sanctioned for them to State Governments during the past three years, year-wise is as follow:-

(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	No. of Scholars	Amount Released
1	2	3
1985-86	1394	27.97
1986-87	1298	27.03
1987-88	1338	27.32

Development of Allahabad-Patna Stretch of Waterway

1807. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the development of the Allahabad-Patna (Ganga) Stretch of the Waterway;

(b) the estimated cost of the project and

the assistance promised by the Dutch Government by way of financial contribution and provision of vessels; and

(c) the time-schedule, if any, laid down for the completion of the project including the development of any inland terminal along with the waterway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). For the

Allahabad-Patna stretch of the river Ganga, a Pilot Project has been designed to evaluate its navigability. The Project is being implemented with Dutch financial assistance under the bilateral agreement and is estimated to cost Rs. 25.25 crores of which Dutch financial assistance is estimated at Rs. 12.64 crores in foreign exchange which includes supply of one dredger, one survey launch, one work boat and one shallow draft cargo vessel. The Project is likely to be completed by March, 1989. The establishment of terminals along the waterway is not included in it since it is a pilot-project. Detailed survey of the bandalling and dredging sites have already been carried out and Bandalling has been erected in 15 nos. of shoals and dredging in 6 nos. shoals has been done. Channel marking from Patna to Mirzapur has also been carried out.

Inland Water Transport Vessels

1808. SHRIMOCHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any vessels for inland water transport are being obtained from foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the routes where they will be deployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). The Inland Waterways Authority of India is obtaining from Netherlands four vessels namely one dredger, one survey launch, one

work boat and one shallow draft cargo vessel under the bilateral assistance programme. These vessels will be used in the Pilot Project designed to evaluate the navigability of the Ganga between Patna and Allahabad.

Issue of Passports from Regional Passport Office, Delhi

1809. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passports issued by the Regional Passport Office, Delhi during the last three years, month-wise and year-wise;

(b) the average time taken in issuing a passport after the submission of the application form;

(c) whether it is a fact that the travel agents in connivance with the staff of Regional Passport Office, Delhi, manage to get passport issued within a couple of days;

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

(e) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) the number of passports issued during the last three years (month-wise) are as under:

<i>Month/year</i>	<i>1985</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>1987</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
Jan.	8232	10330	6203
Feb.	8587	9214	6380

1	2	3	4
Mar.	9187	8501	7293
Apr.	9518	9532	6693
May	8841	10302	6562
Jun	8724	11225	7090
July	10641	11223	8101
Aug.	9324	8540	5664
Sep.	9493	9885	6106
Oct.	10681	7902	5890
Nov.	8977	6650	6404
Dec.	10053	7017	6038
Total	112258	110321	78424

(b) Normally, a passport is issued in about 6 weeks' time after the submission of application form to the Regional Passport Office, Delhi.

(c) to (e). Passports are issued on first come first served basis on receipt of clear verification reports from the concerned authorities. Therefore, the question of issue of passports to travel agents in connivance with the staff on priority basis does not arise. No specific complaint has been received in this regard.

Three Language Formula in Navodaya Vidyalayas

1810. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three language formula

adopted by Navodaya Vidyalayas is opposed by many States including Southern States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Scheme is already under implementation in all States/ Union Territories except the states of Assam, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. These three State Governments have only expressed certain reservations regarding medium of instruction after class VIII/IX, migration of students and management of the Vidyalayas. These three State Governments have not so far made any specific proposal/offer for establishment of Na-

vodaya Vidyalyayas in their respective States.

Setting Up of Milk Booth in Kalkaji Extension

1811. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open any new DMS milk outlets for residents of Kalkaji Extension;

(b) if so, the time by which new outlets will be opened and the quota of milk increased to meet the requirements of residents; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c). The Delhi Milk Scheme has planned to open an additional booth in Kalkaji Extension. The site has been taken over and the construction is being entrusted to M/s. Hindustan Pre-Feb. Ltd., and is expected to be completed shortly. It is anticipated that through this outlet about 200 litres of milk per day will be supplied to the consumers.

Food Production from Dryland

1812. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether dryland yield is extremely low per unit area and per unit time;

(b) if so, the present position in this regard; and

(c) the details of the improved technol-

ogy contemplated for improving yield from dryland?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present average yields of some of the major dryland crops are as follows:

Sorghum	5.8 q/ha
Pearlmillet	5.4 q/ha
Groundnut	8.6 q/ha
Cotton	1.3 q/ha

(c) Hybrids and high yielding varieties of the various dryland crops suited to different agro-climatic regions have been evolved and released. The package of improved agronomic practices have been standardised for various soil and agro-climatic conditions. These techniques consist of characterising the effective growing season based on long term rainfall analysis, identification of suitable cultivars matching the rainfall and water availability period, development of inter and sequence cropping systems, improved crop production technologies covering tillage, seeding techniques, in situ moisture conservation, fertiliser management, pest and disease control, water harvesting and re-use and alternate land-use systems covering Agro-forestry, silvipasture suited to marginal soils.

Provision of Safe Drinking Water to Villages in Madhya Pradesh

1813. SHRI K.N. PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have

received any request from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for financial assistance to procure 12 Combination and 12 terrain rigs for providing drinking water in villages situated in remote and inaccessible areas of the State; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) The Government of India had received the request in August, 1987 from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for financial assistance to procure 12 Nos. of DTH-cum-Rotary (Combination) type of rigs and 16 Nos. "All Terrain" rigs.

(b) During the drought of 1987-88, the Central Government had allowed ceilings of expenditure of Rs. 1.05 crores as part of Advance Plan Assistance for procurement of 3 Nos. DTH rigs and one No. Combination rig. In addition, two Nos. UNICEF All Terrain Rigs have also been provided to the State Government in 1988.

Population Education in Vocational Training Schemes

1814. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a programme jointly funded by the Government of India and the United Nations Population Fund and executed by the International Labour Organisation aims at fully implementing an earlier proposal for the introduction of population education in the vocational training schemes; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the projects which are being covered under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). Realising the potential of Education in tackling the problem of growing population, the Government of India launched the National Population Education Project in April, 1980, designed to introduce population education in the schools. The underlying object of the programme is to create in the younger generation adequate awareness of the population problems and realisation about its responsibilities towards the nation. Its concerns are being increasingly reflected into syllabi and textbooks and other industrial materials. The Programme is fully funded by United Nations Population Fund.

In pursuance of the National Policy on Education, 1986, a Centrally sponsored scheme of vocationalisation of Secondary Education has also been started under which assistance on approved pattern is provided to State Governments/U.T. administrations for vocational education at + 2 level. The assistance is also admissible to Voluntary/Non-Government Organisations for taking up innovative programmes in the field of vocationalisation. No separate programme for population education has been worked out for vocational students. The population education programme at + 2 level covers vocational students in the schools along with the rest of the students.

Losses and Repair of Ships in Cochin Shipyard

1815. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI MULLAPPALLY
RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the cumulative loss sustained by the Cochin Shipyard as on 31 March, 1988;

(b) whether there are inordinate delays in the completion of repairs work ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the shipyard apply standard tariff for the repairs of ships;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken to make this shipyard a viable unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (c). There are no inordinate delays in the completion of ship repair jobs in the majority of cases.

(d) and (e). A standard tariff is adopted by the Shipyard for most of the works.

(f) Various proposals based on the recommendations made by BICP and the High Level Committee headed by Shri Lovraj Kumar for improving the financial health of the Shipyard are under consideration of the Government. these include revision of pricing formula, grant of concessions to Shipyards with regard to import of equipment and components, conferment of export status of ship building industry, restructuring of the existing capital base by converting loan into equity, grant of moratorium on payment of the interest/repayment of past loans and reimbursement of cash losses etc.

Navodaya Vidyalaya at Pallghat, Kerala

1816. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Navodaya Vidyalaya was sanctioned for Palghat, Kerala;

(b) if so, whether it has been set up;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay;

(d) whether there is any proposal to shift it to another place; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). Since temporary accommodation for starting the Vidyalaya was not available at village Agali, which is a permanent site, alternate arrangements were made to start the Vidyalaya at Village Malampuzha. The Vidyalaya will shift to the permanent site as and when its own building is constructed for which the process has already started.

Modernisation of R.S.P. by West German Financial Corporation

1817. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the West German Financial Corporation, (K.F.W.) has recently stated that it would be submitting its appraisal report for the modernisation programme of the Rourkela Steel Plant by the end of this year;

(b) whether any indication has been given regarding the cost effectiveness of the products; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) The

West German Financial Corporation (KFW) had indicated that they expected to submit their appraisal report on the Rourkela modernisation to the German Govt. by the end of the current year.

(b) and (c). These aspects would be known after the appraisal has been done.

SAARC Recommendations Regarding Compulsory Primary Education

1818. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the recommendations made by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) regarding adoption of compulsory primary education for all children; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir. Education has not been included as yet under the agreed areas of cooperation under SAARC.

(b) Does not arise.

Use of Coke Breeze In Steel Plants

1819. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated stock of Coke Breeze and Mixed Coke, separately, at each Steel Plant;

(b) the estimated annual arising at each plant, with quality specifications;

(c) the broad uses for which stocks released/sold during the last three years;

(d) the estimated use of breeze in sintering plants during the last three years and estimated self-use during the next three years plant-wise;

(e) whether there is any proposal to instal equipment at plants for screening mixed coke;

(f) if so, the cost thereof and the time by which it is proposed to be done; and

(g) whether Government have taken into consideration the requirement of priority sector i.e. SSI cement units based on VSK technologies for coke breeze and whether it has earmarked stocks for it?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (g). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Navodaya Vidyalaya at Muli, District Surendranagar (Gujarat)

1820. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the site has been inspected for Opening a Navodaya Vidyalaya at Muli in District Surendranagar, Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the vidyalaya is likely to be set up there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Keeping in view the financial constraints being foreseen, the Executive Committee of Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti in its meeting held on 9th September, 1988 has decided, as of now, not to open any new vidyalaya in the country during 1989-90.

Misutilisation of Grants by Pragati Pathagar, Bellaguntha

1821. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount given so far to Pragati Pathagar at Bellaguntha (Orissa) for promotion of Non-formal Adult Education;

(b) whether any further amount is proposed to be given;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the amount sanctioned to Pragati Pathagar at Bellaguntha (Orissa) has been properly utilised by the institution; and

(e) if not, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) An amount of Rs. 2,02,390/- for setting up of 30 Adult Education Centres and 50 Non-Formal Education Centres has so far been released to Pragati Pathagar, Bellaguntha, Orissa.

(b) and (c). The balance amount of Rs. 1,65,390/- will be released to the Voluntary Agency on receipt of certain documents and subject to fulfilment of conditions prescribed in the letters sanctioning the amount of grants.

(d) Nothing adverse against the Agency has come to the notice of this Ministry. However, before the 2nd instalment of grant is released the statement of Accounts requested from the Agency will be scrutinised.

(e) Does not arise.

Exploitation by Public Schools in Delhi

1822. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the conditions under which the so-called public schools in Delhi are recognised by the Government and the privileges which they enjoy as against Government Schools and Government aided schools in the matter of management;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is exploitation of majority of the teachers in public schools as their services are terminated every year before summer vacations begin;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to check it; and

(d) the machinery provided by Government for redressal of grievances of such teachers in these public schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (d). It is not clear what is intended by "So-called Public Schools in Delhi". However, the privately managed schools are recognised subject to fulfilment of the conditions laid down in sub-section (1) of Section 4 of the Delhi School Education Act, 1973 which are given in the Statement below. Once such schools have been granted recognition, they have to comply with the provisions of the Delhi School Edu-

cation Act, 1973 and Rules made thereunder and as such they do not enjoy any special privilege. These schools have to follow the Scheme of Management and Terms and Conditions of service of employees laid down in the Act/Rules, 1973. Whenever, any specific violations of the provisions of the Act/Rules, particularly illegal termination of services of teachers, are brought to the notice of Delhi Administration, suitable action is taken against such schools under the Act.

STATEMENT

(Provisions of Sub-section (1) of the Section 4 of Delhi School Education Act, 1973)

(a) It has adequate funds to ensure its financial stability and regular payment of salary and allowances of its employees;

(b) it has a duly approved scheme of managements as required by section 5,

(c) it has suitable or adequate accommodation and sanitary facilities having regard, among other factors, to the number, age and sex of the pupils attending it;

(d) it provides for approved courses of study and efficient instruction;

(e) it has teachers with prescribed quali-

fications; and

(f) it has the prescribed facilities for physical education, library service, laboratory work, workshop practice or co-curricular activities.

Programme for Restoration of Damages Caused to National Highways

1823. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any programme for restoration of damages caused to certain portions of the National Highways by the recent floods in the various parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the restoration of damages projected by the State Governments and assistance provided therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Every year provision is made in the Budget for the maintenance of National Highways including flood damage repairs. The estimated cost of the restoration of damages, as projected by the State Governments, come to Rs. 98.64 crores spread over the current and next year against which a sum of Rs. 3.80 crores has been released so far. Statewise break up is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

S.No	Name of the State	Amount projected by State Government	Amount released
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.80	—
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.22	—

1	2	3	4
3.	Assam	2.73	0.75
4.	Bihar	3.60	0.30
5.	Chandigarh	0.05	—
6.	Delhi	0.55	—
7.	Goa	0.50	—
8.	Gujarat	15.00	0.50
9.	Haryana	3.20	0.20
10.	Himachal Pradesh	7.50	0.25
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	2.35	0.20
12.	Karnataka	1.50	—
13.	Kerala	4.25	—
14.	Madhya Pradesh	3.62	—
15.	Maharashtra	6.70	—
16.	Manipur	0.07	—
17.	Meghalaya	1.10	—
18.	Nagaland	0.07	—
19.	Pondicherry	—	—
20.	Orissa	1.99	—
21.	Punjab	5.50	0.35
22.	Rajasthan	9.50	—
23.	Tamil Nadu	2.00	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	10.00	0.50
25.	West Bengal	9.84	0.75
Total		Rs. 98.64 crores	Rs. 3.80 crores

**Assistance to Small and Marginal
Farmers in Punjab**

1824. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE Be
pleased to state the amount of special Cen-
tral assistance provided to the small and
marginal farmers in Punjab under the differ-
ent schemes during 1988 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL
YADAV) A Statement indicating the Central
assistance provided to small and marginal
farmers during the current financial year so
far under different Central/Centrally Spon-
sored Schemes in Punjab is given below.
Besides, financial assistance is also being
provided under various other Central/Cen-
trally Sponsored Schemes which include
small and marginal farmers also.

STATEMENT

S.No.	Name of the Scheme	Central allocation far 1988-89	Central released so far during 1988-89
1.	Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to small & Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production.	136.83 —	44.46 329.87*
2.	Lab to Land Programme Phase V from 1988 to 1990 March. Critical inputs are provided @ Rs 500/- per year per family. 350 farm families will be benefited during 1988-89.	2.06	0.01
3.	Special Livestock Breeding Programme.	24.00	12.00
4.	Foot and Mouth Disease	—	1.25
5.	Integrated Rural Development Programme including agricultural labourers, rural artisans and others whose annual family income is below Rs 4,800	359.25	127.49

* Unspent balance of Rs 329.87 lakhs out of the Central releases made during past years is also available for utilization during 1988-89.

**Construction of Family Quarters for
Professors of Fisheries College,
Panangad**

1825. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether family quarters were constructed for the Professors in the Fisheries College Panangad in Kerala with the financial assistance from the Indian Council of Agriculture Research;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) the amount of financial assistance given by ICAR for this purpose;

(d) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the poor quality of construction of these quarters due to which most of these quarters have remained unoccupied; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The ICAR under the scheme "Establishment and Development of Agricultural Universities" had provided financial assistance of Rs. 10.25 lakhs towards construction of staff quarters for the College of Fisheries, Panangad of Kerala Agricultural University during VI Five Year Plan. As the quarters could not be completed in the VI Plan, the Council allotted a further grant of Rs. 5.08 lakhs during VII Plan at the request of the University.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Problem Areas for Drinking Water in
Rajasthan**

1826. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hydro-geological Survey has identified twenty seven districts in Rajasthan as problem areas for augmenting the supply of drinking water;

(b) whether Government of Rajasthan has submitted a plan worth Rs. 150 crores for financial assistance in this regard; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) The State Government of Rajasthan has reported that semi hydrogeological survey had identified twenty seven districts with problem of safe drinking water supply in certain villages.

(b) No, sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Adult Education Programmes in Orissa

1827. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Adult Education Programmes are executed in the country with the help of voluntary organisations;

(b) if so, the total number of programmes sanctioned and the number of programmes out of them allotted to Orissa; and

(c) the details of voluntary organisations in Orissa to whom the programmes have been allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During April-November, 1988, 251 Projects for setting up of Adult Education Centres, Jana Shiksha Nilayams and for conducting research projects, workshops etc. have been approved. 6 of these Projects were allotted to the voluntary agencies in Orissa.

(c) A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMMES IN ORISSA

Sl.No.	Name of the Voluntary Agency	Adult Education Centre (AECs)/ Jana Shikshan Nilayams (JSNs) approved	Approved Expenditure of the Project (Rs).
1	2	3	4
1.	Kanyabeda Mahila Samiti, Kanyabeda block, Banarpal, Taluk-Angul, P.O. Kandasar, Distt. Dhenkanal, Orissa.	30 AECs	1,27,500/-
2.	Modern Youth Club, At Mahabir Chhak, P.O. Jajpur, Distt. Cuttack, Orissa	30 AECs	1,27,500/-
3.	Yuba Krushak Sangha, At Nuapali, P.O. Uparjhar, Distt. Bolangir, Orissa	30 AECs	1,27,500/-
4.	Anchlik Janakalyana Yubak Sangha, At Dayanidhipur P.O. Krishnachandrapur, Distt. Dhenkanal, Orissa	30 AECs	1,27,500/-

1	2	3	4
5.	Jagannath Yubak Sangha, At/P.O. Kandhakelgam. Block- Saintala, Taluk- Titilagarh, Distt. Bolangir, Orissa	30 AECs	1,27,500/-
6.	Netaji Jubak Sangha, Balipokhari, At/Po. Parmanandapur, Distt. Balasore, Orissa.	5 JSNS	70,000/-

Progress Made by Tamil Nadu in one Family One Job

1828. SHRI P.R. S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in Tamil Nadu under the programme one family one job initiated by the Prime Minister; and

(b) the performance of Tamil Nadu in this regard in comparison to other States during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Norms of Relief for Drought and Flood

1829. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has been asked by the Prime Minister to recast the norms of relief for flood and drought being sanctioned to States; and

(b) if so, the details and action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). The Planning Commission have not been asked by the Prime Minister to recast the existing norms for flood and drought relief, which are in force since 1.7.1986. However, keeping in view the severity of some of the natural calamities during the current year and the representa-

tions received from those affected and the State Governments, the High Level Committee on Relief had adopted liberalised criteria in terms of extending assistance for some specific measures to provide relief to the affected population.

[*Translation*]

Cracks in the Sun Temple Puri

1830. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the places where Archaeological Survey of India is conducting survey;

(b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India has found many cracks in the eight hundred years' old Sun Temple in the premises of famous Jagannath Temple of Puri;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government so far for its repairs;

(d) the names of the monuments located by this Department in other parts of the country where repairs are imperative; and

(e) the details thereof and action taken by Government for the repairs of those monuments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) The Archaeological Survey of India has approved surveys for various purposes in certain areas of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The Archaeological Survey of India while deplastering Surya Temple (in

the premises of Lord Jagannath Temple, Puri) has noticed some cracks and voids extant in the structure. Necessary steps have been initiated to consolidate these portions by filling the voids with grout, stitching and filling of the cracks in masonry wherever required.

(d) and (e). Six hundred and five centrally protected monuments/sites spread all over the country have been identified for conservation works during the current financial year. Work on these monuments is in various stage of implementation.

[English]

Facilities to Women and Children Under ICDS

1831. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the materials alongwith quantity and variety distributed among children and pregnant women under the Integrated Child Development Scheme in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government are aware that huge quantity of the material is sold out in the market;

(c) if so, the action taken against the persons held responsible, and

(d) the mechanism to check such malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The Centrally-sponsored Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is

administered through the State Governments, with 100 per cent financial assistance from the Government of India for components other than Supplementary Nutrition. The Supplementary Nutrition component is funded from the resources of the State Governments, except to the extent assistance in the form of WFP/CARE food and that under the Centrally-sponsored Wheat-Based Nutrition Programme is available. The type of food depends upon the food materials locally available, type of beneficiary, location of the ICDS project, administrative feasibility etc. and may therefore differ from place to place.

(b) to (d). Sporadic allegations on mismanagement of materials intended for supplementary nutrition do appear. Such allegations, whenever they come to the notice of the Government, are referred to the concerned State Government for investigation and remedial action.

Export of Toxic Wastes

1832. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether about fifty developing and non-developed countries are trying to conclude negotiations on controlling export of dangerous toxic wastes and to put a complete ban on its export;

(b) if so, the names of the countries which are trying to export this dangerous toxic wastes; and

(c) the reaction of Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI

K. NATWAR SINGH: (a) The subject of the proper disposal of dangerous toxic wastes has been considered in several multilateral fora. The Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme has set up a working group of legal and technical experts to negotiate and draft a Global Convention on the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes.

(b) The Convention is, inter alia, aimed at prevention of dumping of toxic wastes by any country in the territory of another.

(c) Government supports these efforts.

[*Translation*]

Distribution of Land to Landless People

1833. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether various State Governments have decided to distribute land to the landless people on a large scale through an intensive drive during the last three months; and

(b) if so, the State-wise details of uncultivated/surplus land acquired through Bhoo-dan Yagya and distributed to poor, landless Harijans and backward people since January, 1988 in Bihar and other adjoining States and the number of such beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Check on Violence In Films

1834. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present guidelines are inadequate to check violence and vulgarity in the films; and

(b) if so, the further steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (b). The guidelines issued by the Central government under Section 5B of the Cinematograph Act, 1952, which are given in the Statement herewith, have stood the test of time; however, all such guidelines are necessarily under continuous review so that they adequately reflect the priorities and values of present day society.

STATEMENT

CENTRAL BOARD OF FILM CENSORS

GUIDELINES

(As amended upto 7th May 1983)

SRO — In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of Section 5B, of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 (37 of 1952), the Central Government hereby directs that, in sanctioning of films for public exhibition, the Board of Film Censors shall be guided by the following principles:-

1. The objectives of film censorship shall be to ensure that —

(a) the medium of film remains

responsible and sensitive to the values and standards of society;

(b) artistic expression and creative freedom are not unduly curbed; and

(c) censorship is responsive to social change.

2. In pursuance of the above objectives, the Board of Film Censors shall ensure that —

(i) anti-social activities such as violence are not glorified or justified;

(ii) the modus operandi of criminals or other visuals or words likely to incite the commission of any offence are not depicted;

(iii) pointless or avoidable scenes of violence, cruelty and horror are not shown;

(iii-a) scenes which have the effect of justifying or glorifying drinking are not shown;

(iv) human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity and depravity;

(iv-a) visuals or words depicting women in ignoble servility to man or glorifying such servility as a praiseworthy quality in women are not presented;

(v) visuals or words contemptuous of racial, religious or other groups are not presented;

(vi) the sovereignty and integrity

of India is not called in question;

(vii) the security of the State is not jeopardised or endangered;

(viii) friendly relations with foreign States are not strained;

(ix) public order is not endangered;

(x) visuals or words involving defamation or contempt of Court are not presented.

3. The Board of Film Censors shall also ensure that the film —

(i) is judged in its entirety from the point of view of its overall impact; and

(ii) is examined in the light of contemporary standards of the country and the people to which the film relates.

4. Films that meet the above-mentioned criteria but are considered unsuitable for exhibition to non-adults shall be certified for exhibition to adult audiences only.

5. The notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting No. G.S.R. 168, dated 6th February 1960 is hereby superseded.

Production of Jute

1835. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Jute production in the country at present;

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to increase the production of Jute in future;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Jute Crop Season for the year 1988-89 is just over. Jute production during the current season is expected to be around 65-70 lakh bales.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) To increase the production of jute in the country, a Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP) is in operation in all the major jute growing states in the country. Under this scheme, subsidy is being provided on (1) production & distribution of certified seeds (2) implements (3) construction of retting tanks (4) distribution of fungal culture packets (5) Laying out of demonstration plots (6) farmers training camps and (7) Plant protection chemicals/soil ameliorants.

(d) Does not arise.

Computer Education In Schools

1836. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schools in which computer education is proposed to be introduced during 1988-89, State-wise; and

(b) the number of schools in rural areas State-wise, where the computer education has been introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). A pilot project on Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) was started in 1984-85 in 248 schools and has continued till 1987-88 on year to year basis with addition of 1700 more schools pending finalisation of regular CLASS Programme. The number of schools to be added under CLASS Programme during 1988-89 has not yet been decided. According to information available from 20 States/UTs, 424 computers have so far been installed in rural schools. The State-wise position regarding installation of computers is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of State/Union Territory</i>	<i>No. of computers installed in rural areas</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1.	Assam	76
2.	Bihar	8
3.	Goa	4
4.	Gujarat	30
5.	Haryana	2

1	2	3
6.	Himachal Pradesh	20
7.	Kerala	40
8.	Madhya Pradesh	72
9.	Maharashtra	12
10.	Meghalaya	10
11.	Punjab	38
12.	Rajasthan	6
13.	Tamil Nadu	84
14.	Tripura	—
15.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2
16.	Chandigarh Administration	2
17.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4
18.	Delhi Administration	12
19.	Lakshadweep	2
20.	Pondicherry	—

Irrigated Land in Karnataka

1837. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of irrigated land in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala States;

(b) whether Karnataka has the lowest percentage of irrigated land among the Southern States; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Union Government to increase the percentage of irrigated land area in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The percentage of irrigated area in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala, as per 1984-85 statistics, are 18.0, 49.5, 36.6 and 14.7 respectively.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The irrigation schemes are planned, funded and implemented by the State Govts. Central assistance is given in the form of block loans/grants and are not linked to any individual sector or projects. Some of the steps taken by the Central Government to improve the utilisation of created irrigation potential in different States including Karnataka are as under:-

(i) A Centrally Sponsored, Command Area Development Programme was initiated in 1974-75;

(ii) State Governments have been advised to construct water courses from the existing 40 hectare block outlets to 5-8 hectare block outlets and to introduce warabandi extensively for ensuring equity in distribution and reducing wastage of water; and

(iii) Introducing Farmers' training and organising demonstrations in identifying crop varieties responsive to irrigation, the sowing time, crops sequence, frequency of irrigation doses, preparing fields and on-farm water management.

Vice-Chancellors' Visit to Foreign Countries

1838. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the foreign visits made by the Vice-Chancellors and other Officers of the Central Universities/Organisation from 1-1-86 to 31-10-88;

(b) the propose of each visit and the results achieved therefrom; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on each visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Gorakhpur Unit of FCI

1839. SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given clearance to the proposed modernisation scheme of Gorakhpur Unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India; and

(b) if so, the time by which the work is likely to be taken up and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) No, Sir, not yet.

(b) The implementation of the project will start after Government approval has been accorded and is expected to be completed within 24 months from the zero date.

[English]

New Scheme for Supply of Steel by SAIL

1840. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has introduced a new scheme for supply of steel to eligible consumers;

(b) whether the scheme has been formulated after discussions between the Steel Authority of India and the representatives of the consuming industries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) A scheme for supply of HR coils and skelp in a timebound manner has been announced by Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the Scheme the requirements of consumers will be met through a combination of indigenous production and imports based on the quarterly demand registered with SAIL. Consumers would have the option of accepting indigenous material or imported material or both. The distribution of the material would be done in terms of the distribution guidelines.

[Translation]

Amount Allocated to Uttar Pradesh Under RLEGP

1841. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the amount allocated so far to Uttar Pradesh in the current year under Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): An amount of Rs. 10,600 lakhs in cash has been allocated to Uttar Pradesh during the year 1988-89 under Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme. Over and above the cash funds, 80900 M.T. of additive foodgrains valuing Rs. 1375.59 lakhs (at subsidised rates) have been allocated to the

State during the current year under the Programme.

[English]

Regularisation of Encroachments in Catchment Areas

1842. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHA RAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the loss of irrigated area under existing tanks in South India is higher than what is newly added;

(b) whether the encroachments in the catchment areas of thousands of tanks has been regularised;

(c) whether the extension of agriculture to catchment areas has damaged or destroyed all the mechanism built in the catchment to prevent the flow of silt into the tanks; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to prevent extension of agriculture in catchment areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The available and compiled data for the period 1980-81 to 1984-85 does not show any loss in irrigated areas under tanks, excepting normal yearly fluctuations.

(b) Information is being collected from Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala.

(c) and (d). The effect of extension of agriculture in the catchments of the tanks on the mechanism built in to prevent silt will depend on the protection and management level of the areas brought under agriculture.

The silt flow in the tanks is dependent upon the different land uses in the catchments and the extent of erosion control measures adopted in the catchments. Various soil and water conservation measures like bunding, terracing, gully control, nala bunding, afforestation, etc. are being taken, in the catchments to check soil erosion and consequent silting of tanks.

Setting Up of a Museum in Prakasam District of Andhra Pradesh

1843. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Museum at Ongole of Prakasam District headquarter in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the monuments unearthed at Motupalli area of Prakasam District in Andhra Pradesh have been kept at one place; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) There is no such proposal with the Archaeological Survey of India.

(b) and (c). The Centrally Protected monuments are at the place only and are being duly conserved by the Archaeological

survey of India.

Posts of Laboratory Assistants in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1844. SHRI SAMAR BRAHMA CHOUDHURY:
SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the posts of Laboratory Assistants and Laboratory Attendants have been abolished in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) if not, the pay scales attached to both the posts; and

(d) the promotional avenues available for these posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). Keeping in view the requirement of a Science Laboratory it was decided in September, 1974 that only the post of Laboratory Attendant may be created in the Kendriya Vidyalayas. Any vacancy occurring in the cadre of Laboratory Assistant should be filled by the Laboratory Attendant. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has been implementing this decision.

(c)	Post	Pay scale
	Laboratory Attendant	Rs.775-12-955-EB-14-1025
	Laboratory Assistant	Rs. 1200-30-1560-EB-40-2040

(d) No Promotional avenues are available for these posts.

Passenger Buses Built on Cargo Chassis

1845. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to news item captioned "Indian buses unfit for travel: ASRTU" appearing in 'Indian Express' dated 8 October, 1988;

(b) if so, whether the buses being used in the country are not fit to carry people as these are built on cargo chassis;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to change the existing chassis to girder type chassis for comfortable travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). All the normal single decker buses in India are built mainly on the ladder type chassis, which offer less riding comforts. The floor height being high, it makes entry and exit a bit difficult for the aged passengers.

(d) Central Institute of Road Transport and Automotive Research Association of India have already been assigned a project to develop an appropriate design for passenger chassis so as to provide for lower height by fitment of outriggers fittings besides installing the engine at the rear of the vehicles and taking steps to provide better air suspension.

Implementation of the Recommendation of Study Group on Road Safety

1846. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various recommendations made by the Study Group on Road Safety appointed by his Ministry in June, 1972 have been implemented; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Majority of the recommendations made in the Road Safety Report, 1972 pertained to improvement in traffic management. The recommendations had been remitted to the State Govts/UTs for necessary action.

Recommendations pertaining to inbuilt devices in vehicles designed for road-safety, the driver training aspects, vehicle inspection, analysis of accident data, way-side facilities, patrolling through traffic aid posts, are suitably incorporated in the M.V. Act, 1988. National Road Safety Council has been constituted and the State Govts. have been advised to set up state-level Councils and District-level Committees. According to information received from State Govts, they have initiated steps to implement appropriate road safety measures, which is a continuing process.

[Translation]

Procurement Price of Foodgrains

1847. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have increased procurement price for all the

foodgrains except paddy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether procurement price for all foodgrains are fixed on the basis of cost of production;

(d) if so, why this policy is not being followed in the case of paddy;

(e) the time by which Government propose to announce higher procurement price for paddy and reasons for delay in this regard;

(f) whether any memorandum has been received by Government in this regard; and

(g) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). The Government have increased the procurement price of paddy (common) from Rs. 150 for 1987-88 to Rs. 160 per quintal for 1988-89 season.

(c) and (d). The procurement/support prices are fixed for foodgrains including paddy taking into account a number of relevant factors including the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices which, inter-alia, takes into account the cost of production of the commodity.

(e) to (g). The Government have already announced the increase in the procurement price of paddy for the 1988-89 season.

[English]

Technology for Preservation of Mushrooms

1848. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is much scope for the export of mushroom;

(b) whether any technology has been developed for the preservation of mushrooms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, and the Regional Research Laboratory, Jammu, have evolved technology for canning and dehydration of mushrooms.

Three Language Formula by Central Board of Secondary Education

1849. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the brief particulars of the Three Language Formula adopted by the Central Board of Secondary Education for introduction with effect from the academic year 1989-90;

(b) whether the formula as adopted provides for the teaching of the mother tongue of students of linguistic minorities such as students in Hindi speaking States, whose mother tongue is neither Hindi nor English as compulsory or as optional lan-

guage;

(c) the number of academic years and hours of study allotted to First Second and Third Language under the Formula;

(d) the medium of instruction adopted by the Central Board of Secondary Education for subjects other than languages; and

(e) the medium of examination adopted by the Central Board of Secondary Education for subjects other than language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) In keeping with the three language formula enunciated in the Education Policy of 1968 the Central board of Secondary Education has prescribed Hindi, English and one of the modern Indian languages for secondary school examination. Sanskrit will be taught alongwith Hindi as part of Hindi A Course. Also, the students may offer one of the seven classical and European languages including Sanskrit as an additional language on optional basis.

(b) According to the formula a student is required to study three languages and he may opt for any one of them to be as A course from Class I, which may be other than Hindi and English. this language may continue upto Class X in addition to Hindi and English which are compulsory at Secondary stage.

(c) :

- i) From Class Ist : A Course (First language) should be studied for not less than 10 years.
- ii) B Course (Second language) should be studies for not less than five Years and should start not later than Class VI.

- iii) C Course (Third language) should be studied for not less than four years and should start not later than Class VII.

Suggested periods of study of languages in Class X per week are as follows:

(A) course 6

(B) Course 5

(C) Course 3

(d) Decision regarding medium of instruction is left to the State/Union Territories governments/Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan/Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti/Centre/ Tibetan Schools Administration/Schools.

(e) Delhi Scheme : The medium of examination in Mathematics can be Hindi or English. while in the remaining subjects it can be English, Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Punjabi, Sindhi, Marathi, Gujarati, Telugu and Tamil

All India Scheme : The medium of examination for all subjects is Hindi or English except that;

- i) it can be Punjabi in the Union Territory of Chandigarh.
- ii) it can be Bengali, Urdu, Tamil, Telugu and Punjabi in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Central Fisheries University

1850. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a Central Fisheries University; and

(b) If so, where is it likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI) : (a) and (b). No sir. However there is a proposal to declare Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Bombay as a 'Deemed-to-be' University. The University Grants Commission has recommended the proposal. The recommendation is under examination by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Deemed University Status to NDRI Karnal

1851. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand was made for granting NDRI, Karnal, Deemed University status; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The University Grants Commission have recommended grant of deemed university status on the National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal under Section 3 of the UGC act. The recommendation is under examination by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Teachers Posted in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Moscow

1852. SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA :
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-

SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of teachers of different categories posted in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Moscow;

(b) the allowances and facilities admissible to the employees of the said Vidyalaya; and

(c) the currencies in which employees are paid salaries and to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) the details of teachers of different categories posted in Kendriya Vidyalaya, Moscow are as follows:

1. Principal	— 01
2. Post Graduate Teachers	— 08
3. Trained Graduate Teachers	— 02
4. Primary Teachers	— 06

(b) and (c). The employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya, Moscow posted by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan are entitled to allowances and foreign currency component of emoluments are admissible to India based staff of Indian embassy Moscow. They are also entitled to free furnished accommodation and free medical cover.

Deep-Sea Fishing Trawlers

1853. PROF. P.J.KURIEN : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deep-sea fishing trawlers at present;

(b) whether Government have any time-bound plan to increase the fleet and the catch;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount spent in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The number of deep-sea fishing vessels at present in Indian waters is 153.

(b) and (c). During VII plan period, it is proposed to increase the number of deep-sea fishing vessels from the existing 153 to 500 through indigenous construction, import and charter of foreign fishing vessels. As regards the increase in fish catch, the target of fish production from marine source during VII plan is 17.90 lakh tonnes.

(d) the amount spent in this regard during the last three years through "Trawler Development fund Scheme" is as follows:

Year	Rs. in crores
1985-86	7.41
1986-87	39.41
1987-88	17.35

Trial Run of 'M.V. Sanjeevani'

1854. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether even after the through repair of the ship 'M.V. Sanjeevani' in the Cochin shipyard Limited, the trial run has

resulted in detecting heavy defects; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No defect arising from work carried out by Cochin shipyard has been reported.

(b) Does not arise.

Corporations for Women Development

1855. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have established Corporations for Women Development;

(b) the scope and salient features of these Corporations;

(c) type of assistance, financial or otherwise already given or proposed to be given to the states for the purpose;

(d) whether any assessment of the performance of these Corporations has been done; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Kerala, Maharashtra, Union Territory of Chandigarh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Gujarat have established Women's Development Corporations. Madhya Pradesh is establishing one.

(b) the scope and salient features of the Corporations are as follows:-

- i) Identification of women entrepreneurs (Individuals, Cooperatives, associations, etc. etc.)
- ii) Preparation of a shelf of viable projects and provision of technical consultancy services;
- iii) Facilitating the availability of credit through banks and other financial institutions through the scheme of margin money assistance;
- iv) Promotion of marketing through tieup arrangements with State level marketing organisations;
- v) Promotion and strengthening of women's cooperatives and other organisations; and
- vi) Arranging training of beneficiar-

ies in concerned trades, project formulation, financial management through existing institutions such as polytechnics and industrial training institutes.

The corporations would aim at covering directly and in association with other organisations women below the poverty line, particularly women belonging to 'Single Women' category who are heads of households. Attention would be focussed on the weakest sections of the community. Necessary safeguards would, however, be provided to ensure that the advantages under this scheme are not appropriated by women who are relatively better off or by others by way of benami transactions.

(c) The Central Government makes an investment upto 49% of the equity of each corporation.

The financial assistance so far provided by the Central Government to the corporations is stated below:-

Sl.No.	Name of the Organisations	Amount sanctioned during	
		1986-87	1987-88
		(in Rs).	
1	2	3	4
1.	Punjab Women & Children Development & Welfare Corporation, Chandigarh	25,00,000/-	21,13,000/-
2.	Chandigarh Child & Women Development Corporation, Chandigarh.	8,00,000/-	—
3.	Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal New Bombay (Maharashtra)	7,00,000/-	8,64,000/-
4.	Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Ltd. Madras.	10,00,000	—
5.	Kerala State Women Development Corporation, Trivandrum.	—	19,00,000/-

1	2	3	4
6.	Uttar Pradesh Mahila Vikas Nigam Ltd. Lucknow.	—	19,00,000/-

(d) and (e). the Corporations have started functioning under the Central Scheme recently. As such it is too early make any assessment of the performance.

**Expenditure Incurred by ICCR on
Publicity of Programmes**

1856. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of expenditure incurred by the Indian council for Cultural Relations on Publicity of their programmes in the country and abroad during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the contract was given to designers for printing of publicity material who do not have printing press; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K.TEWARI) : (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c). Advertisements designed by the designers are printed by the newspapers. Designing and printing of posters are decided on a case to case basis. No exclusive contract has been given to any designer for printing of the Council's publicity material.

**India's Position Regarding Price of
Indian Steel**

1857. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state;

(a) the comparative position of the prices of steel products in India and other developed countries;

(b) whether India have the main ingredients for producing steel e.g. iron ore, coal, dolomite, manganese, lime-stone, cheap labour etc., and

(c) if so, the reasons for the steel price in India being higher than in other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR) : (a) and (c). The domestic prices of Indian steel net of taxes and levies are broadly comparable with domestic prices in major steel producing countries like Japan, USA and the EEC countries. However, the prices charged to the Indian consumers include various levies such as Freight Equalisation Fund, the Steel Development Fund, the Engineering Goods Export Assistance Fund, excise duty etc.

(b) Yes, Sir. These are by and large available within the country.

[Translation]

**Delivering of Speech in Hindi in U.N.
General Assembly**

1858. PROF. CHANDRACHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reaction of other member countries of the United Nations on the speech recently delivered by him in Hindi in the United Nations General Assembly;

(b) whether Government had to incur additional expenditure for it; and

(c) the decision in this regard for speeches in future in United Nations General Assembly by Indian representatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) Several delegations appreciated the contents of the speech. There was, however, no official reaction from any other member country of the UN to the delivery of the speech in Hindi.

(b) Yes, sir. Additional expenditure of Rs 48,809/- was incurred.

(c) Government does not consider it appropriate to take a decision in this regard for all future UNGA meetings.

[*English*]

Sino-Soviet Summit Meet

1859. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have come across information that Summit meet of China and soviet Union is taking place next years; and

(b) if so, whether the Soviet Union and India have exchanged views regarding Summit?

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

(b) Yes sir.

Villages Connected by Roads to District Headquarters in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

1860. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages connected by roads with the district head-quarters in Eastern Uttar Pradesh during the Seventh Plan Period; and

(b) the number of villages proposed to be connected by roads during the remaining period of Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). Total number of villages connected by all whether roads in Uttar Pradesh during Seventh Plan Period upto March, 1988 was 6404. It is expected that by March 1990, 3793 additional number of villages will get connected. District-wise and/or region-wise information is not maintained in the Ministry.

Model Teachers' Training Colleges

1861. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any model colleges have been set up by Union government to impart training to teachers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) Yes Sir. Government of India

during 1963-64 set up model teachers training colleges called Regional Colleges of Education (RCEs) at Ajmer, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Mysore.

(b) The Colleges are meant to improve the quality of secondary education both in academic and vocational areas through innovative teacher training programmes. These colleges are the constituent units of the National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) Besides offering various pre-service teacher training Programmes, these colleges also offer in-service and extension programmes for teachers and teacher educators within their jurisdiction. The RCEs also function as Regional Centres of the NCERT for carrying out the programmes and policies of the NCERT and the Ministry.

Allocation of Funds to Andhra Pradesh out of Central Road Fund

1863. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the allocation of fund to Andhra Pradesh out of the Central Road Fund;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). As per the revised resolution adopted by Parliament on the 13th May, 1988, there shall be set apart an amount not less than 5 per cent of the basic price out of the duty of customs and of excise levied on motor spirit and diesel and the accruals will be allocated in the following manner:-

- (i) Half per cent on administering the Central Road Fund;
- ii) 35 1/2 per cent on development and maintenance of National Highways; and
- (iii) 64% to be utilised by the States/ Union Territories for development and maintenance of the State Roads.

(c) A copy of the revised resolution has already been circulated to all the States/ Union Territories Governments including the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

Recommendations of high Powered Committee for Cotton Growing Farmers

1864. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High Powered committee headed by Reserve Bank's Deputy Governor has recommended for the cotton growing farmers, the development of white fly/ heliothis resistant varieties of cotton, ensuring availability of effective pesticide even if it may require import of some chemicals, setting up a National level Board for regulating the cotton production and marketing as for tobacco and jute, increase in irrigation facilities and education of farmers to diversity the cropping pattern instead of concentrating on cotton ; and

(b) if so, the progress made on each count to safeguard the interests of cotton growers for the next cotton crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The recommendations of the High Powered Committee for cotton growing farmers have been received in November, 1988, permission to import effective pesticides for control of white fly and heliothis has already been granted. Action on the other recommendations of the Report have also been initiated.

(a) whether any roads have been added to the National Highway network during the Seventh Plan; and

(b) if so, the details of the roads added State-wise and year-wise?

Roads Added to National Highway Network

1865. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A statement containing the requisite details is given below:-

STATEMENT

Number of roads added to the National Highways system during the 7th Five Year Plan period on the State/Year-wise basis.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Road</i>	<i>Name of State</i>	<i>Total length (in kms)</i>
<i>Year 1986</i>			
1.	Ahmedabad - Vadodara Road	Gujarat	93
*2.	Silchar- Tuipang Road	Mizoram	
3.	Theriat - Lunglei Road	Mizoram	306
4.	Vensus Saddle - Saiha Road	Mizoram	
5.	Willingdon Island Junction with Cochin Bypass.	Kerala	6
<i>Year 1987</i>			
6.	Kuwarital Jn. on NH 37. and with Tezpur on NH. 52	Assam	23
Total :			428 Kms.

* as an extension of NH. No. 54.

Restoration of diplomatic Relations with Morocco

1866. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals to restore diplomatic relations between Indian and Morocco are under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries would lead to cultural exchange and boosting of trade as well; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI) : (a) and (b). Diplomatic relations between Indian and Morocco were restored on 21st October, 1988.

(c) and (d). With the restoration of diplomatic relations, we expect strengthening of our relations with Morocco in all spheres including cultural exchange and trade. The details of bilateral cooperation will be worked out in due course.

Voluntary Agencies for Non-Formal education in Orissa

1867. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has recommended the names of voluntary agencies for opening non-formal centres in that State;

(b) the details of the Voluntary Agencies which have been proposed by the State Government;

(c) the details of the Voluntary Agencies which have been given permission to set up non-formal centres so far; and

(d) the reasons for not giving permission to all the Voluntary Agencies to open non-formal centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) to (c). The details of the Voluntary agencies recommended by the Government of Orissa and those approved for grant so far have been given in the Statements I and II below:-

(d) Proposals for financial assistance are examined and considered by Grants-in-Aid committee set up for the purpose. The Committee takes into account the agency's eligibility as per the rules of the scheme, its suitability, and capacity and the relevance and merits of the proposal before recommending financial assistance for it.

STATEMENT—I

Voluntary Agencies for Non-formal Education in Orissa recommended by the Government of Orissa

Sl.No.	Name of the Voluntary Agency
1.	Jayanti Pathagar, Post-Bramhabarada, Cuttack
2.	Cuttack Zill Adivasi Harijan Seva Sanskar Yojana, Chatta Post. Farikabad, Cuttack
3.	Jyotirmayee Mahila Samiti, Badagaun, Cuttack
4.	Rural Development Society, K.B. Dandia, Post-Mahakala-

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
	para, Cuttack.
5.	Antyodaya Seva Kendra, Post-Purunabasant, Cuttack
6.	Loknayak Club Banki, Cuttack (Banki. II)
7.	Culi, Choudhulat Kendrapara, Cuttack
8.	Pallishree, Post-Gasipur, Banki, Cuttack
9.	C Y S D-65, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar Puri.
10.	Navajyoti, Post-Garudgan, Cuttack
11.	Bhairavi Club, Post-Hadpada, Puri
12.	Centre for Youth and Integrated Development, Baselisahi, Puri
13.	Bidyut Club, Haladipada, Post-Bajapur, Puri
14.	Janakalyan Samaj, Godiban, Chandaka, Puri.
15.	Bhabanjsankar Club, Gampur, simore Puri
16.	Nilachal Seva Pratisthan Banagan, Puri
17.	Acharya Harihar Sishu Bhavan, Satyabadi, Post Sakhigopal, Puri

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
18.	community Welfare and Enrichment Society Bhubaneswar, Puri
19.	Pallimangal Jubaka Sangh, Post-Dauli, Pichukuli, Puri
20.	Dahikhai Yubak sangh, Post-Lodhachua, Puri.
21.	MO Club, Kantabada Baghamari Puri
22.	Gopinath Juba Sangh, Dorda Ahini Sasan, Balipatna
23.	Gania Unnayan Committee, Gania, Puri.
24.	VIKAH, M-5/11 Acharya Vihar, Bhubaneswar, Puri
25.	Utkalmani Seva Sangha, Post-Badasiraipur, Puri
26.	Lokashkti, Sri Kanthapur, Balasore
27.	Mandal Pokhari Jubak sangha, Post- Mandari, Balsore
28.	Samagra Bikash Parishad, Baliapal, Balasore.
29.	Netajee Jubak Sangha, Balipokhari, Balasore
30.	Fellowship, Puruna Bazar, Bhadrak, Balasore

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
31.	REACH, Jagamara, Khandagiri, Bhubaneswar, Puri
32.	Youth Association for Rural Reconstruction, Boinda, Dhenkanal
33.	PIPAR, Mahimagadi, Joranda, Dhenkanal
34.	Utkal Navajeevan Mandal, Angul, Dhenkanal
35.	Samajik Seva Sadan, Banjhi Kusum Mahisapat, Dhenkanal
36.	Tagore Society for Rural Development, Bhubaneswar.
37.	Pragati Jubak Sangha Bijigol, Dhenkanal.
38.	Rural Women Development Service Centre, Angul, Dhenkanal.
39.	Gram Mangal Pathagar Salapali, Bolangir
40.	Bhagabat Pathagar, Salepali, Bolangir.
41.	Sri Sri Saradeswari Pathagar, Post-Tushra, Bolangir.
42.	Bapuji Pathagar Sukha, Bolangir

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
43.	Antyodaya Chetana Kendra, Post-Hadgarh, Keonjhar
44.	Voluntary Association for Rural Reconstruction and Appropriate Technology, Cuttack.
45.	The Devine Life Society, Main Road Bhanjanagar, Penthra Ganjam
46.	Pragati Pathagar, Nimakhandi Penthra Ganjam.
47.	Jayanti Pathagar Nuapada, Ganjam
48.	Ghumusar Mahila Sangathana Post-Udayagir Phulbani
49.	Society for Human Resource & Ecological Development, Phulbani
50.	Banabasi Seva Samiti, Baliguda, Phulbani
51.	Bagdevi Club, Makundarpur Post-janhapanka Phulbani
52.	SHED, College Road, Rayagada, Koraput
53.	Prepare (Indian Rural Reconstruction and Disaster Response Service), Gandhi Nagar, Rayagada, Koraput

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>	<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
54.	Sarvodaya Samiti, Koraput		Sambalpur
55.	SODA, Baripada, Mayurbhanj	66.	Viswas, Kalinivas, Kharirar Road Kalahandi.
56.	Binapani Jubak sangha, Batpondigondi, Mayurbhanj	67.	Jagrat Shramik Sangathana, Kalahandi
57.	Antyodaya Chetana Mandal, Barakand, Morada, Mayurbhanj	68.	Aragamee, Koraput
58.	Bisol Youth Club Bisol, Post-Sana Bisol, Mayurbhanj	69.	International Indecency Prevention Movement Cuttack
59.	Dhokotha, Jubak Sangha, Keonjhar	70.	JAGARAN, Koraput.
60.	Pragati Pathagar Belaguntha, Ganjam	71.	Balmikeswar Jubak Sangha, Bhubaneswar
*61 .	Birbira Jyoti Club, Birbira, Sundargarh	72.	Gandhi Sevashram, Balasore
62.	Old Rourkela Education Society, Baligodi. Rourkela	73.	Subhadra Mahtab Sevasadan, Cuttack
63.	Sri Satyasai Seva Samiti, Post-Deobhubanpur, Sundargarh	74.	Anchalika Kunjeswari Sanskritika Sansad, Puri
64.	Vivekananda Palli Aragami Seva Pratisthan, Sambalpur	75.	Banadevi Pathagar, Cuttack
65.	Sanjog Club, Baligori Post-Jharsuguda,	76.	Radhanath Pathagar, Cuttack
		77.	Ramjee Yuvak Sangha, Cuttack
		78.	Dharmanandan Yuvak Sangha, Sundargarh

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
79.	Hoina Leprosy Research Trust. Koraput
80.	NYSASDRI, At- Santhasara, Post-Santhapur District Dhenkanal.
81.	Anchalika Baldev Jew Voluntary Agency, Pritipur, Cuttack
82.	National Multipurpose Institute, Devidwar, Cuttack
83.	SEVAK, Post-Masudpur Cuttack
84.	Artatran Juba Parishad, Kakatpur, Puri
85.	I. A. F.R. R. Post Chandaka, Puri.
86.	Ganakalyan Youth Club, Puri
87.	Rural Action Group Bhubaneswar, Puri
88.	Jubajyoti Sanskrutika Parishad, Balasore
89.	NYSCAP, Motta, Dhenkanal
90.	Asha Arthika Samajik Hith Ayog, Bolangir
91.	Village Reconstruction Organisation (India)

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
	Chandikhol, Cuttack
92.	Sashibusan Jubak Sangha, soroda, Ganjam
93.	Bagusala Pottery Industrial Co- operative Society Ltd., Ganjam
94.	National Institution of Social Action, Jayantipur, Ganjam
95.	Indian Institute of Youth and Development Kalinga, Phulbani
96.	Youth Club, Sudeeptika, Phulbani
97.	Bana Bharati, Koraput
98.	Bharatiya Junakalyan Kendra, Jamunadeipur Mayurbhanj
99.	Shakti Sanjibani Youth Club, Sundargarh
100.	Ratnachira, Puri
101.	Sri Harigosain Sanskrutika Parishad, Cuttack
102.	Ganeswar Club, Dhenkanal
103.	Orissa Khet Mazdoor Kissan Parishad, Mayurbhanj

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
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104. Vikas Niketan,
Koraput

105. Kala and Kalakar
Association At. Sikird,
Barpali, Sambalpur

106. Gandhi Club Jharabandha,
Sambalpur

107. Jaipur Harijan Seva

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Voluntary Agency</i>
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Samiti, Cuttack.

108. Orissa Ganasikshya
Samiti, Post-Taras
Cuttack

* State Government of Orissa
subsequently with drawn their recommen-
dation.

STATEMET — II*Voluntary Agencies for Non-Formal Education in Orissa which have been approved for grant*

Sl.No.	Name of the Voluntary Agency	No. of Centres approved	Amount sanctioned
1	2	3	4
1.	Jayanti Pathagar Post- Bramhabarada, Cuttack	100	2,55,900
2.	Cuttack Zilla Advasi Harijan Seva Sanskar Yojona, Chatta Post- Farikabad, Cuttack	50	1,32,790
3.	Jyotirmayee Mahila Samiti, Badagaon, Cuttack	100	2,75,100
4.	Rural Development Society, K.B. Dandia, Post Mahakalapara, Cuttack	100	2,75,100
5.	Antyodaya Seva Kendra, Post- Purunabasant, Cuttack	50	1,42,390
6.	Lokanayak Club Banki, Cuttack	100	2,75,100
7.	Culi, Choudhulat Kendrapara, Cuttack	50	1,42,390

1	2	3	4
8.	Pallishree, Post-Gasipur, Banki, Cuttack	50	2,65,580
9.	C Y S D, 65 Satyangan, Bhubaneswar, Puri.	200	5,50,200
10.	Navajyoti Post- Garudgan, Cuttack	50	1,42,390
11.	Bhairvai Club, Post- Hadpada, Puri	50	1,32,790
12.	Centre for Youth and Integrated Development Baselisahi, Puri	50	1,32,790
13.	Bidyut Club Haladipada, Post-Bajpur, Puri	100	2,75,100
14.	Janakalyan Samaj, Godiban, Chandaka, Puri	100	2,55,900
15.	Bhabanisankar Club, Gampur, Simore, Puri	100	2,75,100

1	2	3	4
16.	Nilachal Seva Pratishthan, Banaga, Puri	100	2,75,100
17.	Acharya Harihar Sishu Bhavan, Satyabadi, Post- Sakhigopal, Puri	100	2,75,100
18.	Community Welfare and Enrichment Society, Bhubaneswar, Puri	50	1,32,790
19.	Pallimangal Jubaka Sangh, Post-Dauli, pichukuli, Puri	50	1,42,390
20.	Dahikhai Yuvak Sangh, Post- Lodhachua, Puri	50	1,42,390
21.	MO Club, Kantabada Baghamari, Puri	50	1,42,390
22.	Gopinath Juba Sangh, Dorda Ahini Sasan, Balipatna	50	1,32,790
23.	Gania Unnayan Committee, Gania, Puri	50	1,42,390

1	2	3	4
24.	VIKASH M-5/11 Acharya Vihar Bhubaneswar, Puri	50	1,42,390
25.	Utkalmani Seva Sangha, Post- Badaraipur, Puri	50	1,42,390
26.	Lokashakti, Sri Kanthapur, Balasore	100	2,75,100
27.	Mandal Pokhari Jubak Sangha, Post- Madari, Balasore	50	1,32,790
28.	Samagra Bikash Parishad, Baliapal, Balasore	50	1,32,790
29.	Netajee Jubak Sangha, Balipokhari, Balasore	50	1,42,390
30.	Fellowship, Puruna Bazar, Bhadrak, Balasore	50	1,32,790
31.	REACH, Jagamara, Khandgiri, Bhubaneswar, Puri	100	2,55,900
32.	Youth Association For Rural Reconstruction, Boinda, Dhenkanal	50	1,42,390

1	2	3	4
33.	PIPAR, Mahimagadi, Joranda, Dhenkanal.	100	2,55,900
34.	Utkal Navajeevan Mandal, Angul Dhenkanal	100	2,55,900
35.	Samajik Seva Sadan, Banjhi Kusum Mahisapat, Dehenkanal	100	2,75,100
36.	Tagore Society for Rural Development, Bhubaneswar.	300	7,67,700
37.	Pragati Jubak Sangha Bijigol, Dhenkanal	100	2,75,100
38.	Rural Women Development Service Centre, Angul, Dhenkanal	50	1,42,390
39.	Gram Mangal Pathagar Salapali, Bolangir	100	2,75,100
40.	Bhagabat Pathagar, Salepali, Bolangir	50	1,42,390
41.	Sri Sri Saradeswari Pathagar, Post-Tushra, Bolangir	50	2,84,780

1	2	3	4
42.	Bapuji Pathagar Sukha, Bolangir	50	1,42,390
43.	Antyodaya Chetana Kendra, Post-Hadgarh, Keonjhar	50	1,42,390
44.	Voluntary Association for Rural Reconstruction and Appropriate Technology, Cuttack	50	1,42,390
45.	The Devine Life Society, Main Road Bhanjanagar, Ganjam	50	1,42,390
46.	Pragati Pathagar, Nimakhandi Pentha Ganjam	50	1,42,390
47.	Jayanti Pathagar Nuapada, Ganjam	100	2,75,100
48.	Ghumusar Mahila Sangathana, Post-Udayagiri Pbulbani	100	2,75,100
49.	Society for Human		

1	2	3	4
	Resource & Ecological Development, Phulbani	100	2,55,900
50.	Banabasi Seva Samiti, Baliguda, Phulbani	50	1,32,790
51.	Bagdevi Club Makundapur Post-Janhapanka Phulbani	50	1,42,390
52.	SHED, College Road, Rayagada, Koraput	100	2,55,900
53.	Prepare (Indian Rural Reconstruction and Disaster Response Service) Gandhi Nagar, Rayagada, Koraput	100	2,55,900
54.	Sarvodaya Samiti, Koraput	50	2,65,580
55.	SODA, Baripada, Mayurbhanj	100	2,55,900
56.	Binapani Jubak Sangha, Batpondigondi Mayurbhanj.	50	1,32,790
57.	Antyodaya Chetana Mandal, Barakand, Morada, Mayurbhanj	100	2,55,900

1	2	3	4
58.	Bisol Youth Club, Bisol, Post-Sona Bisol, Mayurbhanj	50	1,42,390
59	Dhokotha Jubak Sangha, Keonjhar	100	2,55,900
60.	Pragati Pathagar Belaguntha, Ganjim	50	1,42,3/90
*61.	Birbira Jyoti Club, Birbira, Sundargarh	50	* State Government of Orissa subsequently withdrawn their recommendation.
62.	Old Rourkela Education Society Balizodi, Rourkela	100	5,50,200
63.	Sri Satyasai Seva Samiti, Post-Deobhubanpur Sundargarh	50	1,32,790
64.	Vivekananda Palli Aragami Seva Pratisthan, Sambalpur	50	2,84,780
65.	Sanjog Club, Baligori Post-Jharsuguda, Sambalpur	100	2,55,900

1	2	3	4
66.	Viswas, Kalinivas Kharirar Road, Kalahandi	100	2,94,300
67.	Jagrat Shramik Sangathana, Kalahandi	50	1,32,790
68.	Agramee, Koraput	100	2,38,800
69.	International Indecency Prevention-Movemenet Cuttack	50	1,42,390
70.	JAGARAN Koraput	100	2,75,100
71.	Balmikeswar Jubak Sangha, Bhubaneswar	50	1,32,790
72.	Gandhi Sevashram Balasore	100	2,75,100
73.	Subhadra Mahtab Sevasadan Cuttack	100	2,75,100
74.	Anchalika Kunjeswari Sanskritika Sansad, Puri	50	1,42,390

1	2	3	4
75.	Banadevi Sevasadan, Cuttack	50	1,32,790
76.	Radhanath Pathagar, Cuttack	50	1,32,790
77.	Ramjee Yuvak Cuttack	100	5,50,200
78.	Dharmanandan Yuvak Sangha, Sundargarh	50	1,32,790
79.	Hoina Leprosy Research Trust Koraput	100	2,55,900
80.	NYSASDRI, At-Santhasara, Post-Santhapur District Dhenkanal	25	66,525

Recognition of Vidya Sagar University

1868. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vidya Sagar University has not been declared fit to receive the grants by University Grants Commission so far; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The University Grants Commission has made several suggestions for amendment to the Act of the Vidya Sagar University. The Government of West Bengal has informed the Commission that certain suggestions made by the UGC for amendment to the provisions relating to appointment of Vice-Chancellor and the composition of the Executive Council of the University are not acceptable to them. The Commission has invited the Education Minister of West Bengal for a discussion to sort out the pending issues.

Arrest of Indian fishermen by Pak Forces

1869. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistani security forces have recently arrested some Indian fishermen;

(b) if so, the number thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to bring back those fishermen?

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

(b) Four Indian fishing boats along with 33 fishermen were detained by Pakistan on the 26th October, 1988.

(c) Government has approached the Government of Pakistan for the release of the fishermen.

Permission for expansion of Baby Food Manufacturing Capacity

1870. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the guidelines prepared by Government for expansion of capacities for manufacture of dairy products in the areas covered under Operation Flood provide that private sector will not be allowed to expand their milk products processing capacities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether licences have been granted to multinational companies in Punjab and other States covered under Operation Flood; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The guidelines laid down by the Union Government stipulate that an application for expansion in the capacity of an existing unit in the private sector in areas covered by Operation Flood may be considered only where, in the assessment of the State Government, the proposed expansion will not adversely affect the functioning of the cooperatives milk plant (s) already set up or under construction in the area. The in-

creased capacity to be sanctioned will be to the extent of availability of milk, subject to the maximum of 5% increase per year over the existing licensed capacity from the year in which the existing capacity was sanctioned. However, in regard to the broad banding, the licensee may be permitted to manufacture various milk products within the total licensed capacity, subject to the condition that the production of baby food will not exceed the licensed capacity prescribed for it.

(c) After framing the revised guidelines, no industrial licence has been granted to any multinational company for effecting substantial expansion in manufacture of milk products including baby food.

(d) Does not arise.

Diseases affecting Coconut in Kerala

1871. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effective remedy has been found for the diseases affecting coconut trees in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the damage being caused by these diseases has come down; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, sir. The researches have yielded significant findings on the management of major coconut diseases namely root wilt, bud rot, leaf rot, tatipaka and thanjabur wilt/Ganoderma and stem bleeding complex.

(b) In case of bud rot, prophylactic spray with 1% Bordeaux mixture during pre-monsoon period and application of 10% Bordeaux paste on crown has been found effective. Against leaf rot affected palms, a sequential spraying schedule with 1% Bordeaux mixture, 0.3% Dithane M-45 and 0.5% Fytolan at quarterly interval was found effective. Thanjabur wilt disease complex can be managed by the application of Aureofungin solution and Calixin with recommended dose of fertiliser and 5 Kg neemcake per palm. Intensification of Tatipaka disease could be stopped by heaping a mixture of sand, silt and Farm Yard Manure (FYM) after making rings on the trunk by removing the bark above the bole, thereby inducing root regeneration. In the case of coconut wilt disease, regular application of fertilizers per palm, irrigation of each palm with 250 litres of water per week during January to May, intercropping with cocoa and green manuring at 20 Kg/basin was found effective in the management of the disease.

(c) and (d). Eradication of diseased palms, phytosanitary measures and better management practices reduce the yield loss and contain the major diseases of the coconut.

Backyard Poultry Production Units for Women in Goa

1872. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Backyard Poultry Production Units Scheme for women in backward tribal and other remote areas has been implemented in the State of Goa;

(b) if so, since when the scheme is in operation;

(c) the amount spent so far; and

(d) the target fixed and progress achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 1987-88.

(c) A sum of Rs. 37,500 has been spent during 1987-88.

(d) Against the target of establishment of 100 Backyard Poultry Production Units, 100 Women beneficiaries have been covered, thus, achieving the target set for 1987-88.

Development of Fisheries in Goa

1873. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the targets set and achievement made under the Integrated Brackish water fish farm development, aquaculture farm and prawn seed hatchery schemes in Goa during Seventh Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Integrated Brackishwater Fish Farm Development" two projects namely a brackishwater farm to develop 35 ha. area of Charao at an estimated cost of Rs. 19.70 lakh and a Prawn seed Hatchery at an estimated cost of Rs. 96.00 lakh at Benaolim have been sanctioned in January 1986 and October, 1987 respectively. As reported by Government of Goa about 10% of the construction works of both the projects was completed by July 1988.

Intensive Fertilizer Promotion Campaign

1874. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have selected some districts in different States for taking up intensive fertilizer promotion campaign in the country;

(b) if so, the names of those districts State-wise and the criteria adopted in selecting them;

(c) the main purpose of the said scheme; and

(d) the extent to which it has been successful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government have selected 60 districts for implementation of National Project on Development of Fertilizer Use in Low Consumption Rain-fed Areas.

(b) and (c). The purpose of the scheme is to realise fertiliser consumption potential in rainfed areas. The State-wise list of 60 districts selected for implementing the scheme is given in the Statement below. The project-districts were selected by adopting the following criteria:

(a) Annual rainfall of the district should be above 500 mm,

(b) irrigated area in the district should be below 30% of gross cropped area,

(c) fertilizer consumption in the district should be below state and National

average level of fertiliser consumption.

(d) Though the scheme is being implemented from Kharif, 1988, the initial response is encouraging.

STATEMENT

State-wise list of Districts under National Project on 'Development of Fertiliser Use in Low Consumption Rainfed Areas'

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/District</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
I.	<i>Karnataka</i>
1.	Dharwar
2.	Tumkur
3.	Kolar
4.	Bijapur
5.	Gulbarga
II.	<i>Tamil Nadu</i>
6.	Dharampuri
III.	<i>Kerala</i>
7.	Mallapuram
8.	Cannanore
9.	Quilon
IV.	<i>Andhra Pradesh</i>
10.	Medak
11.	Nalgonda
12.	Mahboobnagar

<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>
V.	<i>Gujarat</i>
13.	Ahmedabad
14.	Banaskantha
15.	Panchmahal
16.	Broach
17.	Surendranagar
VI.	<i>Rajasthan</i>
18.	Bharatpur
19.	Alwar
20.	Ajmer
21.	Jhalwar
22.	Sirohi
23.	Dungarpur
VII.	<i>Maharashtra</i>
24.	Aurangabad
25.	Nanded
26.	Parbhani
27.	Akola
28.	Satara
29.	Thanapur
30.	Sholapur
31.	Amravati
VIII.	<i>Madhya Pradesh</i>
32.	Sagar

1	2
33.	Shajapur
34.	Vidisha
35.	Bilaspur
36.	Shivpuri
37.	Betul
38.	Raigarh
IX.	<i>Bihar</i>
39.	Purnea
40.	Saharsa
41.	Madhubani
42.	Palamau
43.	Ranchi
X.	<i>West Bengal</i>
44.	West Dinajpur
45.	24-Pargana
46.	Purulia
XI.	<i>Assam</i>
47.	Dibrugarh
48.	Lakhimpur
XII.	<i>Orissa</i>
49.	Dhankanal
50.	Sundergarh
51.	Balasore

1	2
52.	Mayurbhanj
XIII.	<i>Haryana</i>
53.	Mohindergarh
XIV.	<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>
54.	Banda
55.	Mirzapur
56.	Almora
57.	Jhansi
XV.	<i>Himachal Pradesh</i>
58.	Sirmaur
59.	Kulu
XVI.	<i>Jammu & Kashmir</i>
60.	Kathua

Quality Control of DMS products

1875. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 23rd March, 1987 to the Unstarred Question No. 3777 regarding quality control of DMS products and state the action taken by the Complaint Cell of the Delhi Milk Scheme against the Depots and Milk Van staff found indulging in adulteration of milk during the last three years including the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): Details of the action taken against the delinquent staff of DMS between the calendar years 1986-1988 are as under:—

(1) In seven cases, Depot staff were

removes.

(2) The table below sets out the action taken against the Milk Van staff:

TABLE

<i>Nature of punishment imposed.</i>		<i>No. of persons punished/involved.</i>
1		2
(i) Removal from service	—	2
(ii) Compulsory retirement	—	2
(iii) Reduction in rank	—	4
(iv) Warning administered	—	15
(v) Under Departmental Enquiry	—	5
Total:—	—	28

Restoration of damages caused to National Highways by floods

1876. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether estimated cost of restoration of damages caused to the National Highways passing through the State of Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Delhi by floods in September 1988 has been projected by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations;

(b) if so, the details thereof in respect of each of the National Highways and the amount of financial assistance sanctioned

for repairs in each case;

(c) whether the work force available with field staff on these Highways was not sufficient to cope with the situation and ensure an early clearance;

(d) if so, the number of days on which each of the Highways remained closed to traffic; and

(e) the steps propose to be taken to avoid long delays in clearance of such National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Statement A giving details is given below.

(c) to (e). The work force available with field staff is generally sufficient to meet the situation and immediate repair works were taken up. However, in cases of flooding of

the roads, repairs are started only after flood waters recede. Statement B giving number of days on which some stretches of Highways were closed is given below.

STATEMENT—'A'

It is not possible to indicate the details for each National Highway. However the estimated cost of repairs of National Highways of each State and Funds released are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of State	Cost	Adhoc funds released (Rs. in crores)
(Rs. in crores)			
1.	Himachal Pradesh	7.50	0.25
2.	Jammu & Kashmir (P.W.D. only)	2.35	0.20
3.	Punjab	5.50	0.35
4.	Haryana	3.20	0.20
5.	Chandigarh	0.05	—
6.	Delhi	0.55	—

STATEMENT—'B'

N. H. No.	No. of days
1	2

N. H.	—	1	9
N. H.	—	1—A	10
N. H.	—	1—B	9
N. H.	—	10	15
N. H.	—	15	8
N. H.	—	21	22

1	2
N. H.	— 22 20

Setting up of Special Cell for Research for Development of Hill Areas

1877. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 7 May, 1984 to Unstarred Question No. 10168 regarding setting up of Special Cell for research for development of hill areas and state the brief outline of the schemes to be implemented during the second half of the Seventh Plan by the Council of Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): With the merger of Council for Advancement of Rural Technology (CART) and People's Action for Development (India) (PADI), a Society named Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) has been set up from 1st September, 1986 and the research and development needs of the rural areas are supported by it under the Advancement of Rural Technology Scheme (ARTS). The Advancement of Rural Technology Programme of CAPART has an all India perspective and has been designed to meet the diverse needs of technology in various agro-climatic regions of the country.

The Scheme (ARTS) has the following specified objectives which are being and would also be pursued during the second half of the Seventh Five year Plan:

- (i) to catalyse development of technology appropriate for rural areas by identifying and funding research and development efforts by different organisations;
- (ii) to strengthen existing institutions of research on appropriate rural technologies and develop or set up institutions, so that national or regional level institutions on matters of purely or largely, rural interest are built up;
- (iii) to build up a data bank of technologies for rural areas and facilitate dissemination of information;
- (iv) to disseminate knowledge on rural technology to manufacturers of machinery, tools, equip-

ment and spare parts so that production of technically improved machinery etc. is carried out in the private, cooperative and public sectors;

- (v) to act as a conduit for transfer of appropriate technology to government departments, public sector undertakings and members of the public;
- (vi) to conduct or sponsor training programmes for trainers so that the improved technology is passed on to end users in rural areas; and
- (vii) to carry out and commission relevant studies other than those aimed at pure research in the field of appropriate technology.

In developing and transmitting new and upgraded relevant technology, priority has been given to programmes of poverty alleviation, transfer of technologies to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections of rural societies and selection and transfer of suitable technologies for backward area.

It has also been decided that for the present no separate delivery system for the transfer of technologies be set up and the existing infrastructure created over time such as DRDA, DICs, State Council of Science and Technology, other research institutions and voluntary agencies working in rural areas may be utilised.

As regards implementation of Advancement of Rural Technology Scheme in the hilly areas, Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology have so far sanctioned 20 projects at a total cost of Rs. 81.14 lakhs.

Navodaya Vidyalayas during 1989-90

1878. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken by Government to open Navodaya Vidyalayas during the academic year 1989-90;

(b) if so, the names of the districts, State-wise where such Vidyalayas are likely to be opened along with the names and places where the Vidyalayas would be located; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which a decision would be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. In view of the anticipated financial constraints, Executive Committee of the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti in its meeting held on 9.9.1988, has decided, as of now, not to open any new Vidyalaya during 1989-90.

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

Review meeting of U.N. Code of Conduct for Liner Conference held In Geneva

1879. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether India participated in the Review Meeting of the U.N. Code of Conduct for Liner Conference held in Geneva on the 31 October, 1988;

(b) the names of other developed and

developing countries participated in it;

(c) the stand of the developed countries on keeping Non-Conference Lines out of the purview of the UN Liner Code;

(d) whether India have resisted any negotiations for amendments aimed at keeping third flag operators out of the cargo sharing formula;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the guidelines adopted by the Conference for regulation of non-Conference lines and the suggestion made by the Indian Team in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (f). The Conference was over on 18.11.1988 and the details of the deliberations are not yet available.

Safeguarding of Indian Community In Madagascar

1880. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether uncertainty still prevails among the people of Indian origin in Madagascar in the wake of the widespread riots of last year resulting in damage to property and forcing them to leave the Island; and

(b) if so, the steps Government are taking to promote more closer cultural and trade ties with the Island and to ensure the safety and security of the Indian community there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) and (b). Govern-

ment have been formally assured by the Madagascar authorities that necessary steps will be taken to assure the security of persons of Indian origin in Madagascar. Closer understanding between Madagascar and India is being promoted through measures for bilateral cooperation in trade, technical collaboration and cultural exchanges.

Discovery of some pre-historic sites in Tamil Nadu

1881. DR. B.L. SHAILESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some significant pre-historic sites have been recently discovered in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has thrown light on evolution of the culture of pre-historic man;

(d) whether it is proposed to continue further excavations at these sites; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAH): (a) No significant pre-historic discovery has been recently made in Tamil Nadu by the Archaeological Survey of India.

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

Outcome of talks held with Bangladesh President

1882. DR. B.L. SHAILESH:
SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the bilateral issues discussed with the President of Bangladesh during his visit to India in September, 1988; and

(b) the outcome of the discussions held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The main subjects discussed were the potential for bilateral cooperation for flood control in Bangladesh, the need for the early return to Bangladesh of the Chakma refugees in India and the status of the Tin Bigha case.

(b) Apart from an exchange of views on various bilateral issues, it was decided to set up a task force comprising experts from both countries to study the Ganga and Brahmaputra waters jointly for flood management and water flows. On the return of Chakma refugees, Bangladesh was again urged to create the conditions to facilitate their early return.

Per Capita availability of Milk and Milk Products

1883. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita availability of milk and milk products at present in each State;

(b) whether the Orissa State has the lowest production of milk;

(c) whether any study has been conducted to know the causes thereof;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken to bring up Orissa in the field of milk production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) A Statement showing the per capita availability of milk and milk products during 1986-87 is given below.

(b) No, Sir. There are some states viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim which have lower milk production than Orissa.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Not applicable.

(e) Efforts are being made to increase milk production in the state. Some of the important programmes being implemented in the state are:

(i) intensive cattle development projects and key village scheme within milk shed areas;

(ii) establishment of two Central

Cattle Breeding Farms at Sunebada and Basantpur;

(iii) Operation Flood III is being implemented by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB);

(iv) cross breeding of cattle and improvement of buffaloes by use of frozen semen both within and outside operation flood areas;

(v) Special Livestock Breeding Programme for rearing cross-breed heifers by small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers;

(vi) coordinated cattle breeding and progeny testing programme;

(vii) development of feed and fodder resources;

(viii) organisation of effective animal health services to support the production programme.

STATEMENT

Availability of Milk and Milk Products during 1986-87

Sl. No.	State/ U.T.	(Provisional) Kg./Year
		Per Capita availability of Milk and Milk products
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47.1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	50.0
3.	Assam	26.1
4.	Bihar	31.7

1	2	3
5.	Gujarat	84.0
6.	Haryana	174.6
7.	Himachal Pradesh	96.6
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	59.8
9.	Karnataka	52.6
10.	Kerala	48.0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	52.1
12.	Maharashtra	34.9
13.	Manipur	44.8
14.	Meghalaya	42.9
15.	Mizoram	20.2
16.	Nagaland	4.6
17.	Orissa	12.1
18.	Punjab	230.0
19.	Rajasthan	95.5
20.	Tamil Nadu	62.1
21.	Tripura	10.5
22.	Uttar Pradesh	63.7
23.	West Bengal	42.6
24.	Sikkim	59.0

- Note: 1. Per capita availability figures of milk and milk products have been arrived at by dividing the milk production figures by the corresponding projected human population figures.
2. Production figures used are as reported in the minutes of the State Annual Plan discussions of the Planning Commission.
3. Projected, Population, figures are based on 1981 census.

Import of Floating Dry Docks

1884. SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued for import of floating drydocks and the parties involved;

(b) the estimated cost of each of the drydocks and the country from where it is being imported; and

(c) where these are proposed to be located and permanently anchored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The Ship Repair Units registered with the Director General of Shipping are allowed to import floating drydocks under Open General Licence. As such, no specific import license is required to be issued.

M/s Escorts Ltd. had imported one floating drydock in 1983. This drydock was imported from Japan at an approximate cost of Rs. 22 crores. This Dock was initially moored in Nhava Sheva Port, but subsequently this drydock is anchored at Port Blair.

M/s Chokhani International Ltd. have concluded a contract in October, 1988 for the import of two floating drydocks from Singapore for a project they are setting up at Madras. The estimated total cost of the two drydocks is Rs. 33 crores.

Import of Blast Furnace by TISCO

1885. SHRISANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given clearance to the Tata Iron and Steel Com-

pany Ltd. (TISCO) to import Blast Furnace from Portugal to meet its expansion and modernisation programme;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the Blast Furnace;

(c) whether the State-owned Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) is capable of making the Blast Furnace; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not placing the order with the Heavy Engineering Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

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

Taking over of VISL by SAIL

1886. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER:
SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has taken over Visvesvaraya Iron and Steel Limited, Bhadravathi;

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay and when it will be taken over by the SAIL;

(c) whether the SAIL proposed to introduce "Golden Handshake" facility to VISL employees after taking over; and

(d) whether VISL employees have agreed to this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Before any decision on take over, it has to be ensured that it becomes a viable unit through various measures which

amongst others include reduction in the tariff rate of assured power supply, availability of concessions from Financial Institutions and Banks in the payment of loans and accumulated interest etc. Discussions and negotiations with concerned parties are in progress. In these circumstances, it is difficult to indicate any firm date for a decision.

(c) and (d). VISL has already introduced Voluntary Retirement Scheme. However, no report has so far been received from VISL about its implementation.

**Protest by students of Delhi University
in Irregularities in conduct of Examination branch**

1887. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi University students, particularly from South Campus, have protested against the irregularities in the conduct of examinations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether even three months after the declaration of results a large number of students, who took the examination, did not get their results;

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the reaction of Government to the demands of the students in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The University is not aware of any specific irregularities pointed out by the University students.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) According to the information furnished by the University of Delhi it is a fact that the results of a number of students were declared late.

(d) The reasons for delay include marks not entered by the Examiners in the Award List, wrong Roll Numbers mentioned by the Examiners in the Award List, wrong Roll Numbers indicated by the students themselves in the answer scripts, printing errors in admission tickets, etc.

(e) With a view to avoiding recurrence of mistakes/discrepancies as indicated in the reply to Part (d) above, the University has decided to de-centralise the examination work to South Campus for the Colleges within the territorial jurisdiction of the South Campus, including Post-Graduate examination work. A Committee has also been set up by the Vice-Chancellor to look into the causes of discrepancies and delay and to suggest remedial measures.

[Translation]

Subsidy on Fertilizers

1888. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA:
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of subsidy given on various kinds of fertilizers during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to ensure that the subsidy reaches the farmer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The amount of subsidy paid on indigenous and imported fertilizers during the last three years is given below:—

*Amount of subsidy
(Rs./Crores)*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Indigenous Fertilizers</i>	<i>Imported Fertilizers</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1985-86	1600	324
1986-87	1700	197
1987-88	2050	114

(b) In order to ensure that the farmers get the fertilisers at a reasonable and uniform price throughout the country, prices of fertilisers are fixed by the Government under the Essential Commodities Act. The current prices of fertilisers are the same as those prevailing in July, 1981. Over the years, even though the cost of production of fertilisers has been going up Government has absorbed these costs in the form of subsidy under the Retention Price and Subsidy Scheme. Thus, the subsidy under the Retention Price and Subsidy Scheme is a subsidy to the farmers.

[English]

**Digging of shallow Tubewells and wells
in Maharashtra**

1889. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have asked all the State Governments to submit detailed proposals for digging shallow tubewells and wells in the State for which Central assistance will be made available;

(b) if so, the names of the States that have responded with details of the requests

made with particular reference to Maharashtra;

(c) whether Government of Maharashtra had submitted earlier to the Centre schemes for augmenting drinking water facilities; and

(d) if so, whether these will be sanctioned separately from the new scheme that has now been taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). Union Government in consultation with State Governments has drawn plan for digging shallow tubewells and wells in the States identified for Special Foodgrains Production Programme (SFPP) such as Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. In Maharashtra 7 districts have been identified for construction of 26073 shallow tubewells/dug wells for SFPP under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Assistance to Small and Marginal Farmers for Increasing Agricultural Production during 1988-89.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

Compensation to victims of Air and Road accidents

1890. SHRI V. TULSI RAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the limit of compensation amount being paid to the victims of air-crash is much more than the limit of compensation being paid to road accident victims;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide equal compensation to the victims irrespective of the mode of transport; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). As regards compensation in the case of an air-crash, in terms of Notification issued under the "Carriage by Air Act, 1972", in the event of death of a passenger in a domestic carriage, compensation paid is Rs. 1 lac to a victim under the age of 12 years and Rs. 2 lacs to a victim of and above the age of 12 years. As for compensation in road-accident cases, there is no limit fixed on the quantum, that can be awarded.

The compensation to the victims of road accident is payable in terms of section 92 (2) and 110 (A) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. Besides, the interim compensation given under section 92 (2) of the M.V. Act, 1939, the quantum of final compensation is decided upon by the Motor Accident Claim Tribunals, on the merit of each case, taking into account various factors like age, earnings, dependency etc. of the victim. There is no ceiling fixed. Besides this, in the case of hit-and-run accidents where the vehicle is

not traceable, Solatium compensation is allowed at a fixed sum of Rs. 5000 in case of death and a fixed sum of Rs. 1000 in case of grievous injury, to the victim or to his legal heir/representative.

Supply of Steel Pipes by SAIL

1891. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel pipes indented by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board for Cauvery 3rd Stage project from the Steel Authority of India;

(b) the total quantity of steel pipes supplied so far; and

(c) when the balance of steel pipes will be supplied?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Bangalore Water Supply and Sewage Board have not placed any order on SAIL for supply of pipes for its Cauvery 3rd stage Project.

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

Plan for Development of Minor Ports from Karnataka

1892. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka has prepared a plan to develop minor ports like Kumta, Sashihitlu, Angarkette and other ports;

(b) whether the above plan has been sent to Union Government for clearance; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) As per the information furnished by the Govt. of Karnataka an allocation of Rs. 28 crores has been made in their 7th Five Year Plan for the development of Ports and Lighthouses. The allocation for the Ports is given below:—

<i>Name of the Port</i>	<i>Amount allocated (Rs. in lakhs)</i>
1	2
(1) Karwar	1,300.00
(2) Honnavar	8.00
(3) Kundapura	10.00
(4) Belikere	8.00
(5) Tadri	1.00
(6) Bhatkal	4.00
(7) Malpe	5.00
(8) Hangarkatta	4.00
(9) Mangalore	1000.00

(b) and (c). No separate plan for clearance has been sent to the Union Government.

[*Translation*]

Withdrawal of DTC buses from Private Schools

1893. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of buses provided by the Delhi Transport Corporation to private schools in Delhi on hire basis as on 1 October, 1988; and

(b) whether in view of the increasing traffic and the shortage of buses in Delhi, Government propose to withdraw such buses provided to those schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 706 buses.

(b) No Sir. Buses are provided to the schools during slack hours in the morning and afternoon when, the traffic offering is low.

[*English*]

Welfare of Women in Brothels

1894. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of women are languishing in the brothels of Bombay;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken for the upliftment of those women;

(c) whether any plan is being chalked out in this regard with the help of Indian Health Organisation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 extends to the whole of the country and

as such it is for the State Government of Maharashtra to take necessary steps under the said Act for the rescue and rehabilitation of women in the brothels of Bombay.

(c) and (d). The proposal is being processed by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Production of Flat Steel Products

1895. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing steel mills are producing flat products, particularly plates as per the country's requirement;

(b) if so, the details in regard to demand and actual production; and

(c) whether there are plans to increase production and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). There is an overall gap between the demand and availability of various flat products in the country. For the current year as against the assessed demand of 57.5 lakh tonnes the estimated availability from indigenous production is likely to be around 51.7 lakh tonnes. As regards plates, against an assessed demand of 14 lakh tonnes the expected availability is likely to be around 12.95 lakh tonnes. However, the availability of thicker plates is likely to be more than the assessed demand.

(c) Various measures have been taken on to modernise the existing steel plants and also to expand their capacity which will make available larger quantities of flat products. Availability of flat products is expected to go up from the present 51.7 lakh tonnes to 78.4 lakh tonnes by the year 1994-95.

Study on Packaging Costs

1896. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted on packaging costs in food processing industries;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether these costs are competitive internationally;

(d) if not, whether there are any plans to reduce them; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Comparative costs of modern packaging material indicate that cost of material in India are high, primarily on account of excise duty burden ranging in India from 24% to 34% and import duties from 170% to 328%.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The details are being worked out.

Torture of Chakma Tribals by Security Forces of Bangladesh

1897. SHRI MANIK REDDY:
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that Chakma Community Personal have approached the International Human Rights protection forum against the inhuman tortures by Bangladesh Security Forces on these tribals in Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with the Bangladesh Government; and

(c) the reaction of Bangladesh Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c). Government have been in touch with the Bangladesh Government ever since the influx of Chakma refugees into India from Bangladesh started in April, 1986, and have been urging the Bangladesh Government to take steps to create conditions in the Chittagong Hill Tracts which will give the refugees the confidence to return to their homes. The Bangladesh Government have indicated that they are having discussions with Chakma tribal leaders in this regard.

Improvement in Prawn Production

1899. SHRI MANIK REDDY:

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI:

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Newsitem appearing in the "News Times" dated 19 October, 1988 wherein it is stated that low production of prawn in Andhra Pradesh has hit export of Prawns;

(b) if so, the reasons for the low production;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to improve the Prawn Production in the country particularly in the Coastal States of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LA YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Overall export of Prawn from Inc has not been hit as can be seen from table given below:

Item	<i>In tonne</i>		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Frozen shrimp	50349	49203	55736

However, as reported by Government of Andhra Pradesh catch by big trawlers off Andhra Coast has gone down this year due to bad sea weather conditions.

(c) and (d). Government of India have taken a number of steps to improve the prawn production in the coastal States. Some of the important steps are:—

(i) Implementation of a Central Sponsored Scheme on Integrated Brackishwater Fish Development for establish

of Brackishwater Farms, Prawn Hatcheries, Brackishwater Fish Farmers' Development Agencies for providing financial and technical assistance to Farmers of the coastal States.

- (ii) UNDP assisted coastal Aquaculture project has been taken up to standardise brackishwater Aquaculture, Hatchery and Feed formulation technology through UNDP experts besides arranging training programme abroad for technical persons from States and the centre.
- (iii) Marine products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA) under the Commerce Ministry have set up regional centres to organise seminars, Farmers' meet, Training programme and introduced a subsidy scheme for development of Prawn farms, Hatcheries and seed banks for the coastal farmers.

[Translation]

Provision of Drinking Water to new villages in Rajasthan

1901. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of villages in desert areas of Rajasthan are spread over in many kilometres in the groups of hamlets;

(b) whether these groups of hamlets have been converted into new revenue villages;

(c) if so, the districtwise number thereof;

(d) whether the State Government has conducted any survey and forwarded schemes for providing drinking water facility to these new villages; and

(e) the time by which adequate funds for implementing the schemes would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Groups of Hamlets in some cases have been converted into new revenue villages.

(c) A Statement giving the district-wise number of new revenue villages is given below.

(d) The State Govt. has not formulated and forwarded to the Central Govt. any specific scheme for the groups of hamlets referred to above. However, the population in hamlets/habitations is being provided drinking water supply by framing schemes under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) at the rate of one hand pump or one standpost for 250 persons. In some cases of scattered hamlets/habitations, this norm is reduced to 50 persons.

(e) As specific schemes have not been received from the State Govt. the question of providing adequate funds does not arise. However, sufficient funds are being provided for implementation of the schemes approved under, ARWSP as per the 'action plan'.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of the District</i>	<i>No. of new revenue villages created by the State Govt. after April 1984 to 20th Nov., 88</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Desert Districts</i>		
1.	Barmer	264
2.	Bikaner	16
3.	Churu	68
4.	Ganganagar	10
5.	Jaisalmer	57
6.	Jalore	64
7.	Jhunjhunu	137
8.	Jodhpur	145
9.	Nagaur	122
10.	Pali	92
11.	Sikar	97
<i>Other Districts</i>		
12.	Ajmer	46
13.	Alwar	72
14.	Bharatpur	12
15.	Bhilwara	73
16.	Bundi	46
17.	Chittor	34
18.	Dholpur	22
19.	Dungarpur	14

1	2	3	:
20.	Jaipur	247	
21.	Kota	25	
22.	Jhalawar	3	
23.	Sawai Madhopur	81	
24.	Sirohi	16	
25.	Udaipur	49	
26.	Banswara	NIL	
27.	Tonk	NIL	
Total:		1812	

Recognition of Hindi In U.N. General Assembly

1902. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be
pleased to state:

(a) the languages which have been
recognised by the United Nations General
Assembly;

(b) whether Government have made
any attempts recently to get recognition for
the national language Hindi in the U.N.
General Assembly; and

(c) if so, the details and the outcome
thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI
K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Arabic, Chinese,
English, French, Spanish and Russian.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Implementation of 'Operation Black-board'

1903. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the prog-
ress made so far with regard to the
Operation Blackboard;

(b) the amount given by Union Govern-
ment to the State Governments so far in this
regard statewide;

(c) the details of the programme for the
year 1988-89; and

(d) the time by which the scheme is
likely to be implemented in the whole coun-
try?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND

CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). The scheme of Operation Blackboard was started in 1987-88 and in the first year Central assistance amounting to Rs. 11061.14 lakhs was given to 24 States and 3 UTs to cover 113417 primary schools in 1703 blocks and 348 Municipal areas. The State-wise details of funds released for appointment of additional teachers in single teacher schools and for

provision of teaching-learning equipments is given in Statement I below.

(c) The State-wise details of the programme for which funds have been released so far during 1988-89 are given in Statement II below.

(d) The scheme envisages covering all the Blocks in the country in a phased manner by 1990.

STATEMENT-I

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Municipal Areas	No. of Blocks	No. of schools	No. of 2nd teacher appointed	Funds sanctioned for 2nd Teacher	Funds sanctioned for equipment	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh		221	6352	1827	167.51	454.11	621.62
2.	Assam		33	7014	2065	151.46	675.23	826.69
3.	Bihar	39	120	13270	6198	956.22	912.19	1868.41
4.	Gujarat	7	61	4769	2374	129.95	336.48	466.43
5.	Haryana	16	20	956	66	3.66	59.27	62.93
6.	Himachal Pradesh		18	1984	511	30.66	118.09	148.75
7.	Jammu & Kashmir		37	1320	724	74.97	81.93	156.90
8.	Karnataka		19	2473	1611	36.25	132.42	168.67
9.	Kerala	11	30	1467	—	—	151.11	151.11
10.	Madhya Pradesh	65	92	13926	3897	287.97	906.13	1194.10
11.	Maharashtra	50	52	6723	3178	129.14	415.89	545.03
12.	Manipur		8	541	—	—	38.03	38.03
13.	Meghalaya		6	766	348	8.35	70.02	78.37

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14.	Nagaland		7	311	25	1.45	24.21	25.66
15.	Orissa		65	7377	2978	220.75	532.25	753.00
16.	Punjab		37	4737	527	27.40	306.71	334.11
17.	Rajasthan	137	93	12187	6919	377.75	797.80	1175.50
18.	Sikkim		405	509	45	1.16	40.41	41.57
19.	Tamil Nadu		77	5995	450	53.10	427.70	480.80
20.	Tripura		4	421	39	0.88	41.24	42.12
21.	Uttar Pradesh		277	18924	2859	243.56	1515.87	1759.43
22.	Arunachal Pradesh		11	353	181	42.00	21.17	63.17
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli		2	17	17	0.80	1.19	1.99
24.	Delhi	22	—	668	—	—	32.39	32.39
25.	Goa	1	2	169	37	2.22	9.81	12.03
26.	Lakshadweep		1	19	—	—	0.48	0.48
27.	Mizoram		5	166	15	0.58	11.22	11.80
Total		348	1703	113417	36891	2947.79	8113.35	11061.14

STATEMENT—II

Part—I								(Rs. in lakhs)
S.No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Municipal areas	No. of Blocks	No. of schools	No. of 2nd teacher appointed	Funds sanctioned for 2nd teacher	Funds sanctioned for equipment	Total
1.	West Bengal	20	73	11139	323	34.88	733.80	768.68*
2.	Tamil Nadu	7	20	6098	619	53.10	439.75	498.74*

* First instalment of 50% of this sum amounting to Rs 384.34 lakhs and Rs 249.47 lakhs have been released to the States of West Bengal and Tamil Nadu respectively.

Salary for continuation of teachers appointed under the scheme in 1987-88.

Part—II			Funds sanctioned for 2nd teacher 1988-89
State	No of 2 and teacher appointed 1987-88.		(Rs in lakhs)
1. Bihar	6198		738.18
2. Karnataka	1611		126.87
3. Punjab	527		68.51
Total			933.56

[English]

Energy Consumption of Thal Vaishet Fertilizer Plant

1904. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the annual energy consumption of Thal Vaishet Fertilizer Plant;

(b) whether the contractual energy consumption norms have been achieved; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The average annual consumption upto October, 1988 is 9.22 M.Kilo Calories per MT of ammonia.

(b) The contractual energy consumption norms in respect of both ammonia and urea plants have been achieved and demonstrated in the course of test runs carried out in accordance with the consultancy agreements.

(c) Does not arise.

Suggestion by PHDCCI for Development of Food Processing Industries

1905. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI:
DR. G.S. RAJHANS:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PHD Chambers of

Commerce and Industry has made some suggestions for the development of food processing industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE ON THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) . Various bodies and organisations including PHD Chamber of commerce & Industry connected with food processing industries have been making suggestions from time to time regarding problems faced by the food processing industries and suggesting measures for development of the food processing industries. All these suggestions have been taken into account while evolving a package of measures for the development of food processing industries.

Launching of Mining Projects

1906. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently announced the launching of some mining projects;

(b) if so, the details of the projects and the location thereof;

(c) the details of such projects in Andhra Pradesh and the estimated expenditure to be incurred thereon; and

(d) the extent to which it will be beneficial to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : (a) and (b). Government have recently announced launching of the following two mining projects in the Ministry of Steel and Mines;

(i) Integrated Project for the development of Rampura Agucha zinc-Land Mine in Distt. Bhilwara and zinc-Lead Smelter at Chanderiya in Distt. Chittorgarh of Rajasthan at a cost of Rs 617.20- crores. The project when completed will have an installed capacity to produce 70,000 tonnes of Zinc and 35,000 tonnes of lead per annum. The project will be an integral part of and executed by Hindustan Zinc Limited, a public sector undertaking of the Department of Mines.

(ii) Iron ore mining project at Bailadila in Distt. Bastar of Madhya Pradesh for mining of 1.74 million tonnes of iron ore per year. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 18.97 crores and shall be executed by National Mineral Development corporation, a public sector undertaking of the Department of Steel.

(c) Mining projects have not been announced in Andhra Pradesh recently;

(d) Does not arise.

Increase in Prices of Metals

1907. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have hiked the prices of some of the metals, recently.

(b) if so, the details of the metals whose prices have been increased together with reasons therefor;

(c) the extent to which such a hike in prices will adversely affect both the industry and the consumers:

(d) whether Government propose to import these metals to meet the situation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). There has been increase in the prices of Zinc, Lead Tin, Aluminium, Nickel and Copper, the reasons for increase are given below:-

The prices of imported Copper, Zinc, Lead, Tin and Nickel are fixed by the Pricing Committee headed by Chief Controller of Imports & Exports every month on the calculations furnished by M.M.T.C. the canalising agency. The increase in prices is on account of increase in LME price and fluctuation in foreign exchange rate with the prevailing import duties added.

The prices of aluminium have been revised under the Aluminium (Control) Order, 1979 from 18.11.1988. The domestic price of aluminium would, however, continue to be much less than the international prices. The revision has been necessitated mainly due to escalation in power tariff including imminent increases and providing an element for modernisation, technological upgradation and improvement in the quality of aluminum metal and its products.

(c) As in the case of other basic raw materials, the increase in prices of metals also affect the industry and consumers to the extent of their use in the product. However, the effects vary from product to product.

(d) and (e). In order to bridge the gap between demand and supply, import of non-ferrous metals is canalised through M.M.T.C. The quantities of import are decided in the beginning of every year by an Inter-Ministerial Review Meeting headed by DGTD and the position is monitored from

time to time. Aluminium including aluminium Rods has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) in July, 1988 with a reduced level of customs duty of Only Rs. 500/- per tonne. Further, customs duty on aluminium scrap, already on OGL, has been reduced from 95% to 35% in September, 1988. The demand of copper, lead & Zinc is being met by production from indigenous sources as well as imports. The demand of nickel and tin are almost entirely met by imports.

Four Laning of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar Section of National Highway No.5

1908. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent by Government on four laning of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar section of National Highway No. 5 in Orissa so far; and

(b) the additional amount required for the completion of the rest of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Rs. 196.13 lakhs.

(b) About Rs 5441 lakhs.

Establishment of Paradip Fishing Harbour

1909. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is delay in the establishment of fishery harbour at Paradip;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRISHYAMLA YADAV) : (a) to (c). Do not arise Sir, as the proposal is not approved by the Government of India.

The detailed project report on the proposal was received from the Paradip Port Trust in April, 1988. Action has been taken for concurrences from the concerned Departments.

Proposal to Allow Shipping Companies to Acquire Vessels on Lease

1911. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow shipping companies to acquire vessels on lease; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No such proposal is pending with Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Processing Units in Apple Producing Areas

1912. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total capacity of apple juice in-

dustry in the country at present;

(b) whether there is any scheme for setting up of processing units in the apple producing areas to increase the capacity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) It is estimated that the total capacity of apple juice industry in the country at present is about 18,500 tonnes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Kendriya Vidyalayas In Uttar Pradesh In 1988-89

1913. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)

(a) whether there is any proposal to Open some Kendriya Vidyalayas during 1988-89 in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the names of the places where the said Vidhyalayas are proposed to be opened;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal to open Kendriya Vidyalayas in Didihat and Dharchula (Pithoragarh) in Uttar Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P.

SHAH) : (a) and (b). The following 7 new Kendriya Vidyalayas have been sanctioned in Uttar Pradesh during 1988-89:-

1. SSB, Srinagar, Distt. Pauri Garhwal
2. Naini, Distt. Allahabad
3. Baad, Distt. Mathura
4. Babugarh, Distt. Gaziabad
5. Lucknow Cantt
6. JNSI Kanpur
7. Joshimath, Distt. Chamoli.

(c) and (d). The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has not received any proposal from the prescribed sponsoring agency for opening a Kendriya Vidyalaya in Didihat or Dharchula (Pithoragarh) in Uttar Pradesh.

Provision of Astroturf In the Nainital Stadium

1914. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay Astroturf in the National Stadium (Uttar Pradesh) for hockey players; and

(b) if so, the time by which this facility will be provided there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT: (SHRI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Setting Up of Bharat Aluminium Plant In Maharashtra

1915. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) when was the decision taken to set up 'Bharat Aluminium Plant' in the public sector in the Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra;

(b) the other steps taken in connection with setting up of this public sector project besides acquiring land;

(c) whether the State Government of Maharashtra has assured the necessary power for the Aluminium plant;

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) whether Government propose to produce alumina instead of aluminium to reduce power consumption?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (e). The setting up of an Integrated Alumina/Aluminium Plant at Ratnagiri for manufacture of 50,000 tonnes of aluminium per annum based on Dhangarwadi Bauxite deposits in Kolhapur District of Maharashtra was sanctioned by the Government on 29.4.1974 after examining the viability of the project in the light of the then prevailing circumstances.

Besides acquiring land from Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation, Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd. (BALCO) which was to set up the Ratnagiri Project, had acquired an industrial licence and also mining leases for the bauxite bearing area.

BALCO also set up a caretaker office at Ratnagiri.

The power required for the project was to be drawn from the grid of the Maharashtra State Electricity Board, availability for which had been confirmed by the Government of Maharashtra.

Subsequently, a review undertaken by the Central Government indicated that the size of the Ratnagiri Plant would be uneconomical in view of the economies of scale that underwent change, with the development technology in aluminium smelters as well as alumina plants. In the meanwhile, the discovery of East-Coast Bauxite Deposits brought about a sea change in the bauxite reserve position of the country. With the implementation of the Orissa Aluminium Complex based on the East-Coast Bauxite Deposits by National Aluminium Company (NALCO), the country is going to be surplus in both alumina/aluminium in the near future. In the changed situation, Ratnagiri Project could not be implemented. There is no proposal to revive the Ratnagiri Project. The Maharashtra Government has been advised to re-grant the mining leases surrendered by BALCO as per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957.

Setting Up of Development Agency for Brackish Land

1916. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for setting up of a Development Agency for the brackish land costing Rs. 80,000/- per hectare; and

(b) if so, whether necessary sanction has been given to the State Government in view of the general shortage of land around

Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Government of Maharashtra have forwarded a proposal for setting up of brackish water Fish Farmer's Development Agency (BFDA) in Thane District. The cost of construction of brackishwater farm is estimated at Rs. 80,000/- per hectare.

(b) The land for the development of farm is expected to be given by the State Govt. on lease to the weaker sections at nominal cost. The BFDA proposal has not yet been approved by the Government of India.

IPKF'S Stay in Sri Lanka

1917. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a growing opposition in Sri Lanka to the continued stay of IPKF in Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, what are the grounds for this opposition; and

(c) whether in view of this opposition Union government propose to review its policy regarding IPKF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). Some elements in Sri Lanka have opposed, and continue to oppose, the presence of the IPKF in Sri Lanka on the basis of various perceptions and allegations mainly that the presence of the IPKF violates Sri Lanka's independence and sovereignty and that the

IPKF has not done the task assigned to it.

(c) The IPKF is in Sri Lanka to help in the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement and to ensure the safety and security of all communities in the Northern and Eastern parts of Sri Lanka. The IPKF has performed and will continue to perform this role as long as it is required to do so.

Targets for Adult Education

1918. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:
SHRI T. BASHEER:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any facilities have been provided to the students under the Adult Education Programme in the new education policy for taking examination of various Education Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the targets fixed to educate people under the Adult Education Programme during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No target has been fixed for the Seventh Five Year Plan as a whole. The targets for the enrolment under the Adult Education Programme are fixed at the beginning of each year. The targets for enrolment fixed during the first four years of the Seventh Plan are as follows.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Target for Enrolment (In lakh Persons)</i>
1985-86	75.46
1986-87	83.60
1987-88	89.23
1988-89	99.13

[*Translation*]

Declaration of Agriculture as Industry

1919. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to declare agriculture as an industry; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be declared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). Agriculture cannot be treated at par with industry because of the basic differences between the two sectors. Such as, production processes, technology, principles of pricing, patterns of marketing, perishable nature of agricultural produce, relative in adjustability of agricultural production to changing demand/conditions as the gestation period is fixed and given, heterogeneity of agricultural produce, etc.

Rajfed Soyabean Project

1920. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are facing problems in launching Rajfed Soyabean

Project to be implemented with the help of the World Bank and National Cooperative Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove these problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

Supply of Drinking Water From Rajasthan Canal

1921. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is acute shortage of drinking water in the desert areas of Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government have given its approval to any scheme to supply water from Rajasthan Canal to these desert areas; and

(c) if so, the details of such places where drinking water is being provided from this source and the number of problem-prone villages which are likely to be included by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) There is shortage of water in some villages of desert areas of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c). Under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Pro-

gramme (ARWSP), Government of India have already approved 323 schemes benefitting 633 problem villages in the desert district of Ganganagar in Rajasthan with raw water source from Rajasthan Canal. Schemes for 240 problem villages in Ganganagar district with source from Rajasthan Canal are under technical scrutiny. All the problem villages are likely to be covered during the last two years of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Jeevan Dhara Scheme

1922. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced a scheme 'Jeevan Dhara';

(b) if so, the target fixed for digging wells and installing tubewells in Rajasthan thereunder;

(c) whether any assistance has been provided by Government to the State Government under this scheme; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof and the progress made in this regard in the current financial year so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) Yes, Sir. A Million Wells' Scheme for construction of open wells for small and marginal farmers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, below the poverty line, has been launched with effect from 1.4.1988 as a sub-scheme of National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP).

(b) A target for construction of 20,000

open wells has been fixed under the scheme for Rajasthan. No tubewells are permitted to be installed under the scheme.

(c) and (d). For the current year, the provision of funds stands at Rs. 3600.00 lakhs at the rate of Rs. 18,000 per unit. Out of this, Rs. 1800 lakhs has been allocated out of NREP funds and the balance out of RLEGP funds. The State does not contribute anything in the RLEGP resources. It shares cash allocations of NREP in equal proportion. However, the foodgrains allocations under both the programmes are not shared by the State Government. As such, the share of the State Government in the total provision of Rs. 3,600 lakhs would be roughly 30%. So far, 87 wells have been completed and 4,267 are in progress. Work on the remaining wells is yet to start.

[English]

Vocationalisation of Secondary Education

1923. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA:
SHRI NARASIMHARAJA
WADIYAR:
SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the vocational subjects introduced by Central Board of Secondary Education at 10 plus 2 stage;

(b) the progress made in the vocationalisation of education at the secondary stage in different States;

(c) whether the State Governments are implementing the guidelines issued by Union Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The Central Board of Secondary Education has introduced 28 vocational courses at + 2 stage. The list of Vocational Courses offered by CBSE is given in the Statement below.

(b) to (d). Before the inception of National Policy on Education, 1986. Vocational Courses at the higher secondary stage were being offered in about 1900 institutions with annual intake of about 72000 students. The Centrally-sponsored Scheme of Vocation-alisation of Secondary Education was started in the last quarter of 1987-88 only. Financial assistance has so far been sanc-tioned to 20 State/UTs for 3800 Vocational course in 1270 schools for about 95000 students. Detailed information about the starting of these courses and implementa-tion of the guidelines issued by the Ministry will become available after some time. The State Governments receiving central assis-tance have to implement the scheme in accordance with the guidelines issued by this Ministry.

STATEMENT

List of Vocational Courses offered by CBSE for introduction in the affiliated schools at + 2 stage

1. Office Management and Secretar-ial Practice

2. Accountancy and Auditing

3. Typewriting (English/Hindi)

4. Stenography (English/Hindi)

5. Marketing and Salesmanship

6. Purchasing and Store keeping

7. Basic Electrical Technology

8. Basic Electronics Technology

9. Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology

10. Nutrition and Food Preparation

11. Textiles and Designs

12. Marine Fisheries

13. Banking

14. Health Care and Beauty Culture

15. Ophthalmic Techniques

16. Dress Designing and Making

17. Hotel Management and Catering Technology

18. Horticulture

19. Structure and Fabrication Technol-ogy

20. Nursery Teacher Training

21. Inland Fisheries

22. Farm Machinery and Equipment

23. Basic Programme in Fruits and Vegetables

24. Automobile Technology

25. General Insurance (Vocational) — Introduced in collaboration with General Insurance Corporation of India w.e.f. 1988-89 section as a Pilot project.

26. Library Science *

27. Computer Studies-Technology/Techniques *

28. Tourism and Travel *

N.B. Course at Sl. No. 1-6 and 21-23 are single paper vocational subjects and can be offered in combination with other electives from the Academic OR single paper subjects under the Vocational stream. Other courses are total courses having three compulsory vocational electives. One language is to be offered as per the scheme of studies besides the vocational courses.

* Introduced as experimental courses from 1988-89.

Salinity in Soil

1924. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the states where agricultural production is affected due to salinity in soil;

(b) the estimated loss suffered in food production;

(c) the factors responsible for salinity in soil; and

(d) the details of reclamation strategy of such soil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The agriculture production is affected due to salinity including coastal saline sandy problems mainly in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Kar-

nataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(b) It is difficult to precisely quantify the loss of food production on account of salinity in soil alone.

(c) Salinity of soils are characterised by the presence of sodium chlorides and sulphates with little amount of sodium carbonates and bio-carbonates. The factors responsible for salinity in soils are —

(a) Capillary rise from subsoil bed of salts;

(b) indiscriminate use of canal water;

(c) weathering of rocks and the salts brought down from the upstreams to the plains by river water and subsequent deposition along with the alluvial materials;

(d) salt impregnated sand blown by sea wind;

(e) in situ decomposition of soil material;

(f) ingress of sea water; and

(g) climate, geology, topography and hydrology either singly or in combination.

(d) An integrated approach comprising the following package of practices forms strategy for reclamation —

(i) soils identification and characterisation by conducting soil surveys;

(ii) on farm development like land shaping, bunding and water management with improved

drainage;

- (iii) leaching by sufficient quantity of good quality of water;
- (iv) addition of green manure and/or legumes;
- (v) cultivation of salt tolerant crops like paddy, barely etc. combined with appropriate agronomic management.

Support Prices of Cereals

1925. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is likelihood of crossing the target of Kharif foodgrains production of 92.5 million tonnes.

(b) whether at present the market price of coarse foodgrains i.e. millet, maize and jawar has gone much below the level of support price; and

(c) if so, the steps Union Government propose to take to obviate conditions of distress sale by farmers of their produce?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The target of kharif foodgrains production of 92.5 million tonnes is likely to be achieved.

(b) and (c). The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited, (NAFED) as the Central Nodal Agency of the Government of India for undertaking procurement of coarse grains, such as, jawar, bajra, maize and ragi, has made all arrangements for procurement in the producing States wherever the prices of

fair average quality ruled below the procurement price of Rs. 145 per quintal fixed by the Government.

Revised Pay Scales for the Teachers of Regional Engineering Colleges

1926. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee known as Dogra Committee was set up to recommend the new pay scales for the teachers of Regional Engineering Colleges and other Engineering Colleges;

(b) whether the revised pay scales have been announced; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and when these are proposed to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) An Empowered Committee was appointed to examine the recommendations of the Dogra Committee. The recommendations of the Empowered Committee are at present under consideration of the Government.

Reorientation of Pricing Structure for Transport Sector

1927. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI SHANTI LAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission

has suggested reorientation of the pricing structure for the transport sector;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has accepted the same;

(c) if so, by what time it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The Seventh Five Year Plan document in para 8.21 has laid down the important policy objectives, which includes having a cost — based price structure and improvement of financial viability of the public sector transport undertakings. This is the Government's accepted policy objective. The translation of this objective into practice is a continuing process.

Separate Security Organisation for Patrolling Ports and Ships

1928. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of complaints were received from the Indian National Shipowners Association in respect of growing incidents of robbery and attacks on ships;

(b) if so, whether a separate security organisation is proposed to be set up for patrolling ports and to guard port installations and ships against smugglers and robbers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Certain Ship-

ping Companies and INSA have made complaints about attacks on their ships while at anchorage or while entering or leaving the Ports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Report of the Working Group on Oil Palm Production

1929. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:
SHRI K. KUNJAMBU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Group on oil palm cultivation has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made and to what extent these have been accepted; and

(c) the steps taken for increasing oilpalm cultivation and palm oil production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations are given below:-

(i) The research centre of the Central Plantation Crop Research Institute at Palode under ICAR may be raised to the status of a National Research Centre for Oilpalm.

(ii) The Working Group has identified about 5.75 lakh ha. of land suitable for oilpalm cultivation in

States namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and West Bengal. The Group has suggested a strategy for covering 2.5 lakh ha. of area under oilpalm cultivation by 2000 A.D.

- (iii) The present production of *tenera* hybrid seeds is about 4 lakh which is sufficient to cover an area of 2,000 ha. per annum. To meet requirement of planting material, import of elite seeds has to be made. Three seedgardens each with 20 ha. area may be established in three States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to meet the future requirements of seeds in the country.
- (iv) Two types of units, namely, (i) large scale modern processing unit with a capacity of 5-30 tonnes Fresh Fruit Bunches (FFB)/Hr to suit plantations covering 1,000-5,000 ha. with facilities for refining or (ii) small-scale processing unit with indigenous equipment with a capacity of one tonne Fresh Fruit Bunches/Hr, depending upon situations and the size of the plantations, can be adopted.
- (v) Incentives and credit facilities for the development of oilpalm may be provided.
- (vi) Three types of organizational structures are suggested, namely, Corporate or company sector like Oil Palm India Ltd. and Andaman & Nicobar Islands Forest and Plantation Development Corporation Ltd., Co-

operative sector similar to NDDB of India and Federal Land Development Authority of Malaysia and Private/Public sector like sugar factories.

- (vii) A Central Apex Body, namely, National Oilpalm Development Board exclusively for oilpalm development with full powers and adequate finance is suggested to promote oilpalm cultivation in India.
- (viii) Training in India and abroad is suggested for all those associated with oilpalm production, processing, research and development. Need for organizing large-scale demonstration is suggested for motivating the farmers. Foreign consultancy in specific areas of oilpalm production and processing for a limited period, till adequate trained manpower becomes available, is suggested.

The Report of the Working Group has been sent to the concerned States. Follow up action on the recommendations are being taken.

(c) Government of India have already taken up cultivation of oil palm in Kerala and Andaman and Nicobar Islands through Oil Palm India Ltd. and Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Forest and Plantation Development Corporation respectively. A demonstration project for Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh covering an area of 1,000 ha. in each State has been sanctioned in 1988-89.

Germ Plasm has been collected from important oil palm producing countries and methodology for production of hybrid seed has been acquired. A quicker seed germina-

tion method has been developed. Processing mill for extraction of palm oil suitable for small plantation has been designed.

UNESCO Meeting to Promote Literacy In India

1930. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting of UNESCO was held in October, 1988 in Delhi to chalk out new strategies to promote literacy in India; and

(b) if so, the details of the decisions taken in the meeting and action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) A meeting of Unesco Working Group on International Literacy Year (ILY) under Asia Pacific Programme of Education for All (APPEAL) was held in New Delhi from October 11-14, 1988, to:

- (1) share and exchange experiences among the participating countries on the effectiveness of various strategies to eradicate illiteracy especially among the girls and women and disadvantaged population groups including strategies to reduce drop out rates among the girls and children from the disadvantaged population;
- (2) prepare a regional strategy with special emphasis on the participating countries to determine mechanism for working together and providing mutual support in developing planning ap-

proaches, mobilisation of human, material and financial resources and human resource development through orientation and training, development of teaching learning materials, teaching — learning methodology and developing methods of monitoring, research and evaluation;

- (3) make suggestions as to how international organisations like UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF, Asian Development Bank, World Bank etc. could help the countries individually and collectively in their effort to eradicate illiteracy;
- (4) prepare a special project for eradicating illiteracy in the region which shall be considered by the regional experts meeting on APPEAL to be held in November, 1988 in Bangkok.

(b) The Working Group after due consideration developed a Plan of Action according to the following frame-work (i) Issues (ii) Areas of Action (iii) Modes of Operation and (iv) Resources. The issues that were identified included the close interdependency of the Universalisation of primary education and eradication of illiteracy, the various factors which contributed to the prevalence of illiteracy, the need for better appreciation of the problems of the disadvantaged sections of the society and the factors which will be crucial for strengthening the literacy programmes and making it successful. Thereafter the specific areas of action were listed out which included drawing up a National Policy, perspective plan of action, mobilisation of resources, environment building, strengthening the academic and technical resource support for the programme, stress on involvement of NGOs

and designing a suitable mechanism for monitoring and evaluation. The modes of operation of these measures were elaborated at the National Level, Regional Level and International Level. In addition, a strategy for a Plan of Action for eradication of illiteracy (1990-2000) was also suggested.

[Translation]

Gang Issuing Fake Permits in Delhi

1931. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of fake permits are being issued in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any gang has been caught during the past two months in this connection;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any steps have been taken to check the activities of touts in the Directorate of Transport; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). Information is being collected.

(d) and (e). For the convenience of public, Directorate of Transport, Delhi Administration has taken steps to have the information, disseminated through public address system regarding the procedure followed in respect of grant of licences, registration and inspection of vehicles etc. Relevant forms are also made available at counter, free of cost. P.R.O. has been appointed to assist public. Strict vigil is also kept through enforcement staff to check the activities of undesirable persons. During the

period May-October, 1988, 38 undesirable persons had been apprehended by the Enforcement Staff and handed over to the police for further action.

Comprehensive Development of Inland Waterways

1932. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the comprehensive development of inland waterways is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the outlines thereof including the areas likely to be benefited and the time by which it is likely to be implemented along with the target dates for its completion; and

(c) the financial implications of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). In the 7th Five Year Plan an outlay of Rs. 225.73 crores has been earmarked for the development of inland water transport of which R. 155 crores is in the Central Sector and Rs. 70.73 crores is in the Plans of States. The schemes of development of waterways pertain to Allahabad-Haldia stretch of Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System, Brahmaputra, Sunderbans, West Coast Canal, Krishna, Godavari, Mandovi, Zuari and Mapusa. Riverine States along these waterways are likely to be benefitted by the development of the river systems.

Development of waterways envisages creation of infrastructural facilities including terminals on the National Waterway, hydrographic survey, dredging, acquisition of survey launches and equipment, technical studies and research and developmental schemes.

These schemes are at various stages of implementation. The hydrographic surveys and techno-economic studies have been completed in respect of Ganga, Brahmaputra, Sunderbans and West Coast Canal (Cochin-Quilon), the remaining are in progress and are scheduled to be completed by the end of the 7th Five-Year Plan.

[English]

Cultivation of Sunflower

1933. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether experiments have proved that cultivation of Sunflower in many States, instead of foodgrains, will be more remunerative for the farmers and it will also greatly help attaining self sufficiency in edible oils;

(b) if so, whether any plan has been evolved to popularise it all over the country where soil and climatic conditions permit;

(c) if so, the details of this scheme; and

(d) if not, when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The results of experiments in certain agro-climatic regions and situations have shown that sunflower cultivation is less risky and hence found remunerative than some of the traditional crops. Therefore, it is popularised as a contingent crop in rainfall areas.

(b) and (c). Two centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, National Oilseeds Devel-

opment Project (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP) are in operation for oilseeds development including sunflower in some States where agroclimatic conditions are suitable for its cultivation. Under these schemes, financial assistance is provided to the States for critical inputs like quality seed, plant protection measures, improved farm implements, large sized demonstrations, etc. in order to induce the farmers to take up sunflower cultivation on large scale.

(d) Question does not arise.

Copra Processing Unit In Kerala

1934. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Cooperative Development Corporation has cleared a project for setting up a copra processing unit in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the extent of assistance proposed to be given in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c). The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) has agreed to finance an integrated coconut development project in Kerala, costing Rs. 86.73 crores. The project envisages, inter-alia, the establishment of three processing facilities at different locations in the State with raw material base of 1,80,000 tonnes of copra per annum and addition of a solvent plant and a vegetable oil refinery facilities at a centralised location and marketing of end products. The share of assistance proposed to be given by NCDC is Rs. 76.66 crores.

Increase in Milk Production

1935. DR. G. VJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the milk production in 1970 and 1987, Statewise; *

(b) whether a team of the European Economic Community has praised the performance of the milk producers' cooperative societies in Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Statewise data on milk production for the year 1970 is not available. However, the anticipated figures of Statewise milk production for 1987-88 are given below:

<i>State</i>	<i>Milk Production in 1987-88</i> <i>('000 tonnes)</i>
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	2980
Assam	613
Arunachal Pradesh	38
Bihar	2650
Gujarat	3200
*Goa, Daman & Diu	26
Haryana	2800
Himachal Pradesh	467
Jammu & Kashmir	435.52

1	2
Karnataka	2310
Kerala	1410
Madhya Pradesh	3220
Maharashtra	2610
Manipur	78.80
Meghalaya	68
Mizoram	12.50
Nagaland	4.75
Orissa	394
Punjab	4450
Rajasthan	4000
Sikkim	24
Tamil Nadu	3100
Tripura	26
Uttar Pradesh	8210
West Bengal	2700

*Separate figures for Goa are not available.

(b) and (c). A Joint World Bank/EEC Mission carried out a review of the Operation Flood-III Project between 28th September — 19th October, 1988. The Mission visited Bihar Milksheds during 12-15th October, 1988. On the whole, the Mission expressed satisfaction on the progress of activities in Dairy Cooperative Societies and participation by the farmers. The Mission was happy to observe women's participation through Women's cooperatives.

Position of Fijians of Indian Origin Under New Constitution

1936. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the draft constitution of Fiji contains any discriminatory provisions likely to affect Fijians of Indian origin adversely;

(b) if so, the brief particulars thereof and the stand of the Indian community in Fiji on the proposals;

(c) whether India has raised the matter bilaterally with the Government of Fiji, with the Commonwealth Secretariat and with the UN; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the legitimate interest of Fijians of Indian origin so as to preclude any mass exodus of such persons from Fiji?

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

(b) According to the provisions of the Draft Constitution, Fijians of Indian origin, would be entitled to only 22 seats in a Unicameral Parliament with 71 seats, although they constitute the largest ethnic group in Fiji. Apart from the unequal representation important posts like those of President, Prime Minister, Commander of the Armed Forces who would also be the Defence Minister, Chairman of the Police Service Commission and the Chairman of the Public Service Commission are either explicitly or implicitly reserved for persons of ethnic Fijians descent.

The Indian Community has naturally rejected this draft constitution and statements to this effect have been made by the leaders of the Indian Community. It has also

been criticised by others.

(c) The Government of India has issued an official statement on September 20, 1988 the text of which is placed on the Table of the House.

Fiji's membership of the Commonwealth lapsed at the CHOGM in Vancouver in 1987. The Commonwealth expressed its readiness to offer, if requested, its good offices towards a resolution of the problem of Fiji on a basis consistent with its principles which forbid, inter-alia discrimination on the grounds of race. India has consistently opposed the re-admission of Fiji into the Commonwealth until it conforms to Commonwealth principles.

The issue has been taken up at the UN General Assembly in 1987 and 1988.

(d) It is for the Government of Fiji to take steps to protect the legitimate interests of all its citizens, including those of Indian origin.

Link Road Connecting Cochin Bypass and Cochin Port

1937. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of construction of the link road connecting Cochin-bypass and Cochin Port;

(b) the time by which the Thevara bridge is likely to be completed;

(c) the total cost of the project and the share of Union and State Governments therein; and

(d) the time by which the link road is likely to be opened to traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) This link road was declared as NH 47 A on 18.11.86. Out of the total length of 5.9 kms., 3.7 kms (Phase I) is being executed by the Cochin Port Trust and the remaining 2.2. kms. (Phase II) by National Highway Department of Kerala. Sanction has been accorded for the portion connecting Willington Island to Thevara bridge (Phase I) costing Rs. 13.07 crores including construction of Thevara bridge which is nearing completion. Pre-qualification of contractors for road works are being processed. For the phase II portion, land acquisition is nearing completion.

(b) The Thevara bridge is likely to be completed by January, 1989.

(c) The cost of Phase I is Rs. 13.07 crores. Out of this an expenditure of Rs. 3.88 crores was incurred under the CRF Scheme till this road was declared as National Highway. This expenditure has to be shared equally by Cochin Port Trust, Kerala Government and Government of India. The cost of Phase II portion cannot be assessed at this stage as the investigations are in progress.

(d) The Phase I and Phase II of the work are targeted to be completed by December, 1990 and March 1994 respectively.

Non-Implementation of Rules by NDRI Karnal

1938. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the policy and rules framed by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions regarding employment to one dependent of deceased Government servant are not applicable to National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of such cases where dependents of deceased employees have not been provided employment at National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Sir. The instructions of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Department of Personnel and Training regarding compassionate appointment are followed by the ICAR.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) From 1984 onwards, 4 cases for appointment on compassionate grounds have not been approved as they were not covered under the rules.

Four Laning of National Highway No. 1 between Murthal and Karnal

1939. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost likely to be incurred on widening to four lanes of National Highway No. 1 (Sher Shah Suri Marg) between Murthal and W.J. Canal, Karnal;

(b) the total length of the road on which work is in progress and the period by which it is likely to be completed;

(c) the total number of culverts/bridges to be constructed thereon; and

(d) whether four-lancing of the ~~Stretch~~ between Karnal and Ambala has been approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The total sanctioned cost on widening to 4-lane of N.H. No. 1 (Sher Shah Suri Marg) between Murthal and W.J. Canal is Rs. 4060.11 lakhs.

(b) The total length of the road on which the work is in progress is 80 Kms. from Km. 50.00 to Km. 130.00 between Murthal and Karnal. The entire work is likely to be completed by 30th April, 1991.

(c) The total number of culverts and bridges to be constructed between Murthal and Karnal is 113.

(d) No, Sir.

Policy for Sale of Good Quality Seeds to Farmers

1940. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy has been framed for the sale of good quality seeds to the farmers for the Rabi crop in the areas/States hit by floods in August and September, 1988,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued to the respective State Governments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Out of the flood affected States, Assam, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir requested for assistance in procurement of good quality wheat seeds required for sowing during ensuing Rabi.

Necessary arrangements were made to meet requirements of these States.

(b) As desired by Assam State, 60,000 quintals of good quality Sonalika wheat seed were identified in FCI godowns at Moradabad, U.P. After testing the stocks for germination, identified stocks were transported by rail well in time for sowing in Assam. NSC supplied 5000 and 500 quintals of certified wheat seed to H.P. and J & K respectively. To meet the balance of seed requirements, J & K Govt. was advised to procure certified seed available in U.P. with the assistance of the U.P. Government.

(c) and (d). Apart from helping the State Governments in meeting their wheat seed requirements the States were also advised from time to time to procure good quality wheat seed from progressive farmers, State Civil Supplies Corporation, Food Corporation of India, etc. to meet their shortage of wheat seed after getting such grains tested for germination.

Recommendations made by D.W.C.D.

1941. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have since studied the recommendations made by the Core group set up by the Department of Women and Child Development;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations; and

(c) the reaction of Government to the suggestions made, particularly those pertaining to the property rights and reservation of seats for women in elected bodies and the need for a uniform civil code?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND

SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Perspective Plan lays emphasis on perceiving women in a holistic manner as also on inter-ministerial coordination and decentralisation of the machinery charged with implementation of the various schemes and programmes to benefit women. The recommendations have been made under the following heads:-

- i) Rural Development & Agriculture.
- ii) Employment & Training.
- iii) Supportive Services: Fuel, Fodder, Water, Creches/Day Care, Housing.
- iv) Education.
- v) Health & Family Welfare.
- vi) Legislation.
- viii) Political participation and decision making.
- viii) Media & Communication.
- ix) Voluntary action.

(c) The recommendations are under consideration.

Pakistan's Plea to Review Mandates on UN Peace Keeping Operations

1942. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan

pleaded in UN General Assembly that mandates of the United Nations Peace Keeping Operations should be reviewed automatically without reference to the host countries; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) It has been suggested by Pakistan at the UN that no change should be made in the mandate, character or duration of the Peace Keeping Operations authorised by the Security Council, except through a specific decision of the Security Council.

(b) Government has noticed that the mandates of various U.N. Peace Keeping Operations are often extended in a routine fashion without due consideration of their continued usefulness. Government believes that the consent of the host country or countries must be obtained for the conduct on its territory of any Peace Keeping Operations and all such operations must be carried out with due respect for the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the country concerned. Government's views have been known at the UN.

Production of Coconut

1944. PROF. P.J. KURIEN:
SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the anticipated production of coconut this year;

(b) whether there is any likelihood of a shortfall;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the measures taken by the Coconut Board to increase production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c). The official estimates of coconut production for this year are not available. No report on likelihood of shortfall in production has been received from the State Governments.

(d) Coconut Development Board is implementing various programmes viz. Project for expansion of area under coconut; Project for production and distribution of quality coconut seedlings and Project for improving productivity of coconut in major coconut growing States, for increasing the production of coconut.

Water Sports In Goa

1945. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to encourage water sports in Goa;

(b) whether the State Government has put forth any proposal in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the financial and other assistance given by Government to the Goa Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Government are keen on encouraging the devel-

opment of water sports in the country. However, there is no specific proposal so far for development of water sports in Goa.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

Steel Production

1946. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the production of steel in the public sector plants in 1977-78 and in 1987-88;

(b) the percentage increase in production during this decade; and

(c) the reasons for only a marginal increase in production of steel during the span of ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR) : (a) and (b). Production of saleable steel in SAIL plants increased substantially from 5.29 million tonnes in 1977-78 to 6.67 million tonnes in 1987-88, an increase of about 26%.

(c) Although production of steel in SAIL plants has gone up substantially during the decade ending 1987-88, a larger increase was not possible due to shortage of inputs, obsolescence of the plants and equipment and the slow pace of completion of expansion projects.

Demand and Supply Zinc, Copper and Other Non-Ferrous Metals

1947. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a gap between requirements of zinc, copper and other non-ferrous metals and their output in the country;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to reduce this gap;

(c) whether a programme for increase in the production of zinc and lead has been formulated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR) : (a) The indigenous production is likely to match the level of demand in respect of aluminium during the financial year. The demand of Nickel and Tin are almost entirely met by imports. In so far as Copper, Lead and Zinc are concerned, the indigenous production is steadily increasing. However, sufficient quantities of these metals are imported every year to bridge the gap between the demand and the indigenous production.

(b) Aluminium has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) with effect from end of July, 1988 with only marginal level of customs duty of Rs 500/- per tonne, Customs duty for aluminium scrap, which is already under OGL, has been reduced from 95% to 35% in September, 1988.

In so far as Copper Lead and Zinc are concerned, in addition to import, steps have been taken to overcome constraints in production like power shortage for optimum utilisation of the indigenous production capacity for these metals, besides debottle necking and modernisation of the copper smelters and refineries in order to augment indigenous production.

(c) and (d). Government has recently sanctioned an Integrated Project for the development of Rampura-Agucha Mines in

Bhilwara District and setting up of a smelter at Chanderiya in Chittorgarh District in Rajasthan for the production of 70,000 tonnes of Zinc and 35,000 tonnes of lead per annum at a cost of Rs. 6176.20 crores. The project will be an integral part of and executed by the Hindustan Zinc Limited, a public sector undertaking of the Department of Mines.

Scheme for Processing of Waste Production of Abattoirs

1948. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether waste products of abattoirs are not being properly utilised at present;

(b) whether there is any scheme for processing those waste products; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(b) There is a plan for modernisation/improvement of Abattoirs in the country. Proper utilisation of slaughter house by products including waste products is covered under the plan. Government of India is assisting State Governments through Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely Investment in Slaughter House Corporations and Improvement of Existing Abattoirs and Meat Units for this purpose. The total Central outlay of these schemes is Rs. 485 lakhs in 7th Five Year Plan.

Contract Labour System in Steel Industry

1949 . DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether contract labour system prevails in the Iron ore mines and various steel plants;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to stop the contract labour system in the mines as well as in the steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR) : (a) Yes, Sir Contract Labour is employed on works of non-perennial and casual nature as permissible under the Contract Labour (Abolition and Regulation) Act 1970.

(b) About 43,000 contract workers are engaged in mines and plants of Steel Authority of India Ltd. And about 1500 in the iron ore mines of National Mineral Development Corporation.

(c) Government have already constituted a Committee to look into the question of working of contract labour system in the iron ore mines in the country. In case of steel-plants, efforts are afoot to progressively phase it out.

State Owned Dairies/Dairy Farms

1950.DR. A.K.PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the locations of State owned dairies/dairy-farms when these were established and the investment made in each;

(b) the profit/loss made by each unit so far and also the annual production of various items in each case;

(c) the plans for starting more such units along with their proposed locations;

(d) the demand and supply position of the dairy products in the country as at pres-

ent; and

(e) the plans to meet the present and future demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). It has been decided to establish a third dairy to augment Delhi milk supply by an additional 4 lakh liters per day. The project is in the preliminary stage of site identification.

(d) and (e). No estimates have been made of the total demand for dairy products. The main policies and strategies adopted for increasing milk production in the country are as under:-

- i) Genetic improvement of nationally important cattle breeds by selective breeding in their home-tracks and upgrading in other selected areas;
- ii) Cross-breeding of non-descript low-producing cattle with exotic dairy breeds;
- iii) Progressive genetic improvement of important buffalo breeds by selective breeding and upgrading of non-descript buffaloes for improvement of milk yields;
- iv) Development of feed and fodder resources in order to provide adequate nutrition to livestock;
- v) Organisation of effective annual health services to support the production programme;
- vi) Under Operation Flood, infrastructure for providing inputs for

increased milk production and
marketing is being enlarged

through milk producers' coop-
erative societies.

STATEMENT

There are no state owned dairy farms in the country.

All the dairy plants in the public/cooperative sector in the country except Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy, Delhi, are owned and operated by the State Governments/State Federations/ District Unions/State Sponsored Agencies. The implementation and operation of these schemes are the responsibility of the respective State Governments. The information in respect of Delhi Milk Scheme and Mother Dairy, Delhi is however, given below:-

Location		Year of establi- shment	Investment made (Rs in Crores)	Profit (+)/loss (-) upto 1987-88 (Rs in crores)	Throughput of milk during 1987-88 (Lakh Liters) (Provisional)
Delhi Milk Scheme	Delhi	1959	17.62@	(-) 101.80	1379.17
Mother Dairy	Delhi	1974	16.15*	(-)10.64	2012.85

@ Gross value of assets upto 1986-87.
* Gross capital employed upto 31.3.1988.

[Translation]

Implementation of Three Language
Formula

1951. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU
DEVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-
SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the States which have
adopted and implemented three language
formula; and
- (b) the State-wise details of the three
languages being taught in these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND
CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P.
SHAH) : (a) and (b). All the States have, in
principle, accepted the Three Language
Formula except Tamil Nadu which is imple-
menting a two language formula. In the
Union Territory of Pondicherry, in the re-
gions of Pondicherry and Karaikal, two lan-
guage formula is implemented whereas in
Mahe and Yanam three language formulae
is implemented. In Assam which had ac-
cepted the three language formula, at pres-
ent a two language formula comprising of the
mother tongue as the first language and

English as the second language is under implementation, Most of the States have more than one formulation for teaching languages to meet the needs of different schools. In Hindi speaking States, most of the schools teach Hindi, English and Sanskrit or one of the modern Indian languages whereas in non-Hindi speaking States the general pattern is the regional language, English and Hindi.

[English]

Manufacture of Special Type of Steel

1952. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state whether any efforts are being made to manufacture special type of steel imported by Maruti Udyog, Bharat Heavy Electricals, Bharat Electrical Limited and other public sector undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR) : It is the policy of Government to attain self reliance in steel. Accordingly increase in the production of all types of steel including the special types of steel required by consumers, in-

cluding Public Sector Undertakings is being encouraged.

Centres of Indira Gandhi Open University

1953. SHRI.E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of study Centres started by the Indira Gandhi Open University in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala; and

(b) the number of students registered in these Centres by the University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) and (b). The number of Study Centres started by the Indira Gandhi National Open University in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Kerala and the number of students registered in these Centres is indicated below:

<i>Name of State</i>	<i>No. of Study Centres</i>	<i>No. of Students</i>
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	7	
1. Hyderabad - II		634
2. Hyderabad- II		27
3. Tirupati		76
4. Vijayawada		226
5. Guntur		39
6. Warrangal		7

1	2	3
7. Anantpur		11
Karnataka	3	
1. Bangalore		290
2. Mangalaore		82
3. Dharwar		25
Kerala1		
1. Trivandrum		696
Tamil Nadu		
	5	
1. Madras-I		219
2. Madras- II		45
3. Coimbatore		181
4. Madurai		12
5. Tiruchirapalli		11

Ship Breaking Industry in Gujarat

1954. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ship breaking industry in Gujarat has been closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the steps being taken to review it?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L.FOTEDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Short Term Loans to States for Agricultural Production

1955. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether short term loans are given by Union Government to various States for augmenting agricultural production;

(b) if so, the names of the crops for which these loans are given; and

(c) the amount asked for by Madhya Pradesh during the last three years and the

amount given to the State Government each year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Short term loans are provided to the State Government separately for Kharif and Rabi seasons, to

help them in the purchase and distribution of agricultural inputs, namely fertilizers, seeds and pesticides. The short term loan is not provided for crops.

(c). The short-term loan asked for and sanctioned to Government of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years is given below.-

(Rs in crores)

Year	Asked for	Sanctioned
1985-86	40 50	20 65
1986-87	70 39	11 01
1987-88	30 00	13.44
1988-89	23 00	12.60

[English]

Setting up of National Level Organisation to Promote Marketing of goods Produced Under IRDP

1956. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:
SHRI HARIHAR SOREN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National Level Organisation to promote the marketing of goods produced under the Integrated Rural Development Programme and other allied programmes aimed at poverty alleviation and ensure a better price for the diverse goods produced by the poor;

(b) if so, its broad features and how far its role will be independent of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission; and

(c) whether similar State Level Organisations will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) A proposal for setting up a Rural Products Consultancy, Marketing and Technology Society at the National Level for promoting marketing of goods under Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) was considered by the Government. It has been decided that rather than establishing new body, the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART) would be entrusted with performing the proposed marketing, consultancy etc. functions through a separate Cell established in CAPART for the purpose.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Governments have been

asked to consider setting up of institutions that would promote marketing of goods produced under IRDP.

Workshops on Vedic Mathematics

1957. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the Jaipur and Ahmedabad workshops on Vedic mathematics held under the auspices of Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan in March and October, 1988;

(b) the action -Plan prepared in this regard to implement the recommendations made by the conferences;

(c) the names of books on Vedic Mathematics published in English, Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi, Oriya, Telugu and other languages and the names of the writers and publishers;

(d) whether the manuscript copy of Shri Bharati Krishanji's book on Vedic Mathematics is being studied and researched for more information;

(e) whether the Ved Vidya Pratishthan and University of Roorkee propose to start Research Projects on Vedic Mathematics; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) and (b). Recommendations made by the Workshops held at Jaipur in March, 1988 and at Ahmedabad in October, 1988, indicating also the action plan recom-

mended by the Workshops are given in Statements I and II below.

(c) On the basis of available information, a list of books published in English, Hindi, Marathi, Gujarati and Telugu is given in Statement III below.

(d) The Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan is making efforts to obtain the manuscript copy of Shri Bharati Krishna Tirthji on Vedic Mathematics. Further decision can be taken only after it is available and studied by some experts.

(e) and (f). The Rashtriya Ved Vidya Pratishthan has proposed to organise a round table of Vedic Mathematicians and other Mathematicians to discuss the fundamental logical principles underlying Vedic Mathematics before deciding on the future course of research in this subject. The Roorkee University has formed a research committee research in Vedic Mathematics. This research project will cover application of Vedic Mathematics in different branches of mathematics and computer software.

STATEMENT—I

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP HELD BY RASHTRIYA VEDA VIDYA PRATISHTHAN ON VEDIC MATHEMATICS AT JAIPUR IN MARCH, 1988

1. A multidisciplinary committee consisting of experts from the fields of Mathematics—Vedic, traditional and modern, experts in Computer Science, representatives of the government and other experts may be formed. The committee shall produce the basis of the second workshop which is felt to be necessary before any action is taken to implement Vedic Mathematics (VM) at different levels.

The committee shall examine the following issues, either as a whole or through sub committees to arrive at final recommendations.

- i) Suitability of VM for introduction at school level and all its reification e.g. inclusion in text books, training of teachers, logically consistent explanations of VM techniques, teaching aids, etc.
- ii) Ways and means of encouragement, by which research in VM can be carried out to understand its potential and limitations at University level.
- iii) Multimedia Strategy to increase overall awareness of VM and role of voluntary organisations for this.
- iv) Possibility of providing centralized/regional facilities for training and information dissemination and promoting research in the field of VM.
- v) Support from Department of Electronics (Government of India) for development of VM educational software in Indian languages, and providing of financial support to the projects on VM/applications in development of computer technology, such as knowledge base algorithms, VM based computer architecture etc.
- vi) Any other relevant issues raised during the deliberations

2. The Ministry of Human Resource Development should provide all necessary support to enable effective functioning of the committee.

3. The Ministry should prepare a time bound programme for preparation of the report of the above committee and organisation of the goal-oriented workshops.

STATEMENT II

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP HELD BY THE RASHTRIYA VEDA • VIDYA PRATISHTHAN ON VEDIC MATHEMATICS AT AHMEDABAD FROM OCTOBER 4TH TO 7TH 1988

1. Vedic Mathematics provides a new way of solving problems of Arithmetic, and these methods are convincingly simple;
2. In the class situations, particularly in classes above III, certain difficulties have been encountered while applying Vedic Mathematics, Some of these difficulties have been found resolvable, but there are still some others which remain to be resolved;
3. Research and studies on the foundation of Sutras have to be initiated, which would enable giving them proper mathematical footing
4. A workshop for teachers of pre-primary and lower elementary stages of education should be organised;
5. A group should be invited in the form of a pre-workshop to discuss thoroughly various difficulties which have been encountered;

- tered in the study of Vedic Mathematics at the school level, particularly at levels beyond class III;

6. Only after a detailed examina-
- tion can there be a possibility for Rashtriya Veda Vidya Pratishthan recommending introduction of Vedic Mathematics officially for school educations.

STATEMENT-III

LIST OF BOOKS ON VEDIC MATHEMATICS

Sl.No.	Name of the Book	Authors	Publishers
1	2	3	4

ENGLISH

1.	Vedic Mathematics	judadguru Swami Shi Bharati Krisna Tirthaji Maharaja	Motilal Banarsidass
2.	Ancient Vedic Mathematics Pushp—I	Dr. Narindar Puri	Spiritual Science Series, Roorkee
3.	Ancient Vedic Mathematics Pushp — II	—do—	—do—
4.	Workshop on Vedic Mathematics	Dr. Narinder Puri	Rashtriya
		Dr. P. S. Mishra	Veda Vidya
		Dr. H.G. Sharma	Pratishthan
		Dr. G.S. Agarwal	(for private circulation only)
		Km. Pragathi Goel	
5.	Overview of Vedic Mathematics	Dr. Narinder Puri	—do—
6.	Application of Urdhva Sutra	A. P. Nicholas	Vedic Mathematics Research Group, London

1	2	3	4
7.	Lectures on Vedic Mathematics	K. Williams J. Pickles —do—	—do—
8.	Triples Vedic Mathematics	Kenneth Williams	—do—
9.	Discover Vedic Mathematics	—do—	—do—
10.	Glimpses of Vedic Mathematics	Dr. Narinder Puri	Spiritual Science Series Roorkee
11.	Notes of Workshop on Vedic Mathematics held at Roorkee	—do—	—do—
	HINDI		
	Vaidika Ganita Puspa — I	Dr. Narendra Puri	Spiritual Science Series Roorkee
	MARATHI		
	Vaidika Ganita Part I — IV	Dilip Kulkarni	Dilip Kulkarni
	GUJARAT		
	Vaidika Ganita Vidya	Dr. Narayan Kansara	Maharishi Academy of Vedic Sciences Ahmedabad.
	TELUGU		
	Vaidika Ganitam part I & II	T.S. Raju	

Proposal to set up Vishva Hindi Vidyapeeth

1958. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the Third World Hindi Conference in 1983, the then Prime Minister had announced the appointment of a Committee for establishing a Vishva Hindi Vidyapeeth;

(b) whether that Committee have prepared a draft Bill for setting up of the Vishva Hindi Vidyapeeth;

(c) if so, the main features of the draft bill, specially to facilitate the study of Hindi by foreign students;

(d) the progress made so far in this regard; and

(e) the time by which the Vidyapeeth is proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e). The draft bill for setting up the Vishva Hindi Vidyapeeth was prepared by a Sub-Committee constituted by the Ministry in pursuance of a decision taken in the meeting of the Karyakarani Upa Samiti of Hindi Shiksha Samiti held on 15.9.1983. The draft bill is largely modelled on the pattern of regular Universities. It provides for functionaries like Kuladhyaksha, Kuladhipati, Kulapati, Kulasachiva and bodies like the Sabha, the Prabandha Samiti, Vidya Parishad, Artha Samiti etc. It is envisaged that the Vidyapeeth could have jurisdiction extending to institutions within India and throughout the World. The comments of the

Chairman, U.G.C. received in this regard, were discussed in the last meeting of the Sub-Committee held on 17.8.88. The draft bill will be further reviewed in the light of these deliberations after studying all the related aspects.

Improvement of Highway Technology

1959. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to improve highway technology;

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

(c) whether there is also proposal to cut down cost and time over-run in the development of National Highways and construction of bridges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). The improvement of highway technology is a continuous process. Based on the feed back from field and on the results of the research studies the specifications and construction methodologies are improved.

(c) and (d). National Highway works including bridge works are closely monitored to cut down cost and time over-run. For this purpose, a Monitoring Cell has been set up.

Implementation of Operation Black-Board

1960. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in order to implement the Operation Black-Board Scheme in the North Eastern States Government proposed to bear 25 per cent of the total expenditure incurred so far;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) whether Sikkim is the most backward State amongst the North Eastern States;

(d) if so, whether the State of Sikkim is proposed to be given more attention while implementing the scheme; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). Under the scheme of Operation Blackboard, 100% Central assistance is given to States for the salary of additional teachers in single teacher schools and cost of essential teaching and learning equipment to be provided to primary schools. No Central assistance is given for

construction of school buildings. As the North-Eastern States expressed great difficulties in raising necessary resources for construction of school building under the scheme during the first phase in 1987-88, North Eastern Council agreed to consider meeting 25% of the requirement on cost of school buildings for the first phase only. These States namely, Assam, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura have been advised to send proposals in this regard to the Council.

(c) No sir, compared to other North Eastern States with regard to enrolment in primary and upper primary classes State-ment given below. Sikkim is not the most backward State.

(d) and (e). Considering that Sikkim is a small State, all the blocks were covered under the scheme of Operation Blackboard (in case of other States 20% of blocks were taken up for implementation) in 1987-88 and Central assistance of Rs. 41.57 lakhs was released for appointment of 45 additional teachers in single teacher schools and for provision of teaching learning material in 509 schools.

STATEMENT

North Eastern States of India	Literacy rate (1981)	Enrolment Ratio 1985-86		Enrolment Ratio 1986-87	
		Classes		Classes	
		I to V	VI to VIII	I to V	VI to VIII
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Assam	N.A.	89.75	65.92	90.22	65.47
2. Manipur	41.35	121.45	70.88	116.54	71.40
3. Meghalaya	34.08	101.55	56.48	98.96	56.40
4. Nagaland	42.57	122.55	53.86	118.14	51.86
5. Sikkim	34.05	128.34	54.48	128.42	57.13
6. Arunachal Pradesh	20.79	84.87	47.06	94.51	40.96
7. Mizoram	59.88	136.18	81.02	133.36	63.87

Source : Selected Educational Statistics 1985-86 and 1986-87, P. & M Unit, Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Setting up of Raw Material Directorates by SAIL

1961. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India has a proposal to establish raw material directorates; and

(b) if so, the number of directorates proposed to be set up and the details about their locations?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) SAIL proposes to establish a single Raw Material Directorate at the apex level which is expected to assume overall control of all the captive mines of SAIL including IISCO. The location of the headquarters of this Directorate has not yet been finalised.

Water Supply Project in Pench Valley

1962. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted any proposal for Water Supply Project in Pench Valley of Chhindwara District;

(b) if so, the total cost of this project and the amount of Central assistance to be given; and

(c) the time by which this project is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): (a) to (c). Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Depletion of Area under Cultivation of Paddy in Kerala

1963. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 3 November, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 130 regarding Foodgrain Production in Kerala and state:

(a) the extent of depletion of area under cultivation of paddy reported from Kerala during the last three years;

(b) whether Government are seized of the problem of alarming decrease of area under paddy cultivation in the States; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to stop diversion of rice fields to other crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The depletion of area under cultivation of paddy in Kerala during the last three years is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Paddy area cultivation (000'ha)</i>	<i>Depletion of paddy area over the previous year (000'ha)</i>
1985-86	678.3	52.1
1986-87	663.8	14.5
1987-88	604.1	59.7

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) To prevent the diversion of paddy area for the other purposes and for cultivating more remunerative crops like coconut, the Kerala Land Utilisation Order, 1967 is being enforced by the Kerala Government. Besides efforts are being made to make paddy cultivation more remunerative through the propagation of improved rice production technology.

Implementation of Central Sector Scheme of Minikit of Rice in Kerala

1964. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Scheme of Minikit of rice is being implemented in Kerala;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme;

(c) the areas in which the scheme is being implemented; and

(d) the number of farmers expected to be benefitted by the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the scheme paddy seed Minikit of newly evolved/released High Yielding Varieties are distributed amongst the farmers on nominal cost and state level training programmes are organised for extension workers in improved rice production technology.

(c) The scheme is being implemented all over the State through the State Govern-

ment.

(d) The benefits of the scheme accrue to the farmers both directly and indirectly. It is therefore difficult to quantify the number of farmers to be benefitted by the scheme. During 1988-89, 19,000 minikit demonstrations are to be conducted which will benefit an equal number of farmers directly. Besides a large number of other farmers will also be benefitted by these demonstrations and dissemination of the improved rice production technology.

[Translation]

Amount spent on Development of Shipping Industry

1965. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise break up of the amount spent by Government on development of Shipping Industry during 1986, 1987 and 1988;

(b) the number of cargo ships as on 31 December, 1987 and the number of cargo ships to be introduced by April, 1989;

(c) the amount proposed to be spent in the year 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(d) the names of the ports which have been developed in the last three years and the details in respect of the ports which have been developed and improved in the current financial year?"

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The Government have spent the following amounts for development of shipping industry:—

1986-87	Plan	—	Rs.	145.00	crores	—	Loan
	Non-Plan	—	Rs.	30.00	"	—	Subsidy
1987-88	Plan	—	Rs.	69.70	"	—	Loan
	Non-Plan	—	Rs.	6.00	"	—	Subsidy

(b) There were 362 ships as on 31.12.1987. During January, 1988 to September, 1988, 25 ships have been added to the Indian fleet. Another 35 ships are likely to be acquired during the remaining period of 1988-89.

(c) Amount proposed to be spent during 1988-89 is as follows:—

Loan	—	Rs.	95.56	crores
Subsidy	—	Rs.	9.19	"

The Annual Plan and Budget for the year 1989-90 are not yet finalised. It is therefore not possible to indicate the amount likely to be spent during 1989-90.

(d) There are at present 10 working major ports namely, Bombay, Madras, Mormugao, Paradip, Tuticorin Calcutta (including Haldia) Visakhapatnam, Cochin, Kandla, New Mangalore and one port namely Nhava Sheva Port under construction. The development and improvement of ports is a continuous process and various works relating to the developmental work in the ports are being executed every year including the current year. The 7th Five Year Plan provided a sum of Rs. 955 crores for the development of major ports including Rs. 402 crores for the construction of Nhava Sheva Port.

[English]

Direct Shipping Service between Indian and North-South Korea

1966. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT

be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for a direct shipping service between India and South/North Korea; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT
(SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Education for fishermen children

1967. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa Government has submitted to Union Government a proposal for establishment of 100 non-formal primary education centres for fishermen children with Norwegian Agency for International Development assistance;

(b) whether the project to set up these schools within five years commencing from 1987-88 was sanctioned by Union Government; and

(c) if so, the number of non-formal primary education centres set up so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL
YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The proposal to establish 100 fishery non-formal education centres for the children of marine fisherfolk in Orissa has been posed for the assistance of Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD). Their approval has not yet been received.

Dowryless Marriages

1969. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to encourage dowryless marriages; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). Government have initiated various steps to discourage the giving and taking of dowry. These include:

(i) Amendments were made to Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 in 1984 and 1986 and consequential amendments were made in the Criminal Laws, such as Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and Indian Evidence Act. Mass media campaigns against social evils have also been stepped up. Doordarshan and A.I.R. are being made use of to create social awareness among the people on the matter of dowryless marriages.

(ii) A number of income generating and economic development schemes under the Central Sector for women are being implemented by this Ministry through voluntary organisations and the Women's Development Corporations. These schemes enable

women to become economically independent and thus encourage dowryless marriages.

(iii) Under the Scheme of Education Work for Prevention of Atrocities against Women being implemented by the Department of Women & Child Development, women's voluntary organisations, institutions and universities are funded for organising legal literacy programmes and other projects for creating awareness of women's rights etc. Under this scheme, assistance is given to organisations working with women for their social uplift and betterment and for carrying out education work for the prevention of atrocities against women including atrocities and violence related to dowry demands

Job Oriented Course in Industrial Relation and Personnel Management in Delhi University

1970. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of colleges and number of students who are studying the job oriented course in Industrial Relation and Personnel Management under Delhi University;

(b) the details of colleges offering the above course at Post Graduate level and number of seats for the same;

(c) whether the seats in the Post Graduate colleges are sufficient as compared to the number of students at under graduate level;

(d) if not, the reasons for not introducing the Industrial Relation and Personnel Management Course at Post Graduate level in College of Vocational Studies; and

(e) the time by which this course is likely

to be introduced at Post Graduate level in College of Vocational Studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The following Colleges are offering job-oriented courses in Industrial Relations and Personnel Management under the University Grants Commission Scheme of re-structured courses at the B.A. (Pass) level with 40 seats in each College:

1. A.R.S.D. College
2. College of Vocational Studies
3. Deshbandhu College (Evening Classes)
4. Dyal Singh College (Evening Classes)
5. Hans Raj College
6. Indraprastha College for Women
7. Kamla Nehru College
8. Ramlal Anand College (Evening Classes)
9. Shaheed Bhagat Singh College
10. Shyam Lal College (Evening Classes)
11. Zakir Hussain College
12. G.D. Salwan College/Delhi College of Art & Commerce

(b) to (e). No College offers a separate course at Post Graduate level in Industrial Relations and Personnel Management. These subjects are included in the MBA programme offered by the Faculty of Man-

agement Studies.

Foodgrains production in Punjab

1971. SHRIKAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the targets set for foodgrains production in Punjab during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the extent to which the targets were achieved during the last three years;

(c) whether there has been a fall in the production of foodgrains in Punjab during this period;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the measures taken to step up production of foodgrains in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The target for the foodgrains production for Punjab during the Seventh Five Year Plan is 171 lakh tonnes.

(b) The estimates for total foodgrains production during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 are 171.89 lakh tonnes, 179.85 lakh tonnes and 170.65 lakh tonnes respectively. The estimate for 1987-88 is provisional.

(c) The decrease is only during 1987-88.

(d) This decrease was on account of adverse weather conditions.

(e) The major step taken is the launching of Special Foodgrains Production Programme which covers Punjab also.

**Recommendations made by Review
Committee of Kendriya Vidyalaya
Sangathan**

1972. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the recommendations made by the Review Committee on Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan which have been accepted by Government; and

(b) the action taken on each of the accepted recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAH): (a) and (b). The recommendations of Review Committee of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan are under consideration of the government.

**Socio-Economic development of
fishermen**

1973. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be

pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have introduced any scheme for the socio-economic development of the fishermen;

(b) if so, the names of the States where the scheme has been introduced;

(c) whether the scheme has been introduced in Orissa also; and

(d) if so, since when and the details of the benefits provided to the fishermen during the last three years under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (d). Six Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Socio-economic development of fishermen have been introduced. The names of States, year of implementation are furnished in the statement given below. The benefits provided to fishermen in Orissa during the last 3 years are shown against each scheme.

STATEMENT

Scheme	States	Year of implementation in Orissa	Benefits provided to fisherman in Orissa during the last 3 years (1985-86 to 1987-88)
1	2	3	4
1. Group Accident Insurance Scheme for active fishermen.	Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, J & K, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Goa.	1983-84	36,444 fishermen have been insured during 1987-88.
2. National Welfare Fund for fishermen.	Andhr Pradesh, Assam, Gujrat, 1987-88 J & K Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal Goa.	1987-88	100 houses, 5 tubewells, one community hall and one credit society have been sanctioned.
3. Introduction of improved beach landing craft for small fishermen.	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Orissa, Tamil Nadu.	1984-85	34 Beach Landing Craft have been sanctioned.
4. Motorisation of Traditional Craft.	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala Orissa, Tamil Nadu West Bengal, Goa.	1986-87	Sanctioned to motorise 139 traditional craft

	1	2	3	4
5.	Fish Farmers' Development Agencies.	All States except Meghalaya, Sikkim and Goa.	1976-77	11107 ha. water area has been brought under fish farming.
6.	Integrated Brackish water fish farm Development.	Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal Haryana, Rajasthan, and Punjab.	1983-84	Sanction has been issued to develop 82 ha. of Brackish water area.

Import of Sponge Iron

1974. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sponge iron being imported every year;

(b) the steps taken to reduce the import of sponge iron and make the country self-reliant and self-sufficient; and

(c) the details of the steps taken in Orissa for creation of additional capacity in steel production based on sponge-iron?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) The quantity of Sponge Iron/Hot Briquetted Iron imported during the last three years is as follows:

Year	
1985-86	92,000 tonnes
1986-87	358,000 tonnes
1987-88	110,000 tonnes

(b) The following steps have been taken to boost the growth of indigenous capacity for sponge iron and to reduce imports:—

- (i) Setting up of a demonstration Sponge Iron Plant for the first time in the country at Distt. Khammam, Andhra Pradesh.
- (ii) Sponge iron industry delicensed

with effect from March, 1985.

(iii) Linkage Committee set up in the Department of Steel to assist in getting coal and iron ore linkages for prospective units.

(iv) Coordination with Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for allocation of natural gas to prospective gas-based plants.

(c) Government have under consideration a proposal to allow additional steel making capacities predominantly based on sponge iron. This proposal is not specific to Orissa.

Development of Fishing Harbours

1975. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fishing harbours developed in each coastal State;

(b) whether there is any proposal to develop more harbours for promoting fisheries in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c). A list of the fishery harbours developed and those under construction in each of the maritime States/UTs is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

LIST OF FISHING HARBOURS COMMISSIONED (DEVELOPED) UNDER CONSTRUCTION

State/UT	Name of the Fishing harbours commissioned	Name of the Fishing harbours under construction.	Remarks
Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam— I & II Nizamapatnam	Kakinada Bavanapadu	Development of Visakhapatnam in III stage continuing
Gujarat	Veraval Mangrol Porbandar		
Kerala	Cochin Vizhinjam — I and II Neendakara	Puthiappa Thangassery Munambam	Development of Vizhinjam in Stage III continuing.
Karnataka	Malpe Honnavar Karwar	Mangalore Tadri	
Maharashtra		Sassoon Dock Ratnagiri	
Tamil Nadu	Madras Tuticorin Mallipatnam Kodiakarai Pazhayar Tondi	Chinnamuttom Vallinokkam	

State/UT	Name of the Fishing harbours commissioned	Name of the Fishing harbours under construction	Remarks
West Bengal	Royohipwl Digha		
Orissa	Dhamra	Nuagarh (Astarang).	
Pondicherry		Pondicherry	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands.	Phoenix Bay		

Progress made towards the Implementation of New Education Policy In Punjab

1976. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in the implementation of new education policy in Punjab since June, 1987;

(b) the difficulties experienced in the implementation of the new policy; and

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken to remove such difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Freight Equalisation Scheme for Steel

1977. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the freight equalisation scheme for steel;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which a decision will be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) However, the matter has been referred to the National Development Council.

[Translation]

Estimated production of Oil Seeds

1979. SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of oilseeds has increased this year in the country, if so, the total estimated production thereof and the extent to which it has been more as compared to the previous year;

(b) whether there is apprehension of loss to the growers due to fall in the prices of oilseeds as a result of more production;

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the import of edible oils in order to check the fall in prices and thus avoid possibility of loss to the farmers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Firm Estimates of production of oilseeds for Kharif 1988-89 are not yet due from the States and sowings of Rabi Oilseeds are in progress. However, due to favourable weather and seasonal conditions, the production of oilseeds in the country during 1988-89 is expected to be higher than the production of about 12.0 million tonnes in 1987-88.

(b) The prices of Oilseeds are being monitored very closely and National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) has been designated as the nodal agency to undertake price support operation when the prices tend to fall below the support

level. As such, there is no apprehension of loss to the growers.

(c) and (d). The quantum of edible oils imported is decided from time to time keeping in view the prices of edible oils in the international market, availability of indigenous edible oils in the international market, availability of indigenous edible oils vis-a-vis its prices in the domestic market, position of foreign exchange, demand from States/UTs and other related factors.

[English]

Failure of States to implement UGC Pay Scales

1980. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have not taken steps till date for the introduction of the University Grants Commission scales alongwith the names of the Universities concerned;

(b) the action taken by the University Grants Commission to persuade the State Governments for the introduction of these scales and whether Government are aware of any instance where any State Government has rejected the resolution passed by the Syndicate/Council of the University to implement the scales; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The scheme has to be implemented by the State Governments in re-

spect of all the Universities whose maintenance expenditure is met by them. According to information available so far, the State Governments which have decided to implement the scheme are: Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. The Governments of Jammu & Kashmir and Karnataka have decided to sanction the revised scales to University teachers only. Some of the remaining State Governments have been seeking additional information/clarifications from the Department of Education for consideration of the scheme. However, there has so far been no information about any decision taken by them.

(b) and (c). The decision to implement the scheme rests with the State Governments who are being requested from time to time to expedite their decisions. The Government have not received any information about the decisions taken by individual Universities on the implementation of the scheme and the reactions of the State Governments to such decisions.

Self-sufficiency in Oil Seeds

1981. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a target has been fixed to make the country self-sufficient in oil seeds by 1990;

(b) whether Government have given any incentives for encouraging oil seeds cultivation;

(c) whether coconut oil is the most commonly used edible oil in the south especially in Kerala; and

(d) if so, incentives given or proposed to be given by Government for coconut cultiva-

tion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The oilseeds production target of 18 million tonnes has been fixed for the terminal year of Seventh Five Year Plan i.e. 1989-90 to accelerate self-sufficiency in oilseeds in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. Two Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, National Oilseeds Devel-

opment Project (NODP) and Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP) are in operation in major oilseeds growing states. Under these schemes, incentives by way of financial assistance is provided to the States for critical inputs for inducing the farmers to take up oilseeds cultivation on large scale.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Incentives by way of subsidies being provided to coconut growers by the Government for coconut cultivation are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Subsidies provided to Coconut Growers

<i>Name of the Programme</i>	<i>Rate of subsidy</i>
(i) Scheme for Integrated Farming in coconut small holdings in Kerala for productivity improvement	
(a) subsidy to cut and remove senile, diseased and unproductive palms.	(a) Rs. 75/- per palm cut and removed by the farmers.
(b) subsidy on cost of planting material for re-planting of senile, diseased and unproductive farms with genetically superior planting material.	(b) 50% on the cost of planting material.
(c) subsidy on the cost of construction of irrigation sources and/or installation of irrigation pumpsets.	(c) 25% on the cost or Rs. 1000/- whichever is less.
(d) subsidy on planting material for promoting multi-species cropping including legumes, fodder grasses and energy plantations.	(d) 50% of the cost of planting material
(ii) Scheme for Expansion of area under coconut farmers.	(ii) Rs. 3000/- per ha. to coconut growers particularly to small and marginal

Construction of New Yard for SAIL in Kerala

1982. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of steel required for house construction in Kerala;

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet this shortage;

(c) whether there is a proposal to construct a new yard of steel Authority of India Limited in Kerala; and

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) No specific complaint has been received about alleged shortage of steel for house building purposes in Kerala.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal of Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) to open a new stockyard in Kerala.

New Subjects Introduced at NDRI, Karnal

1983. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new subjects were introduced in National Dairy Research Institute at Karnal during Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total amount spent by National Dairy Research Institute and National Institute of Animal Genetics at Karnal during last three years; and

(c) the number of students studying in National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal and how many are from foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One year Post Graduate Diploma in Analytical Research Techniques was started in 1985 in N.D.R.I.

The details of students admitted and passed out in this Diploma Course are given below:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of students admitted</i>	<i>No. of students passed</i>
1	2	3
1985	12	12
1986	7	6 (one left the course)

Services of the existing staff of the Institute and facilities available in various Divisions were utilized for teaching. The expenditure was limited to Rs. 4,000/- during the last 3 years.

The National Institute of Animal Genetics does not run teaching programmes.

(c) The number of students including those from foreign countries studying at NDRI, Karnal is given below:

<i>Course</i>	<i>No. of students studying in NDRI, Karnal</i>	<i>Foreigners</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
B. Sc. Dairying	104	—
M. Sc. Dairying	90	9
Ph. D Dairying	118	1

Import of Pesticides by Andhra Pradesh

1984. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have permitted Andhra Pradesh to import Triazophos and Methomy pesticides for protecting cotton crops in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). Having regard to the request of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, the Registration Committee, constituted under the Insecticides Act, 1968, has permitted import of 400 kilo liters of Triazophos 60% liquid concentrate and 98 M.T. of Methomyl technical for the control of bollworms and white fly of cotton in Andhra Pradesh. These chemicals are to be used before the 28th February, 1989.

Progress made under different schemes of education

1985. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DE-

VELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for the Seventh Five Year Plan in respect of universalisation of elementary education, Operation Blackboard, Non-formal education programme, establishment of District Institute of Education and Training and development of new text books by NCERT for elementary level;

(b) the achievements made so far in respect of the above schemes; and

(c) the funds required and released to the States State-wise for the above schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan aims at universalisation of elementary education.

Operation Blackboard: To strengthen the primary school system, the scheme of Operation Blackboard has been formulated and launched during 1987-88. The scheme seeks to cover primary schools in all blocks/Municipal areas in the country in a phased manner by 1990.

Non-formal Education: On the basis of Na-

tional Policy on Education 1986, the scheme of Non-formal Education which was earlier being run in the nine educationally backward States was reorganised and expanded in 1987 to include Arunachal Pradesh as the tenth State and to urban slums, hilly, desert, tribal areas and areas with concentration of working children in all other States/UTs. The target for this scheme was fixed at 3550 projects (3,55,000 Non-formal Education centres approximately) by 1990.

District Institutes of Education and Training: The setting up of District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) as a part of centrally sponsored scheme of Teacher Education was taken up in 1987-88. It is proposed to set up 400 DIETs during the Seventh Plan period.

Development of Text Books by NCERT: It was decided that NCERT should prepare text books to reflect the priorities of the NPE on a three-year programme beginning in 1987-88. The schedule for preparation of new text books is as shown below:—

- (i) 1987-88 — Classes, I, II & VI
- (ii) 1988-89 — Classes II, IV & VII
- (iii) 1989-90 — Classes V & VIII

(b) *Operation Blackboard:* During 1987-88, funds were released to States to

implement the scheme of Operation Blackboard in 1,13,417 primary schools in the country which forms more than 21 percent of the schools.

Non-formal Education: During 1987-88, sanction was given to run 1,93,463 non-formal centres to 15 States/UTs, and 104 voluntary agencies. In addition, sanction was given to 8 experimental and innovative projects relating to elementary education including Non-formal Education.

District Institutes of Education and Training: Central assistance for setting up 103 DIETs has been sanctioned so far, including 1 under BADEP.

Development of Text Books by NCERT: Text books for classes I, III and VI were developed during 1987-88.

(c) It was estimated that a sum of Rs. 742.38 crores would be required under the scheme of Operation Blackboard, Rs. 230.75 crores under the scheme of Non-formal Education and Rs. 288.59 crores for setting up of DIETs under the 7th Plan. No funds have been projected as requirements for Development of Text Books by NCERT.

Funds released under the above schemes are given Statewise in the Statements I, II, III and IV below.

STATEMENT I

1. State-wise release of funds under Operation Blackboard

(1987-88) (Rs. in lakhs)

1. Andhra Pradesh	621.62
2. Assam	826.69
3. Bihar	1868.41
4. Gujarat	466.43

	(1987-88) (Rs. in lakhs)
5. Haryana	62.93
6. Himachal Pradesh	148.75
7. Jammu & Kashmir	156.90
8. Karnataka	168.67
9. Kerala	151.11
10. Madhya Pradesh	1194.10
11. Maharashtra	545.03
12. Manipur	38.03
13. Meghalaya	78.37
14. Nagaland	25.66
15. Orissa	753.00
16. Punjab	334.11
17. Rajasthan	1175.55
18. Sikkim	41.57
19. Tamil Nadu	480.80
20. Tripura	42.12
21. Uttar Pradesh	1759.43
22. Arunachal Pradesh	63.17
23. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1.99
24. Delhi	32.39
25. Goa	12.03
26. Lakshadweep	0.48
27. Mizoram	11.80
	11061.14

(1987-88) (Rs. in lakhs)

State-wise release of funds under Operation Blackboard as on 21-11-1988 (1988-89)

1. West Bengal	384.34
2. Tamil Nadu	252.51
3. Karnataka	126.87
4. Bihar	738.18
5. Punjab	68.51

STATEMENT — II

State-wise release of funds for Non-Formal Education Year 1987-88 (Rs. In Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Non-Formal Edun. programme for 9-14 age group (50:50 pattern)	Non-Formal Edun. centres exclusively for girls (90:10 pattern)	Vol. Organisations and Academic Insitts for NFE (100% pattern)
1	2	3	4	5
EDUCATIONAL BACKWARD STATES				
1.	Andhra Pradesh	256.90	51.25	33.85
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
3.	Assam	129.65	52.37	—
4.	Bihar	721.48	309.28	0.63
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	178.40	162.20	8.72
7.	Orissa	84.81	15.30	135.28
8.	Rajasthan	99.09	84.27	18.92
9.	Uttar Pradesh	499.24	583.09	25.59
10.	West Bengal	288.07	39.11	—

1	2	3	4	5
NON-EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD STATES				
11.	Gujarat	—	—	2.75
12.	Haryana	7.52	3.94	2.56
13.	Karnataka	16.30	7.49	—
14.	Kerala	—	—	1.50
15.	Maharashtra	—	—	12.00
16.	Mizoram	1.90	0.28	—
17.	Tamil Nadu	4.72	2.30	5.72
UNION TERRITORIES				
18.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.18	—	—
19.	Chandigarh	0.84	0.45	—
20.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2.05	—	—
21.	Delhi	—	—	5.31.

STATEMENT —III

State-wise release of funds for Non-/Formal Education 1988-89 (As on 21.11.1988) (Rs. In lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of State/UTs	Non-Formal Edun. programmes for 9-14 age-group (50:50 pattern)	Non-Formal Edun. centres exclusively for girls (90:10 pattern)	Grants to Vol. organisations & Academic Insttns; for non-formal elementary programme (100% pattern)
1	2	3	4	5

EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD STATES

1.	Andhra Pradesh	198.12	15.76	3.76
2.	Bihar	—	—	3.25
3.	Madhya Pradesh	—	—	5.84
4.	Orissa	105.02	45.07	39.06
5.	Rajasthan	—	—	9.57
6.	Uttar Pradesh	11.76	160.49	15.92
7.	West Bengal	—	—	8.00

1	2	3	4	5
NON-EDUCATIONALLY BACKWARD STATES				
8.	Mizoram	1.13	0.16	—
9.	Gujarat	—	—	52.84
10.	Haryana	—	—	10.24
11.	Maharashtra	—	—	55.20
12.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	5.12
13.	Delhi	—	—	5.37

STATEMENT —IV

State-wise release of funds for setting up of District Institutes of Education and Training

S.No.	Name of the States/UT	(Rs in lakhs)			
		1987-88	1988-89		
1	2	3	4		
1.	Orissa	149.85	15.00		
2.	Rajasthan	255.00	21.00		
3.	Gujarat	220.17	21.00		
4.	Punjab	108.55	9.00		
5.	Delhi	21.0	—		
6.	Andhra Pradesh	267.76	27.00		
7.	Kerala	60.74	6.00		
8.	Madhya Pradesh	448.42	45.00		
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	150.35	15.00		
10.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.7	3.00		
11.	Tamil Nadu	208.7	21.00		

1	2	3	4
12.	West Bengal	132.69	15.00
13.	Assam	182.75	18.00
14.	Uttar Pradesh	536.46	60.00
15.	Haryana	66.5	—
16.	Mizoram	31.5	—
17.	Sikkim	—	35.50
Total		2876.14	311.50

(exclu. amount
under BADEP).

Asylum to Burmese refugees

1986. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Burmese refugees who have crossed over to Manipur have been given asylum in India; and

(b) if so, the nature of the asylum granted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). Burmese nationals crossing into India have been allowed to stay temporarily in camps.

Import of Coal from Poland

1987. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to import coal from Poland;

(b) if so, what are the terms, the quantity to be imported and the value thereof; and

(c) the reasons for such import of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). Steel Authority of India Ltd. have been importing low ash metallurgical coal from Poland. In the current year, SAIL concluded a contract for purchase of 5 lakh tonnes of coking coal from Poland under the Indo-Polish Trade Protocol.

It will not be in the commercial interest of SAIL to divulge the terms and value of this purchase.

(c) The import has been resorted to in order to meet with both the quantity as well

as the technological requirements of the steel plants.

Per Capita consumption of foodgrains

1988. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether per capita consumption of the foodgrains is on the increase; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the availability of foodgrains particularly for the rural and urban labour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The per capita net availability of foodgrains, which was estimated at 476.1 grams per day in 1986, has declined during the succeeding two years due mainly to shortfall in production.

(b) Steps are being taken to increase production of foodgrains in the country to improve availability. To augment the domestic supplies, imports are also being allowed. Foodgrains are distributed at subsidised rates to the consumers, particularly the vulnerable sections of the population.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a substantive motion against the Governor of Andhra Pradesh (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you shouting?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have it. It is under my consideration. I have asked for certain information. When I receive it, I will decide.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: In the meanwhile, the Governor is flouting the decision of the Court... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad): There is a constitutional process, it has to be observed. (*Interruptions*). Today the Governor has rejected the advice of the Council of Ministers. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The High Court has said that there is no disqualification... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: After I get the information, I will decide.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: All of you are speaking at the same time. Will any lady pay heed to me? I am asking every individual and if one person speaks at a time, I will be in a position to answer his query and something may come out.

(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: Let us wait.

[*Translation*]

You have again started speaking without my permission.

[*English*]

How can I decide whom to listen and what to say?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Again you are shouting. You can speak when I ask you to speak.

(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER: It is very serious.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, look here, it might be serious, but I have to listen first. How do I know whether it is serious or not when I cannot listen to it?

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Notices are given

MR. SPEAKER: Notices might be given.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal): Sir, these Benches are receiving attention... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Does not matter. This bench or that bench does not concern me. For me all benches are equal. I say that I have got your substantive motion, I have written for particulars and when I get, I will decide it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You can listen to me. As per practice I am doing it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: My motion is against the Governor and you are writing to the Governor.

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am not writing to the Governor. I am asking for certain information and I will decide.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Again all of you are speaking.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, all of you speak, I can't listen. Nobody is allowed. Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I think, it is enough now. Until and unless I allow somebody, I am not going to listen. I cannot listen. I do not have 100 ears. I have got only two ears and I can listen to only one person and that too, with my permission. It is that simple. Will you listen or not?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All right. Go ahead. Shout again. Shout at the top of your voice, whatever you can.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You also shout; and you also shout. I do not deny you the privilege of shouting.

Without my permission, nothing goes on record. Irrelevant, irresponsible.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: I can allow one person and I can answer. Not like this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is no question of point of order. I have not allowed anybody.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Professor Saheb, you are exceeding your limits. I have told you once for all that I will decide according to the rules and according to the precedents. I allowed the motion against Mr. Ramlal and I might allow this. But, I have to go through the process which I have initiated. So simple it is. I have told you so many times. I am going to do it according to the rules. I am not going to be cowed down like this.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: High Court has said that there is no disqualification.

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever may be the case, I have to go through the rules. There is no question. I am not shielding anybody.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Professor Saheb, I have told you so many times. You are a seasoned parliamentarian. I respect you so much but you shout the most.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am very much perturbed about it. I want decorum in this House. I will listen to one of you, not all of you. I told you also.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you that I am going through the process and when I reach a decision, I will tell you. So simple it is. This would not have taken one minute even. I told you at that time. This is all unnecessary.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. I will listen to you also. Let us have some decorum. Let us behave like hon. Members of the House.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil): A Member of this House, Mr. Vijayaraghavan was beaten by the Kerala Police.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Basheer, I have already got a privilege motion on that.

SHRI T. BASHEER: Please bear with me for one minute. I seek your protection. For the safety of Members...

MR. SPEAKER: I am giving you the protection.

(Interruptions)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): The Kerala police .. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER. Now you are violating it. He is already on the job. Again, you are shouting in between. He is the Member who has been allowed, not you.

SHRI T. BASHEER: I have given a notice... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: At least it must be maintained here. You are not maintaining it here. How can they maintain it there?

SHRI T. BASHEER: I have given a notice of privilege regarding this.

MR. SPEAKER: I am looking into it. I will take every care of the respect of every hon. Member of this House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Again all of you are

shouting.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are irresponsible people. I can listen to one of you.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Yesterday an hon. Member of Parliament was assaulted by the jail authorities.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. I sympathise with him. I am perturbed about it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: The Minister assured Mr. Amal Datta that he would make a statement... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I have allowed Mr. Acharia.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have the fullest respect though, according to the Constitution, Article 105, he is a Member of the other House. But it does not matter...

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: He is a Member of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: That is what I am saying. According to this, they will be able to take care of any privilege motion there. If the Minister has said anything to you, it is his honours to vindicate it. I do not deny that. I am fully in sympathy in safeguarding the respect of each and every Member of this House.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now listen. I will allow only one person.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Acharia, behave yourself. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing goes on record.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Buta Singh is on his legs.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (S. BUTA SINGH): As you have very kindly observed, the incident took place in front of Tihar jail yesterday. I had assured the hon. Member Shri Amal Datta that I will look into the whole thing. If the officers are found guilty, we will take action against them. Similarly, sir, I also request you kindly to allow us to get the facts from Kerala. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How? *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Both are Members of Parliament. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I want decorum in this House. I will not listen to any person if all of you speak together.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad): Sir, three days ago, I gave notice of a Substantive Motion. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: All right. But why are you talking amongst yourself?

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: You were kind enough to observe that you are considering that Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to reopen it. I have already said that I am proceeding according to the rules. I did earlier also in the case of Mr. Ram Lal. He was the Governor of Andhra Pradesh too.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Yes, Sir, but I would like to submit that it is a very serious matter.

MR. SPEAKER: You can tell anything you like. But I have to go through the process. I am seized of the situation. Believe me, when I get the information...

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU (Bobbili): How many days are required, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot say that. But I will do it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It doesn't matter. Heavens will not fall. I will do it.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Tomorrow is the last day of this week.

MR. SPEAKER: It doesn't matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Again you are speaking unnecessarily. Please sit down.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar): Sir, I seek your protection. In Kashmir Valley, four million people, this time, are suffering from acute electricity shortage. There is a complete break down of power supply. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Kabuli-ji, this was already raised.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: This is a very important matter. Tourism is completely disrupted. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Kabuli, please sit down. I have already heard about it. We have already written about it. Please sit down.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Kindly intervene. The Minister must visit the Kashmir Valley. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Don't you understand that we have already written about it?

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: The hon. Energy Minister must visit Kashmir Valley.

MR. SPEAKER: I am saying that we have already written about it. What sort of a person you are!

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already done it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, withdraw from the House.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: This is my request on behalf of the four million people of the Kashmir Valley. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have said that I have already done it.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Sir, please see this. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I always read newspapers early in the morning. I know what it is.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already done it. I have already written to the Minister in charge.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am going to name you, if you do not sit down. I have already done it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, withdraw from the House, if you do not behave properly.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: We seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER: I give you protection. But you violate all the rules. Now, you please sit down. I don't like this kind of a behaviour on your part.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You have already come here. There is no other place to go beyond this atleast in India. This is the highest place in India. Day before yesterday, we did it.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This is the highest place where you can go in India.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: The

situation is most acute.

12.19 hrs.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Should I say it with folded hands that I have set the things right. Now please be seated.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA (Karnal): In Haryana 150 people have fallen prey to the terrorist activities since past one and a half year. There is an old saying that when Rome was burning Nero was fiddling. In Haryana the terrorists are playing with the lives of the masses... (*Interruptions*) and the hon. Chief Minister is touring the other places. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a State subject.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Pandit-ji, please listen to me now. This is a State Subject. This can be raised in the State Assembly. They can do it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: We are in Parliament. The entire Central Government is present here.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I have to run the Parliament according to the rules and not according to your wish.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Papers to be Laid.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

Notification under Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act and Aluminium (Control) Amendment Order, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 28 of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957:—

(i) S.O. 758 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th August, 1988 containing Order directing that the powers under rule 22C (4) of the Mineral concession Rules, 1960 framed under section 13 of the said Act, shall also be exercisable by the Joint Secretary of the Government of India in the Department of Mines.

(ii) S.O. 952 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 1988 making certain amendments in the Order published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1366 dated the 12th December, 1959.

(iii) S.O. 953 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th October, 1988 authorising the Geological Survey of India to carry out detailed investigation and exploration in Karnataka for the purpose of obtaining such information as may be necessary in the areas specified in the Table annexed to the Notification. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—6760/88]

- (2) A copy of the Aluminium (Control) Amendment Order, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 1056 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 17th November, 1988, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—6761/88]

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): If Shri Madhav Reddi has given any motion, it should not be admitted because... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It has nothing to do with your job. It is irrelevant. It is out of order. It is my job. It is not your job. Why are you shouting?

[Translation]

Why are you doing like this? *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Naik, You are not doing my job. You are not the chosen Speaker.

(Interruptions)

SHRISHANTARAM NAIK: I want to say something...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No. I don't need you help. I will ask if I need it.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to what Pandit Chiranji Lal said regarding Haryana, you said that it is a State subject. We understand it but had this taken place in normal circumstances and had there been a problem, of law and order, then it could have been termed as a State subject. But the condition is extremely bad there. *(Interruptions)*.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I know how it hurts. I am not going to listen to this. I am not going to allow this.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: The Hon. Member is not going on record. I am not going to flout the rules for your sake. No. I am not going to flout the rules for you. So simple it is. Sit down. *(Interruptions)* Nobody goes on record.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not talk amongst yourselves.

[English]

No cross talk is allowed.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I Know what it means when innocent persons are being killed. I know what it means to be hurt. We must eradicate this and the Home Minister will take action.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): According to your advice, I have given a notice under Rule 193 regarding an allegation made by one Cabinet Minister... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Notice under Rule 193 cannot be discussed here. You come to me, I will go through it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: All of you must behave.
You must all conform to the rules.

12.20 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—*CONTD.*

[*English*]

**Annual Report of and Review on
Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya,
Bhopal for 1985-86 and a
Statement re. delay in
Laying these Papers**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND
CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P.
SHAHI): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya Bhopal, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya, Bhopal, for the year 1985-86.

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6762/88]

Notification under Multi-State Cooperative Societies Act Delhi Cooperative Societies Act and Fertiliser (Control) (Fourth Amendment) Order, 1988

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND
COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL

YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (i) A copy of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies (Registration, Membership, Direction and Management, Settlement of Disputes, Appeal and Revision) Amendment Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1001 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1988, under sub-section (3) of section 109 of the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 1984. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6763/88]
- (2) A copy of the Delhi Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Rules, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. 16 (9)/80/Coop/Legal in Delhi Gazette dated the 9th September, 1988, under sub-section (3) of section 97 of the Delhi Co-operative Societies Act, 1972. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6764/88]
- (3) A copy of the Fertiliser (Control) (Fourth Amendment) Order, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. S.O. 940 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th October, 1988, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6765/88]

12.22 1/2 hrs.

ELECTION TO COMMITTEE

[*English*]

Coconut Development Board

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND

COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section 4 (e) of Section 4 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coconut Development Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section 4 (e) of Section 4 of the Coconut Development Board Act, 1979, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Coconut Development Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted

12.23 hrs.

DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBER ON GROUND OF DEFECTION

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have to make the following announcement:

Whereas Shri Ram Pyare Panika, MP, filed before me a Petition on the 21st July, 1987, under paragraph 6 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution of India and rule 6 of the Members of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on ground of Defection) Rule, 1985, praying that the Speaker, Lok Sabha, be

pleased to declare that Shri Lalduhoma, MP, has become subject to disqualification as per provisions contained in the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution.

Whereas the said petition was referred by me to the Committee of Privileges, Lok Sabha, on 16th November, 1987, under rule 7 (4) of the Members of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on ground of Defection) Rules, 1985, for making a preliminary inquiry and submitting a Report to me.

Whereas the Committee of Privileges having carefully examined the evidence tendered and documents produced by the petitioner and his witnesses as also by the respondent, submitted their Report to me on 14th October, 1988.

Whereas I gave an opportunity to Shri Lalduhoma to present his case in person before me on 15th November, 1988.

Now, therefore, taking into account all the facts and circumstances of the case, the Report of the Committee of Privileges, the submissions made by Shri Laldhuma and in accordance with the provisions of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution I hereby decide, declare and order as follows:-

In exercise of powers conferred upon me under paragraph 6 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution of India, I, B.R. Jakkhar, Speaker, Lok Sabha, hereby decide that Shri Lalduhoma, an elected member of Lok Sabha from Mizoram constituency, has incurred disqualification in terms of paragraph 2(1) (a) of the said Schedule for being a member of Lok Sabha by voluntarily giving up his membership of Congress (I)-his original political party.

Accordingly, Shri Lalduhoma has ceased to be a member of Lok Sabha with immediate effect.

12.25 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

(I) Demand for Steps for Prevention of Perennial floods and Drought In Orissa

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): Orissa is the only State in the country in which certain districts have always been either flood or drought prone. If these neighbouring districts are paired for prevention of flood and drought by inter-basin transfer of river water, the flood prone districts of Cuttack, Puri, Balasore and Sambalpur and adjoining drought stricken districts of Ganjam, Bolangir, Kalahandi and Koraput will be much benefited as in these drought prone districts the existing rivers are only monsoon rivers with meagre surface run off.

As a first step Suvarna Rekha, Mahanadi, Rushikulya, Bahuda, Ghodahad, Bansidhara should be linked up under water basin transfer of water to prevent floods in flood prone districts and provide irrigation in perennially drought prone districts of eastern Orissa through Garland Canal Scheme. Similarly, in western Orissa also the rivers should be linked to provide an inter-basin transfer of rivers of Tel, Ib etc. The water basins in Orissa have, thus, to be surveyed and linked.

In future this should form a part of All India or at least Inter-State Irrigation grids.

(ii) Demand for extending the micro-wave link upto Mangalore to enable people of Cannanore, Wynad and Kasargod to see Malayalam TV Programmes

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore): At present facility for transmission of Malayalam programmes is

available only in certain transmission centres of Kerala. Thus a large number of people particularly in the districts of Cannanore, Wynad and Kasargod are not able to get benefit of this facility.

While national programmes telecast in Hindi and English have their importance, the utility of TV as a powerful medium will be reduced very much if the people do not get the facility to see the programmes in their mother tongue. In order to achieve this purpose it is highly essential to extend these facilities to all the areas in the State.

The micro-wave link has been extended from Trivandrum to Calicut recently. If this link is extended upto Mangalore people from all the districts mentioned above will be able to see programmes in Malayalam.

I would therefore request that immediate steps be taken to extend the microwave link to Mangalore so that Malayalam programmes can be seen in Cannanore, Wynad and Kasargod districts in Kerala also.

[*Translation*]

(iii) Demand to sanction the Mohane river project in Bihar

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH (Chatra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Mohane river project of Bihar has been lying pending for the last one decade. This is situated in the plateau region of Gaya district adjacent to Chota Nagpur and has vast water resources. Mohane is perennial river and another important river is Dandva which is its tributary.

On the basis of a Government scheme, a huge dam will be constructed on Taitaria and Magra hill. More than 50 thousand hectares land will be irrigated under this scheme. This will also irrigate Mohanpur, Varachatti, Wazirganj, Atri, Bodhgaya and Fatehpur in Gaya district. These areas are such where the farmers have to depend solely on rains for their cultivations. If this

project is completed, it will solve a big problem of lakhs of farmers and their lives will become prosperous. Besides there is most important proposal of power generation under this project. More than 100 mega watts electricity will be generated on completion of this dam. The importance of hydro-electricity cannot be ignored keeping in view the present day environment problem. Although every area of Bihar is comparatively very poor, yet among the Chota Nagpur, Santhal Paragana and Gaya district, this plateau region is worst hit by poverty. Therefore, my submission is that the Government should fulfil rest of the formalities of Mohane river project and complete the same.

(iv) Demand to abolish the taxes and levies on the musical instruments

SHRI U.H. PATEL (Bulsar): Music, as it is felt at times, is not a means of luxury and indulgence. Music is rather a means of entertainment, a supplement of science, a means of education which is enjoyed by the poor, the rich, young, old, men and women alike. Therefore in earlier times various facilities used to be given to the good musicians in order to encourage them and show respect for music. They used to enjoy special position in the palaces of kings and various kinds of concessions were given for the purchase of musical instruments like *tabla*, *dholak*, *harmonium*, *dilruba*, *sitar*, *sarod*, *violin* etc. and carry them from one place to another. But it is sorry state of affairs that now for the sale purchase and transport of such musical instruments, various kinds of taxes, levies etc. are imposed due to which they are becoming expensive. The poor and the middle-class people are unable to purchase the musical instruments. If this situation is allowed to continue, then music will gradually vanish. Keeping this thing in view, there is a world wide demand to abolish sales tax, income tax and all other taxes and levies on the sale, purchase and transport of all musical instruments. Besides, special concession should also be provided in order to encourage the usage of these instruments.

Therefore my submission to the Government is that immediate attention should be paid to it and this appropriate demand of the public should be acceded to at the earliest so that one may enjoy music to the maximum.

(v) Demand for re-scheduling the timings of 2 JPR and 5 JPR railway trains

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonepat): Thousands of daily rail passengers travel from Jeend, Safedon, Marlora and other stations to Panipat by 2 JPR train of North Railway. These passengers go to attend offices and work in factories. This train starts at 4 AM from Jeend and reaches Panipat at 6 AM. The daily passengers face a lot of problems due to the present timetable of this train because passengers have to reach the railway stations from remote villages in order to catch the train at 4 AM. and they reach Panipat quite early. Similarly, 5 JPR train starts at about 8.30 PM. from Panipat and after passing through various stations, reaches Jeend at 10.25 PM. The passengers travelling through this train reach their villages quite late at night from different railway stations and face a lot of problems.

If the timings of these two trains are re-scheduled and 2 J.P.R. train is started at 5.30 AM from Jeend and 5 JPR train at 6 PM from Panipat then thousands of daily rail passengers will be benefited. Therefore, the hon. Railway Minister may kindly issue order for the re-scheduling of timing of these two trains.

(vi) Demand for adequate financial assistance for proper maintenance of museums in the country

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI (Rajkot): Various kinds of museums are established in various places of the country by Government, semi-Government institutes and public trusts.

[Smt. Patel Ramaben Ramjibhai Mavani]

These museums provide a lot of useful material to the public and research scholars on subjects like history, geography, public administration, language, general knowledge, science etc. These museums are the most important basis of education but the economic condition of these museums is deteriorating these days. At certain places it is getting difficult to run the museums which are run by public trusts due to lack of income or income arising from token admission fee because heavy expenditure is incurred on their maintenance and salary of the employees.

Therefore, such museums should get full assistance from the Government and liberal aids and grants-in-aid should be provided to them. The Government should also provide cent-percent maintenance expenditure, remuneration of employees etc. so that the useful museums get encouragement and may be run properly.

[English]

(vii) Demand for re-starting Kamala Mill, Bombay promptly

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): Kamala Mill at Bombay suddenly closed down on 7th November 1988 sending shock wages among its 3,000 workers on the eve of Diwali.

Workers who went to the mill for the first shift, found the premises locked and a notice put up at the gate that closure had become inevitable because of financial problems.

In fact, the mill showed a turnover of Rs. 1,522 lakhs last year as against Rs. 956 lakhs in the previous year. Exports last year totalled Rs. 917 lakhs. It was to pay nearly 36 lakhs as bonus on 7th November 1988 and workers were given bonus-slips a day before.

I urge upon the Government to take over the Kamala Mill or to use powers under

the law to restart it promptly. Sudden closures in this way have become a usual feature in the textile industry in recent years. Government should take a serious note of it.

(viii) Demand for introducing Howercraft service along the Konkan region

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): Access to Gao from Bombay is through the hilly west coast and there is no railway facility for linking the two places. Chances of providing the railway facility are remote in view of hilly terrain, at least in the near future.

Three districts of Maharashtra, i.e., Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg fall in this zone which covers a distance of 600 kms. An average of two hundred buses carry about six thousand passengers a day to meet the requirement of this zone. Presently, there is a steamer service of the Shipping Corporation. However, this is found completely inadequate as it does not stop at major ports such as Jaigad, Ratnagiri, Devgad, Malwan, Achare and Vengurla. It operates non-stop service from Bombay to Goa. These steamers are incurring losses of about one crore rupees to the Central and State Governments.

Many private companies have asked the Government for permission to start Howercraft service. They are prepared to provide stoppages at all stations. I, therefore, request the Government to introduce the Howercraft service along Konkan region.

(ix) Demand for installing telephone meters besides telephone instruments at the users' place instead of keeping all meters in telephone exchanges

SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM (Tenali): Telephone-metering is done in the telephone exchanges behind the back of the user who is many a time a helpless victim to the whims and fancies of its operator and he

is subjected to very heavy bills which may not be entirely his own. To appeal against it, one has to pay the entire amount, and allowing the appeal and return of the amount is only a rarity. I have been suggesting to the Government to fix the telephone meter at the place of its user itself instead of keeping all the meters at one point in the telephone exchange. The user will know the number of calls he has made and will use the telephone accordingly to his needs. I had suggested that like electricity and a card noting the monthly consumption should be maintained by an inspector of the telephone department. But it has not been accepted by the Government on the ground of paucity of funds. Rs. 1,700 crores have been earmarked for 1988-89 for modernisation of telecommunications. Hence, I request that my suggestion may be taken up during 1988-89 as part of modernisation programme.

12.39 hrs.

COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY (AMENDMENT) BILL—*Contd.*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are now going to item No. 7. Already we have taken one hour and forty minutes. Only twenty minutes are left over. However, I request the Members to be very brief while speaking their view-points.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this Bill is another attempt to pervert the course of justice in this country. And in its objective of stifling all legitimate comments and criticism of any commission of inquiry, it seems to me that this is nothing but a mini-Defamation Bill.

In this country, we cannot and ought not to create islands of non-accountability. No one should be put consciously in ivory tower

and nobody should be treated as special class of citizens which this Bill seeks to achieve. Significantly by this amendment, the substantive law, as contained in Section 10-A of the main Act, is not being changed. And only a new procedure is being laid down. One would like to find out what is the reason which has promoted the Government. Along with the Bill, the Government has to submit a Statement of Objects and Reasons. If you go through the statement of Objects and Reasons, you will try in vain to find any justification which has been given for introducing this amendment. As a matter of fact, I find the recent tendency is that the Statements of Objects and Reason are treated by this Government as mere formalities. There is hardly even a lip service paid to the parliamentary norms and traditions. The result is that we do not know why a particular legislation is brought. This Government takes everything for granted because of its majority in the House and the Bills are sought to be introduced and passed without even taking the people into confidence as to the necessity of passing the Bills.

This Bill relates to the Commissions of Inquiry. The Commissions of Inquiry are not judicial bodies; these are not courts of law; these are merely fact finding bodies and they cannot adjudicate anything. On its own, the reports of these Commissions of Inquiry have no effect. The Commission has no teeth of its own. It is for the Government to accept or not to accept the findings of the Commissions of Inquiry and if the Government does not choose to accept, it need not give an explanation why it does not accept.

Although sometimes, the members of the Commissions of Inquiry are selected from the highest judiciary, they do not necessarily discharge and judicial function, nor do they act like judicial bodies. The Supreme Court has said in the well known case of Ramakrishnan Dalmia and if I may quote:

"... the only power that the Commission has is to enquire and make a report and embody therein its recommendations. The Commission has no power of adjudication in the sense of

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee] passing an order which can be enforced *proprio-vigore*..... The Commission is merely to investigate and record its findings and recommendations without having any power to enforce them. The enquiry or report cannot be looked upon as judicial enquiry in the sense of its being an exercise of judicial function properly so-called."

This is the observation of the Supreme Court of India. Therefore, one would wonder why the present amendment is being brought to provide a special type of procedure for persons who are not discharging judicial functions, when such a procedure is not open to the persons in the courts of law. The real object seems to be that the Government wants to ingratiate itself to some judicial authorities who have been pandering to the wishes of the executive authority even at the cost of compromising their position as holders of highest judicial offices in this country. If this is the real reason of this amendment, this is very sad for our country. We are having separate procedure for a section of the people, handful of people in the country, for which I have not found and the Statement of Objects and Reasons does not give any basis or justification. Why are we getting worried about this? Recently, the functioning of the Commissions of Inquiry has raised very serious doubts in the minds of the people and there are very serious allegations, not without substance, of improprieties committed in the functioning of these Commissions, although they may be manned by high judicial authorities.

It seems that the amendment is being introduced to legalise the improprieties in the sense that anybody criticising these increasing impurities will be hauled up very easily before the High Court under the proposed amendment. You may recall that a weekly news-magazine in this country, had made certain observations about the way the Fairfax Commission of Inquiry was conducting itself. There were serious charges. It was all done in a hush-hush manner and there was no proper opportunity given to the

people to participate in it. After the publication of the report, it appeared in the newspapers that a member of the Commission who was a judge of the Supreme Court wanted the Government to amend the Act and incorporate in its provisions for contempt of court or provisions akin or similar to contempt of court so that the Commission could take action against any publication for criticising its conduct. As a matter of fact, we found in the papers that one of the hon. members of the Commission had gone to the extent of warning that no Supreme Court judge in future would take up the job if such power for contempt was not given to the Commission.

Shri Ayyapu Reddy has made a plea and I join him and say that no sitting judge should be made a member of the commissions of inquiry when matters political, matters in which the Government has an interest, matters in which the Government's fingers are burnt and matters in which the Government is deeply involved are the subject matters that are referred to these commissions of inquiry. Government is finding it a very easy method by which it can bail itself out by getting reports from the commissions.

We have seen the recent case relating to the assassination of Smt. Indira Gandhi. Every citizen in this country is interested to know as to what happened and who was responsible. A Commission of Inquiry was appointed. But the Report of the Commission of Inquiry never saw the light of the day. The most serious and unfortunate thing is that the judge himself is supposed to have said that the report should not be published. If I am wrong, please correct me, Mr. Minister. A judge, who is a member of the Commission and who is presiding over the Commission suggests that the report should not be published. How does the Government react to it? Lo and behold, the Government came with an amendment by which the people's right to know has been taken away! You are aware that a commission of inquiry can be appointed by the Central Government or a State Government on matters of

definite public importance. Matters of definite public importance necessarily connote that there is public interest. The public is interested in this. How can the public interest be looked after and protected if people's right to know is taken away? This was precisely what was done supposedly at the instance or suggestion of a chairman of a commission that the report should not be published. The country has been completely kept in dark. All paraphernalia were gone through and it was all done in secrecy and people did not know anything about it. And then the Government came and glibly accepted the recommendation of the commission and passed a law by which the Government can decide whether to publish a report or not, for which act, they are not accountable in any court of law or to anybody else, except that the people will one day give their verdict at the appropriate time. This is the way things are done. Of course, the Government has not condescended to the demand to convert the commissions of inquiry into courts of law or to give them *suo motu* power of committal for contempt. Kindly see the amendment which is being done. The amendment relates to the substitution of sub-section 2 of Section 10A of the Act, and new provisions are being introduced. Sub-section (2) of Section 10A refers to the procedure that was laid down in Section 198B of the Criminal Procedure Code of 1898, which is now substituted by Section 199 (2) to (5) of the present Criminal Procedure Code. If you go through the present Section 199 you will find this:

"... So far as the President of India, Vice-President of India, Governor of a State, Administrator of a Union Territory, Ministers of the Union/State/ Union Territory or any other public servant employed in connection with the affairs of the Union or of the State in respect of his conduct in the discharge of his public functions..."

If they are defamed, if these people are defamed, and libel is committed on them, they have to follow the procedure laid down in Section 199. That means that a complaint

has to be lodged before the appropriate magistrate court. Sanction has to be obtained, if it relates to Central Government officers, of Central Government, and otherwise of the State Government. Therefore, even if the President of India is defamed, he has to follow the particular procedure—the Prime Minister, Ministers, everybody has to follow the particular procedure, with prior sanction.

What has happened in this matter is that the Commissions of Inquiry which were originally governed by this procedure—they can take action if libel is committed on them; if they are defamed, they can take action which will come under Section 199 of the Cr. P.C.—the High Court is being selected in place of this well-established procedure which has stood the test of the time, and the High Court is being made a court to which a complaint can be made on behalf of the Commission; and then the High Court must decide it; the High Court can impose imprisonment.

Even from the Treasury benches, serious reservations have been expressed as to the procedure that has been adopted. I would like to know from the hon. Minister a single reason why the members of the Commission of Inquiry or the Commissions are being put on a higher pedestal than even the President of India, or the Prime Minister of India, or the Ministers. Why has the necessity of obtaining sanction been done away with? This will also avoid frivolous complaints.

What is the necessity for the sanction which is there in Cr. P.C. for ages? It was there in the 1898 Code; it is there in the 1973 Cr. P.C. Now an extraordinary, simplified procedure only for the members of the Commissions of Inquiry or the Commission of Inquiry has been adopted. I submit that this is a very serious matter; and I request for a complete and full statement by the Government justifying this necessity.

This innovation of a special procedure for a handful of people in this country is

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]
destructive of the rule of law in this country, if it is still there under the benign dispensation that we are having. Whatever semblance is there, is being totally destroyed. Therefore, I cannot but oppose this Bill. This is a Bill which is creating a sinister distinction between persons and persons, even in high authority, and by this, a sort of fear psychosis is attempted to be created, as was sought to be done by the Defamation Bill which, because of people's revulsion and people's opposition, Government had to beat a retreat and they had to withdraw. The real object is that the hand-picked people who are chosen as members of the Commission should be beyond all criticism beyond all legitimate comment, although they may function in a manner which is destructive of public interest and public benefit. Therefore, I oppose this Bill.

I say that this is nothing but an attempt to gag the Press and stop all legitimate criticism. The Government would do well to withdraw this mini Defamation Bill as it did in the case of the real Defamation Bill.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): I rise to support this Bill. This Bill seeks to make two hanks in the Constitution of; the Commission of Inquiry Act 1952. I support this Bill because we know that this Commission is a fact finding body appointed by the Government. So, the Commission of Inquiry Act originally was intended to serve the public interest. So, the government should give more protection and more confidence to them to work properly in the interest of the country and also in the public interest. That is why I am supporting this Bill.

In this Bill, more scope and protection was given to the Commission so that it can function judiciously and with confidence and also to ensure that the Commission is not ridiculed in any way. I would request the hon. Minister to see that this Commission should work properly and they should publish reports in the public interest, and also that there should be some time-bound programme so that people can know what is the Report of the Commission.

When the Janata Government was in power, we had seen that they misused their power; and they humiliated Mrs. Indira Gandhi like anything by setting up this commission or that commission or through these commissions. Shah Commission, Reddy Commission and so many other commissions were appointed to humiliate Mrs. Indira Gandhi. So, we have to see that this should not humiliate any responsible person who is not guilty at all.

Now I want to raise a very vital question and would request the Minister to see this matter very seriously. We have always seen that whenever any allegations are raised against any responsible persons, then the government has every right to find out the real facts, what are the allegations. In my State—I am not mentioning the name of my Chief Minister, because I cannot—one Cabinet Minister had resigned on protest against some scandal against the head of an institution. I think this government has every right to find out the real facts. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Is it relevant here?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I did not mention the name of the Chief Minister. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is not an allegation.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If there is any particular allegation, I can expunge it. *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I did not mention the name of the Chief Minister. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will go through the proceedings.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: My previous speaker said that it is like a Defamation Bill. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There is a limit to everything. (*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: When you spoke, I did not disturb you. Now you allow me to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: She was telling about only the head of an institution.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Why I am raising this point is because my previous speaker said that it is like a Defamation Bill. I congratulate the government for introducing the Defamation Bill for the public interest. When these people were raising their voice, they were beating Reporters, non-Journalise and Journalists of Uttar Bang Samad for one month. Is it not? Some newspaper carried some stories. That is why they abused that cadre of editors of *Anand Patrika* like anything. In the same way, they are misusing their power. I would like to raise this question because one Calcutta Tramways scandal came in the paper that the Government of India was in the forefront when they took over this Calcutta Tramways unit from the British Government.

Now, who are the share holders there?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Sir, how is it relevant to this Bill?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There is a limit to everything. What has that got to do with this Bill?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Come to the point. Do not go beyond the scope of the debate.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am speaking of the Government of India. Now what happened there? Though the unit was taken over by the Government of India, this country's shareholders have been deprived of the profits and the foreign shareholders are getting the money. This agreement was entered into by the Government of India.

That is why it is very relevant here. The Government of India was in the forefront of the agreement. That is why I am requesting you to find out the facts through a commission.

And there is another issue, the road rollers issue. Instead of giving the order for the road rollers to a public sector company it was given to a private sector unit. This is also a very vital point. And regarding Bengal lamps,.... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: How is it relevant?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I think this is very vital.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please, try to be brief.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: There is a limit to everything. We cannot ignore everything. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Be brief, come to the point. Come to the subject.

(*Interruptions*)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: This is very surprising. If there is any allegation against the Prime Minister, or anybody, it cannot be allowed. But I have not mentioned any names. This issue is related to public interest. Why, they are disturbing me, I do not know.

MR. DEPUTY-Speaker: You come to the point.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: They are objecting as if this is the Defamation bill. (*Interruptions*) This is about the Commissions of Inquiry Act. This is very much relevant to this issue. That is why I am requesting you, because you are giving adequate powers to the Commissions of Inquiry, through this amendment Bill, to look after the public interest, I am raising these vital issues. This is related to public interest and the

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]
 public wants to know the real truth. This is not my point. One Cabinet Minister has recorded his note, which contained some allegations and they have to be inquired into. *(Interruptions)*

I very much support this Bill, and I request you to set up a commission of inquiry to go into all those allegations made by the Cabinet Minister of West Bengal.

14.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till five minute past Fourteen of the Clock

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at Twelve Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY (AMENDMENT) BILL—*CONTD.*

[*English*]

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: With you, Sir, it is quorum now.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is why I am here. Shri N. Tombi Singh.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill. We have already had a long discussion on this Bill and I do not have much to say.

I am deeply opposed to the Opposition's tendency to read politics into every proposal put up by the Government. In this Bill there is not much politics, as Mr. Chatterjee sees, because the commissions of inquiry are temporary bodies. They are supposed to work within a short period, and to work within that given short period, they

deserve protection and all the facilities so that they can make best use of the given short time. In section 10A, sub-section (2), we see that the need for sanction of the State Governments in the case of commissions appointed by the State Government and of the Central Government in the case of commissions appointed by the Central Government, has been removed here. This is a necessity. Side by side, this amendment is a two-edged weapon as we see it. This is really very good because if we see sub-section (4), we see that the period for complaints to the High Courts for taking cognisance of certain offences by a commission or by any member or any officer thereof, is limited to only six months. This means that the commission is supposed to enjoy this protection for a short period. Otherwise, if we do not provide this protection, then very few competent people would like to serve as Chairman or member of any such commission, because when they work for a short time, they will be subjected to so many accusations and other things which will bring them into disrepute during the discharge of their duties. In this regard, the Amendment has removed these disabilities inherent in the present set-up.

Now, I would like to express my agreement with many of my friends from both sides of the House regarding the implementation of this law. This is not an exception, this is not the only law where we receive complaints about incomplete or insufficient implementation. Wherever the Commissions of Inquiry are instituted, they are supposed to give help. Public memory being short, it is apparent that so far during the last several years the State Governments as well as the Central Government whatever is the Ruling Party there, apart from the colour of the party ruling in the State or in the Centre, when certain events, certain accidents or failures are there, they require an inquiry and Commissions of Inquiry are instituted. Then time is given to it. Then when the report comes, it goes to the State Government, to the Ministers according to the desire or the sweet pleasure of the Government. Now, the public sensitivity has gone away

and taking full advantage to this, automatically the implementation of the recommendations of the Inquiry Commission is not given due notice or attention. In this regard, I would only suggest to the Government and also to the State Governments concerned that whatever inquiries have been made on any subject at any time, the findings should be given due notice of and due action should be taken on them. In this regard there is no difference among the Members on this side or that side. We like that Commissions of Inquiry must be given due protection like this and then, side by side with that we should also give due notice of the findings and take appropriate action on these findings.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I stand here to support the Amendment Bill in respect of the Commissions of Inquiry Act.

When Mr. Somnath Chatterjee spoke, he referred to the Statement of Objects and Reasons not being detailed. In fact, I have also many a time stated that any Bill should contain an exhaustive Statement of Objects and Reasons. It helps the Members to understand the Bill in a very clear manner. But Mr. Chatterjee's criticism was tainted with his own colour because in the past wherever the Statement of Objects and Reasons was in detail, the Opposition Members, specially Mr. Chatterjee, have stated that 'although the Government has enunciated these objects as objects of the Bill, the real object is something different.' So, where a detailed Statement of Objects and Reasons is given, they will say that the object of the Government is different and if it is not given in detail, they will say, 'Why not give a detailed Statement of Object and Reasons?' (*Interruptions*). So, in principle I agree that the Statement of Objects and Reasons should be in detail, but question is whether your contention is bona fide or not. (*Interruptions*)

Secondly, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I refer to the exact Amendment whereby this Section 5B has been proposed to be added. In this case what I have seen is that whereas

under the Act, if the Commission takes the services of, say, any officer of the Central Government, any agency of the Central Government or State Government, under section 5A, that agency or the officer will have powers of issuing summons, enforcing attendance etc., production of document, requisition of any published record, or copy thereof. But as far as the assessors are concerned, assessors services are taken but I do not know, in what form they are utilised. If under the law, assessors have also been given some powers, just as the powers given to any other officers whose services are requisitioned by the Commission under section 5A, then according to me, the assessors would have been able to function in a better manner. Ultimately the assessor is somebody above the normal officer who will be doing some paper work, collecting some materials. But the assessors will be really gathering the materials as such in technical cases. Therefore, the powers which are given to other officers whose services are requisitioned by the Commission, should also be given to the assessors so that the services of the assessors would be best utilised.

Secondly, as far as the other amendment proposal is concerned namely giving jurisdiction to High Court, first of all, we have to admit that whenever we have given powers for adjudication—may be a court, may be a House of legislature—we must make our submissions with due respect and in case we do not respect the institutions, the institutions themselves will collapse. Therefore, to strengthen those institutions, we must amend our laws suitably to that line as far as our experience goes. Even; here in this House, we make our submissions under the law with due respect. Sometimes there are disagreements. Even then, I would say that we submit to your decision but we would like the decision to be reconsidered or reviewed in that manner. Except a few instances, by and large, Members do give respect to the chair, give respect to the court. If we treat our judicial officers or institutions which are to adjudicate in a different manner, why should the Opposition Parties grumble? Now, with

[Sh. Shanta Ram Naik] regard to disrespect to Inquiry Commission, if the jurisdiction is vested in the High Court, why should Mr. Somnath Chatterjee grumble? Should we not treat these institutions at a higher level? Should we not treat these institutions which are supposed to adjudicate, in a different manner? In fact, I would agree with that judge or authority which said, "In case of acts of disrespect to a Commission, this should be treated just like contempts of court". In case, that is not done, our institutions like Inquiry Commission will not be strengthened. Tomorrow if anybody writes anything maliciously inputting motives to the Commission, has the Commission just to read it in the newspaper? Why should that happen? In fact, the Opposition Parties should have supported his contention. Many High Court and Supreme Court judges refuse to be on commissions because they do not have any respect subsequently when the reports are published, when they are criticised in a bad manner. It is not that the judgment of the courts cannot be criticised. Despite the contempt of court, you can criticise the judgement. You can say that you do not agree with this point of submission of the judge, you do not agree with this reasoning. You can very well say that and that does not amount to contempt of court. Similarly, even if contempt of court provisions is applied to Inquiry Commission, still you are entitled to disagree with the report of the Commission in a different manner. You need not impute motives to Inquiry Commission reports or findings. Therefore, I would strongly recommend that further amendment to Inquiry Commissions Act many be made whereby any proceedings of the Inquiry Commission should be treated just like proceedings of the court and the Contempt of Court Act should be made applicable.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): We are discussing the Commissions of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill, 1988 which seeks to amend three provisions. Firstly there is the appointment of assessors. That should be revived with the authority given to the Commission to arrange payment of TA and

DA etc not only for the assessors but also for the witnesses concerned to produced the necessary documents, etc. be fore the Commission. The provision was there earlier but in the meantime it was done away with. The Subordinate Legislation Committee, after careful consideration, has recommended revival of the system and this would be done. When the assessors are chosen, sufficient care has to be taken to see that the right type of people are chosen and that they have the requisite qualification and experience in the field so that the purpose could be really achieved.

The important part of the amendment is about the change in procedure regarding Section 10A. When anybody tries to ridicule or brings any motive to the Presiding Officer, how that could be tackled and dealt with? I am really confused what for these Commissions of Inquiry are being appointed. This is a question I would like to emphatically ask and if we look at it dispassionately, in most of the cases, are we not making a mockery of these Commissions? Commissions are being set up on popular demand. (*Interruptions*)

The demand of the opposition is that there should be a judicial Commission. Again I have come across cases wherein appointment of High Court Judges and sometimes District Judges does not satisfy the Opposition. They say only sitting Judge of the Supreme Court or the High Court should be the Presiding Officer. That has been the demand of the Opposition in many cases. Now, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee says that sitting Judges should be forbidden. Retired Judges should be there. What is the logic behind this? Why are they trying to make a distinction?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have not understood.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: You are the only sole learned lawyer in this House to understand everything in the right perspective, and all other Members who sit in this House do not understand. Please

don't monopolise wisdom. (*Interruptions*) Many of the political leaders who have been indicted by the Commission have become heroes subsequently. Can I name them? What happened in Orissa? Those people people are there. When the findings are not followed to their logical conclusion and when they are let-off, they become heroes. I mean to say that in a democracy when there is election for every five years, we can leave it to that. There is a purpose. When Government tries to find out the real situation and ascertain the correct facts, naturally there is a demand. Sometimes, *suo motu* also Government comes forward and declare appointment of a Commission considering the seriousness of the situation. Naturally, when such things are happening, we demand Judicial Commission and that should be presided over by a Judge. So, Judges are associated with this work. We give utmost respect to the judiciary in our country and we ought to give such respect. Judges have their own respect; they have their own dignity. Should we bring their image down? Should we unnecessarily resort to character assassination of the judges because their findings and their approach do not suit our convenience? Therefore, whoever tries to bring in motives, tries to ridicule them should be dealt with. Some people are out to ridicule, to make a mockery of the Commissions, in this country. There is nothing for the hon. Member Dora to feel happy about it. He was trying to do this initially when I referred to this point. Therefore, people who bring in motives etc. should be cut down to size. Such trends have got to be checked drastically. Now, we are observing that trend. Respectable people, self-respecting judges, who have reputation as good judges, are not coming forward to be associated with the Commissions because of such nefarious things that are going on. Concerned people will refuse to appear before the Commission of Inquiry, will refuse to swear affidavit and give evidence. How can the judges dispose of their cases? How can they complete the assigned working, time-bound work, within the period? They have to submit their report within the stipulated time.

Sir, then there is the question of personal appearance. Why should they appear personally? There are dignitaries like the President, the Vice-President and so many other people. Of course when they too have to depose and to be cross-examined, they will have to appear. But, why on each and every occasion they should appear? In that event, the work assigned to them would also suffer.

Sir, I support this Bill. There were mentions about jurisdiction of Court — whether it should be High Court or Sessions Court etc. There were arguments given in support of both. Therefore, the Government should carefully consider these points. As one hon. Member said, even the President, the Vice-President have to go to Session Court when such defamation cases arise. So, this has got to be considered.

With these words, I support the Bill. Further I would say that we should not bring in politics, narrow political considerations into this matter. We are all out to find out the facts. We demand that there should be some Judicial Commission to try something. We also demand that there should be judicial officers of High Court, Supreme Court—that too sitting judges—to be associated. So, when it is so, we should cooperate with them and should not try to bring in motives and make character assassination.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to all the hon. Members who have participated in this debate. This amending Bill has four Clauses. Clause 2 and Clause 4 fortunately, have been welcomed by every one in the House. Shri Shantaram Naik raised a question as to the purpose and role of assessors. I may bring to his notice that assessors are already provided for in rule 6 of the rules made under the Commissions of Inquiry Act and what we are doing through Clause-2 is only providing a statutory basis for rule 6,

[Sh. P. Chidambaram]
following the recommendations of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation. Equally, Clause 4 is non-controversial. It only provides for payment of travelling allowance to assessors and witnesses.

I now come to Clause 3. What does Clause 3 do? Clause 3 retains Section 10 (A) (1) but amends sub-section 2 of Section 10 (A). Mr. Somnath Chatterjee very fairly conceded that the substantive provision of Section 10 (A) has not been changed. What we have changed is the procedure for trying an offence under Section 10 (A) (1). The question is why have we changed the procedure? I shall try to answer why we have changed the procedure. Let me first trace the history of Section 10 (A). In the year 1962, several questions were posed to Shri M.C. Setalvad, the then Attorney General of India. Among the questions were, whether a provision should be made to punish those who bring members of the commission into disrepute. Shri Setalvad's answer was: Yes, it is desirable to make such a provision so that if anyone intending to harm or knowing or having reason to believe that such imputation will harm the reputation of any such person commits the offence in respect of a member of that commission, he should be punished. The second question posed to Shri Setalvad was, what is the procedure that should be followed for trying the offence. Shri Setalvad opined that the offence should be tried by the High Court and he also opined that such a provision will not be discriminatory having regard to the high office and the status of the persons who constitute the commission. This opinion was given on the 3rd of August, 1962. Subsequently, the Law Commission had occasion to examine the Commissions of Inquiry Act and in the 24th Report of the Law Commission, these two questions were examined. The Law Commission also came to the conclusion that it was desirable to create a specific offence. And I wish to read only two brief portions from the Law Commission's Report. The Law Commission said:

"While we cannot constitute the

commission into a court for this purpose of contempt, we feel, at the same time that some provision should be made to protect members of the Commission from irresponsible and scurrilous attacks. Section 5, sub-section 4 of the Act already provides for the punishment of a certain offence under the Indian Penal Code committed in the view of the persons of the commission. We think that provision should be made for punishing persons who, by spoken words or words intended to be read, make or publish any statement or do any other act calculated to bring the commission or any member thereof into disrepute."

The Law Commission also said and I quote:

"Virulent attacks have been made on the commission and their members, a fact to which our attention has been drawn by several distinguished persons who have served at various Commissions of Inquiry appointed under the Act. We think that if the act itself create a specific offence to the kind suggested, attention of public will be focussed on the penal consequences of a defamatory attacks on the commission or its members. We consider it unnecessary to encumber the proposed provision with the various exceptions and explanations contained in Section 499 of the Indian Penal Code because we think that the Clause without the exceptions and explanations will be interpreted by the courts in a reasonable manner."

On the question of procedure, the Law Commission took a different view. The Law Commission said that the existing provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code were adequate and this offence could be tried in accordance with the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code. Therefore, the Government in 1962 had two sets of opinions; concurring on one point that an offence should be created, but differing on the point about procedure for trying the offence.

In 1971 section 10-A was introduced creating the offence and providing for trial of the offence in accordance with Section 198B of the CRPC. In a sense we accepted the views of the Law Commission.

Now clause 3 does not touch the offence. Therefore, it is wrong on the part of Mr. Somnath Chatterjees unless he has some other purpose in his mind; to give the impression that we are doing something substantive to the law, although I did notice that he also said that the substantive law has not been changed. I think this point should be made clear. Lest distortions creep in when the debate beomes wider. The substantive law has not been changed. The substantive law as contained in Section 10 (A) is a law which was made in 1971 by Central Act 79 of 1971 and we have done nothing to that law. What we have done is to amend Sub Section 2. And why have we done it?

The Thakkar-Natarajan Commission in its Report at pages 79 and 80 said the following and this is the genesis of the Amending Bill. I wish to quote two paragraphs from that Report:

" Another point which the Commission feels compelled to make is in regard to the protection afforded by Section 10A of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 which reads as under:"

And that is extracted. The Commission then says:

" The commission wishes to bring into focus that while any person bringing the Commission or any member thereof into disrepute is liable to be prosecuted under Section 10-A of the Act the prosecution can be instituted only with the previous sanction of the Government, that is to say, the Executive. Ordinarily the Executive would not withhold a sanction in the case of character assassination which would directly attract the provision embodied in the said section . However, it would

be extremely embarrassing to place a sitting Judge in a situation where he is required to approach the Executive in a matter like this. In a given case the sanction granted may be challenged as defective. Besides, the prosecution would have to be in a subordinate court and would be subjected to further proceedings by way of appeal, revision, or writ petition in the hierarchy of courts. And this would be a long drawn affair resulting in publicity given to the proceedings which may result in greater embarrassment.

The Commission is impelled to place into focus these aspects so that when an occasion arises in future the incumbents of judicial office who are called upon to discharge such functions are not placed in an embarrassing situation. They may well refuse to undertake the assignment for the aforesaid valid reasons unless the relevant statutes are suitable modified and the officials concerned are assured of full protection from all quarters.

Sir, the Government have most carefully considered this recommendation. We respectfully agree with Justice Thakkar and Justice Natarajan. These arguments have great force.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Judges of the Supreme Court are tried in the High Court. Then what happens to the hierarchy of courts?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : This argument is valid. This argument has great force and I have not heard any Member has criticises the rationale behind this argument.

Sir, after this Report come, we referred the matter to the Attorney General. the Attorney General had before him the earlier opinion of Mr. Setalved which suggested that the offence should be tried in the High Court and also pointed that a classification could be validly made. He also had before him the Law Commission's report which suggested

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that the offence should be tried under the provision of the CRPC. The Attorney General to whom we referred the case has given an elaborate opinion. I am not going to quote from that opinion but I will summarise what he has said in his opinion. The Attorney General has clearly said that a classification can be made and the reasons he has given in support of his opinion are that there is a difference in the nature of functions performed by the other high dignitaries who are enumerated in Section 199. All of them, without exception, are holding an executive office whereas a Commissioner in a Commission holds a judicial office. So there is a valid distinction to make an classification between those who hold executive office and those who hold judicial office. In the first case, because you are holding executive office and it is the executive which has to give sanction, there is no embarrassment because it is that very executive which has to sanction, whereas in this case since the persons are holding judicial office and as Justice Thakker and Justice Natarajan pointed out it would be wrong and awkward to place them at the mercy of the executive in order to prosecute a person for an offence which is on the statute book since 1971.

The Attorney General has also given his opinion that since the Commission inquires into a definite matter of public importance and conducts an inquiry which is of a judicial nature — if not judicial proceeding — confidence in the judicial inquiry can be maintained only if the Commissioners are protected against scurrilous and vituperative attacks. Confidence in the judicial inquiry is a matter of utmost importance. Justice must not only be done but also seem to be done and, therefore, there must be a simple and quick procedure by which a Commissioner who has been brought into disrepute can lodge complaint before a court and have the offender tried.

Sir, look at it in another way. If a judge of a High Court or a judge of Supreme Court who are normally the Commissioners—lodges a complaint or causes a complaint to

be lodged through a public prosecutor before a sessions court, what is the confidence which the accused will have that he will get a fair trial. Therefore, the Attorney General has taken the view that he agrees with Mr. Setalved that the offence must be tried by the High Court. Therefore, accepting the views of Mr. Setalved and the Present Attorney General and accepting the views of Justice Thakkar and Justice Natarajan, Government have come forward with this Bill to provide for a procedure under which this offence will be tried in the High Court. We have provided safeguards. One such safeguard is that the complaint must be lodged within a period of six months. Another safeguard is that High Court will try the matter and an appeal on both facts and law will lie as matter of right to the Supreme Court. There can be no better safeguards. If an offence is tried in a Sessions court, there is only a revision to the High Court but for an offence to be tried in the High Court, we have provided that the as a matter of right both on facts and on law an appeal will lie to the Supreme Court. I think this is a simple provision based upon good advice, based upon sound argument and I do not see why my hon. friend Shri Somnath Chatterjee should try to see ghosts when none is there and should try to create an aura of suspicion around this provision. I sincerely hope he will withdraw his objections. If I do not sit down now he will not get a chance to speak. therefore, I will yield for a moment and then formally close my reply.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : May I know from the hon. Minister now? Is there any case since 1971 when Section 10A was introduced in 1971? From 1971 to 1988 because of the procedure, which is now there, has any injustice been caused to any member of the Commission of Inquiry ? Because that should be the reason for changing it.

Secondly, the hon. Minister said they are judicial authorities. Qua members of Commission, they are not judicial authority. They are not discharging judicial functions. I have read even the Supreme Court judg-

ments. Therefore, how can it be there that they are judicial authorities? Therefore, they should be treated separately from the authorities mentioned in section 199.

Third, there can be, I believe subject to correction, Commissions of Inquiry which are not manned always by High Court or Supreme Court Judges. Therefore, why do you put such members of Commissions on such a high pedestal? An engineer may be a member of a Commission of Inquiry. An architect may be a member of an Inquiry Commission. This Act does not require that only judicial authorities will be members of Commissions. Therefore, they will be treated as judicial officers beyond the pale of a magistrate's court. And what the President of India does not get under special procedure, he will get. Therefore, certain assumptions have been made by the hon. Minister: They have to be judicial authorities. They are necessarily performing judicial functions. Suppose any injustice has been caused. Sir, on that, we have not heard anything from the hon. Minister. Can he enlighten us?

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): Could I seek a clarification? I can even speak at the time of Third Reading but I will save your time.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You never save my time.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I will save I promise.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What clarification you want? I am allowing you.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I feel convinced that there is a need for comprehensive amendment in the Commissions of Inquiry Act. As far as this Bill is concerned, Minister said rightly. There is no dispute about clauses 2 and 4. In fact, about clause 3, I will go the whole hog with the hon. Minister. But he will have to decide. By this clause, he is giving status to a Commission equal to the courts. It cannot be decided just as an offshoot of this Bill. They have to take

the decision on two or three, first. Then things he can bring this amendment. Number one, whether the Commissions enjoy equal status with the court? This will have to be decided. Number two, would the proceedings of the Commissions be conducted in camera or not? This will have to be decided because commissions will need to be away from the public gaze.

Third, whether the reports of the Commissions are to be made public? These are three vital decisions. Before taking these three decisions, there could not be a clause like this. By clause 3, you are giving an equal status with the court, which is not there.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Answering Prof. Soz first, it is not within the scope of this Bill to deal with the question whether proceedings should be held *in camera* or whether the report should be published. For that, there are already provisions in the Commissions of inquiry Act and Parliament has passed those laws. Therefore, I do not think I am called upon to answer that now.

Coming back to Mr. Somnath Chatterjee's questions, Sir, some questions are common. The commission is not a court. there is no dispute about that. But invariably unless Mr. Somnath Chatterjee cites me an example from his experience, Commissions of Inquiry are manned by Judges of the High Court or Judges of the Supreme Court. I know one or two cases where they have been manned by senior District Judges but I do not know of any case...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Retired Judges.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Retired Judge also has a high status. I not know of any Commission of Inquiry where architects and engineers are appointed on Commissions of Inquiry under this Act, although theoretically it is possible to appoint architects.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Members of the Central Administrative Tri-

[Sh. Somnath Chatterjee]
bunal. I am not quarrelling with that. They are representing. Executive members are there. Departmental nominees are there.

They are not judicial officers; they are discharging judicial functions.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am not saying that architects and engineers could not or should not be appointed, but the working of this Act since 1952 shows that the Commissions of Inquiry appointed either by the Central Government or the State Governments to inquire into a matter of definite public importance have always been done after a public clamour which more often than not is turned down. For example, Miss Mamata Banerjee and an appeal for a commission of Inquiry I do not know whether Shri Somnath Chatterjee's Government there would listen to the voice of the people and appoint a Commission of Inquiry.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : That you leave to us.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We have created to offence in 1971 on the recommendations of both Shri Setalvad and the Law Commission . The only controversy is how should the offence be tried. It is not our case that the offence should be scrapped or it should not be there; we are agreed on it. The question is how that should be tried. Today, the offence is tried after obtaining sanction of the executive Government by a complaint lodged by the Public Prosecutor before a Sessions court under Section 199. Justice Thakkar and Justice Natarajan have pointed out that it is embarrassing and awkward to ask a Commission composed of high judicial officers to go to the executive and say;

" Please sanction the prosecution of my complaint". I think this is a sound argument.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :
Without any instance of any injustice caused to anybody.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I will come to that. I think the House represents the people. Is this argument sound or not? Shri Somnath Chatterjee has asked me why we have not given protection to other dignitaries mentioned in Section 199. The other dignitaries in Section 199 are all holding executive offices; President, Vice-President, the Prime Minister and Ministers are holding executive offices. The Public Prosecutor works under them. If any of them is defamed, and a prosecution has to be launched under Section 199, that very Government will direct its Public Prosecutor to launch that. It is the same executive. Here, it is another branch of the State Judicial branch of the State, the high dignitaries represent the judicial branch of the State. If they are defamed, should they come to the executive and ask for sanctioning of the prosecution? Justice Thakkar had made a point and I think that point is valid. This point appeals to everyone else except Shri Somnath Chatterjee and I cannot help it.

He asked how many such cases were there. Thakkar-Natarajan itself is the case. We do not have to wait for more cases to come before we accept this recommendation . Then he turns and asks if there was any case in 1960. Well, if the newspapers and magazines did not indulge in such writing in 1960 against the ; Commissions, I cannot find an example of 1960. I find an example and that is before you, and that is the example of Justice Thakkar and justice Natarajan. They have made a recommendation that is logical and sound and it appeals to every understanding person, if you wish to misunderstand it nobody can help.

I submit, Sir, this provision has the support of Justice Natarajan, Justice Thakkar and the Attorney General. It has been carefully examined and the legal provisions are valid. I request the House to pass the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER The question is:

" That the Bill further to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 be taken into consideration".

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will not take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

" That clauses 2 to 4 stand part of the Bill"

The motion was adopted

Clause 2 to 4 were added to the Bill

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

" The clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title stand part of the Bill.

The motion was adopted

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move:

" That the Bill be passed"

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

" That the Bill be passed"

The motion was adopted

15.00 hrs.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now take up the next item, National Highways Authority of India Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) I beg to move:

" That the Bill to provide for the constitution of an Authority for the development, maintenance and management of national highways and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto; be taken into consideration."

The development and maintenance of National Highways is fully finance by the Central Government as this function is included under "Entry 23" of the Union List of the 7th Schedule of the Constitution read with article 246 thereof. The National Highways System covering a length of about 32,138 km is the main artery of road transport in the country. Though constituting only about 2 per cent of the total road length, it bears more than one third of the total freight transport by road in the country. Under Section 5 of the National Highway Act 1956, the Government of India is empowered to entrust the function of development and maintenance of any National Highways to any authority under the Central or State Government. In pursuance thereof field activities such as survey, investigation and preparation of projects, award and supervision of works have been entrusted to State Governments. The Central Government have been looking after to the other aspects like planning, approval of design and estimate, standardisation, monitoring etc. This system is commonly known as 'Agency system' since the State Government are

[Sh. Rajesh pilot]
paid 'Agency Charges' presently amounting to 9 per cent of the expenditure incurred by them on works executed on National Highways System.

The Agency System of executive of National Highways has not worked satisfactorily. There are large scale disparities in the condition and level of maintenance of National Highways passing through different States on account of varying system of working and levels of competence and diligence in different States on account of poor project preparation, lack of adequate attention to quality control non-development of contracting industry because of the system of splitting of works into small components, large scale cost overruns excessive expenditure booked on works without sanction of revised estimates, non-development of export cadre for highway sector because of combined cadres working on buildings, roads and other civil engineering activities and frequent transfers, changes and posting of personnel, inadequate maintenance of highways, large scale ribbon development, excessive loading of vehicles due to lack of control/enforcement and lack of financial discipline. The management of funds allotted to the State has not generally been carried out in an optimum manner resulting either in spurt of expenditure in the last months of the financial year or last minutes surrenders.

The Centre has direct administrative control over the executive agency. There have been instances when the centre had to remain helpless in case the executing agents overlooked acts of commission or omission the part of its staff engaged in the construction and maintenance of National Highways. There have been anomalous situations when Central Government being constitutionally responsible, had to defend as *fait accompli* certain accounts of the agents in various forums such as Parliament, PAC etc., even when not actually convinced about the explanations given by the executing agencies. Similarly, the Centre generally has no input in develop-

ment of suitable staff, fixation and operation of even major contracts, arbitration cases, payment of compensation to contractors over and above the original contract amounts and other items resulting in direct financial commitment of Central Funds.

A number of measures have been suggested from time to time for improving the working of the Agency System without any substantial result. In this background it was considered essential to set up an Authority so that all the activities of the development and maintenance could come under a unified agency. It is proposed that this Authority should take over the function presently being carried out by the State Public Works Department in a phased manner.

The salient features of the proposed National Highways Authority are that it will be a functional body consisting of a Chairman, 5 full-time Members and 4 part time members. The Central Government shall vest in the Authority all properties and other assets vested in it Under Section 4 of the National Highway Act, 1956 in respect of the National Highways the management of which is transferred to the Authority. The Authority shall have powers to acquire land under the provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1985 or of any corresponding law for the time being in force. The Authority will have powers to enter into, and perform any contract upto a value prescribed by the Government of India. The Central Government will provide capital and also advance grants to the Authority for efficient discharge of its functions.

The main functions of the Authority shall be to develop, maintain and manage the National Highways, and any other highways which may be vested in it by the Government. The Authority will also develop and provide consultancy and construction services in India and abroad and carry out research activities in this field. The Authority may also collect fees on behalf of the Central Government for services rendered in relation to the use of ferries/tunnels and bridges etc. Another major problem facing the road

sector is the lack of adequate resources. In order to augment the budgetary resources, recourse can be had to non-conventional sources of funding like floating of Bonds and the resources so raised could be invested in selected viable toll-based facilities.

It is hoped by setting up the National Highway Authority of India, it will be possible to develop, maintain and manage the national highways in a more efficient manner in the best interests of the country.

With these words, I commend the Bill to the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved:

" That the Bill to provide for the constitution of an Authority for the development, maintenance and management of national highways and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Now Shri Madhav Reddi.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : (Adilabad) : I welcome the creation of an Authority for the construction and maintenance of national highways; but the justification given by the Minister just now for creating such an Authority, saying that the existing agency system has failed, and that because of this dual administration, dual control of the national highways, the national highways are not being properly maintained—I do not agree with it. The saying goes that you give the dog a bad name and hang it. You are taking over the control of your own highways. After all, it is the Central Government's property, and the Central Government was not in a position for the last thirty-five years to take up the highways and directly maintain them, for various reasons explained by the Minister; and you had to depend upon, as you said, the "agency system" under which the agencies, the State Governments were being paid 9% commission. But the malady lies somewhere else. The fact remains that

today, our national highways are in such a bad condition that according to one estimate, we require about Rs 6,000 crores to bring them up to a standard. The roads were being maintained with meagre funds. The State Governments or the agencies were never allocated sufficient funds. To say that the funds were not being utilized or that the funds lapsed, is not correct because funds lapse because of the late allocation of funds, and because of various other reasons. As a matter of fact, funds were not adequately allocated to the State Governments, and because of various factors including heavy traffic and also because of certain heavy-weight vehicles plying on the roads, because of floods etc., the roads were damaged to such an extent that it was impossible for the State Governments to maintain them properly without sufficient funds being made available to them. The States will have no dispute if you tell them today that they will not longer be the agents for maintaining these roads. I am sure to that extent their burden will be lessened, but the point is how you are going to maintain them.

15.08 hrs

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the Chair*]

How are you going to bring them upto a particular standard? How are you going to widen them and maintain them properly? Where are the funds?

I see in the Bill that only the capital which is being allotted to the Authority is the expenditure already incurred on the capital side, that is, roads which you have constructed, the bridges, etc; and all the expenditure incurred on that will be treated as the capital of the Authority. Now, with this capital plus the budgetary allocations for this year which are very meagre, in the budget we have allotted Rs 374.5 crores for the construction of roads, for widening of roads and Rs 117.5 crores for the maintenance. Out of this, substantial amount has already been spent. Now what remains to be allotted to this

[Sh. C. Madhav Reddi]

Authority? The only income of the Authority seems to be, as was pointed out, 9 per cent commission which the States are getting; with that, they will have to maintain the staff. It will be extremely difficult for the proposed Authority to function. It is a half-hearted measure. I am not very happy because it looks to me that the Finance Ministry has not extended the full support to the Ministry of Surface Transport and no corpus fund has been created for this. When we create a statutory agency, an institution or a corporation, it must have a corpus fund. Now, what is this fund? You have a central road fund. How much is there in the central road fund? Out of the central road fund, two-third goes to the States for maintenance of State Highways; only one-third remains with the Centre. I do not know how much is there in the central road fund at the disposal of the Central Government; that fund comes out of the cess which we collect on the sale of petrol and on the sale of diesel; and that is a very meagre amount and that fund will also not be available. I think it is included in the same Rs. 374 crores which we have allocated; the central road fund, I think, is included in this; it is not a separate fund. In any case, the National Highways Authority of India fund which has been named here, there is no existence of that fund; it is in the vacuum; it is to be created in future, but, today, there is no fund. The hon. Minister says that this Authority will be in a position to go to the market and borrow loans; that is the only redeeming feature; that is the main object for which the Authority must be supported.

Today, we do not have enough fund; the budgetary constraints, are there and it is necessary that these agencies should go to the market and borrow loan and float debentures; and that is exactly the justification for creating such an Authority, not because that the present system of agency is not working. Don't find fault with the present system, but try to improve the system and say that it is necessary unless you have this Authority you cannot borrow the required capital, you cannot increase the resources for the development of the roads.

The hon. Minister has said that the total mileage of the National Highways today is 32,000 kms. As I said, the 32,000 km. of roads which are in existence today require another Rs. 6000 crores to bring them up to a particular standard, and there is a demand for each and every State that more and more roads should be included in the National Highways. Speaking for our own State of Andhra Pradesh, we have been telling that since the formation of Andhra Pradesh, not a single km. of National Highway was declared. I am very happy that the hon. Minister has taken note of this. We understand that the road from Jagdalpur to Nizamabad, has been declared as a National Highway, if I am correct, I do not know, if it has not been already declared, I would request the hon. Minister to tell us the position and to declare it in future so that we may take it up. That road which links Visakhapatnam with Bombay, from East Coast to the West Coast is an important road, which is a lifeline of the economy connecting the East Coast to the West Coast.

The Vohra Committee commented some time ago, I think in 1983, that the dual system must go. As a matter of fact, the dual system never existed. The Government of India never exercised the authority over their own roads. Because, it was the State Governments which were maintaining the roads, it was the State Governments which were widening the roads, it was the State Governments which were looking after the roads. The only thing which the Government of India was doing was giving the funds. Every year funds were being allocated for maintenance. In my view if at all that was a dual system, then, on the same analogy in future you will say that it will be dual system even after the Authority comes into being; the funds will be given by the Government of India and the Highway Authority has spend them to maintain roads. The Highway Authority should be allotted sufficient funds so that they may not have to look to the Central Government for budgetary allocations year after year. It is only once in four years, once in a period, that you allocate certain funds towards the corpus fund. But there should be

enough corpus fund to begin with. Unless this is done, I think it is difficult for the National Highway Authority to function and to fulfil its responsibilities.

Now, the hon. Minister said that the National Highways will not be entrusted to the Authority all at once, that the roads will be allotted to it in a phased manner and there is also a lot of delegated authority. The Authority will have no funds to begin with and we have to look to the rules. What type of rules are going to be framed? We do not know what would be the powers of the Authority.

When we have a Bill before us we should know to what extent the Authority can function and what is the contract which they can award. But that has to be prescribed in the rules. We do not know how the rules are going to be framed. These are all vital matters which are to be incorporated in the Bill itself when the Bill is passed, rather than leaving it for delegated legislation. The World Bank has observed that the Indian highways are the worst in the whole world.

We need not have to disbelieve this because we know that our roads are in such a bad condition. In my own constituency after the floods of this year the road from Nirmal to Adilabad has become so bad that for negotiating a distance of 70 to 80 kilometres, I took about ten hours. It is easy for us to go cross-country rather than travel on the roads. These things have to be looked into and I do not know whether this Authority will have enough funds and enough staff to take up such roads. And though it is only a small beginning—of course a good beginning—it is likely to miss the whole objective. Because, the whole object is to raise funds by going into market. You cannot go into the market because the Authority has no corpus fund. It has no function at all. It has a limited function. Only a small portion of the highways has been entrusted to them and not all the highways. I do not think there is anything wrong in entrusting the entire highways of 32000 kms to National Highways Authority of India. Why should we not do it? After all, the Government of India is giving funds for

the maintenance of these roads. Overnight you can entrust the entire highways to the National Highways Authority of India. What is the difficulty, I am not able to understand. Of course you may feel that adequate staff have to be recruited and a lot of planning is necessary. But all that can be done because you have officers in the Central pool and you can take people on deputation from the State Governments, who are already working in the National Highway Department. They can be taken on deputation and you can start the work straightaway instead of doing it in a phased manner.

Madam Chairman, with these words, I support the concept of establishment of this Authority. I feel that it should not be a toothless tiger and it should be made more effective.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA (Vaishali): Madam Chairman, I rise to support this Bill to establish a National Highway Authority will be responsible for developing, managing and maintaining the National Highways. We have presently 16000 kms of highways which pass through different States and the conditions of these roads differ from State to State because different States do not have the same level of efficiency in maintenance.

If you travel on the Grand Trunk Road, for example, you will find that the condition of the road in Bihar is not satisfactory and not at all well maintained. One will take a few hours to cover a distance of about 40 kms. from Patna to Bihata. The traffic is so heavy and maintenance is so poor that the roads have developed not only pot holes but even depression and hollows at many places impeding smooth and speedy traffic.

As at present there is a system of dual control, the States, acting as the agents of the Centre, construct and maintain the networks with specific grants from the Centre. Several enquiry panels have gone into the working of this system. The Vora Committee in 1983 pointed out that this system was permitting a complete lack of financial accountability on the part of States.

[Smt. Kishori Sinha]

The proposed Authority will end this system. But this by itself would not solve all problems. The Authority will have to face the intrinsic problem of inadequate funds. According to the Additional Director General of Roads, about Rs. 6000 crores need to be spent to bring the existing roads to acceptable standard.

Road cess has been increased from 0.4 per cent to 5 per cent on the basic price of motor spirit including diesel. But the total amount is estimated to be about Rs. 329 crores out of which 66 per cent would be made available to States. So, it is clear that the funds available are inadequate.

The World Bank has agreed to give a loan of US dollar 200 million.

I understand private sector is also interested in taking up construction, maintenance and management of some sectors of the highways. Perhaps the Asian Development Bank has also agreed to extend assistance to private sector agencies in India. I would request the Minister to clarify the position. He should in particular clarify the Government stand on the offer of the private sector.

The proposed Authority will also have to tackle the problems of outmoded techniques of making roads. An Executive Engineer claims that the modernised methods of construction would extend the life of roads to about ten years with lower maintenance costs. The proposed Authority would have to update the technology for which it should have its Research and Developing Wing. I do hope the Government will provide adequate funds to the Authority to perform its functions. The provision enabling the Authority to borrow funds is a welcome measure.

Roads play an important role in the development of the country. Roads, more than rail tracks, have become the harbinger of modernity in many advanced countries. The auto banks of Europe, for instance, are

a standing example of what well-maintained road networks could achieve. As many of us are aware and may have observed while in Europe or America, these roads with multilanes and no crossings, enable high speed traffic to roll on at all times and in all weathers. It is an accepted fact that the higher the speed, the greater the number of trucks and cars that can use the roads. If these roads are well maintained, the damage to vehicles is less and their fuel efficiency goes up.

How all this leads to more efficient and low cost of production can be easily seen if we take the example of Japan. There, I am told, the factories do not keep inventories of more than two to three days, whereas in India, factories have to pile up inventories of one month or fifteen days to prevent breakdown of production. Power houses have to keep minimum fifteen days' stock of coal. As a result, overall costs go up, power charges go up, the cost of production goes up and we have a high-cost-low-productivity economy. If we have an efficient and dependable railway and road system, we need not keep such huge inventories.

We have a terrible imbalance regarding roads and vehicles. Whereas the increase in vehicles is forty times, the increase in road length during the same period is only four times. All this will have to be attended to urgently.

Since the Authority will take over full charge of the highways, the States will be faced with surplus PWD staff. The Government may instruct the Authority to take over a part of the staff.

Another problem before the Authority would be to manage the road network spread all over the country from a single place. The Authority should therefore have regional or zonal bodies to manage the roads and pay better attention to regional problems. There is a provision in the Bill to form companies under the Authority. What would be the function of these companies, I would like to know from the Minister.

The Centre should also associate State Governments with the Authority. Representatives of State Governments could be included as part time members of the Authority and also of the Advisory Bodies at State level to provide for interaction with State Governments. I would urge the Minister to take a decision on this and incorporate it in the Bill.

There has to be coordination with the Railways and hence a high level railway official should be nominated to be a part time member of the Authority. The Bill does not say anything about the full time members and their qualifications. It would be better if these qualifications are incorporated in the Bill itself. Experts and specialists in transportation and country planning should be associated with the Authority. For instance, one of the members of the Authority could be representative of the Automobile Association of India.

I commend the provision for the Authority to run motels and restaurants along the highways. These should be functional and at low cost. The Authority should also look into communication and provide public telephones along with highways. There should be cranes to remove damaged vehicles and also first aid centres along the highways.

With these words, Madam Chairman, I welcome and support this Bill.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Madam Chairman, I support the National Highway Authority of India Bill, 1988, which has been introduced in the House.

I agree with some of the views expressed by hon. Shri C. Madhav Reddi. State Governments were given responsibility for the National Highways under the Agency System. As the Agency System failed it was considered essential to set up an Authority. The State Governments are being held guilty for this. I feel that this is not the right approach. If States are at fault, then

State Governments run by both the Congress (I) and the Opposition are at fault. Engineers, be they of the Central or State Governments, do not perform their duties honestly. Corruption is rampant among engineers. It should be rooted out. If we can rectify this system we can say that we have achieved a lot. Otherwise the Centre and the State Governments will keep hurling accusations at each other. I do not think that this is proper.

When the Centre is setting up this Authority it should take full responsibility also. Why should the State Governments be held responsible? The Centre can complete this work using all the resources at its disposal. The State Governments are not in a position to execute this work satisfactorily. Everyone accepts this fact. The Rajasthan Government is certainly not in a position to execute this task.

When we travel from Rajasthan to Gujarat, we find that roads in the latter State are in an excellent condition. If the work is in the hands of the Central Government, the same expertise will be applied everywhere and roads will be uniformly good throughout the country. All roads in the country particularly the main highways should be taken over by the Central Government and subjected to complete overhauling.

Funds allocated for roads are very small. Both the Central and the State Governments give the lowest priority to development of roads. We feel that development of roads is an important factor in the country's progress. State Governments do not have adequate resources at their disposal to undertake construction of roads in the largest number. Provision of roads is a must for the speedy progress in the backward areas of our States. If we are to take our States into the 21st Century all villages with a population of 1000 should be linked with the roads.

Along with National Highways I also want to talk about other roads. Accidents are also caused by the bad condition of roads.

[Sh. Virdhi Chander Jain]

The hon. Minister is requested to find out the particular points or crossings on National Highways at which most accidents take place. On the road between Jaipur and Ajmer there are numerous crossings where accidents take place frequently. Immediate action should be taken at such crossings to prevent further loss of life. Land in the area should be acquired however powerful the land-owner may be straight roads without any crossings should be made to prevent accidents. There is definitely a need to be careful in this respect.

Madam Chairman, according to the plan all National Highways have to be broadened and bubled by the year 2000. I thank the hon. Minister for visiting my constituency to see how the National Highway from Pathankot to Kandla could be broadened. In view of famine and the need for security the Highway is being broadened from Pokhran to Jaisalmer, Barmer and the Gujarat border. Its breadth is being increased by 1.5 times. If the breadth is doubled and it is made into a double road its utility will increase. I urge the hon. Minister to take an immediate decision because if this work is taken up later its cost will increase. I thank the hon. Minister for the work presently being done.

The Rajasthan Government has been asked to take a decision to upgrade certain roads to the Status of National Highways. These include Ajmer, Bhiwara, Chittaurgarh, Ratlam, Indore, Gurgaon, Alwar, Sariska, Sawai, Madhopur and Gwalior. In this way these roads can be developed for the benefit of the masses. Through petrol and diesel the Central Government has received Rs. 320 crores in the Central Road Fund. Funds should also be collected through the toll system. Toll tax should be imposed wherever bridges are constructed. It has also been seen that bridges are damaged during floods and monsoon. While constructing bridges it should be ensured that they are strong enough to withstand the vagaries of nature. Repair and maintenance of bridges should be done on a regular basis.

Another important issue relates to railway crossings. There should be railway crossings on National Highways. In their absence the public has to make a long detour and waste hours trying to get across. On an important road in Jaipur people have to often wait for an hour to get to Civil Lines in the absence of a railway crossing. Therefore all work related to the construction of railway crossings needs to be given priority. Along with this we should also strengthen our financial position by floating bonds to borrow loans. Efforts should be made to allocate more funds for the development of National Highways in the Eighth Five Year Plan. If the roads are in good condition expenditure on fuel is less, rate of accidents is low and there is no damage to vehicles. So in the modern age it is necessary to make roads which are not prone to accidents and which are easier for pedestrians to walk on. With these words I support the Bill and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): I rise to oppose the National Highway Authority Bill, 1988 because the reasons put forward for constituting the Authority for National Highways seem to me not sound. The State Governments are blamed for the poor maintenance of national highways and because of this reason, separate National Highway Authority is sought to be constituted to look after the maintenance and development of national highways. For the last three decades, the maintenance, repair and development of national highways are being looked after by the State Government as an agent of Central Government and they get 9% as agency charge. Now you want to take over all these national highways and you want to form an Authority. State Governments are to maintain separate staff and office and infrastructure. They get 9% as agency charge. But, when the office staff and the infrastructure of the National Highways are taken over by the Authority, how will they be utilised? I think that this will be a burden for the State Government. A suggestion has been made by Shri C. Madhav

Reddi that the staff can be taken on deputation basis because of their experience.

So, it is not a fact that the conditions of National Highways are bad and the roads are not properly maintained because of the lack of interest or inefficiency of the State Governments. The main reason is shortage of funds and because of late release of funds. Complaint are made by the State Governments that funds are not released in proper time. The funds are released just before the monsoon when they do not find any time to complete the work on released, in the month of February and when these works are not completed, the amount sometimes lapses. So, the reason for the poor maintenance and bad conditions of National Highways, as stated by the various Committees like the National Transport Policy Committee, is because of constraint of funds and non-availability of funds. I think the National Highways constitute only less than 3 per cent of the total road length — may be 2.5 per cent or even 2 per cent and six KM of the surface length. For the maintenance and development, modernisation of National Highways, the State Governments are not getting the funds which are required.

For the Seventh Five Year Plan, the minimum requirement in this regard was Rs. 4200 crores. But only Rs. 900 crores were sanctioned for the maintenance and development of National Highways. If it is so, then why should the State Governments be blamed for poor maintenance and for bad conditions of National Highways? Even in the Mid-term Appraisal of the Seventh Plan, it has been stated and I quote:

"The prime weakness in the road sector is the prolonged neglect of the maintenance revealed by a recent study of the Planning Commission. This is the result of a continuing gap between requirement and allotment of funds for the maintenance of roads. If this gap is not bridged very soon, a significant proportion of the road network is likely to break down beyond redemption. At least one Km. out of every three of our National

Highways is in need of attention due to cumulative neglect of the past two decades...."

This observation has been made in the Mid-term Appraisal of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

I think, the purpose for bringing in this Bill to constitute the Authority is only to issue bonds to collect money because money is required and the Planning Commission is not allocating sufficient funds. The Railways have formed a Corporation of their own. Likewise, the Ministry of Surface Transport can also form a Corporation. The Railways have got their Railway Finance Corporation and similarly the Ministry of Surface Transport may also have their Transport Finance Corporation. The Government can form a Corporation like this and issue bonds to collect money. IN some States, the maintenance is very much up to the standard. There may be two or three States where these roads may not be properly maintained. There may be some reason or the other. Now, there are 33,000 kilometres of length of our national highway. The target is to double it by the turn of the century. But the annual progress is only 1.47 per cent. With this progress, it will take at least forty years to achieve this target of doubling the existing length of national highways, that is, 33,000 kilometres of road and the road plan outlay is also gradually declining. Outlay for the whole transport sector is declining. Similarly outlay for roads sector is also gradually declining from 7.5 per cent to just 2.9 per cent in the Seventh Five Year Plan. And this road transport is very vital for the industrialisation. It is an important infrastructure. The National Transport Policy Committee also recommended it and they also identified 33 roads to be taken over as national highways. If the present criteria are strictly maintained for declaring a road a district road, or state highway or national highway, then vast areas of our country, the hilly area, the jungle area, the forest area, many parts of Madhya Pradesh, some parts of Orissa, some parts of Assam where there are no railway lines, cannot have national highway.

[Sh. Basudeb Acharia]

Now, there are three categories: (a) runs through the length and breadth of the country; (b) connects foreign highways, state capitals and major parts of industrial and tourist centres; and (c) meets the security requirement of the country. If these criteria are followed strictly, then these areas, the hilly areas, the backward areas, backward regions, forest areas, will not have any national highway. Where there are no railway lines, we cannot have new railway lines and we cannot have national highways. Roads which are a very important infrastructure, if the infrastructure is not developed, there cannot be any industrialisation. So, the roads are very much vital. It is connected with the economic growth of the area. If these criteria are strictly maintained, then these areas, the backward areas will remain backward for ever unless this is liberalised.

After 41 years of Independence, still 67 per cent of our villages are without having any fair-weather roads or all-weather roads. In the Seventh Five Year Plan, the weakness of our roads has been summed up:

"As much as 65 per cent of villages in the country are without an all-weather roads. Only 47 per cent of the road length in the country is provided with a proper surface besides pavement width of most of the road length is only single lane."

Even in respect of national highways, 30% of length has a single lane road pavement. The grid as a whole suffers of serious deficiencies and there is a growing mismatch between traffic needs and the available infrastructure; thus resulting in severe capacity constraints, delay, congestion, fuel wastage and higher vehicle operation cost.

Our vehicular traffic has been increased by 10%; whereas the road surface, the road length has been increased only 5.5%. Thus, there is congestion. Because of the poor condition of the roads, accidents are also taking place. Thirty thousand lives are lost every year. That means one person is killed in every four minutes due to road accidents.

We are spending Rs. 500 crores more for fuel consumption. If the condition of the roads is developed, then the consumption of fuel can also be reduced. We can save Rs. 500 crores. Also the operational cost of the vehicles can be reduced. The road accidents can also be reduced.

Coming to the capacity of the road, our roads are planned for 7.5 tonne axel load. This is the standard capacity. But our lorries carry more than 22 tonnes and even 40 tonnes. Because of this heavier traffic — carrying more than the capacity of the road — the roads are damaged and the condition becomes bad. Unless the capacity of the road is increased, the standard capacity increased, the roads cannot be maintained properly.

Another important factor is that funds are not released in proper time for maintenance of the road, for construction or for the repairs. There are some stages of work like pitching of boulders etc. For that some time gap is also required. As the fund is not released in proper time, the time gap is reduced. For that reason the roads which are repaired, the next year again they require repair. It becomes damaged and require immediate repair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you concluding now?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Tomorrow I will conclude, Madam.

16.00 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

[English]

Rise in Price of Essential Commodities—Contd.

MR CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up further discussion on the rise in prices of essential commodities, raised by

Dr. Chinta Mohan on the 26th November, 1987. Shri D.N. Reddy...

SHRI D.N. REDDY (Cuddapah): Madam Chairman, I am very happy that you are presiding over the proceedings of the House today when this subject has come up because if at all anybody is able to appreciate the price rise in the recent past, it is you and I do hope the House today will debate the subject in detail and recommend to the Government to take immediate steps.

Madam, this subject was taken up for discussion nearly a year back, and I am sorry to say in the last one year the price rise has been phenomenal if not galloping especially of essential commodities year by year, month by month and day by day. Even the poorest of the poor cannot subsist without the essential commodities. The prices have been going up without government taking any steps to bring them down.

Growth with stability is one of the basic objectives underlying the development process in most countries, both those which are developed and others which are developing. In our country the rich have become richer and the poor have become poorer due to faulty economic policies.

Over the last decade, the leading industrial countries have managed to bring down their rates of inflation to very low levels even at the risk of slowing down growth in national income and maintenance of undesirable levels of unemployment. On the other hand, many developing countries have been unable to control their domestic price situation and keep it within reasonable limits, thus letting inflation undermine both political and social stability. In this category I am very sorry to say that our country though not on the bottom comes very much low in the degree of inflation.

In India, the Five Year Plans always laid stress on price stability as one of the major objectives along with self-reliance, social justice and modernisation. But the failure to maintain price stability has defeated the

other objectives of social justice to the extent that inflation accentuated inequalities of income and wealth and imposed very heavy burdens on the poor. The consumer price index shows a nine-fold increase since 1949 and more than seven and a half times the level of 1960. This is a measure of steady erosion of the value of the rupee. There are some sections of the population which have gained more than proportionately to this loss in the real value of the rupee, such as the holders of real estate, precious metal, etc. Those who were rich have become richer and those who were poor have become poorer. It has been found that at the end of every Five Year Plan the percentage of price rise has gone up except in the First Five Year Plan when it was (-) 2.7 per cent. In spite of that unfortunately the Government could not take proper steps to control the prices. In the Second Five Year Plan, it was 6.3 per cent; Third Five Year Plan, it was 5.8 per cent and from 1967 up to 1970, it was 13.9 per cent, 11.6 per cent and so on. As of today, it is nearly 10.6 per cent. Probably in view of the good monsoon year, we do hope that it will come down to a fairly controllable level.

Only during the brief period from 1977 to 1979, when the Janata Party was ruling the country, the only achievement they could give to the country was the control of the prices. I do not belong to that party, nor am I holding a brief for that party. But it is a fact that they controlled the prices though for a very short time. Of course, in the meantime they committed suicide themselves. So, it is up to the Government—even though they belong to another party—to go into detail, what steps were taken at that time. It doesn't matter if they take a few lessons from a rival political party.

The seasonal rise in prices got aggravated when the intensity and dimensions of the drought of 1987-88 became apparent around July 1987. The prices of several essential agricultural and agro-based commodities such as pulses, edible oils, started rising sharply. By the end of August 1987, the wholesale price index had recorded an increase of 9.1 per cent as against 6.3 per

[Sh. D.N. Reddy]
cent during the corresponding period of
1986-87.

The analysis of the price pattern during 1987-88 indicates that the wholesale price index showed a 9.1 per cent increase between April-August 1987 and thereafter because of a good monsoon, we do hope that it will come down.

In the urban areas, somehow to the detriment of the interests of the poor, it reached the double-digit inflation in some cities going up to 12 per cent.

The price indices of essential consumer articles registered a growth rate of 7 per cent during the current review period as compared to 10.5 per cent in the previous year. Prices of cereals, such as, rice and wheat, pulses, spices like chillies and sugar and gur came under severe inflationary pressure. The setback in production of wheat was mainly responsible for the spurt in the prices which also led to deflation of stocks. This, in turn, forced the Food Corporation of India to restrict supply of wheat to roller flour mills. As a result, *maida* prices went up by 25 per cent. The sugar prices, which had been stable during the last year, went up considerably despite allocations of increased quota for public distribution system.

Significantly, the only ray of hope is that prices of most of the edible oils have come down recently, especially groundnut oil, etc. It is quite heartening and I hope that it will stay at that rate without any further increase.

The wholesale price index structure touched an all-time record in 1988. The index for all commodities (base 1970-71 = 100) stood at 441.6 in October and later on it went up to around 441. Taking 100 as the index in 1960, it is 800 during 1988. From April 1985 to 1988, it has been slowly going up and up. It was 594 in the year 1985-86, in 1986-87, it was 643; in 1987-88, it was nearly 700 and during 1987-88 (in April) it was 763 and now it has gone beyond 800. This shows that absolutely no steps were

taken to control the price system. It is true that we have consistently been having droughts. But that should not be an excuse for the Government at all to sit idle for so many years and let the price index go up and up gradually. In the recent months it has not been increasing gradually, it has been galloping. You must be aware that the prices of essential commodities, especially chillies, onions, rice, vegetables etc. are abnormally high. Probably it was never so high in the past so many years.

The value of rupee has also gone down. A rise in consumer price index means a fall in the value of rupee and vice versa. Purchasing power of rupee at the end of each Five Year Plan commencing with the Third Plan with 1960-61 as the base year-taking 100 as base—Third Plan : 71.43 paise, Fourth Plan : 37.04; Fifth Plan : 30.77; Sixth Plan : 17.39 and Seventh Plan : 12.79. These figures are only upto to August; it must have now touched 10 paise. Therefore, one rupee in the beginning of Third Plan is equivalent to 10 paise now. You can well imagine the inflationary pressures on the poor. Even mere existence has become difficult.

The prices of petrol, coal and some other items, were increased at different dates during 1987 to February, 1988. Since January 1985 prices of petrol were raised three times, and those of coal and steel two times. Issue price of sugar was revised four times in line with revision in minimum statutory price of sugarcane and those of imported edible oils twice. The increase in prices of basic essential commodities like edible oils, sugar, coal, steel and petrol was added to the inflationary potential being created by monetary expansion.

Unless adequate supplies of foodgrains are assured, development with price stability cannot be achieved. Domestic supplies can be augmented through net import of foodgrains and through drawing down on the stocks of foodgrains.

At the root of Indian inflation in the last

thirty years has been Government's resort to deficit financing initially, to find resources to finance a part of plan expenditure, and of late to finance a part of non-plan current expenditure as well. In a country where nearly forty per cent of people live below poverty line, inflationary rise in prices will only accentuate the misery of the poor people.

We have demanded several times that the deficit financing should go. And though the Central Government have been advising the State Governments to get rid of that sort of finance, yet the Centre itself has been increasing its deficit financing year by year and we have now reached a stage where we are caught in a debt trap and the interest that we are paying for the external debt, apart from the internal debt, is perhaps more than our defence expenditure.

Budgetary deficit has been rising disconcertingly during the last ten years. It was Rs. 2433 crores in 1979-80, Rs. 3748 crores in 1984-85, Rs. 8261 crores in 1986-87, estimated to be Rs. 6080 crores in 1987-88 and projected to Rs. 7484 crores in 1989-90. That means that it has been increasing every year.

As the Chakravarti Committee noted the increased recourse to deficit financing is a disconcerting development and it is necessary to ensure that deficit financing measured in term of recourse to credit from the RBI does not exceed the safe limits. This implies that the Plan expenditure should be financed in a non-inflationary manner by tapping the savings of the public in a greater measure than in the past, apart from releasing higher savings from the public sector enterprises only. Then the process of planned economic development can maintain its momentum and also ensure that its benefits reach the target groups without being eroded by inflation.

Another important factor is that the Government should reduce its expenditure on the administration. It has reached enormous amounts.

I am told that recently a Cabinet Committee meeting has gone into the steps to be taken to cut short the expenditure. I do hope that they will implement the measures early.

The Government would have to take stern steps to discipline industry if it failed to pass to the consumer the benefits of excise concessions announced in the Central Budget 1988-89.

Contrary to official claims over the projected deficit of Rs. 7,484 crores in 1988-89. General Budget, leading economists have expressed alarm over the deficit and fear it will fuel inflation and push up prices. Thus, in an economy like India, supply constraints are certainly the main hurdles in maintaining prices stability.

The agricultural sector still accounts for a third of the national income and it largely depends upon monsoon. In the industrial sector too, agro-based industries account for 28 per cent of the total weight in the industrial production.

At the same time, if the administered prices are not increased and if deficit financing is not taken recourse to, there will be tremendous growth in internal as well as external borrowing and alongwith there will be further increase in debt-serving burden.

We have landed ourselves in a situation where there is no escape from inflationary mode of resource mobilisation. The study calls for a thorough review of Government's fiscal and monetary policies. The study emphasises the need to evolve a long term pricing policy with the object of using price as a tool for growth and distribution rather than as a measure to raise finance for non-developmental expenditure.

During the last few years, non-developmental expenditure has been on the increase. It is better if it is cut down early. This applies both to the Central as well as State Governments.

[Sh. D.N. Reddy]

The main reasons for increase in the prices of essential commodities are widespread drought, fall in production of some commodities, the seasonability factor and increase in administered prices of a few commodities.

Increase in prices of essential commodities has a great impact on common poor people. It has to be met by supplying larger quantities of key essential commodities through the Public Distribution System, supply of cheaper grains to tribal and other poorer sections of society under the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme and taking various steps to keep price increase of essential commodities within reasonable limits. If necessary, the Government should give subsidies to the poorer sections of the societies at least for certain essential commodities.

On the supply side, the Government should take a number of measures to contain rise in the prices of essential commodities and improve their availability. The main thrust of the Government's policy should be to increase production of various commodities, particularly those which are in short supply, import of some essential commodities to augment domestic supplies, regulating export of some essential commodities, strengthening and expanding the public distribution system and strict enforcement of the provisions of Essential Commodities Act and similar legislations against hoarders and blackmarketeers. We have been stressing this again and again in this House. But I am sorry to say that the Government lacks the political will to implement these stern measures which will improve things.

In conclusion Madam, Government should have a continuous watch on the prices and availability of essential commodities in association with the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations. It should not hesitate to take more measures as and when the situation demands. However, a lasting solution to the

problem of inflation will have to include, apart from such short term measures as the import of essential items, a vigorous crackdown on hoarding, prudent fiscal management and a strategy that will improve the availability of essential commodities by raising the levels of productivity in agriculture and industry.

Madam, there are a few topic on which there cannot be any political differences at all and these are the areas where we have to work shoulder to shoulder to see that things improve in our poor country. And this is one such subject. I do hope that the Government will take these suggestions seriously and take active steps. But unfortunately, most of the ruling party politicians are engaged in elections all the time throughout the year and I wonder whether the ruling party will discuss and apply its mind to see that things become better. I am afraid, of late these things are moving from bad to worse, and probably from worse to worst. I think we have almost reached rock-bottom, because every day when we go to the market, we find that the prices have risen, of ordinary commodities which the poor man requires, e.g. of chillies, onions and vegetables. All of us know, when we go to the market, what the prices of vegetables are. They have been increasing daily, day in and day out. From morning to evening also they are rising. I do hope that the hon. Minister of Finance will take all these into account and take precautionary measures well in advance to meet the future situations also.

Fortunately, we had a very good monsoon; and all of us expected the prices to come down, but on the contrary, the prices are going up, except for oilseeds. So, I request the Government to go through all these suggestions and take very serious steps and see that the prices come down within days, if not hours, because the poor are suffering, and the poorest of the poor are the worst sufferers because of Government's mismanagement of the economy of our country.

Thank You.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon):
 Madam, This discussion on price rise raised by Shri Chinta Mohan is being resumed after one year. If he had been here, he would not have made the points which he had then made. The scenario has changed in a manner, perhaps, unexpected by the hon. Member who started this discussion. (*Interruptions*)

The situation has changed. The annual rate of inflation measured by the wholesale price index recorded a decline for the fourth week in succession, registering a growth of 5.8% for the week ended 5th November. The provisional official All Commodities Index which stood at 441.6 on 22nd October declined to 436.4 on the 5th of this month, i.e. by five points.

In the first 32 weeks of this financial year, the rate of inflation works out to 4.3% as against 9% in the corresponding period of last year. So, it is clear that there has been a considerable improvement in the situation. Last year, the price rise was the accumulated result of three years of continuous drought. Last year's drought, in particular, was the worst in the century. The loss of agricultural production, combined with expenditure on relief measures, exerted a tremendous pressure on the finances of the State, and on the price level. But still, the rise in prices did not exceed the two-digit level. We could withstand the shocks, because of the increased productivity in agriculture, accumulated stocks and the resilience of our economic system. This year, we are not in such a bad situation. I will not say that we are in a comfortable situation. As I said earlier, the rise in the price level on the annual basis is not expected to be more than 5.8%. The fall in the rate of inflation, I must admit, is partly seasonal; and the fall threatens to be so serious in the case of some commodities, for instance, that the Chief Minister of Karnataka—Madam Chairman, you may be knowing it better—declared this month that his Government would enter the market if the prices of certain agricultural commodities fell below the support prices fixed by the Central Government. This altered situation does not

mean that we are out of the woods. We have to keep vigil on the price front. The Prime Minister himself has uttered this warning to the nation.

The price situation at any moment of time is the resultant of a very large number of factors both economic and political. It is the upshot of the whole economic and political situation.

As regards economic factors, the most important is the budget deficit or deficit financing. Formerly, a balanced-budget was supposed to be the prime object of financial policy. Lately in countries which are trying to develop fast, that is a country like ours, deficit financing has become a regular feature of the annual budget. In our country, budget deficit has gone to the high level of Rs. 7000 crores annually, an astronomical figure compared with the deficit which we used to have 10 years ago. Now, we have reached the level of Rs. 7,484 crores during the present financial year. There can be differences of opinion about the deficit financing as a method of financing economic development. In a country such as ours, which suffers from serious economic constraint, it is natural to resort to deficit financing for this purpose. But I believe it is a resource which has to be used with moderation. I hope the Finance Minister will reduce his reliance on this resource and do his best to reduce the budget deficit.

Another factor associated with it is the extent of the RBI's net credit or lending to the government. This lending not only finances the deficit but makes for a multiple addition to the amount of money in the country through the process of banking. Now the quantity of money does exert a pressure on prices. Nobody can deny this though there can be differences of opinion about the manner and the extent to which the amount of money exerts its pressure. I hope the hon. Minister of Finance will tighten his belt and show enough strength to keep this tendency in check.

Lastly, it is the political climate which

[Sh. V.S. Mahajan]
can have a great effect on the economic situation. I would like to cite an extreme example of recent time. As soon as Mr. Bush was elected the President of America, the prices of stocks and shares and dollar began to slide down. There has been no change in the economic condition of the State, but, still the people believe that Mr. Bush will follow a policy which will have an effect of reducing prosperity with the result that in all the stock exchanges the prices of shares and in the money market, the price of dollar have gone down. Hon. Members must have read about this in the newspapers. In our country, everybody wants to avoid inflation; both sides of the House are agreed on this, but political parties and groups often try to ensure a rise in the prices of the agricultural goods and essential commodities. A rally organised by the farmers from UP on the Boat Club about a month ago is an example of this sort; by this ill-advised move, the farmers gained nothing. But without going into the merits of their contention or their points, I would like to point out certain aspects of such an agitation. First, we talk of providing or giving remunerative prices to the farmers, but it is very difficult to define remunerative prices whatever the price fixed, it must not be much higher than what we call optimum or equilibrium price, that is a price which equates demand and supply. It is the economic law which prevails. If you fix a price higher than the optimum price, then the demand falls off; if you fix a price lower than the optimum price, there are shortages. The remunerative price which you fix cannot be very much different from the optimum price dictated by the economic factors.

Then, we generally forget in espousing the cause of the farmer, that most of the farmers are small or marginal farmers. They are the purchasers of foodgrains. When you raise the price of foodgrains it is the few farmers who have surpluses to sell that benefit. But most of the farmers, 70 per cent of them, have to shell out higher prices for their necessities. The best way, to help the farmers is to provide them inputs at subsidised rates.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon): But agriculture should not become an uneconomic industry.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: I am not saying that. I am only saying that the best way is to reduce the prices of the inputs which you provide them, or subsidise them.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: But the Government also announces a price and does not stick to it.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: That is a different matter. (*Interruptions*) I must congratulate our Minister for Food and Civil Supplies for improving the distribution system. He has announced that they will be establishing a shop for every 2000 population. If we improve the distribution system to that extent, we will be able to remove some anomalies in the price situation.

I do not want to dilate on the consequences of inflation. I must say that the consequences of inflation are disastrous. It is clear enough, it makes the rich richer and the poor poorer. It makes the working of the economic system difficult. It makes economic calculations impossible. I would not dilate upon it, I will not paint pictures of the terrible effects of inflation. In Italy and in different countries of the world after the First World War and the Second World War the effects were felt and there is a huge number of books written on the subject. But I must say that the economic consequences are disastrous and in any way the Government should do its best to reduce inflation. In India now, if the Government is strict, keeps the flow of money under control and has a better and more efficient administration, then we will be able to reduce inflation, and it will have a beneficent effect on the whole economic system. If you remove inflation, then we will have less strikes, and more continuous production and the people will be more satisfied with the administration. Inflation which affects into every household makes it politically hostile to the Government. Therefore, reduction of inflation or its elimination will have a general beneficent effect on the

whole economic scene and the political system also.

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: The price rise is there in the whole country. It will affect everybody.

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Finally, I want to say that to fight inflation we have to increase production. Increasing production should be our religion, increasing productivity should be the aim of our Government's policy. In the Seventh Five Year Plan we have said that food, work and productivity shall be the ultimate objectives of our planning. But I am afraid, we have not emphasised productivity as much as we should have done. If we had raised productivity, I am sure, we should have been able to deal with inflation in a more successful manner.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): Hon. Madam, Chairman, an important issue is being discussed in the House today. In spite of our utmost efforts, prices of essential commodities have been gradually increasing for the last several years, as a result of which the lives of the people have become very miserable which is but natural. You might be remembering that Hon. Prime Minister had assured the people previous year that the price index would not be allowed to increase beyond two digits. I feel proud in submitting that with the best management of our economy by the Government even during the period of century worst drought, the price index was contained within reasonable limit. I remember those days of famine that struck only a small part of Bengal in 1940 which took a heavy toll, whereas no one was allowed to die in the last year drought though it was a century worst drought coupled with other natural calamities and fury of floods in the eastern parts of the country. Many natural calamities also hit various parts of the country. Some states were hit by drought successively for seven years. Children who were born seven years ago in the states of Rajasthan and Gujarat have not so far seen a rainfall. The Govern-

ment boldly faced those crucial days and prices were not allowed to increase as assured by the Prime Minister.

16.36 hrs.

[**SHRI SHARAD DIGHE** *in the Chair*]

Rate of inflation increased in most of the developed and developing countries with exception to India. Economists of the world and many developed countries were astonished to see how could India be able to well manage its economy which helped it in controlling the prices even in such unprecedented situation. I congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister and the Government for this achievement. But that does not mean that everything is well in our economy. Our balance of payment position is not good at present, though the Government have started emphasising upon more and more export by liberalising the policy of export yet due to certain crucial circumstances, the Government cannot afford to decrease the import. Is it not a fact that the total production of foodgrains in the country this year is expected to be 170 to 175 million tonnes? The production of sugar this year is estimated to 101 lakh tonnes. It would enable us to export it to the other countries. Not only this, we see that the production of rice has increased by three times, production of wheat has increased by six times and production of oil seeds has also increased by two times during a very short span of time. In spite of all this, we have to face a stiff challenge. I would like to state that the late Prime Minister had formulated a 12 point programme to control the prices, specially the prices of essential commodities. But I regret to say that despite the repeated directives of the Central Government, the State Governments are not following them. One of the most important features of the programme was to open at least one fair price shop for every 2000 units. The shops were to be opened in factory areas where the workers come temporarily. In tribal areas, the commodities were to be supplied by mobile vans. Not only this, rice and other commodities of ration were to be provided at cheaper

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rates through fair price shops to the tribals and other weaker sections. The Government is also considering to implement the same scheme in tribal blocks in which the majority of people belongs to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. But there is no provision for supplying the foodgrains at concessional rates to the poor and the weaker sections. The foodgrains supplied under the NREP and RLEGP were sold by the officers in black market and they minted money out of it. As a result, people had to buy these things at higher rates. Recently, we have brought about a lot of improvements. The validity of the Essential Commodities Act has been extended for a further period of one year. But it did not yield any result. Though action was taken under that Act, but could the Government succeed even in a single case registered under it? On the one hand, the Government harassed the business community and on the other it posed as if the law were being enforced strictly to provide relief to the common people. But the people were not provided any benefits. So the need of the hour is to open ration shops specially in the interior parts of the country like desert area in Rajasthan to which Shri Virdhi Chander belongs, hilly areas, cyclonic areas, tribal areas and drought prone areas. Wheat is available at cheaper rate in Western parts of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab. I do remember that potatoes used to get rotten in these areas. (*Interruptions*) the farmers are unable to get remunerative prices of their produce because their produce is not brought at the appropriate places at appropriate time. It is for this reason that the Government resorted to policy of control but due to policy of control, many other agencies start making money and the consumers again remains deprived of the benefit while the income of the concerned officials or the agents gets increased. So I would not resist to say that the Government met the challenge of drought due to the efficient running of trains and providing transportation facilities even in the remotest areas affected by floods. Even water was supplied through trains. But the need of the hour is to implement 12 point programme launched by the

Hon. Prime Minister properly.

Sir, I want to submit that we are field workers and we know that the margin of profit provided by the Government to the retailers is so meagre that they cannot afford to remain honest. I can say it with guarantee that kerosene can not be made available in any part of the country at the price fixed by the Government. When asked, the retailers say that there is no margin of profit in it, for, they have to pay Rs. 10/- as illegal gratification per barrel to the officers to get it released. In such circumstances they are helpless. Corruption has spread to such an extent that it has become uncontrollable. We can not check it with the help of law only. So the Government should find out some practical way so that it can be in a position to say the shopkeepers in clear terms that if they do not sell commodities at prices fixed by the Government, stringent measures would be taken against them. Today all the officers and employees working in Civil Supplies Departments are involved in minting a lot of money. They are becoming owners of bangles. Whose interests are they watching? They are watching their own interests and that of the middlemen and they do not care for the interests of the poor consumers who are most needy. So I would like to urge the Government to adopt practical policy. It wouldn't do if the Central Government only makes the law and leave its implementation on the State Governments. If they do not implement it properly, the Central Government should take over the distribution agency in order to get the commodities distributed properly. Quota of sugar for ration shops are released by the godowns of F.C.I. at the tag end of the month. As a result, shopkeepers sell as large part of it in black market. Same is the case with kerosene. There is no scarcity of kerosene, Petrol and diesel in the country, even then farmers have to buy these items in black market. I would like to bring it to the record of the House. When workers like me lodged complaints against the shops, the shopkeepers closed their shops and now no body is forthcoming to get a license for fair price shop. As a result thereof, the villagers complain that though

they were getting kerosene at the rate of Rs. 3/-, a bit more than the fixed price of Rs. 2.85 a litre, now they have been deprived of even that facility. So, the need of the hour is to supply kerosene, wheat and rice through fair price shops to the people in time. The people of cities are getting sugar from their fair price shops but the people living in villages do not get any amount of such sugar because ration cards have not been issued to crores and crores of people in the country. The State Governments do not issue ration cards. In fact, bogus ration cards are prepared and kept by the fair price shop owners with them who sell the entire stock of kerosene oil and other commodities in black market. Government has been importing edible oil to get it distributed through the cooperatives and fair price shops but not a single drop of edible oil reaches to the consumers. Instead of giving it to the consumers, it is sold out in the black market. Even after the realisation of cartage it is not sent to the villages and is sold out in the cities with a double amount of profit on it. I am not referring to Uttar Pradesh only but all this is happening in other States also. In Bengal, it is distributed among the CPM party workers and is not given to the general public. It is given according to the list prepared by the party head... (*Interruptions*)... Whatever foodgrains are allotted by the Central Government to the Telugu Desham Government of Andhra Pradesh, it is distributed by Shri N.T. Rama Rao to the public at the rate of Rs. two per Kilogram of rice in his own name. What is all this happening. He has not even mentioned it that—

[*English*]

"We have received this from the Central Government."

[*Translation*]

He has not told this fact to the public.

There is one more reason of price rise. There are many State Governments which do not lift the foodgrains allotted to them by the Central Government in time and they

deliberately intend to create such a situation in their State. The Telugu Desham Government did not lift the rice in time. Even the State Governments lead by the Congress, are no exception. I am not accusing the non-Congress Governments only but there are many other State Governments who do not lift their foodgrains allotted to them by the Central Government in time... (*Interruptions*)...

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't refer to State Government.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: I am very practical about all these things. What I want to say is that several State Governments do not lift the foodgrains allotted to them by the Central Government in time and resultantly these commodities do not reach the consumers at the proper time. Hence the Central Government is required to take such steps as to ensure that State Governments lift their foodgrains in time in case they do not lift it... (*Interruptions*)... When the question of powers is raised, the opposition in this country will assert to seek more powers for the States but when it is the question of duties, they will simply be moaning that the Central Government is not discharging its duties. This, I am saying on the basis of my personal information that they do not lift the commodities to be distributed through the ration shops in time. Therefore the Central Government should make it mandatory that the rationing commodities must be made available to the consumers by the 15th of every month.

Apart from this, I would like to say that the people belonging to public and private sector are also going on increasing the prices. You see the prices of aluminium have increased and this increase in prices has its bearing on the consumers. If the price of iron goes up, it will also affect the con-

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sumer. Some industrialists are creating shortages of commodities by declaring their mills as sick mills. The mills are declared sick not because of strikes but just due to their mismanagement. The persons who are controlling the strings of economy, should be dealt with firmly. Many industrialists produce substandard goods but increase the prices of those goods. They furnish scientifically prepared data before the Government to justify the increase in the prices of their products quoting an increase in the prices of raw-material as well as the increased cost of labour. The Government should take notice of all this.

Any increase in the prices of essential commodities lies within the purview of the government. Their prices should be increased after considering all its aspects and the distributing machinery i.e. the retailers or the middlemen should be attractively paid so that they may not resort to any malpractices and if, even after this, they continue to indulge in such practices, they should be dealt with firmly. I, therefore, demand that arrangements should be made to open special ration shops in the special areas such as the desert areas, hilly areas, the cyclonic ones and the drought prone areas. At present, the Government is supplying rice and wheat at subsidised rates to those tribal blocks which consist of the tribals as 50 per cent of their population. The Government should make arrangements to provide ration at subsidised rates to all the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, small farmers, marginal farmers and landless people of the country. Only then, it may be the real achievement.

I would like to mention that the economy of our country is in quite a good shape. This year we have fixed a target of producing 175 million tonnes of foodgrains. For this purpose, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has prepared an action plan for agriculture and according to the climatic conditions, he has divided the country into several climatic zones. This portends a happier future for India. I hope that thereby our country will make a great

progress and the farmers and agricultural labourers will jointly increase the agricultural production which will be equally distributed among the masses and tide over the everyday phenomenon of price rise.

I would like to congratulate the Government for showing the world that even in these formidable circumstances our Government under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi is capable of controlling the inflationary trend and thereby brought it down to the level of 8 percent and at one stage, it was brought down as low as 5 percent while on the other hand the rate of inflation in the industrialized and developed countries had touched the mark of 21 percent. This is such a great achievement of the Government of India that people of this country are proud of it. The Government certainly deserves our congratulations for this. There may be some weaknesses and shortcomings of this Government but still that is a great achievement. The Central Government should direct the Government of Haryana to lift their foodgrains, ration and sugar in time so that these commodities may be distributed among the masses in time.

I would like to ask the Government to provide remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce. Their share of gains is taken away by the middlemen. As I have already stated that in several regions, tomato is being sold at the rate of Rs. 1/- per kilogram while it is being sold at the rate of Rs. 10 to 12 per kilogram in Delhi. The Government should take such steps so that the farmers may get remunerative prices for their produce. There should be no restriction on the movement of their produce, so that they may take their wheat and rice anywhere in the country.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

CHOUHARY KHURSHID AHMED
(Faridabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, my friend,
Mr. R.P. Panika when he ended his speech

on a very happy note. He said, "There should be free movement of all the grains throughout the country. "I welcome his suggestion and if he has any say in his Party, he should be able to arrange it that there is free movement of all the articles of the food throughout the country so that uniform rates of prices can prevail and the hoarders and black-marketeers, who are profiting now by the act of getting the grains hoarded at the time of crops and then selling them later after creating artificial scarcity according to their own rates are eliminated. He has painted a picture that everything prevalent is very satisfactory. But coming to the real fact of life, when we see a poor consumer going to the market, he has to buy at the rates prevalent in the market, whatever may be the statistics, whatever may be the satisfaction of my hon. friends on the other side that the inflation rate has come down in the last 4 weeks and he takes it as a good augury. But what is the guarantee that in the next 4 weeks, it cannot go up and such are the conditions which are prevailing in the market today that it is bound to go up in the next few weeks.

First, about the essential things of life, about the foodgrains which are needed by each and everyone everyday when we look at their rates, they are exorbitant. Till today everybody in India used to say, "Well, I can live with a few ounces of grams". But what is the price of grams in the market? It is Rs. 800 per quintal today. What is the support price which the Government gives to the farmers at the time of crops? It is only Rs. 400. The present price is just double. You take the price of wheat. You gave to the farmer the support price at Rs. 173/- last year and today you cannot have wheat at less than Rs. 250/- for a quintal in the market in Delhi. What to say of Delhi? Even in Haryana and Punjab, from where the grains are supplied to other States, there is the same rate. At the time when the farmers bringing their crops, they are disgusted by a very low rate of support price. They must be assured by the Government of a remunerative price. But when the Government fixes the price, they do not keep proper criterion in view and the Government never realises that if the farmer loses his

interest in producing more crop, then it is the nation which suffers. What is the condition of this nation at the hands of this Government? Instead of paying better price to the farmer and instead of being the friends of the consumers who should get the subsidised foodgrain, we are diverting the subsidies which should go to farmers and the consumers to other different purposes. Just now my friend Shri Y.S. Mahajan said that we should give subsidies only to the inputs supplied to the farmer. If we divert all the subsidies, they go to the organised sector and the industrial sector and the farmer or the consumer is not benefited. The subsidies in the industry sector are always used for the benefit of the industrialist. With the help of statistics, the industrialist will show an inflated price of raw materials, an inflated expenditure in processing of the finished goods, and then he would add up the interest on all his investments. By these methods, the industrialist would always inflate the price of his goods. Whatever subsidy should have been given to the farmer direct for the purpose of more production of grain, it has been diverted to the fertiliser and other factories and about Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 thousand crores flow into these factories but it never goes to the real man who is filling the fields and the net result is that, in spite of all efforts of the Government of India and the States, no proper encouragement is given to the farmer to produce a better harvest. I do not blame the distribution system but I charge the people who run it. If there is dearth of any commodity in the market, then we rush down to the international markets. We start importing. Even today the Government is thinking of importing millions of tonnes of wheat. They are thinking of importing rice. Government is paying more price in the international market for all these commodities than it pays to the Indian producer. This is the inherent defect in the system of this government that we do not care for our own farmer and our own consumer. The consumer is also the worst sufferer along with the farmer. Government of India gets its godowns filled up with the grains at the time of crops. The handling and other charges become exorbitant at the time of issue of these grains to the farmer. Thus

[Ch. Khursid Ahmed]

they give very low price to the farmer but they charge very high price from the consumer. Thus the Government is becoming the hoarder or profiteer and is indulging in black market. This inherent defect is not allowing better production in this country. The other side criticised the bureaucracy for inequities in the distribution system and the black-market but say that there appears to be a nexus between the trade and the government which is responsible for hoarding, black-marketing and these sky-rocketing prices. As my friend Shri Ram Pyare Panika has said, some of the edible oils do not reach the consumer even though their stock is increased by imports from foreign countries. But they reach the black-market direct! When the farmer brings the crop, he is given only the minimum price which can be allowed at that time. The moment the stock of grains is finished with the farmer, the prices go on increasing and till the next crop comes, the prices touch sky high. If the Government expects to control prices by this system importing I think it is impossible.

17.00 hrs.

It is the Government which is to control this system? So, whatever the mode you adopt and whatever policy you adopt, you must see to it that the proper price is given to the farmers. when it is given to the consumers, then a reasonable profit may be allowed either to the private trader or to the Government agencies—whether it is Food Corporation of India or any other agency—so that the consumers are not looted and they do not have to pay the exorbitant price which they are paying today. Whoever is responsible, either the State or the Centre, they should also tie up together and protect both the procedure as well as the consumer. Whatever modes are adopted, as has been stated from this side also, most of the time the Government expenditure goes on increasing every year. There are some projects which are unproductive and the amount also becomes unproductive. This situation leads to a galloping inflation from year to year. Today, this Government is giving a budget to this country with an inflation of about Rs.

8000 crores. Where does it lead to? This supply of money goes into a few hands. There are tendencies in this country to concentrate money power only in a few hands. We may boast of having an Act against Monopoly but the fact remains that all this wasteful government expenditure by government, through some channels, flow on to a few families and Lands up in their hands. They are the real controllers of the economy of the State—it is not the State or the Centre that controls fluctuation in the market.

To check this trend, if you do not make any steps at all at the proper juncture, then this thing is to be repeated every year. My submission is that all the edible oils and foodgrains import should be minimised and the production in the country should be got increased through better prices to the farmers and other methods like bonus on production to farmers. Further, the present method of paying indirect subsidy to the industrialists in the name of farmers should be stopped. It should be directly routed to the producers, the sons of the soil and they should get the advantage. Whatever subsidy you give for food should go straight to the consumers and not to the middlemen, hoarders—whether it is in the form of FCI, in the form of private trader, they should be allowed only a minimum profit so that both the producers and the consumers are benefited. Till we do these things, nothing is going to improve—whether it is foodgrain, or edible oil or industrial goods or coal, steel etc., all these things would always find a route to flow into the hands of the blackmarketees and the hoarders who always rule the economy of this country and the Government would be only a talking-spectator and not a silent-spectator, congratulating itself for moving from one year to the next year with the rate of increase in the price of each and every commodity in the market which is to be needed by the consumers. With these words, I conclude. I am thankful to you for having given me this opportunity. I say that the Government must take some steps to control the prices. Otherwise, they would touch the sky.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue of price rise is a matter of great concern. The hon. Members have expressed their views on it and I would also like to express my views in the House. Two-days ago, the hon. Minister of Food and Civil Supplies has given a statement about the 'vanaspati Industry' and as a result of that statement. The prices of Vanaspati have gone up. The price of a tin of 15 kilogram which was earlier Rs. 345 has gone up to Rs. 355. In view of this outcome of their policy laid down by Government in regard to the Vanaspati Industry, I would like the hon. Minister to make a clarification whether it is a temporary phase and it will have no effect in future.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): You please make clear what do you want to know?

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): His point is, after the announcement, how the prices have gone up?

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: The import duty on pulses went up from 15 per cent ad valorem to 35 per cent ad valorem from the first week of October..... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be quick. The hon. Minister will reply at 5.30 p.m.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: It is a matter of grave concern that even after effecting a cut in the import of pulses and edible oils by 30 per cent, the prices of these commodities have gone up. The prices of sugar, oil, wheat, vegetables and fruits have also gone up. It is a matter of concern that there has been a substantial increase in the prices of these commodities during the month of October and November. With reference to the hon. Minister's reply that with a

rising trend in the matter of production, our country is going to produce 17 crore metric tonnes of foodgrains, I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister what are the reasons that in spite of such a heavy increase in the production of foodgrains in our country, the prices are going up. Last year our country faced a severe drought and in spite of that price rise did not show that much of magnitude for which the Central Government deserves our thanks. The Rajasthan and particularly the desert districts of Barmier and Jaisalmer had also experienced the severity of drought but even in that situation we continuously got the supply of wheat and other essential commodities on the subsidised rates which enabled us to face that famine. When the prices were not allowed to increase even in those tough situations, the question arises as to why the prices are now increasing at a time when our economy is in a very good shape and we expect very good crops. Will the hon. Minister be pleased to clarify that even after taking a good crop of groundnut and millet, why the prices are increasing. The price of millet has gone upto Rs. 125/- per quintal even in the district like Alwar. In such circumstances, it becomes the bounden duty of the Central Government to purchase it at the support price. Why was it not purchased? Please clarify it. The farmers had to sell their Bajra at Rs. 125 per quintal only. They would have benefited, had the Government bought that Bajra at support price. However, there has been some increase in its price during the last ten days and it is being sold at Rs. 135 per quintal.

Regarding the public distribution system, I would like to submit that the cooperative societies do not work honestly, because they get very little commission. Therefore, they should get adequate commission and transportation charges in the public distribution system so that the cooperative movement could be encouraged and those associated with P.D.S. could work honestly. Edible oil is not available at fair price shops in rural areas, whereas it is available in the cities. It should be made available in rural areas as well. I can say particularly, about my own constituency that it is not available there.

SHRID.L. BAITHA: Wherever there are P.D.S. shops in rural areas, edible oil is available.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Similarly, controlled cloth is seldom available. For the last three-four years, I have seen that it is not available in my constituency. It should be looked into and supply of controlled cloth should be ensured to all shops of public distribution system. The rising prices of commodities now-a-days is a matter of concern. We should think over as to how to check the price-rise.

[English]

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar): At the outset I would like to say that we have given some promises to the people of India that India will be a socialist pattern of society. 50% of people are still living below the poverty line. Besides, there is inflation also. Every year the rate of rupee is decreasing. This is creating problem especially to the working class and also to the fixed income group.

This problem is not creating any difficulty to the haves who are now a very important part of the society in India; but for the have-nots. A good number of people of our population—in crores—are poor and they are not getting sufficient amenities.

As far as foodgrains are concerned, I think there should be evolution of a policy in changed circumstances. The Government of India should come direct to the issues and confront the issues which the people of India, especially the poorer sections of society are facing. The people who are working in the mills, the people who are working in Central and State services, the people who are living in hilly areas and also the tribals besides Harijans this is their problem and Government of India so far could not come to the expectations of these people. Therefore, I feel that basic thing is that instead of revising the pay-scales of the employees in the present conditions the most important thing is that more and more essential commodi-

ties should be made available to them. Therefore, as far as the employees and the working class is concerned who demand revision of pay-scales the best thing Government can do is that they can provide them with basic essential commodities instead of giving them more allowances. There should be a change in pattern. Today in Delhi we find one kg of tomato costs Rs. 16 and a kg of onion costs Rs. 10. This is the difficulty. It has become difficult for a poor man who wants to survive traditionally on vegetables to survive as the vegetables have become very costly. If this is the condition in Delhi market what about the conditions in far flung areas.

I think on agrarian front we must have some evaluation of our policy and we must change the old style of working. Agricultural output has to be increased and for that the farmer should be given more amenities. He should be given more facilities so that he can produce more. He should not be demoralised. The survival of the country depends on farmers. Basically he is the man who is feeding us but we find he is demoralised and is coming to the road-side and speaking about the injustices being meted out to him. If this is the condition of the farmer what will happen to the people who are looking towards him for their survival. Therefore, I feel more remunerative prices and more realistic approach towards the farmers should be adopted. They should be given more facilities in the form of manure and implements and Government should not think of earning in this sector. They should encourage farmers and give them more and more subsidies.

Eighty per cent of the people in this country live in rural areas. The condition has come to such a pass that most of the agrarian workers are leaving their hearths and homes and going to Bombay and Calcutta to seek petty jobs. This is the tragedy. We have to change this outlook. This is possible only when we give them more and more amenities. Here I would like to say that always when budget comes you increase rates of petroleum, kerosene oil, coal and railways freight. There should not be any increase in

these things as these things are basic things. Whenever you increase the price of petroleum, kerosene oil, coal and railway freight it directly hits the consumer. The middleman exploits the situation. Government may earn some money but essentially it is the consumer which is hard hit. Therefore, Government should not think in a way which is like a businessman earning more and more from the masses.

17.20 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

In this connection, I would also say that we are facing the difficulties as hilly area people. I represent the Jammu & Kashmir State. There are people who have come from Himachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Assam and other hilly areas. My difficulty is that because of the freight, the prices go up. A thing is available say at Rs. 10 in my area. In Delhi, its price goes to Rs. 30 per kg because Rs. 10-15 are charged as freight. For instance, we are producing apples in Kashmir. In the Srinagar market, it is not more than Rs. 8 per kg. The best quality of apples are available in that market for about Rs. 8 a kg. When they are brought to Delhi market, the price shoots up to Rs. 16 a kg. Who is earning the money? It is actually the middleman who is cheating the farmer. Therefore, this is the main difficulty. The freight rates should be curbed. There should be an appraisal of all these things so that the man in Meghalaya or in a far-flung area of Assam or in Kashmir gets the basic essential commodities at the same rate. There should not be any difference. Otherwise, it is a discrimination against the people living in such far-flung areas and in other backward pockets of the country. If the Government of India really wants to give them justice, this basic facility should be made available to them. There should not be any change in prices at different places, in different parts of the country.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: (Basirhat): Sir, I thank you for giving me a few minutes. In view of the shortage of time, I only wish to emphasise one or two points. The main

contention I want to make is that the real root of this problem lies in the inflationary policies of the Government. It is that inflationary policy which, starting from the top, is percolating right down throughout all the tiers of the economy, and finally affecting the common man in his relationship to essential commodities which he has to purchase.

Deficit financing is going on on a huge scale. Everybody knows it cannot but have an inflationary impact on the economy. There is no attempt—well, there may be an attempt, but it is not succeeding to reduce this volume of deficit financing. From year to year, we are finding that the budgetary deficit is increasing.

This year, within a couple of months, I don't know what the Finance Ministers is going to have in store for us. But recently I at least got a little bit of encouragement from reading a statement of his in which he has bewailed the fact that as a percentage of the total revenue, the share of indirect taxes is going up all the time. The share of direct taxes is going down. That means that the burden on that section of the community, which is capable of paying the direct taxes, is going down; the burden on the ordinary man who bears the brunt of the indirect taxes, is going up. And if that policy is continued further, it will—coupled with what Mr. Kabuli has said—hike the administered prices. The practice nowadays is for hiking the administered prices of so many goods just before the budget, whether it is coal or cement or petroleum products. Even the rationed foodgrains, which are sold through the ration shops, have been hiked. Postal rates, railway fares, railway freights and all that cumulatively have an inflationary impact on the economy. Then, how can the prices be controlled when there is no system of controlling the prices at all? Wherever this control existed, even that is being decontrolled. Now, what is happening in the case of so many drugs and medicines which in the market have gone beyond the reach of an ordinary man? We have to pay Rs. 5-6 for one tablet, one capsule. I don't know whether its cost of production is even fifty

[Sh. Indrajit Gupta]

paise. Who is reaping this profit? Certain people who are in a position to exploit the market because of the total absence of any control and regulation are making the money while the people are suffering. Liberalization itself which is now the doctrine by which the financial and economic policies of the Government are being guided means decontrol. What is the meaning of liberalization? It means decontrol, deregulation and total reliance on the so-called market forces and this is leading also to a further surplus of import over exports. However much you may talk of bringing more imports in order to stimulate exports—I do not have the time to go into the figures—but the figures show that it is the imports which are increasing in value over the value of exports. There may be other reasons also, but the fact remains that the trade deficit is widening and this is also contributing to the inflationary spiral which is going on.

Now, as you know, there is a big tussle going on between the Government and the employees and workers over the question of compiling the consumer price index. As the Minister knows very well, the Government is now determined, it seems, to shift the base year of compiling the consumer price index from 1960 to 1970 and they say that it will make it more realistic, but the trade unions in their dialogue with the Labour Ministry have shown that if a proper linkage factor is not accepted and if the method of collecting the prices is not made more realistic, with this shifting of the base from 1960 to 1970, this will actually mean a loss of about 20 to 25 per cent in the due dearness allowance compensation for the workers who get it on the basis of consumer price index. As the hon. Member said it correctly, there are millions of people who have nothing to do with the consumer price index, who are not beneficiaries of any kind of dearness allowance. Only the organised sector gets dearness allowance; others do not know what it means and they are having to depend on the vagaries of the market and that market is completely uncontrolled and unregulated.

Finally, the present public distribution system, as it exists at present, is totally inadequate to meet the situation. It is all very well to tell us that you have increased the number of fair price shops by so many thousands. After all, this is meant to protect the poorer sections of the people from the pressures of blackmarket outside, otherwise what is the use of having the public distribution system? If you go on increasing the prices outside, if the prices are allowed to increase, then the only protection against it with the fixed control price inside the fair price shop is that they should at least ensure a minimum quantity of essential commodities regularly at proper rates to these people. But it is not happening and the offtake from the shops, according to the Minister, has also been going down.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA): No, it has been going up.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: If it is going higher, it is because the total number of shops has increased. But there are so many complaints about the quality of the foodgrains supplied through these fair price shops and there is no system by which this can be checked and verified. A part of the supplies from the fair price shop are being diverted to the blackmarket. These shopkeepers of the fair price shops very often in big cities also put up boards saying that the stocks have exhausted and that there are no supplies, but it is actually being diverted to the blackmarket. The quality supplied is very variable. I have seen it in Calcutta city that the quality of rice supplied through fair price shops is sometimes absolutely uneatable and unfit for human consumption. I do not know where it comes from. Many times complaints have been made. If these fair price shops have to play any part as far as the poor sections of the people are concerned, the supplies must be made regular. Sometimes in the rural areas for weeks together there are no supplies and they say that they have no sugar, no edible oil, no rice and so

on. Supplies must be made regular. The number of items should be increased and the quality should be fit for human consumptions. Therefore, finally I just want to say that I would appeal to the Finance Minister that it is not really a question of fair price shops. I wonder whether the Government has the will or courage now to take certain measures which will reverse the inflationary nature of its basic policy. As long as the push to the inflationary process goes on, there is no hope of the prices in this country being controlled or stabilised. And prices are bound to go on increasing.

Mr. Kabuli says that there are people who now a days have enough purchasing power. Of course, some people now have enough money. Particularly in the cities and towns, some cash money is generated and no doubt a certain section of the people are enjoying that. But a vast mass of people outside are suffering and they are the people who are the worst hit. Therefore, this policy should be changed.

At least I am hopeful since elections are coming, the Government must remember that a man may not get sugar and oil, but he has got his vote and therefore, if nothing else, at least in the self-interest of the ruling party, they should take some firm measures to see that this high price situation is controlled and regulated so that the people are not driven to absolute desperation. On the one hand unemployment and on the other high prices, these two things together are absolutely creating misery down below among the millions of people. The most discontented lot of the people in this are the housewives. I think the Minister knows it. I do not know whether his wife goes to the bazar. If she goes, she will certainly be angry with him. She must be knowing what is happening.

Sir, those days are gone when a poor man's food used to be roti and dal which has good nourishment in it. Good atta and good dal and nothing else. Roti and dal are the things on which our toiling people always work. They fill their stomachs with roti and

dal. Now, you cannot even get dal with its sky-rocketing prices. And the atta which is supplied now, very frequently, is also inadequate and not of good quality. Here I am not talking of Punjab and Haryana. Therefore, please do something about this. Change your inflationary policy to the extent that you can. Change the taxation policy. Do not put all the burden on the indirect taxes letting the direct taxes to go off under the Long Term Fiscal Policy.

So, this is all I have to say. I hope the Government will think of it in terms of basic policy.

[Translation]

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH (Chatra): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a very important matter is being discussed in the House today. Till now, the opposition has only tried to mislead the people and spoil the image of the Government. But today's discussion is very important as it concerns the poor of this country.

Shri Gupta has raised some doubts about inflation. Budget of last year and that of current year was described as 'pre-poll Budget' by the opposition members. They said many other things too about the budget.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the percentage of inflation has reduced whereas its increase was expected in view of the terrible drought and floods which resulted in heavy loss of life and property in the major food-grain producing states of Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat, Rajasthan and West Uttar Pradesh last year. Besides, the country had to face other natural calamities like earth-quake etc. In spite of all this, the level of inflation is under control. This is a commendable effort of the Government for which it deserves applause. To some extent, Shri Gupta's opinion about the deficit financing Budget is right. But the Government has made an excellent effort in this regard.

For some time, the trend in price rise will remain as it is, but there are possibilities of

[Sh. Yogeshwar Prasad Yogesh]
improvement in it later. Due to heavy rains at peak vegetable sowing season, the required production has not come to the markets. It has affected the family's Budget. This was also a cause of concern for the people. But still, the prices of vegetables have not increased that much. As more vegetables will start coming to the market, the family Budget will get some boost.

However, in the case of some commodities, like arhar dal and moong dal, the prices have increased. But the prices of some other pulses such as gram etc. have registered a decrease. One thing to which I would like to draw your attention is that the price of gram in the market is Rs. 8.00 per kg. but when it is parched or is grinded into *Sattoo*, its price shoots to Rs. 16.00 or Rs. 20.00 per kg. in the market. The poor are affected by it, as it is their food.

Regarding the oilseeds, I would like to say that the prices of mustard and other oilseeds have registered a steep fall. There is possibility of further slump in the prices, as their production is likely to go up this year. Government should pay attention to it.

Due to the defective distribution of essential commodities like wheat and rice, the prices of these commodities vary from place-to-place and, as a result, people have to face difficulties. Changes should be made in this distribution system. The State Government should have full freedom on the movement of wheat, rice, sugar and other foodgrains in that State. Government should not allow a situation to develop where stocks of essential commodities may lie at one place of a state and another place of the same state may be facing scarcity of those commodities. Free movement of foodgrains will lead to fall in the level of price rise. Besides, it will be convenient for the people. When we discuss distribution of essential commodities like sugar, edible oils and cloth, presence of black-marketeers cannot be denied. The Government should take strong steps to check this blackmarketing.

I would like to draw your attention towards Chota Nagpur area in Southern Bihar. The prices are likely to fall as a result of good production in the whole country this year. But the farmers living in plateaus of Chota Nagpur and other parts of the country do not have that much of purchasing capacity. Attention should be paid to improve their condition. Chota Nagpur region, in particular, has been hit by drought for two years in succession. The required foodgrain are not being made available there. Therefore, plateaus of Palamu and Gaya in Chota Nagpur region and Hazaribagh districts should be declared drought prone areas.

It is the poor who live in the jungle. For some years, there is restriction on Mahua there and a cooperation of Kendu leaf has been set up. This has lead to reduction in the purchasing capacity of the people living there. They are very much worried about this problem. You should pay attention to it. I would request the Government to declare the above mentioned areas as drought-affected areas.

[English]

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in this discussion on a very important subject. The price structure is a very important part of an unorganised part of the entire economic structure of the whole country. We cannot discuss it in isolation from the other parts of the country. We have to see the general purchasing power of the people, particularly of the poor people, when we discuss the price rise in the country, particularly of the essential commodities.

Mention has been made of the fact of the increasing inflation and then decreasing the value of the money circulated. We should be more concerned with the fact of those living in the difficult areas. I represent the north-east where people had been since long-living in isolation from the main-stream not only in the social and cultural life but also in the agricultural pattern, production of

foodgrains and then food habit. Now, during the last few decades thanks to the generous attitude of the Government of India under the leadership beginning with Pandit Nehru and now currently under the leadership of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, we see the entire life of the people, that is the food habit, the clothing habit has changed in certain areas; and there this price rise has a very very serious impact because during the last 40 years—I do not know whether it is a long period or a short period; in the history of a nation, I think, 40 years is not a very long period—we have undergone basic changes; and I do not like to join with those who just express their totally negative and pessimistic views; because we have been passing through a very trying time. So, I do not like to give a negative view but want to make a few suggestions in the interest of the difficult areas, mainly north-east. Last year, for instance, during the month of February, we toured, through a Committee, the north-eastern area, particularly the part of Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya in the hilly areas of the city as well as the rural areas. The commodities, after the change of the food habit, were brought from outside at a huge cost; only a small quantity was available to selected people; and the people whose life style has changed due to improvement in communications and then so much of expenditure on projects and employment facilities through various departments of the Government, whatever purchasing power has been increased in their part of the country, has not been matched with the increase in the prices of the essential commodities. For instance, when opinion were selling here, say, at Rs. 2 per kg., they were sold there at Rs. 16 per kg. because the production and the agricultural programme have not caught up with their requirements.

Now, in these areas, the north-eastern hilly areas, a mention has been made of the Kashmir and the Himachal hilly areas also. I think they deserve our sympathetic consideration. When we discuss about the price rise and the government assistance through a policy either for distribution or for an increase in the subsidy, special consideration

should be given to the difficult hilly areas of the north-eastern area. With these words, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very important subject.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): On the 18th of this month, last week, this Government had made a statement in the Rajya Sabha, when there was an unstarred question, and this clearly shows the position of rising prices. These are the figures given by the Government only.

From July 1988 to October 1988 within a span of three and a half months the price of rice has gone up by 75 per cent; wheat prices have increased, because the whole-sale price index had risen from 269.7 to 298.7. The wheat prices in the last four months have gone up by 11 per cent. This is according to your statement. *Jawar* prices went up by 25 per cent. *Bajra* went up by 2.5 per cent. Gram or pulses—this is very serious—the whole sale price index in July for which was 673.73 has gone up to 873.73 which means 30 per cent price rise of grams in the last four months! It is really very shocking; rise in the price of *Urad dal* was by 6 per cent, that of potato by 10 per cent, of onion by 3 per cent, millets and meat one per cent each. The whole sale price of chillies in July was 368.4 and in October it has gone up to 535 which means 48 per cent rise in the price of chillies in the last four months.

Atta—which is the average common man's food—and wheat have gone up by 10 per cent, *guar* has risen by 10 per cent. Only Vanaspati oil, groundnut oil, mustard oil, coconut, salt and soap, all such items remained stagnant.

Fertilizer prices went up considerably and equally your cement prices by about 3 per cent. This is on 18th November 1988, according to the statement made by this Government in Rajya Sabha.

You see the position of rupee value in the last many years. The rupee value if you take as one hundred paise at the end of the Third Plan, now at the end of the Seventh

[Dr. Datta Samant]

Plan it is 17.89 or the rupee value has now come down to 12.79 paise. Within the last three and a half or four years the rupee value has gone down by 17 from 17.18 to 12.79. Your economy has eroded by 40 per cent. These are all Government's official figures, which I have collected. These are not mine. Therefore, I think we are going in the wrong direction. I do not know what happens the way the prices are rising and the way in which this Government is going. The whole economy is going in a wrong direction, right from the top level. As my friend Mr. Indrajit Gupta has said, your ship—although it should not happen may not dash against stone, the rising prices being what they are, and the economy may break in that case. When the prices rise the poor man of this country suffers the maximum. I have got the figures of these rising prices of all these things, and even the agricultural prices have risen. The farmers are not benefited. As per the survey of the Reserve Bank of India from 1971 to 1984-85 the expenditure on the inputs of the farmers went up by 170 per cent and according to the index the cost of output went up by 33 per cent. Therefore, all the farmers of this country are suffering. They are not getting the prices due to them, whatever may be the indices and the prices which I have described now. And what is happening is the whole economy is being run by the black marketeers, a few wholesale dealers those who are connected with the top leaders or multi nationals.

Therefore, whatever agitation that is conducted by the farmers either in Uttar Pradesh or by Shri Sharad Joshi in Maharashtra are really genuine. Therefore, I appeal to this Government that a time has come when it has to do something to stop the price rise. You have increased the black money to 40,000 crores. What are you going to do for that? It is the sellers' market for all these things. It is not the consumer market. The economy is being run by a few private people or 2,500 multi-nationals in the country because all the consumer items are in the sellers market. Only the top people are taking advantage. Ceat tyres and Modi tyres

control the price of tyres in this country. The price of Colgate toothpaste which is 8 annas or half a rupees is sold for Rs 4/-. They are not controlled by this Government. The consumer cloth which is given to the poor people is not controlled by the Government Hon. Minister will show me if cheap quality consumer cloth is available in Bombay or Delhi. Thousands of things are sold in black by the black marketeers. What you want to do in this country? Nothing of such type.

Sir, the cost of the basic goods like coal, steel, petrol went up during the last year considerably and this year, they went up by eight per cent. Because of this, all the industrialists are showing it three times, four times and collecting multi-more times from the consumer. The internal loans of this country are, Rs. 1.80 lakh crores and IMF loans have gone up to Rs 50,000 crores. This year, the deficit will go up to Rs 10000 crores.

Our whole economy is suffering from disease I may call it. When the man gets disease like T.B. Cancer, it should be cured. When a disease is fever or headache, it can be cured by Anacin, etc As a doctor who has to treat such has to treat such disease, I appeal to the Government to change their economic policies. You are all going in the hands of few people—multinational industrialists Unless that is done, I do not think such type of discussions here are going to help.

I appeal to the Government to have strict control over the distribution system.

[Translation]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : A lot of discussion has already taken place in the House on price policy. I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister of Finance that he should change the price policy. Price-rise cannot be checked until 14 essential commodities are sold on single price. Unless the dual price policy in respect of cement, edible oil and sugar is done away with, the price-rise cannot be checked. Edible oil is imported from other countries as it is scarce in our country.

A sizeable quota of this oil is provided to the vegetable oil companies but the Government does not charge sufficient levy from them. I will suggest that the levy on sugar mills should be 100 per cent. There has been much discussion in the House on the abnormal rise of petrol price. Shri Panika is not present here. He raised the issue of distribution. He blamed every State Government that they do not release the rationed commodities provided by the Centre. This problem cannot be solved until a correct approach is adopted in the matter of allotment and distribution. The State Government cannot fully meet the requirements because goods are not available in the godowns of F.C. I. at proper time. On the basis of my experience, I am saying that the quota allotted to our State is only on the papers. Commodities are seldom available in the godowns at the proper time. An hon Member mentioned here that like silk dealers indulge in bungling. We should consider increasing their margin. Whatever you said is not right, if they do it knowingly, You have to take steps against them to check them. If the silk dealer is not provided with sufficient quantity of raw material in time, and their quota is not increased, there will be problem to meet the demand.

So far as the distribution of 14 essential commodities is concerned, subsidies on these commodities is required to be increased a little more in the entire country. The Government claims that it is providing a subsidy of Rs 2000 crores for all the food articles, but the consumer is not getting any benefit from it. In fact, the entire amount of Rs 2000 crores is spent to meet the shortage of F.C.I. alone, because it is on the increase year after year. Nothing can be done without checking this leakage of F.C. I. and the subsidy will be of no benefit to the consumer.

I would like to draw your attention towards storage of foodgrains in F.C.I. godowns. Recently, on the first or second of this month, I had an opportunity to visit a F.C.I godown in my district. I found that rice of 1985 is still lying there. Last year also, I

saw that the old wheat which was distributed as relief work for the flood-affected people of my district was unfit for human consumption. When rotten foodgrains are supplied to the people through F.C.I. godowns, they think that it will be good for their cattle. I am afraid that rice of 1985 at present lying in the F.C.I. godown of my district will be released at the time of the next flood. The people do not accept such rotten foodgrains in the market. This is also one of the reasons for off-take.

Shri Panika is not present in the House at present. Had he been here, I would have liked to tell him about it. In the end, I would suggest that the minimum 14 essential commodities such as rice, wheat, sugar, edible oil, cloth etc. Should be made available to the people on uniform rates all over the country. For this, the subsidy will have to be increased a little more, as Rs 2000 crores is not sufficient. It is also necessary to streamline the distribution system of essential commodities. May be you will have to increase the subsidy by Rs 2000 crores more, but more than that will not, perhaps, be necessary.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now it is six O' clock. The Minister wants to reply today. Therefore, I suggest that we can extend the House for another half an hour or till the reply is over.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : (Bankura)
 : Let the reply given tomorrow, Sir,

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Minister, do you want to reply today?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIS. B. CHAVAN) : Yes(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He wants to finish it today itself. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You give your reply tomorrow, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: What about you?

18.00 hrs.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L.BAITHA) : tomorrow I won't be here.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER : Then you reply now. The final reply will be given by the Finance Minister tomorrow.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Tomorrow the Finance Minister will give the reply.

MR. DEPUTY -SPEAKER: I think we will extend the time for this discussion by another half-an-hour . Mr. Baitha, you may now speak

[Translation]

SHRI D.L. BAITHA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I associate myself with those hon Members who have expressed their deep concern over the price-rise. As you know, there is a mixed echoey is our country and in a developing country like ours price-rise is a natural phenomenon. If the prices are really galloping as has been mentioned by you, then it is every serious matter. But if we look at the facts which are before us then we will find that despite unprecedented drought and flood faced by the country, the price rise has not been so high as it was being expected and I think any Government can be proud of this thing. It is because of the fact that the Government was fully vigilant about price-rise. I tell you that during the current financial year, the whole sale price index registered an increase of 4.3 per cent which is less than even half of the increase of 9 per cent registered last year during the corresponding period.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon. Members mentioned about inflation. The annual rate of inflation has also come down to 5.8 as on 5.11.88 whereas it was 7.8 on 7.11.87 and 10.6 at the end of March, 1988.

Thus the rate of inflation has also come down.

Similarly the consumer price index for the industrial workers has also come down.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : (Murshidabad) : The best proof of inflation can be seen from the increase effected in the Salaries of M.Ps by the Government. If there has been no inflation, on what basis these salaries and other facilities have been increased?

SHRI D.L.BAITHA : There are many other things. The Finance Minister will well you about it tomorrow. If I start taking up all these things, I will not get time.

It is hoped that the consumer price index will further decline in the coming months. As I told you, the present price-rise is due to the severe drought and you know it very well that the impact of drought does not remain confined to that year in which it occurs but it continues afterwards also. It takes some time to control the situation created by drought. This has been the reason for this price-rise.

It is true that the prices of pulses, rice fruit, vegetables, sugar and khandsari have gone up but on the other hand we find that there has been 5.5 per cent decrease in the prices of edible oils which registered an increase of 25 per cent during last year.

To safeguard the interests of farmers we have taken steps to see that the prices of ^{for} groundnut and other edible oils do not ^{go} down. Just now one hon. Member said that the farmers do not get reasonable price for their produce. Similarly someone talked about the remunerative price. First of all we try to ensure that commodities are made available to our countrymen on reasonable prices without importing them from foreign countries. That is why you would have seen that the edible oil which was being supplied at the rate of Rupees 15 thousand per tonne to the vanaspati manufacturers, is now being offered at the commercial rate of Rs 19

thousand per tonne. It means that the oil which is produced in our country will be available to them at a low rate and thus the vanaspati manufacturers will purchase this oil and thus the prices of oil will not decline.

According to the latest figures available about prices it can be observed that in view of good prospects of Rabi crop and good arrival of kharif crop in the market during the current year, the prices of foodgrains and pulses are likely to come down. During the fortnight ending on 5.11.88, there has been 1.1 per cent decline in the whole Sale Price-Index of rice, 0.4 per cent in wheat 0.5 per cent in millet and 0.1 per cent in pulses. Similarly during the fortnight ending on 5.11.88 there has been 0.6 per cent decline in the price-index of sugar 3.7 per cent in khand-sari and 12.0 per cent in gur.

The Government has given special emphasis on increasing the production of essential commodities which are in short supply. Besides other things, the Government also makes arrangements for the supply of these commodities. If the price of a particular commodity goes up, the Government remains vigilant and takes steps to restrict it at a reasonable level by resorting to imports, if necessary. That is why we at times import rice, wheat, pulses, kerosene oil etc.

There is a great difference between the production and the demand of pulses and therefore in order to meet the demand, the Government give licences for importing pulses under O.G.L. In 1984-85 the Government had given licence for import of 2.35 lakh tonnes of pulses, in 1985-86, 4.29 lakh tonnes, in 1987-88, 7.57 lakh tonnes and in 1988-89, registration for import has been made for 6.421 lakh tonnes upto 30.9.88. The Government does not want that heavy imports should be resorted to and the farmers producing pulses should not get any incentive so that they may not discontinue growing pulses thinking that it is not profitable. We want that there should be no imports and a reasonable price should be ensured so that the farmers may get an

incentive to produce more pulses.

Several hon. Members have stated that the Public distribution System prevalent in this country is not working properly. As you know, the success of the Public Distribution System depends upon the Co-operation of State Government. (*Interruptions*)

As far as the distribution of foodstuffs is concerned, I do not discriminate whether it is the Congress Government or any other Government. Time and again we have been organising meetings of Chief Ministers and Food Ministers of State Governments and impressing upon them to make the Public Distribution System effective and to take necessary action against the person who violates the law. Not only this, we monitor it continuously and sometimes check it and direct the State Governments to take steps in this regard.

Mr. Gupta just told that though the foodstuffs are allotted to the State Governments but there is no offtake. It is clear from the figures that whatsoever we used to allot to the States, now we are supplying less than that because we have rationalised the distribution system. But the off-take is in excess because the Government has increased the number of shops. The Government is making arrangements to provide foodstuffs to the people in the remote areas where the population of the poor, harijans and Adivasis is more. If the hon members bring to our notice the complaints that they receive we will seek co-operation from the concerned State Governments and try to remove them.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : The controlled rate cloth is not available.

SHRI D. L. BAITHA : We will look into the matter and try to find out why it is like that.

So, far as the question of taking action against hoarders, blackmarketeers and other anti-social elements is concerned, I would like to tell you that we conducted as many as 75,769 raids, arrested 5,853 persons, prosecuted 4184 persons and pun-

[Sh. D.L. Baitha]
ished 295 persons during the period 1.1.88 to 21.10.88 and goods worth Rs 1044.27 lakh was also confiscated. *(Interruptions)* If I have said 295 persons have been punished, they must be behind bars. If you want to get specific information in this regard, I will tell you but how can we extend the period of imprisonment for a person upto 6 months, if the court has sentenced him to one month's imprisonment. *(Interruptions)* Not only this, to check irregularities in the forward trading, we conducted 60 raids in 1987 and arrested 228 persons. Therefore you cannot say that the Government is not vigilant in this matter or is keeping silent over it. But as I said earlier, I want the State Governments to take keen interest in the problems and make concerted efforts in removing them.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : In which State maximum cases have been registered?

SHRI D.L. BAITHA : Although we have these figures but at present I do not have the details. If you want I will tell you later.

Last time when it was being discussed here the hon. members had expressed their concern that if the rate of inflation and price-rise continue to remain same, the price index will touch two figures. But you will be happy to know that Shri Panika ji and our Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi have said that such a thing will never happen. You might have heard during the course of discussion that the rate of inflation has come down to 5.8. Therefore you need not worry about it. The Government is fully vigilant. The Government is fully concentrating on what the Hon. Prime Minister has said and are making efforts to further reduce the rate of inflation so that there could be further further fall in price rise in also.

So far as the question of production of agricultural commodities' and providing in-

centives to farmers" to concerned, I would like to tell you that whether it is wheat, rice sugarcane or edible oil seeds it has always been our effort to provide maximum incentives to the farmers. We do not want that because of lack of incentives he should have an excuse to produce less. But it is a well know fact that the Government cannot favour only one party. Where on the one hand it has to safeguard the interest of the farmers, on the other, it has to protect the consumers also. The Government pays reasonable price and incentives in order to keep a balance between the interests of farmers and consumers.

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : The Government has increased the support price of sugarcane by 50 paise per quintal whereas the price of sugar has been increased by 25 paise per kilogram.

SHRI D.L. BAITHA : C.A.C.P. works out the price on the basis of S.M.P. I think you will agree that the Government has been successful in checking inflation and price-rise.

With these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Hon. Minister Shri S.B. Chavan will reply tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

18.21. hrs.

The Lok Sabha then Adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, November 25, 1988/Agrahayana 4, 1910 (Saka)