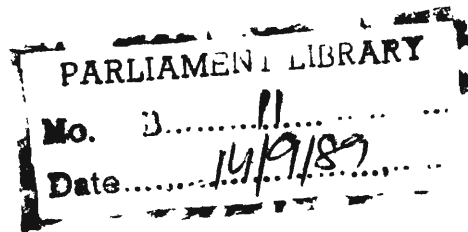


LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Thirteenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



सत्यमेव जयते



(Vol. XLVIII contains Nos. 21 to 30)

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Friday, March 31, 1989/Chaitra 10, 1911
(Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*English*]

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, with profound sorrow I have to inform the House of the sad demise of two of our former colleagues, namely, Shri Benoy Krishna Daschowdhury and Dr P. Srinivasan

Shri Benoy Krishna Daschowdhury was a Member of the Fourth and Fifth Lok Sabha during 1967-77 representing Cooch-Behar constituency of West Bengal.

A lawyer by profession, Shri Daschowdhury was a dedicated social worker. He actively participated in socio-philanthropic activities. A widely travelled person, he was life member of the India Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and was the Indian delegate to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference held at Canberra, Australia in 1970.

An able parliamentarian, Shri Daschowdhury took keen interest in the proceedings of the House and made valuable contributions thereto. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Government Assurances during 1974-76.

Shri Benoy Krishna Daschowdhury passed away on 25 February, 1989 at Calcutta at the age of 59.

Dr. P. Srinivasan was a Member of the Third Lok Sabha during 1962-67 representing Madras-North constituency.

A medical practitioner by profession, Dr. Srinivasan was a prominent social worker and was associated with several institutions in various capacities. He took particular interest in the protection and welfare of orphaned children. He was member of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences in 1962

Dr. Srinivasan passed away at Madras on 12 March, 1989 at the age of 81

We deeply mourn the loss of these friends and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved families

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the deceased.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Import of Non-Ferrous Metals by MMTC

*431. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) proposes in-

creased import of non-ferrous metals during the current financial year;

(b) if so, whether Government contemplate to provide additional allocation to the MMTC in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the countries from where the MMTC proposes to import non-ferrous metals; and

(e) the financial benefits to the MMTC to accrue therefrom?

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

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

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: I am not happy with the reply given by the hon. Minister. However, I would like to put my supplementary. I would like to know the amount of foreign exchange sanctioned to MMTC for import of copper and also zinc for 1988-89. I also want to know whether it is also a fact that the Indian engineering industry, the Confederation of Engineering Industry and Indian Electrical and Electronics Manufacturers' Association have requested the Government to increase the foreign exchange allocation in order to see that the MMTC gives allotment as per the demand.

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: The foreign exchange allocations for the actual approved projected target for the import of non-ferrous metals could not be made because of the critical balance of payment position. Therefore, we had to reduce import. MMTC, in spite of infrastructural arrangements, could not import for lack of scarce foreign exchange allocation programme. We have received representations from the industry. But the fact remains that in this critical year, in view of the balance of payment situation, we could not do it. But at the same time, it did not adversely affect the exports.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Is it

a fact that there is a feeling among the various manufacturers and other that there is inordinate delay in reaching the metals at various ports of the country? Is it also a fact that some of the companies and associations are importing copper under OGL and after the same is arrived in India it is sold as rods and billets? If so, what action does Government propose to take against such people?

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: Copper is not allowed to be imported under OGL. Copper is canalised through MMTC. But copper scrap is allowed under OGL. If any specific complaint is given to us, we will certainly examine the matter critically again.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: What about the complaints that the metal is not reaching the ports in time?

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: If any specific cases are reported to us, certainly we will take care of that.

Narmada Project

*432. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK†:
SHRI PARKASH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work on the Narmada Sagar Project is going on as per schedule;

(b) if so, the present stage of the construction work of this project;

(c) the expenditure incurred so far; and

(d) the steps being taken for the early completion of the project?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). The

work on the project has started since November, 1987 and an expenditure of about Rs. 74 crores has been incurred up to December, 1988. Narmada Valley Development Authority has been set up by the State Government for timely execution of the project.

[English]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Part (b) and (d) of my question has not properly been replied. Further I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the execution of work on this project is going on according to the original time schedule; if not, what was the initial budget estimate and how much increase in the budget is required due to delay in the execution and what is the actual state of construction work at this time?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has thrown several questions at a time. He has stated that part (b) and (c) of the question have not been replied properly. In reply to part (b), I have stated that an expenditure of about Rs. 74 crores has been incurred up to December, 1988. Besides this, he has also desired to know about the steps being taken for the early completion of construction work of the project. In reply to the above I have stated that Narmada Valley Development Authority has been set up. In this connection, I would like to inform the hon. Member that only a preliminary work has been started so far. Pre-construction works i.e. construction of building, for high-schools and hospital and construction work of office-building, approach roads and railway sidings are in progress. Preparatory work regarding the excavation and the main dam is still in progress. Besides this, he has also desired to know about the time by which it will be completed. In this connection, I would like to tell him that the whole project is likely to be completed by 2006 or 2007. If some other question has been left uncovered, I am prepared to reply to it.

[English]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Sir, I wanted to know in my first supplementary what was the initial budget estimate for the construction of this dam. That part of the question has not been replied to.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, its estimated cost is approximately Rs. 2000 crores.

MR. SPEAKER: Will you ask even the third question?

[English]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Sir, the Narmada Valley Project is facing a lot of opposition from scientists and environment experts and it is reported that some changes are taking place in the Narmada Valley which may affect the whole project in the long run. It is assessed that once the dam is constructed, the large amounts of water stored will further weaken the geological structure at the origin of the river. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to use remote sensing satellite to study the entire area to be affected by the ambitious Narmada Valley Development Project.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some news item has appeared in the newspaper today. Perhaps, on the basis of it, the hon. Member wants to know about it but I would like to tell him that Narmada Central Authority has constituted two sub-committees for environmental safeguards. One of them is primarily for environmental safeguards. In this regard, Madhya Pradesh Government has also prepared plan for compensatory afforestation. Archaeological Survey of India is also conducting survey and Madhya Pradesh Government also in cooperation with Bombay Natural History Society has initiated action in

regard to the flora of that area. Geological survey of India has also started the study of fossils. Thus, from all aspects, it is leading towards the provision of environmental security and

[English]

Remote sensing technique is being increasingly adopted to monitor the resources position and the Ministry of Water Resources is also adopting this technique.

Review of National Water Policy

*435. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the meeting of the National Water Resources Council held in September, 1987, Government of Karnataka had made several suggestions about the National Water Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). Several suggestions made by the members including the former Chief Minister of Karnataka were discussed at the meeting of the National Water Resources Council, and the National Water Policy was unanimously adopted.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at least we are glad that the National Water Policy was unanimously adopted. I want to know specifically from the hon. Minister what has the Government decided regarding providing irrigation facilities at fifty percent dependability, instead of seventy-five percent de-

pendability. This is very important in view of the fact that all the areas are being affected by frequent droughts. Secondly, I want to know what are the guidelines to be followed for equitable distribution of water of an inter-State river, aiming at the elimination of social economic and regional imbalances among the States?

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, about the question raised by the hon. Member here, I would like to inform him that provision for all these points has been made under the National Water Policy. He has spoken of the 50 percent dependability planning but what I have to say in this connection is that reply for the same has already been given in para 3 of the national policy. If I start reading it, it will take a lot of time of the House. If the hon. Member so desires, I can give a copy of it to him. Reply to his second question has been given under para 4(4). Reply to his third question has been given in para 10.1. If the hon. Member wants it that way, I can give this book to him.

[English]

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I sought a specific information from the hon. Minister. She has not replied to both of my questions. I wanted to know about prescribing guidelines for providing irrigation and also about the 50% dependability.

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): Sir, this suggestion was made by some Members of the Council when the National Water Policy was discussed. The Karnataka Chief Minister of course raised this issue about the dependability of 50%. But the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh did not agree to it. As per the decision of the Tribunal, they have taken 75% dependability while giving the vital decision regarding Krishna Water basin. Thereafter, the Tribunal had also indicated in its final report that

after the review by 2000 A.D. that water can be ascertained on 50% dependability. The dependability question was discussed in detail, I remember, by the Members of the Council who are the Chief Ministers. So, this was discussed in detail and ultimately a unanimous decision was taken on the water policy and 50% dependability was adopted.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: What about the equitable distribution of water to eliminate social, economic and regional imbalances?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The distribution of water is on the basis of so many factors, like cultivable command area, the surface water, ground water, utilisation of water and the population. These were the issues raised by the Karnataka Chief Minister. Whenever there is a dispute between the States regarding the sharing of water, these issues have been taken into consideration by the Tribunals and all the Tribunals have decided regarding the sharing of water and their decisions have been taken into consideration.

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY: Sir, as rightly pointed out by the hon. Minister to resolve Inter-State river water disputes, the Government constituted several tribunals on several occasions. For example, the Bachawat Tribunal was set up to resolve on the sharing of Krishna water between the States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra and this Tribunal had given its award long back. But it has not yet been implemented. In view of this fact, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what action the Government proposes to take to implement the decision of the Bachawat Tribunal.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Supplementary question asked by the hon. Member is not related to the main question. But the points raised by the Karnataka Chief Minister regarding this question have been discussed here. All

these points have been discussed in the National Water Resources Council and they had already replied to it. On these points, deliberations have been made in the National Water Institute Council and these had been adopted by them unanimously. But the question now asked by the hon. Member does not pertain to the main question.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: I would like to point out, Sir, that in spite of the fact that the National Water Policy was presented to the Parliament nearly two years back, still many people feel that the clearance for the project proposals is moving at a snail's pace. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will present a White Paper to the Parliament in regard to the clearance of several irrigation works pending before the Government. Because as soon as the Government clears those projects, the States or the Centre can take up those projects and benefits will go to the people.

Secondly, as my friend Mr. Chandrasekhara Murthy asked, this transfer of water from one basin to another basin will, to some extent, provide equitable justice and late Dr. K.L. Rao suggested a scheme to link up Ganga and Cauvery. Technically it was found to be feasible. I would like to know through you whether the Government has got any intention to take up that project in the near future.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the second question asked by him is in no way related to this question. Earlier, he has stated that the projects received from the States do not get the clearance from the Government of India. This also does not have any concern with it. Even then, I would like to tell the hon. Member that whenever technical advice is sought by a State Government from the Government of India, these projects are returned by them with some observations. Hence, all this

depends upon the extent of expediency shown by the State Government in their reply. Then the Government of India takes action accordingly.... (*Interruptions*)

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: Hon. Speaker, Sir, we prepare bit projects based on loans from the World Bank and these projects always have a share of the State Government. But in fact, what happens is that we construct colonies for irrigation projects at the cost of crores of rupees and open up our offices there. Then this money gets blocked and remains unproductive for years together and no action is taken on those projects. Similarly, on one such project in Apra in Bilaspur district of Madhya Pradesh and several other projects, crores of rupees have already been spent but no action has been taken on them till today. Are some direction issued to the State Governments by the Central Government for taking further action on them. Thousands and crores of rupees are spent up on such fruitless projects. What action is taken in such cases?

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI: I would like to point out that it has no relevance with this question... (*Interruptions*) The question of the hon. Member may be read out. He has mentioned that the Chief Minister of Karnataka had sent several suggestions in regard to the National Water Policy. That is the main point of the question. He has also desired to know about the guidelines to be issued to the State Governments and if these have been issued to them. As regards, guidelines, we always issue them because programmes cannot be implemented without guidelines. Irrigation is the State subject but Government of India always issues guidelines. (*English*)

Lockout in Hindustan Lever Sewree Factory

*436. **DR. DATTA SAMANT†:**
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total excise duty loss to Government because of prolonged lockout in Sewree factory of Hindustan Lever Ltd. in Bombay.

(b) whether Government have given permission to this multinational to get the products manufactured by giving contracts to other companies; and

(c) if so, the excise duty recovered by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) Rs. 40 crores approximately during the current financial year.

(b) No such permission is required under Central excise law.

(c) Does not arise.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Sir, this is the concrete example of how the multinationals in this country are ruling and the Government is working under their thumb without making any inquiries.

Sir, coming to the point, in respect of Hindustan Lever Factory in Bombay, the lock-out is for 10 months and daily there is a loss of Rs. 15 lakhs of excise duty to the Government. The turnover of the Hindustan Lever Factory went up by Rs. 88 crores in that particular time i.e., from 1987 to 1988, from Rs. 934 crores to Rs. 1022 crores. The profit went up to Rs. 94 crores.

Sir, the Unilever factor which started with Rs. 28 lakhs capital about 20 years back, now its assets are Rs. 334 crores and Rs. 58 crores were transferred to Britain as royalty there. Per Life Buoy in the Sewree factory which costs Rs. 3/-, Rs. 3.08 p. is our wage and for Rexona Rs. 3.09p. is the wage bill. Sir, you can imagine how very minimal, not even 5 percent wage is paid to these workmen and the wage bill is 6.4 percent and the profit is 32 percent. Sir, going through all these details, I know what the hon. Minister

is going to tell. I am coming to that point.

MR. SPEAKER: He knows everything.

(Interruptions)

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Sir, the very important point is....

MR. SPEAKER: I have assured the hon. Minister that you know everything.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: Sir, this multinational is telling us—I am the leader of 4000 workmen like this. He is telling us that before the Government lay down anything, "I want to link total wage, dearness allowance, and house rent with agreement and the wage structure must be linked with productivity." The Labour Commission stated that this is absurd and that they do not want this to be done. They want to redeploy the workers as per to choice of the management because of rationalisation and new machinery. The workers and the Mathai Board must give in writing to Government that they must act as per the management and that is why they have put this lockout. They have put nine conditions. Government is losing Rs. 50 crores. Are you going to advice the Hindustan Lever that they must correct themselves and see that such type of things do not occur?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: We have got all sympathy with the workers and we do not like that there should be lockouts. If there is a cordial agreement between the management and the workers, it would be a very ideal situation. To get the lockout lifted is within the purview of the State Government. I have informed the State Government Labour Minister and he is holding many meetings but he management and the workers did not come to terms.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: The management is putting conditions for talks like total wage linked with productivity, redeployment etc, and that the Government has to give an undertaking.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I am not aware what are those terms and conditions. But I would only say that we are also not happy because we are losing revenue because of the lockout. Therefore, I would like that you also adopt pragmatic stance as you are heading that union.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: They want to link total wage with productivity and give 3 np as wage bill. That is their policy. You cannot adopt policy. You cannot do that. They have put nine conditions before they will have talks. Otherwise not.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I do not know what terms and conditions they would put but I would urge upon you to extract the maximum benefit for the workers for which we are there. Our moral support is there. (Interruptions)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: There is no necessity of having a licence to get the manufacturing done by the contractors. That is the law. You kindly also see that the lockout is lifted. Don't be very much offended in your stance.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: I am not satisfied with the reply. This shows how the rules of the multi-nationals are. I am coming to second question. No such permission is required under the Central Excise law. Rexona Company is getting sub-contract from the foreign company. There are other companies like the Ultra Marine Pigments and Products Ltd, Madras and the Kerala State Detergents and Chemical Ltd., Kuttipuram, Prokage Industry Ltd, Pimpan, the Cyborb Ltd, Bangalore and the Bombay Soaps, Rexona. There are eight companies. My point is they are getting the same products from the contract outside. Here the question arises that in spite of it, their turn over went up by Rs. 88 crores. Your Excise comes because of the lockout of this factory. The turn over is down by Rs. 30 crores. These managements or subsidiaries from where they are taking, they are getting more production done by sub-contract. These are the list of various companies. This management

must be cheating, getting products done by sub-contracts outside and not paying you the excise. Is the Government aware of such things? Is it making enquiries and, if they are doing it, then why not you prosecute them and make detailed enquiries?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: As per our information, even if the products which are being manufactured either by the contractors or by other units, excise wherever it is payable it is being paid.

DR. DATTA SAMANT: What about MRTTP Companies?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Anyhow, we would not like that anybody should evade Excise and, therefore, this suggestion we would bear in mind and made a tight scrutiny.

[Translation]

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the loss of revenue to the Government is about 40 crores of rupees because of the closure of factory in Sewree about which Shri Datta Samant has also made his points. Out of the total loss of Rs. 40 crores, the Government of Maharashtra has sustained a loss of Rs. 10 crore, whereas remaining loss amounting to Rs. 30 crores has been sustained by the Central Government. Neither Shri Datta Samant nor Hindustan lever Ltd. has suffered any loss. It is labourers who have been suffering due to the strike prolonging for the last ten months.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: It is not because of strike but because of lock-out.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: I know it is due to lock-out. The Hindustan lever Ltd. claims that they pay the most handsome wages to their employees. This leads to resentment among the workers in other units of Bombay. I would like to urge upon Shri Datta Samant to initiate action to hold talk with the Finance Ministry to find out ways and means for early withdrawals of lock out in the factory, so that the labourers could be

benefited and their union also continued to function (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Would you give reply?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I do not have any reply to this question.

[English]

SHRI KAMAL NATH: Sir, I do not know what is the diversion that is taking place to other units. Maybe there is some diversion and the Hindustan Lever may be getting manufactured all these things by diversion. Maybe, there is evasion of excise duty. I do not know the position. But one thing is definitely happening for which I am grateful to Dr. Datta Samant. Due to the lock-out of the factory which they have declared, they have shifted some part of their production to my District. I would like to pose a question to the hon. Minister. (*Interruptions*) By their ingenious devices and by his skill he has been able to raise the salary of the workmen. That is a good thing and we can also demand it in our District. There is no problem. My question arises out of the diversion of the production. Production has been diverted because of the lock-out of the Bombay factory. I would like to know as to what is the increase in revenue collection of that production in Chhindwara District. Will the Minister reply to my question? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I cannot answer this question at present because I do not have the facts now.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I can get your tangle resolve. You go on producing in your unit and also get the lock-out withdrawn in this factory.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: There is no factory in my area. a factory maybe set up there.

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Shri Datta

Samant is behind the loss of Rs. 40 crores. He may therefore, be requested. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

Pending Cases In Lower Courts in Delhi

*437. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of divorce cases, the cases of grant of maintenance allowance to the spouse and to children in divorce cases pending in Delhi lower courts to date;

(b) year-wise break up of such cases in the year 1987 and 1988;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps Government propose to take to have these pending cases cleared; and

(e) the oldest cases relates to which year?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) to (e). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). As 1-3-1989, 2596 divorce cases were pending; of which 494 and 1269 related to the years 1987 and 1988, respectively.

The information relating to the number of cases of grant of maintenance allowance to the spouse and to children in divorce cases pending in lower courts in Delhi is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The pendency is due to several complex factors like increase in the number of cases instituted from year to year.

(d) Besides increasing the strength of Judicial Officers, recommendations passed by the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held in 1985 and the recommendations of 77th Report of the Law Commission in this regard have been sent to Delhi High Court and Delhi Administration for implementation. Ten family courts have also been sanctioned for the Union Territory of Delhi under the Family Courts Act, 1984.

(e) 1980.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI:

The answer to the basic aspect of the question has not been found in the statement made by the hon. Minister. The reason is best known to him. he has stated that the information is being collected and it would be laid on the Table of the House. The purpose of putting the question is, therefore, defeated. Nevertheless, I would like to know one thing from the hon. Minister. While replying to the question regarding the number of divorce cases, he has stated that all the cases are increasing enormously in our country. But that is not supposed to be a healthy sign to our custom, culture, conventions and all that. I would like to know whether the Government has conducted any survey to find out the chief factors and basic causes which are responsible for the increase in the number of divorce cases in our country and if so the details thereof.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: We have not done any survey for the increase in the number of divorce cases and the maintenance cases pending in a court of law. But the fact is that with the advent of the Western onslaught of consumerism on the Indian culture, the very Life-style is changing with the developmental activities both in respect of education and urbanisation. These are the factors which have changed the very life-style of the people and mode of living and the attitude to life.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: The number of cases in which maintenance has not been granted or rather inordinate

delay is taking place, that aspect has not been covered. Nevertheless, in the second part, the the hon. Minister has stated that certain recommendations which were made in 1985 in consultation with Chief Minister, Chief Justices, Law Ministers and also the recommendations of the Law Commission have been sent to Delhi High Court and Delhi Administration for its quick implementation so that number of divorce cases particularly with regard to the maintenance could be disposed of quickly. May I know what were those recommendations and whether they are being implemented actually or not? What has been the effect of those recommendations and after implementation of those recommendations whether the number of cases have gone down actually or not.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The recommendations for reduction of cases are on account of various factors. It depends upon the nature of cases, the party, the clients, the counsel and their way of approaching courts for getting justice, etc. Various suggestions have been made for reduction of the cases. We have written to all the High Courts to follow these and implement the recommendations. Till then, there has not been any considerable reduction in the cases.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: The Minister has agreed that the foreign culture has influenced our country by which the divorce cases have increased in the country and courts have become pregnant with a bundle of cases and disposal is almost nil. The Government has been assuring, time and again, inside the House and outside the House, that matter would be looked into. Laws have also been changed very frequently. But the implementation is nil. May I know from the hon. Minister, since he has been also influenced by the foreign culture so far as consumption and all these things are concerned, what steps is he going to take in the matter to reduce the cases in the courts of law?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, as far as the main question is concerned, this is with regard to the maintenance and not with

regard to all the cases that are pending in the courts. For that, I should say, for the maintenance cases, laws have been amended so that cases are heard from day-to-day basis and there are not many more adjournments sought to the disadvantage of the clients. For that purpose, the Special Marriage Act, 1954 has been amended and the Hindu Marriage Act has also been amended and it has been suggested that the cases may be heard and decided within six months and appeals thereon, if any, may be decided in three months.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: In regard to divorce cases, the jurisdiction to decide a divorce case is with the subordinate courts and the district courts. The district munsifs do not have the jurisdiction to entertain divorce cases. That is one of the reasons why the divorce cases have been pending for a long time. There was a proposal by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to amend the Act so that district munsifs get the jurisdiction to decide even the divorce cases, as most of these villagers who seek divorce are in the lower rung and they can easily approach the munsif courts. That suggestion was made by the Government of Andhra Pradesh long ago. Will the Government think of amending the Act so that the jurisdiction is conferred on the munsif magistrates to decide divorce cases?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: No doubt, this is a suggestion for action. But, at the same time, I wish to inform the House that the question mainly pertains to Delhi Courts.

May I inform the House that the Family Courts Act has been enacted only to settle disputes concerning family affairs in a conciliatory manner and it is binding on the States that they should establish family courts where there is a population of ten million. I can only suggest that the Andhra Pradesh Government can make use of the Family Courts Act and try to help the people who are litigating in the courts.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: In Delhi the original jurisdiction for divorce cases is with

the High Court itself.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: In Delhi there have been ten family courts sanctioned and the Delhi Administration is working on it.

Visit of UK Delegation

*441. **SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL†:**
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether British Secretary of State visited India during February, 1989;

(b) whether a British business delegation also visited India to explore the possibilities of joint collaboration;

(c) if so, the details and outcome thereof;

(d) the details of the agreement; if any, reached between the two countries; and

(e) the time by which it would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) to (e). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

A delegation from UK led by their Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, which included representatives of some of their business organisations, visited India in February, 1989 to attend a meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee. Agreed Minutes were signed at the conclusion of the meeting which, inter alia, covered cooperation in the area of trade and trade promotion, multilateral issues and industrial cooperation. Discussions in the Joint Committee were essentially in the nature of consultation between the two Governments and there is no time frame for implementation on these

discussions.

[Translation]

SHRI SHANTI LAL PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the points which were discussed with the visiting delegations of Britain and what was our point of discussion. I would also like to know whether any agreement was reached on the points discussed or whether any action is proposed to be taken?

[English]

SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI: We have already stated in our statement that a delegation from UK led by their Secretary of State for Trade and Industry including the representatives of some of their business organisations visited India in February 1989 to attend a regular meeting which we hold periodically of Indo-British Economic committee. In that meeting we discuss always the basic things concerning the trade, as to how we can overcome the trade deficit, which are the new areas we can enter into the market apart from the quota items, to persuade them so that they can plead our case to increase our quota in the EEC countries, to review the joint collaboration performance and to discuss the trade promotion programmes which have been started between India and UK right from 1983. The first TPP was over between 1983-86 and the second TPP has been recently started. We discuss these things between ourselves. In general we discuss all the areas covering the trade between India and UK.

MR. SPEAKER: Question 442. Shri George Joseph Mundackal is absent.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, I have a submission. Question 442 is very important because it concerns lakhs of farmers. So will you please direct the Minister to answer this question? It is very very important and you are also interested in this Sir,

SHRI SURESH KURUP: There is a

precedent also, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: You put another question; I will allow it. Question 443.

Involvement of Shipping Clearing Agents in Smuggling Activities and Excise Duty Evasion in Madras

*443. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether shipping clearing agents are involved in smuggling activities and excise evasion in Madras;

(b) if so, whether investigations have been made in this regard; and

(c) the details of the steps taken to prevent involvement of clearing agents in a smuggling activities and excise evasion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) Only two cases of the involvement of a Customs House Agents/Shipping Agent of Madras Customs House or his employee in Customs duty evasion and in smuggling activities have been noticed in the recent past.

(b) and (c). Both the cases were investigated. In one case booked in January, 1986, a penalty of Rs. 5,000 was imposed on the Customs House Agent in departmental adjudication. The Agent has preferred an appeal before the Customs, Central Excise and Gold Control Appellate Tribunal. This appeal is pending decision. The licence of the Customs House Agent was also suspended. However, the Hon'ble High Court of Madras has stayed the operation of this order of suspension.

In the other case booked in June, 1986

in which 750 gold biscuits worth Rs. 1.96 crores approximately were seized from a car at Coimbatore the involvement of the Managing Director of Shipping Agent was noticed. This person has been arrested and also detained under the provisions of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974. Prosecution proceedings have also been launched in the Court of law and departmental adjudication is pending before the Collector of Customs, Madras.

Action is taken under the Customs Act, 1962 as well as the Customs House Agents Licensing Regulation, 1984 against the Customs House Agent and their employee who are found to be involved in smuggling activities and evasion of Customs duty. This action includes imposition of penalty in departmental proceedings, arrests and prosecutions in suitable cases and detention under the provisions of Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, if considered necessary.

SHRI N. DENNIS: In the statement only two cases of tax evasion are noticed in Madras; but there are several unnoticed cases of tax evasion and also smuggling. We are widely hearing about them in the newspapers and through other means. The port authorities are the custodians of the goods and the shipping agents are under the direct control of the port authorities; they are not under the direct control of customs officials. In case they connive together there is a wide scope for tax evasion and smuggling. In such a circumstance, may I know what effective steps the Revenue officials would take to prevent smuggling and tax evasion?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I have answered that two cases have come to our notice and action is taken. As the Member says, there are other cases which are unnoticed ones. But we don't have any notice of the unnoticed cases. But so far as shipping agents are concerned, if they indulge in any smuggling activity or any activity by which they want to evade duty and want to do some-

thing which is illegal from the customs side, certainly, we have power to take action.

The hon. Member would be pleased to know that in one case we have suspended the licence against which they have obtained the stay order from the High Court. We have imposed a penalty of Rs. 5000/-. In another case, a man was found with contraband gold and was detained under FERA and prosecution has been launched and all actions have been taken.

SHRI N. DENNIS: The shipping agents manipulate facts by wrong classification and gradation. Taxable items are classified as non-taxable items and mis-representation is also made. May I know from the hon. Minister what appropriate steps Government would take against such wrong classification and gradation?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: If there is filing of wrong of false documents or mis-declaration action is being taken. In the first case the bill of entry was based on wrong document and, therefore, action was taken. We scrutinise and find out whether mis-declaration is there or proper documents have been filed or not. If we find proper documents have not been filed, then certainly they are liable to action.

[Translation]

GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the penalty of Rs. 5 thousand imposed on the person who produced wrong documents and became an accomplice in tax evasion and cancellation of his licence are very light punishments for a crime of such a severe nature. To my view, the most stringent punishment should be awarded to the persons found abetting in smuggling activities and tax evasion worth crores of rupees. The light punishment awarded to such persons would not deter others, it would, rather, give impetus to them to do such crimes. In this way, the Government would not be able to check this menace. A large number of cases of wrong gradation or classification are being reported in our country and it should be looked into the people

involved in such activities have been cornering huge amount of Government money. Due to the wrong gradation made by house agents, shipping agents etc. the Government have been suffering heavy loss of revenue. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister would take stringent measures against the persons who file wrong declarations, so as to plug the loss of Government revenue.

[English]

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I very much appreciate the supplementary put by the learned Member. I appreciate his concern. In this case, the duty evasion was to the tune of Rs. 2.20 lakhs. *Prima facie* we found that some forged documents were placed along with the bill of entry.

I also feel that the penalty of Rs. 5000/- is too inadequate. Therefore, today morning itself I asked the Department to find out whether a prosecution could be launched and if it is launchable then they will launch the prosecution.

Expenditure in Government Departments

*446. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a rush of expenditure during the last three months of the financial year in Government Departments;

(b) whether Government are aware that this malpractice leads to unnecessary purchases, supply of substandard items and corruption; and

(c) whether Government propose to streamline the system so that a balanced expenditure pattern is spread throughout the entire financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c). Government have issued instructions from time to time to avoid rush of expenditure during the last quarter of the financial year. For this purpose, the Financial Advisers have been asked to review expenditure on month to month basis so that the expenditure is spread throughout the year and no rush of expenditure takes place during the end of the financial year to utilise the budget provisions. The pace of expenditure is relatively speaking, faster in the later part of the year largely because of the position that public sector undertakings draw on Government funds after utilising their internal resources, release of final instalment of assistance to State Governments and autonomous bodies has necessarily to be on the basis of statements of expenditure to be submitted by them.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Mr. Speaker, Sir, neither has part (a) nor part (b) of the question been answered. In fact, part (c) has been answered in the usual manner. The hon. Minister has evaded the question. May I seek your protection and ask him firstly to answer the question?

MR. SPEAKER: My protection is there. Not only I can request but I can order him to do it.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: So, I request the hon. Minister to answer parts (a) and (b) and then I will ask my supplementary.

SHRIB.K. GADHVI: We have said: "(a), (b) & (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House."

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Sir, there has been a special ruling by the Speaker that as far as possible Ministers should give separate answers to parts (a), (b), (c), etc. whenever they are asked like that by the hon. Members.

MR. SPEAKER: And we stick to that.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There is a ruling like that.

MR. SPEAKER: I take note of it.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The Minister should take note of it.

MR. SPEAKER: I will try to fix that up.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: There is no use of having rulings; there is no use of having anything if questions are not going to be answered. Then, why put the question?

MR. SPEAKER: Don't worry. This question shall be answered. Nobody can evade it. It shall be answered.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: The most important point in this question is that at the end of the year, there is a rush for expenditure and malpractices take place. It is a well known fact that just somehow or other the Budget allocations are finished and people take this money out. This is a very beneficial method of making a little undue income, maybe above the table or under the table. We cannot classify it. What is the attitude of this Government, specially towards this malpractice? Maybe the system they have built is wrong. They have to review it every month. But on the other hand, the answer reveals that the Government seems to co-operate in totality to see that the exploitation of the system takes place. I wonder as to what is the Minister's stand, specifically on the malpractices. I would like to know whether any analysis has been done as to what is the percentage of expenditure spent during the last three months vis-a-vis in the earlier 9 months today is the last day of the financial year and also whether they have investigated as to what are the purchases that have been done and whether there are any malpractices existent or they have just let it be as there is.

SHRIB.K. GADHVI: The expenditure is being incurred by the various Ministers and they choose in what fashion and manner

they should spend the money allocated to them. But from time to time, we impress upon our Financial Advisors that as far as possible the rush of expenditure in the last part of the year should be avoided and unnecessary spending in that way should be avoided. With regard to malpractices, if there is anybody indulging in them and if it is brought to notice, the concerned Ministry will take action. But to say generally that because all this expenditure in the last three months is entailing the malpractices is not a correct proposition. But at the same time, as I have already stated, we are issuing instructions from time to time to avert rush of expenditure. The hon. Member has asked for the percentage. I would say that in the last three months of the year in 1985-86, it was 41.26 percent, in 1986-87, it was 45.21 percent and in 1987-88, it was 45.86 percent. I can give him the amounts also but I don't because he has asked only for the percentage of expenditure.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Sir, we need half-an-hour discussion on this. It is very important.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: But I agree that as far as possible the Nodal and Administrative Ministries should try to see that there is no rush of expenditure only during the last three months of the year because there will be so many check points and other points which will be hurriedly gone through as proper scrutiny may not be there.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: It is unfortunate that we seem to get satisfied with platitudes. That is not the idea of putting questions.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Because he is giving them latitude.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Yes, to a great extent. I may submit that the question which I have asked reveals that, when he says that 41 to 45 percent of the expenditure has been in the last three months, there is definite probability of misuse and malpractice. Will the Minister set up

an inquiry into this expenditure and see for yourself that the expenditure is properly done? After all, the Ministry of Expenditure is supposed to ensure that expenditure is properly done. You are not supposed to say that it is not your work and that it is the work of the concerned Ministries. Otherwise, I think, the need for Ministry of Expenditure will not exist. I say that an inquiry must be done. I want to know whether the Minister is willing to do it. Is he going to again adopt the technique of giving advice only?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I maintain that all the Ministries are competent; they are vigilant about their financial matters and from time to time, we also give them advice. I cannot set up an enquiry for all the Ministries. That is not within my competence also.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Sir, can I ask for half-an-hour discussion? It is a serious matter, because forty five per cent of the allocation is used in the last three months.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Kindly allow half-an-hour discussion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: As mentioned by the hon. Member, Shri Kumaramangalam, during the last three months there is a lot of extravagant expenditure, there is rush of expenditure and as a result of that, the deficit financing is likely to increase. Instead of reducing the extravagant expenditure and bring down the deficit financing, is it not a fact that you are following a new practice of transferring the amounts from the public funds like the All Coordination Committee's funds to the Revenue Account so as to reduce the deficit financing? Therefore, will you give up the practice as directed to you by the Speaker yesterday and in future take up the suggestion made by Shri Kumaramangalam to have more rationalised monitorization of the expenditure so that you are able to control your accounts better?

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I appreciate the ingenious way of putting irrelevant query on

this question. It is no doubt his talent. But rush of expenditure in the last three months or during the whole year has hardly any relevance with the deficit financing. Deficit financing is altogether something different. A total amount is allocated for the whole year. If it is not spent within five-six months, and it is spent during the last months, it does not add to the deficit *per se*. In some cases, it also happens that purchases might have been made earlier, but the payments are made during the last months of the year. That also happens. To say that the expenditure during last few months is with some motive would not be correct.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: What about the operative part of my question? Will you follow the Speaker's direction given day before yesterday?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Certain Government officials and Ministers always misuse Government money or their own purposes. May I know whether he would issue instructions to the Central Government and State Government ministers not to misuse public funds for their own purposes.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: I refuse that the Central Government Ministers are misusing the funds. So far as State Governments are concerned, I do not have any information that the Ministers are misusing the funds.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I can tell you many specific instances. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: The Hon. Minister said that theirs is an advisory role with regard to other nodal Ministries. But my complaint is that the role is rather restrictive and it does not allow other Ministries to function properly, and achieve their targets within the stipulated period. With regard to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, they have not cleared the proposal to set up 3000 post offices, even though today it is 31st March. This is the performance.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: It is very difficult to

differentiate; there is a very thin line between the advisory role and restrictive role. Whenever a proposal comes to the Ministry of Finance, it certainly scrutinizes it from all angles including financial angles and wherever it is possible, it is cleared.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Import of Tin Plate Seconds

*433. **SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that huge quantity of tin plate seconds and waste have been imported under open general licence (OGL);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the effect of such large quantity of import of tin plate seconds and waste on the production of quality goods:

(c) whether import of tin plate seconds and waste is permissible under OGL; and

(d) if not, the reasons for such import and the steps taken or proposed to check this practice?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) (a) to (d). While import of tin plate seconds can be made under import licence, only tin plate waste can be imported under OGL. Import of tin plate waste during 1986-87 and 1987-88 has been approximately as under:-

1986-87	(Qnt. MT)	1987-88
47,500		60,300

As regards import of tin plate seconds, data on such imports are not being compiled

separately as the same comes under the broad category of mild steel defectives.

No adverse effect on the production of quality goods resulting from import of tin plate seconds and tin plate waste has come to Government's notice.

[Translation]

Dealings in Foreign Exchange

*434. SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether illegal dealings in foreign exchange are on the increase in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether persons engaged in such dealings have been recently arrested in Delhi;

(c) if so, the amount of foreign currency seized from the persons arrested with currency-wise break-up; and

(d) further action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir. Information available with the Government does not suggest any increase in illegal dealings in foreign exchange in various parts of the country.

(b) During the year 1989 (upto 15 March), 10 persons were arrested in Delhi for violation of FERA provisions.

(c) The total value of foreign currencies seized during the year 1989 (upto 15th March) in Delhi is Rs 1.33 lakhs. The foreign currencies seized include: U.S. Dollar, Hongkong dollar, Singapore dollar, Canadian

dollar, Thai Bhat, Deutsh Mark, Pound sterling, Kuwait Dinars, Saudi Riyals, Swedish Kronas and Danish Kronas.

(d) Action is taken as warranted under the law.

[English]

Cases Against Excise Officials

*438. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases which have come to notice against excise officials regarding intimidation with a view to extract money from industrialists and air passengers during the last 6 months in Delhi;

(b) the action taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that 3 Excise Inspectors were arrested by Delhi Police in the first week of March, 1989 for trespass and criminal intimidation, and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Ministry in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No case of excise officials intimidating Industrialists or air passengers with a view to extracting money has come to notice during the last six months in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Three Inspectors of the Collectorate of Central Excise, Delhi, were asked by the Police Station Dabri, on 6th march, 1989 to report for questioning in connection with their visit to the factory of M/s Ajay Auto Industries, Dabri, on 26th February, 1989. On arrival at the Police Station,

the said officers were arrested on alleged charges of criminal intimidation and trespass, and were subsequently, released on bail on the same day. The matter is still under investigation by Police authorities.

[Translation]

Change in time of Varanasi-Delhi Train at Faizabad

*439. SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received a memorandum to change the starting time of 949 Up Varanasi Delhi train from Faizabad from 11. 00 P.M. to 9.00 P.M. in the public interest; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Insurance Scheme for Rubber Plantation

*440. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an insurance scheme has been introduced for providing insurance cover to rubber plantations in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof with main features of the scheme; and

(c) the hectares of rubber plantations insured so far under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Three schemes are currently under implementation; one by M/s. National Insurance Co., Ltd., second by M/s. United India Insurance Co., Ltd., and third by M/s. Kerala State Insurance Department. These schemes provide insurance against perils covered by fire, cyclone, flood etc. but excluding drought. So far insurance cover has been provided for an area of 5564 hectares approximately under all the three Insurance Schemes.

Import Price of Rubber

*442. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the price at which rubber is being imported by Government and the prevailing selling price thereof in domestic market;

(b) the import duty levied on rubber;

(c) whether the domestic price of rubber has remained steady between 1982 and 1989;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the measures being taken to safeguard the interests of small farmers; and

(f) whether Government are aware of acute shortage of rubber expected during 2000 AD and if so, the details of proposals contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The cost of imported rubber per tonne is (as in December, 1988) at the level of US \$ 1108 and 1030 PMT C & F for RSS-III and SMR 20 grades respectively. Rubber has been released to

the manufacturers by STC between 1.1.1988 and 25.11.1988 at rates ranging between Rs. 17000 to Rs 20,000 PMT. (Ex-godown Madras).

The level of import duty for this rubber was at the rate of 25%.

(c) and (d). The prices of natural rubber are not only dependent on the cost of production of rubber, the total demand and supply position but also on other factors such as total availability of indigenous rubber at specific periods vis a vis demand/ lifting by the industry during the period. The prices of natural rubber (RMA -IV grade) has ranged between Rs. 1440 to Rs 1813 per quintal during 1982-83 to 1988-89 (upto February, 1989).

(e) The Government's endeavour is to import only as much quantities of rubber as would just suffice to meet the demand supply gap. Further with the buffer stocking scheme which the Government is operating since June, 1986 the interests of the small growers are adequately protected.

(f) For encouraging natural rubber cultivation/production/ productivity the measures implemented by the Rubber Board already include:-

- (i) Rubber plantation development scheme;
- (ii) scheme for acceleration of development in non-traditional areas;
- (iii) establishment of nurseries and distribution of planting materials;
- (iv) supply of estate inputs to small holders on subsidised rates;
- (v) Advisory and training services;

(vi) scheme for promoting irrigation in rubber plantations ; and

(vii) community marketing and processing.

Promotions In Class I Cadres of Banks

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

(a) whether all the nationalised banks have been advised by Government to follow the policy of promotion based on selection method for promotings within class I cadres of banks;

(b) if so, whether all the nationalised banks have accordingly formulated their promotion poliycies);

(c) whether reservations for SC/ST in banks is not applicable in the above method of promotions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d)., Guidelines issued by the Government in terms of Officers' Service Regulations provide, inter-alia, that promotions from one scale or grade to another shall be made on the basis of merit with weightages, if any for seniority, educational/Professional qualifications etc., as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors of the bank concerned from time to time. In making promotion by merit, most banks have adopted the "selection" method. As per the general directions of Government on reservation in services for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, no reservations are to be provide if the promotions are made by the selection method.

Raids on the Premises of Indian Express Group

*445. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-
HIT:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Income Tax Department conducted country wide raids at the premises of the Indian Express group during March 1989;

(b) if so, the details of the incriminating documents seized during the raids;

(c) further steps contemplated by Government against the Indian Express group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) During March 1989, the Income-Tax Department conducted searches at the office premises of two companies of the Indian Express Group in Bombay. Also, searches were simultaneously carried out at Delhi and Calcutta at the premises of certain persons, reportedly having business links with the Indian Express Group.

(b) Incriminating documents seized during the searches, prima facie, indicate substantial tax evasion. Disclosure of the details of these documents will not be in the interest of the continuing investigations.

(c) Appropriate action as called for under the Direct Taxes enactments, is taken in such cases.

[Translation]

Appointment of Educated Unemployed as Full-Time Insurance Agents

*447. SHRI KAILASH PRASAD RAWAT:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to appoint educated unemployed as full-time insurance agents; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision will be taken in the matter

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) While there is no such proposal under the consideration of Government, the Life Insurance Corporation of India has a scheme called "Career Agents Scheme" for recruiting agents who want to make insurance as their career. LIC grants agency to a person for the purpose of procuring life insurance business for the Corporation if he has completed 18 years of age and has passed matriculation examination or any equivalent examination thereto for appointment in a town or a city with a population of one lakh and above or who has passed at least 8th standard in case of appointment to any other place. The Career agents have to pass test and after interview, they are selected for special training. Under the Career agents Scheme, agents are given monthly stipend so as to provide some support initially. After the stipendary period, the Career Agents get only commission in respect of life insurance business procured by them, like other agents.

[English]

Bank Credit Outstanding Against Sick Units

*448. SHRI H.A. DORA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for outstanding bank credit locked in sick units going up; and

(b) the corrective steps taken or contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the outstandings of banks in sick units have in main gone up due to extension of assistance by way of holding on operation till the rehabilitation package is prepared. Further under rehabilitation packages also, banks are expected to give additional working capital facilities.

RBI has already enjoined on banks to undertake viability studies/nursing programme of SSI Sick industrial units in a time bound manner, Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act 1985 too, has been appreciably taking action in respect of Non-SSI units.

Exports to UK

*449. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the items presently being exported to the United Kingdom (UK).

(b) whether steps are being taken by Government to increase the export of those items to the UK;

(c) whether the matter was discussed in the last Indo-British Economic Committee meeting; and

(d) if so, the response of the Government of the UK thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). The main items being exported to UK from India include textiles, garments, cashew nuts, oil cakes, jute products, leather products and

garments, finished leather, engineering goods, gold jewellery, marine products, tea, spices, carpets, etc. Continuous efforts are being made to increase exports through trade promotion measures, exchange of trade delegations, buyers-seller meets, participation in trade fairs, publicity, etc.

(c) and (d). In the Indo-British Economic Committee meeting held in February, 1989 in New Delhi, possibilities of expanding and diversifying the trade between the two countries was discussed. It was agreed that both sides will make efforts to expand trade levels so as to correct the imbalance in bilateral trade.

Meeting of Bankers and Small Scale Units

*450. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: SHRI NARAIN CHOUBEY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has proposed to convene a meeting of bankers and small scale units in order to ascertain the causes and extent of sickness and draw up remedial measures; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve bank of India (RBI) had held a meeting on 28th January, 1989 in Bombay to discuss the problems connected with the credit needs of small scale industrial units including sick units. Based on such discussions and other feed back received by RBI, suitable guidelines are issued to the banks from time to time.

European Investment Bank

4149. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the general features of European Investment Bank for financing Indian developmental project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The European Investment Bank (EIB) was set up at the time of formation of the European Economic Community (EEC) in 1958 under the Treaty of Rome for the purpose of granting long term loans and /or furnish guarantee to enterprises, public authorities and financial institutions for developmental projects of common interest to several member states or the EEC as a whole. Non member countries are occasionally given access to the funds on special authorisation by EIB's Board of Governors. Authorisations are decided on a case by case basis for projects of particular importance for the Community. No project in India has so been financed by the EIB.

Indo -Nepal Talk on Water Management

4150. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held with Nepal to ensure better water management of the river waters emanating from Nepal to India; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held recently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Talks were last held in December, 1988, when position regarding flood forecasting

sites on rivers coming from Nepal to India was reviewed.

Earning from the Sale of Contraband Textiles

4151. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of money earned through the sales of contraband textiles during the last three years;

(b) the estimated percentage of seized contraband textiles per annum;

(c) the difference in price in the contraband textiles and local product;

(d) whether local textiles are costly because of high excise duty on raw materials used in the manufacture of finished goods; and

(e) the figures of excise component in the total cost of polyester saree worth Rs. 200?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The value of confiscated textiles disposed of during the last three years is given below:-

Year	Value (Rs. in lakhs)
1986	1536.33
1987	1273.90
1988	1718. 56 (Provisional)

(b) Since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not feasible to estimate the quantity of textiles being smuggled into the country and therefore it is also not possible

to estimate the percentage of smuggled textiles that have been seized per annum.

(c) to (e). Through Indian manufactured synthetic textiles compare favourable in quality, print and texture with imported ones, the price is an adverse factor against the Indian product. The higher price of synthetic fabrics in India are due to various factors such as: lack of economies of scale, higher energy cost etc. The excise duty levied on polyester fabrics depends on a variety of factors like: composition of the fabric, value of fabric per sq metre, weight of the fabric per sq. metre and the width of the fabric. It is, therefore, not possible to give the exact excise duty component in respect of a polyester saree worth Rs 200/- in the absence of information about the above parameters.

The Government has now permitted setting up of new factories and the expansion of existing capacity for the manufacture of polyester fibre and polyester yarn to enable the manufacturers to achieve economies of scale. This would reduce the cost of the indigenous synthetic textiles and thereby reduce the incentive to their smuggling.

[Translation]

Railway Line from Sujangarh to Pilani (Rajasthan)

4152. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal of laying a new rail line from Sujangarh to Pilani via Salasar, Laxmangar, Birlara, Mandaya and Chorala is under consideration of the Ministry;

(b) if so, the broad details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

(c) No specific transportation requirement necessitating provision of the suggested Railway line has come to notice.

[English]

Export and Import of Consumer Goods

4153. SHRI PARASRAM BHARD-
WAJ:
SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of consumer goods, along with their value, exported to different countries during 1986-87 and 1987-88; and

(b) the details of the consumer goods imported during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The category of consumer goods is not separately specified under the Indian Trade Classification (based on Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System) and as such, data on trade under this classification is not generated.

Corporate Tax on Public Sector Under- takings

4154. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received by Government regarding levy of corporate tax on Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, the details of the requests made in this regard; and

(c) Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). Corporate tax is already being levied on Public Sector corporations/Companies. A large number of representations were received for lowering of corporate tax in general but not specifically in respect of Public Sector Undertakings. This suggestion was examined and not found to be acceptable.

Transportation of Petroleum Products

4155. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI: Will the Minister of

RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the average quantity of diesel oil, light diesel oil/crude oil and kerosene oil transported every day through Railways from Kandla to Delhi and from Baroda to Delhi; and

(b) the per day average of solid cargo movement on the following routes; (i) Kandla to Delhi, (ii) Baroda to Delhi, (iii) Delhi to Kandla and (iv) Delhi to Baroda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Average daily figures, for the three month period December 1988 to February 1989, indicating the quantity of the petroleum products moved by rail are furnished below:-

(all figures in Tonnes)

	Diesel oil (HSD)	Light diesel (LDO)	Crude oil	Kerosene oil (SKO)
Kandla to Delhi	495	70	NIL	155
Baroda to Delhi	78	10	NIL	160

(b) The daily average number of goods trains, carrying solid cargo, run on the differ-

ent broad Gauge sections of the four routes, taken for a month, are furnished below:

Routes: Kandla to Delhi and Delhi to Kandla

Sections	Kandla to Delhi	Delhi to Kandla
1	2	3
Kandla-Viramgam	2.3	1.2
Viramgam - Ahmedabad	5.6	3.2
Ahmedabad-Godhra	5.5	4.0
Godhra-Ratlam	7.1	17.5

1	2	3
Ratlam-Kota	8.6	7.3
Kota-Gangapur City	9.0	7.1
Gangapur City-Tughlakabad (Delhi)	7.0	7.0

Routes: Baroda to Delhi and Delhi to Baroda

Sections	Baroda to Delhi	Delhi to Baroda
Baroda-Godhra	2.5	3.7
Godhra-Ratlam	7.1	17.5
Ratlam-Kota	8.6	7.3
Kota—Gangapur City	9.0	7.1
Gangapur City Tughlakabad (Delhi)	7.0	7.0

Opening of Bank Branch in Udhampur and Doda Districts in Jammu and Kashmir

4156. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Udhampur) Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether despite Government announcement of extending branches and the offer of the united commercial bank to open a branch in Ilaqa Bamhag of district Udhampur, there is no bank branch in large hilly area spread over three hundred square miles comprising Patwar halgas Sahri, Sujandhar, Sersundhuan Tehsil Lali, Ladda Tehsil Udhampur and Dhanour Tehsil Gool Gulabgarh in district Udhampur;

(b) whether there is demand for opening bank branches at Bagdar (Sahri) Tehsil Riase of district Udhampur and Chandarkote Tehsil Rambon district Doda in Jammu and

Kashmir; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the centres Patwar Halgas Sahri, Sujandhar, Sersunduan (Block Riase)) Lali, Ladda (Block Udhampur) and Dhanour (block Gool) in District Udhampur have not been identified by the Lead Bank Group/State Government for opening branches under the current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90. The Block Gool is considered deficient block in banking average on population norms while block Riase is considered surplus banked block. RBI has further reported that it has not received application from UCO Bank for

opening branch at any of these centres.

(b) RBI has reported that centres Bagdar (Sahri) Tehsil Riasi and Chandra Kote Tehsil Ramban have not been included in the list of identified centres received from the Lead Bank Group /State Government for the District Doda in Jammu and Kashmir. RBI has also not received any request from banks for opening bank branches at these centres.

(c) RBI has reported that with a view to provide bank branches in deficient pocket and also for implementation of Service Area Approach, it has decided to obtain combined list of additional centres from lead banks.

Value of Rupee Vis-A-Vis SDR

4157. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MAN-
DAL:
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA
WADIYAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the depreciation of the Indian Rupee with respect to the Special Drawing Rights (S.D.R) of the International Monetary Fund during 1987-88 and 1988-89 and how much did it cost the country to maintain the value of its rupee holdings under the SDR provisions; and

(b) how do Government propose to meet this depreciation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). In accordance with the Articles of Agreement of IMF the value of Indian Rupee held by IMF is required to be maintained in terms of SDRs and is revalued every year on 30th April on

the basis of Rupee-SDR parity rate on that date. Additional rupees required to be paid to IMF for this purpose are kept with RBI in the form of non-negotiable and non-interest bearing securities which does not involve any cash outgo.

The amount paid to the IMF account with Reserve Bank of India during 1987-88 and 1988-89 on account of maintenance of value are as follows:

Year	(Rs. in crores)
1987-88	1029.33
1988-89	774.74

The exchange rate of the rupee is fixed with reference to the value of a basket of currencies, mainly of countries which are India's major trading partners. The exchange rates between rupee and other currencies move upward or downward depending upon the fluctuations in the value of these currencies. In a regime of floating exchange rates, such frequent variations in exchange are not unusual.

Export of Tobacco

4158. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have put up a ceiling on the export of tobacco from the country for next year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the countries importing Indian tobacco during the last three years; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the last three years?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The countries to which India tobacco is mainly exported are United Kingdom, USSR, German Democratic Republic Federal Republic of Germany, France, Netherlands, People's Democratic Republic of an Yemen, Saudi Arabia, China, Egypt, Algeria and Somalia.

(d) The value of exports of unmanufactured tobacco during the last three years is given below:-

Year	Rs in Crores
1985-86	139.98
1986-87	144.87
1987-88	96.98

Sales tax on Drugs

4159. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether drugs and medicines manufactured in other States and exported from Daman and Diu do not attract any Central Sales Tax;

(b) if so, the revenue loss to Union Government on this account; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Under the Constitution, no State or Union territory can make any law for

levy of tax on the sale or purchase of goods in the course of export out of or import into the territory of India. Section 5 (1) of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956 provides for non-liability to tax on the sales in the course of export and Section 5 (3) provides for non-liability to tax in respect of sales or purchases of any goods preceding export of these goods subject to the conditions laid down under Section 5 (3) of the Act. Transactions falling under either of the above provisions would not attract Central Sales Tax. Exports from Daman and Diu would, therefore, not attract Central Sales Tax.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

4160. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether many banks are passing off damaged and torn currency notes to unwary public;

(b) whether most of the banks are refusing to accept such currency notes; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to ensure that soiled and torn currency notes are withdrawn from circulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have reported that banks are not passing off damaged & torn currency notes to public. In fact, RBI have issued instructions to banks to sort out notes into reissuable and non-issuable and to issue only re-issuable notes to the members of the public.

(b) All the branches of public sector banks have been advised by RBI to accept soiled and slightly mutilated notes. In addi-

tion, all the currency chest branches of public sector banks have full powers to exchange all categories of mutilated notes under RBI (Note Refund) Rules. Any specific complaint about non-acceptance of soiled/mutilated notes, whenever received, is taken up with the concerned bank for remedial action by RBI and Government.

(c) Soiled and torn notes unfit for further circulation accumulated at the currency chests of public sector banks are periodically brought to the 15 issue Offices and 2 Sub-Offices of RBI for examination. After observing the process of examination & verification, non-issuable notes are destroyed.

Liaison Offices in India of Foreign Countries

4161. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply give on 3 March, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 1348 regarding setting up of branches in India by foreign companies and state;

(b) the names of foreign companies which have liaison offices in India at present;

(b) the exact extent of the liability of foreign companies to make remittance to India to meet the expenses on the present and future liaison offices; and

(c) the exact nature of the conditions relating to the number of employees and their nationality, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The names of foreign companies which have liaison/representative/project offices in India as on 31st December, 1988 are give in the Statement below

(b) The liaison representative offices have to meet all their expenses in India out of inward remittances received from their head offices. The establishment expenses depend upon the size of the office and volume of work. Therefore the exact foreign exchange liability of such offices in India cannot be estimated.

(c) No condition is stipulated by RBI on the number of employees in these offices and their nationality.

STATEMENT

Particulars of the Liaison/Representative/Project Office of overseas concerns, permitted to operate in India, as on 31st December, 1988

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
1.	Amoco India Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
2.	Al Tahar Enterprises Sultanate of Oman	Liaison Office.
3.	Associated Merchandising Corporation, U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
4.	Armservice Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office.
5.	Aswani Textile Industries Ltd., Nigeria	Representative Office.
6.	Alpha Merchandising Services Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
7.	Al-futteim, Dubai (U.A.E.)	Liaison Office.
8.	American Components, Inc. U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
9.	Akhil Mines (Aust.) P. Ltd.	—do—
10.	American President Lines, U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
11.	Abdual Ghafoor Gargash, Dubai	Representative Office.
12.	Anritsu Electric Co. Ltd. Japan	Liaison Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
13.	Avit Asia Ltd., Singapore	—do—		
14.	Alansari & Bhansin Trading Co. Kuwait.	—do—		
15.	Arrow Electronics International Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
16.	A-Long International, Bahrain	—do—		
17.	Arabia Cleaning Enterprises Ltd., Saudi Arabia.	—do—		
18.	Aerospatials, France	—do—		
19.	AMI Hospitals Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office.		
20.	At & T and Philips Telecommunications Trading B.V. Holland	Liaison Office.		
21.	Amoron Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
22.	A & D International Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
23.	A.P. Moller, Denmark	Representative Office.		
24.	Agroman Ltd., U.K.	Liaison Office.		
25.	ARYA GmbH, West Germany	—do—		
26.	APV Jackstone Ltd., U.K.	—do—		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
27.	Amsterdams Ballast Bagger EN, Grond B.V. Netherlands	Project Office.
28.	Aktieselskab Nordiske Kabelog Trad fabrikas, Denmark	Liaison Office.
29.	Allied Signal Inter Inc., U.S.A.	—do—
30.	ABB Traction AB, Sweden.	Project Office
31.	AT & T India Ltd., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
32.	Amoco India Petroleum Co., U.S.A.	Project Office.
33.	Argyle Diamond Sales Ltd. Australia	Representative Office.
34.	Applied Power Asia Pte. Ltd. Singapore	Liaison Office.
35.	Amina Collection Co. Ltd., Japan	Representative Office.
36.	Bucyrus International Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
37.	Bechtel Overseas Corp., U.S.A.	Representative Office.
38.	Bashian Bros., U.S.A.	—do—
39.	Balfour Beatty Ltd.	Project Office.
40.	Bhutan Board Products Ltd. Bhutan.	Liaison Office.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Company</i>	<i>Liaison/Representative/Project Office</i>
1	2	3
41.	British Electricity Intl. U.K.	—do—
42.	B. Brau Medical Ind., SDN BHD	Representative Office.
43.	Bahrain Cinema Co., Bahrain	—do—
44.	Batra Enterprises, U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
45.	Bukhatir Investments Ltd., UAE	Liaison Office.
46.	Brunswick International, Japan.	Representative Office
47.	Barharship Management Ltd., Hongkong.	Liaison Office.
48.	Bremen Lagerhaus Gesellschaft, West Germany,	Representative Office.
49.	Bhawani Stores, Singapore	Liaison Office.
50.	Beebas Creatains, U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
51.	BBC Brown Boveri & Co. Ltd., Switzerland	Representative Office.
52.	Brown & Loo International Inc., Singapore	Liaison Office.
53.	Blawa Overseas Co. Inc. U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
54.	British Steel Corporation, U.K.	Liaison Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
55.	British Aerospace, U.K.	Liaison Office.
56.	Bunka Orient Co. Inc., Japan	Representative Office.
57.	BHP Petroleum (I) Ltd. U.S.A.	Project Office.
58.	CE International Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
59.	Cluett Peabody & Co. Inc., USA.	Liaison Office.
60.	Corpangine Francaise D'etudes, France.	Liaison Office.
61.	C. Itoh & Co. Ltd., Japan.	Liaison Office.
62.	Centre Delta, France.	Liaison Office.
63.	Chosebrough Pond's Inc. U.S.A.	Representative.
64.	Continental Overseas Corporation, New York.	Liaison Office.
65.	Crown Agents Services Ltd., U.K.	Liaison Office.
66.	Cabot South Asia Inc., U.S.A.	Representative Office.
67.	Cocoa Merchants Ltd., U.K.	—do—
68.	Cotia International, British, West India.	Liaison Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
69.	Chercho Compressors, USA.	Representative Office.		
70.	CMI—Cocheril Mechanical Industries, Belgium	Liaison Office.		
71.	Cont Ship Saudi National Lines Ltd., Gibraltar.	Representative Office.		
72.	Chacha Dum Dum, U.K.	Representative Office.		
73.	Coal Development Services P. Ltd., Australia	Liaison Office.		
74.	C.G.E.E. Alshtom, France.	Liaison Office.		
75.	Contrade Ltd.	Liaison Office.		
76.	Campagnie Maritime D'Affstement, France.	Representative Office.		
77.	Canadian	Liaison Office.		
78.	Coutinho Caro, U.K.	Liaison Office.		
79.	Co-operative Union of Canada	Liaison Office.		
80.	Cargill Southeast Asia Ltd. Singapore.	—do—		
81.	Carrier International Corp. USA	—do—		
82.	Charbonnages De, France	Representative Office.		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
83.	Cherry Lane Pty. Ltd. Australia	Liaison Office.
84.	Commonwealth Development Corporation, U.K.	Liaison Office.
85.	Chiyoda Chemical Engg. & Construction Co. Ltd., Japan	Project Office.
86.	Compatible Technology Inc. U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
87.	Cameron Iron Works USA Inc.	Liaison Office.
88.	Chevron International Ltd. Liberia	Project Office.
89. 90	Covning (Singapore) Pte. Ltd. Liberia Compagnie Francaire D'Etudes Ete France.	Liaison Office. Project Office.
91.	Construtors Andrade Gutierros	Liaison Office.
92	Coutinho Caro & Co., W. Germany	Liaison Office.
93.	Dow Chemicals International Ltd., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
94.	Du Pont Far East Inc., U.S.A.	Representation Office.
95.	Dong-in-Stone Industrial Co. Ltd., Korea	Liaison Office.
96.	Daewoo Corporation, Korea	—do—
97.	Degussa, West Germany	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
98.	DEG—German Co. for Investment in Developing Countries, West Germany	Representative Office.
99.	Decca Survey O/s Ltd., Bahrain	Liaison Office.
100.	Daihatsu (Diesel) Singapore.	Liaison Office.
101.	Dentsche Schachtban, W. Germany	Project Office.
102.	Dornier GmbH, West Germany	Project Office.
103.	Dobrava G.M.B.H. Co.	Project Office.
104.	Digital Equipment Corpn. U.S.A.	Representative Office.
105.	Dixilyn Field Drilling Co., U.S.A.	Project Office.
106.	Dentscha Teleport Consulting, West Germany	Project Office.
107.	Dengrd Carl E. Press K.G., West Germany.	Project Office.
108.	Design Textiles Int., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
109.	Doesser Minerals Intl. Inc., U.S.A.	Project Office.
110.	Drew Amerold Singapore Co. Ltd., Singapore	Representative Office.

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125.	Elec—Electro Consult, Italy.	Representative Office.
126.	Export Trade Corporation, Hongkong.	Liaison Office.
127.	Engineering International Japan.	Representative Office.
128.	Elders IXL Ltd., Australia.	Representative Office.
129.	Estern Connection Imports, Canada.	Liaison Office.
130.	Ebera Corporation, Japan.	Representative Office.
131.	Ergesellschaft GmbH, West Germany.	Liaison Office.
132.	Enichem SPA, Italy.	—do—
133.	Entropose International Councillor II, France	Liaison Office.
134.	Establishment Daher Et CLE, France.	Liaison Office.
135.	Earle M. Turrow Cos. Ltd., USA.	—do—
136.	Fives Cail Babcock Travaux Extérieurs, France.	Representative.
137.	Fisons Plc., England	Liaison Office.
138.	French Connection Ltd., U.K.	Liaison Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
111.	Denklav Marine Services Ltd., Hongkong.	Liaison Office.
112.	Dassault International France	—do—
113.	Dresser U.K. Ltd., U.K.	—do—
114.	Dentag Garudi (Malaysia) Stn. Bhd.	Project Office.
115.	Davy McKee (Stockton) Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office.
116.	Del Norte Technology Export Co. Ltd.	Liaison Office.
117.	Dando Drilling Systems Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office.
118.	Dodwell Intl. Buying Offices Ltd.	Liaison Office.
119.	Dual Drilling Co., U.S.A.	Project Office.
120.	Deutsche Babcock Werke, A.G., West Germany.	Liaison Office.
121.	Exxon Ltd., Australia	—do—
122.	Electrical Construction Co. Libya	—do—
123.	Emmanuelle Fashions Import Ltd. Canada.	—do—
124.	Exxon Chemical Eastern Inc., U.S.A.	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
139.	Flowercove Shipping Co. Bahrain	—do—
140.	Forty A.G. Switzerland	Representative Office.
141.	Flour De Rhum, France	—do—
142.	Festo K.G., West Germany	—do—
143.	Fujitsu, Japan	Liaison Office.
144.	Fuji Diesel Co., Japan.	—do—
145.	Ferrostall A.G. West Germany	—do—
146.	Forter Wheeler Power Products Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office.
147.	Farmitelia Carlo Erba (Asia) Ltd. Hongkong.	Liaison Office.
148.	Foramer, France.	Project Office.
149.	Fit Import, West Germany	Representative Office.
150.	Fag Kngeltfischar, West Germany	—do—
151.	Freeman Shoe Company, U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
152.	Foresight Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
153.	Flat S.P.A., Italy.	Liaison Office.
154.	Gamlen Chemical Co., (Australia) Pty. Ltd., Australia	Liaison Office.
155.	Giorgio Kautan, Italy.	Representative Office.
156.	Giada Begotterie de Fiore Annamari, Italy.	Liaison Office.
157.	General Trading Co., P.O. Box 84, Muscat, Oman	—do—
158.	Golden Bell Trading Co., Korea	Liaison Office.
159.	Gulf Consolidated Co., Bahrain	—do—
160.	Gulf Helicopter & Air Services, U.K.	—do—
161.	Gullick India Ltd., U.K.	Liaison Office.
162.	General Electric Technical Services Company Inc., U.S.A.	Representative Office.
163.	Gillette Industries Ltd., U.K.	Liaison Office.
164.	Goldstar Co. Ltd., Korea	—do—
165.	Guru Import Export BV, Netherlands	—do—
166.	Globe Chemicals GmbH, West Germany.	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office	
1	2	3	
167.	Hitachi Ltd., Japan.	—do—	
168.	Hatari Import Inc., U.S.A.	—do—	
169.	Nanwa Co. Ltd., Japan.	—do—	
170.	Happy World Inc., Japan.	—do—	
171.	Haldor Topose International, Denmark.	—do—	
172.	Hitachi Metals Ltd., Japan.	—do—	
173.	Hyundai Corporation, Korea	—do—	
174.	Hanwa & Co., Australia	Representative Office.	
175.	Hartman & Braun A.G., West Germany.	Liaison Office.	
176.	Hush Puppies GmbH, West Germany.	—do—	
177.	Hindustan Imports, U.S.A.	Representative Office.	
178.	Hodgson Chemicals Ltd., U.K.	—do—	
179.	Hyundai Heavy Industries Ltd. Korea	Liaison Office.	
180.	Hop Ying International Health Co. Ltd., Hongkong	Representative Office.	

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office	
1	2	3	
181.	Hallibuston India Inc., Bahrain	Liaison Office.	
182.	Hyundai Mipo Dockyard Co. Ltd., Korea.	—do—	
183.	Hitachi Construction Co. Ltd., Japan.	Liaison Office.	
184.	Hansen—BTR GmbH, West Germany	Representative Office.	
185.	Honey Well High Tech. Trading Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.	
186.	Hewlott—Packard Co., U.S.A.	—do—	
187.	Hollandsche Aanneming Naatschappy B.V., Netherlands	Project Office.	
188.	Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co. Ltd., Korea	Liaison Office.	
189.	Hughes Services (Far East) Pte. Ltd., Singapore.	Project Office.	
190.	Hi-Q-Shoes Corporation, Taiwan	Representative Office.	
191.	Huls AG, West Germany	Liaison Office.	
192.	I.T.T. Far East & Pacific Inc., U.S.A.	—do—	
193.	India Importers of Rhode, Island Inc., U.S.A.	—do—	
194.	International Flavors & Fragrance Inc., Holland.	—do—	

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
195.	International Federation of Freight Forwarders Association	—do—		
196.	International Nickel Services (UK) Ltd., London.	—do—		
197.	Itomen & Co. Ltd., Japan.	—do—		
198.	Impulee Montana Tdg. Co. Hongkong	—do—		
199.	International Market Research Inc.	Representative Office.		
200.	I.T.C. Instruments, U.K.	Liaison Office.		
201.	Inter City Investment Group Plc., U.K.	—do—		
202.	IRI Trade Centre Govt. of Iran, Tehran	—do—		
203.	Isuzu Motors Ltd., Japan.	Representative Office.		
204.	Indian Handelsges K.G. West Germany	Liaison Office.		
205.	Ingersoll Rand Co. Ltd., England	—do—		
206.	International Rice Research Institute, Philippines	—do—		
207.	Impresit Girola Hodigian Impregilo S.P.A. Italy	—do—		
208.	Ikea Trading Hongkong Ltd.	—do—		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
209.	Intel Asia Electronics Inc., USA	—do—		
210.	Institute Merieux, France	Liaison Office.		
211.	Ishihara Trading Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—		
212.	International Petroleum Bermuda Ltd.	Project Office.		
213.	I. Hc. Holland N.V.	Liaison Office.		
214.	Impex Onkar Corp., USA	—do—		
215.	J.T. Charrai (S) Pte. Ltd., Singapore.	Representative Office.		
216.	Jugclinija Rijika, Yugoslavia	—do—		
217.	Jacob (Malaysia) SDN, Malaysia	Liaison Office.		
218.	Japan India Tdg. Co., Japan	—do—		
219.	John Hugs Skipper Mitsubishi, Australia	Representative Office.		
220.	Jovitone Ltd., U.K.	—do—		
221.	John Lysaght (Australia) Ltd., Australia	—do—		
222.	J.I. Case Europeted, U.S.A.	Liaison Office.		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
223.	Japan Drilling Co., Japan.	Project Office.
224.	Janssens Orient Carpets Holland, Netherland	—do—
225.	Japan Radio Co. Ltd., Japan.	Liaison Office.
226.	Jamdpal, France	Representative Office.
227.	Kanematsu—Gosho Ltd., Japan	Liaison Office.
228.	Klochner-Humboldt Deutz A.G. West Germany	—do—
229.	Korean Air Lines, Korea	Representative Office.
230.	Kashmit Valley Arts Inc., USA	Liaison Office.
231.	Komatsu Ltd., Japan	Representative Office.
232.	K.H.D. Humboldt Wedog A.G. West Germany	Liaison Office.
233.	Karma S.P.A. Italy	—do—
234.	Krohn & Co. Import Export GmbH,	Representative office.
235.	Klockner & Co., West Germany	—do—
236.	Kashikay Co. Ltd., Japan	Representative Office.
237.	Kavita Imports Corporation, New York.	Liaison Office.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Company</i>	<i>Liaison/Representative/Project Office</i>
1	2	3
238.	Kalpataru Construction International Ltd., U.A.E.	Representative Office.
239.	Kuntoplast Chemic GmbH, W. Germany	Liaison Office.
240.	Kewasho Corporation, Japan	—do—
241.	Kwangsia Pte, Ltd., Singapore.	—do—
242.	Korea Plastic Industry Corpn., Korea	—do—
243.	Korea Heavy Industries & Construction Co. Ltd., Korea	—do—
244.	Kansai Engg. Co. Ltd.	—do—
245.	Koystone International Inc., Taxes, U.S.A.	—do—
246.	Korea Taroma Marine Industries Ltd., Korea	—do—
247.	Konica Corporation, Japan.	—do—
248.	Kajima Corporation Japan.	—do—
249.	Kellog Co., U.S.A.	—do—
250.	Kawasaki Heavy Ind. Ltd., Japan	Project Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
251.	Krishna Computers, U.S.A.	Liaison Office.		
252.	La Presents Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
253.	Lark International Ltd., Hongkong	—do—		
254.	LKB Produktor A.B. Sweden	Representative Office		
255.	Laboratories Services, 45, Gidy France	Liaison Office.		
256.	Lucky Gold Star International Corporation, Korea	—do—		
257.	Linde A.G.	—do—		
258.	Lyphamad Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
259.	Lucky Ltd., Korea	—do—		
260.	La Telecommecanique Electrique S.A. France	Representative Office		
261.	Layritzen Offshore, Denmark	Project Office.		
262.	Lavlin International Inc., Canada	Liaison Office.		
263.	L.M. Ericsson International A.B.	—do—		
264.	Lampomacchins	—do—		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
265.	Marubeni Corporation, Japan	—do—		
266.	Montedison SPA, Italy	—do—		
267.	Maldives Shipping Ltd., Maldivis	—do—		
268.	Mitsui & Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—		
269.	May Department Stores International Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
270.	Mitsubishi Corporation, Japan	—do—		
271.	M. Fabrikant & Cons., Inc., New York	—do—		
272.	Malika Pty. Ltd., Australia	—do—		
273.	Modtronic International Ltd., U.S.A.	—do—		
274.	Meridion Trade Corporation Ltd., U.S.A.	—do—		
275.	Mina of England, UK	—do—		
276.	Micheal & Simon Co. Ltd., Hong Kong	—do—		
277.	Majestic Contractors Ltd., Canada	Representative Office		
278.	Man International GmbH, West Germany	—do—		
279.	MAN B & W Diesel AS, Denmark	Liaison Office		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
280.	MECS (Mid Eastern) Ltd., U.K.	—do—
281.	Middle East Agents, Greece	—do—
282.	Mitsui OSK Liss Ltd., Japan	Representative
283.	Mannai Corporation, Doha Quarter	Liaison Office
284.	Masa Export GmbH, West Germany	—do—
285.	Malhar Corpon, U.S.A.	—do—
286.	MTU Motoren-Und Turbinen & Union Friedrichshafen GmmbH, West Germany	—do—
287.	Mobile Polymer International Ltd., U.S.A.	—do—
288.	Monhoze Marketing Ltd., Hongkong	—do—
289.	3 M International Inc., U.S.A.	—do—
290.	Millipore Pty Ltd., Australia	Representative
291.	Murchant Adventures of Narmia Ltd.	Liaison Office.
292.	Mitsui Engg. & Shipbuilding Co.	Project Office.
293.	Motorola Singapore Pte. Ltd., Singapore.	Liaison Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
294.	Mansour Rahmanan, U.S.A.	Representative Office.		
295.	Mainpol Poll KG, West Germany	—do—		
296.	Merlin Gerin, France	Liaison Office.		
297.	Man B & W Diesel GmbH, W. Germany	Representative Office.		
298.	Mitsubishi Heavy Indus. Ltd., Japan	Project Office.		
299.	Ministry of Industry, Trade & Tech., Canada	Liaison Office.		
300.	Motoren Manalsain, (A.G.) (MWNI)	—do—		
301.	Nomura Trading Co., Japan.	—do—		
302.	Nagase & Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—		
303.	Nichimen Corporation, Japan	—do—		
304.	Nissho-Iwai Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—		
305.	Nakamoto Shoji Kaisha Ltd. Japan	Liaison Office.		
306.	NEC Corporation, Japan	—do—		
307.	Northwest Orient, Hongkong	—do—		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office	
1	2	3	
308.	Nepal Oceanic Services Pvt. Ltd., Nepal	—do—	
309.	New Commercial Co. Ltd.	—do—	
310.	N.S.W. Leather Co. Pte. Ltd. Australia	—do—	
311.	Nippon Suisan Kaisha Ltd., Japan		Representative Office.
312.	Novo Industry, Denmark		Liaison Office.
313.	Nicolet Instrument Corporation, U.S.A.		Representative Office.
314.	Nippon Steel Corp., Japan.		Project Office.
315.	Nordtank A.S., Denmark		Liaison Office.
316.	National Petroleum Construction Co., Abudhabi		Project Office.
317.	Nippon Kokan K.K. Japan	—do—	
318.	Newsweb (Int) Ltd., Hongkong		Representative Office
319.	Nortrans Shipping & Trading Far East Pte. Ltd., Singapore	—do—	
320.	Nissai Sanyo, Singapore.	—do—	
321.	Nixdorf Computer A G, West Germany		Liaison Office.

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
322.	Norsk Data, Norway	—do—		
323.	Okura Trading Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—		
324.	Osaka Godo Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—		
325.	Orient Sangyo Kaisha Ltd., Japan	—do—		
326.	Orient Wood Products Co. Ltd., Thailand	—do—		
327.	Overseas Gems Ltd., U.K.	—do—		
328.	Omni Medical, U.S.A.	—do—		
329.	Orient Arts Inc., New York	—do—		
330.	Orion Gloves Ltd., Hongkong	Representative Office		
331.	Oldelft (Far East) Ltd., Hongkong		—do—	
332.	OFEMA, France	Liaison Office		
333.	O.P.D. Ltd., Hongkong		—do—	
334.	Overseas Containers Ltd. U.K.	Representative Office		
335.	Omic Ltd., U.K.		—do—	

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Company</i>	<i>Liaison/Representative/Project Office</i>
1	2	3
336.	Oy-Sisu Auto AB, Finland	Project Office
337.	Overseas Precision Castings Inc.	Representative Office
338.	Oki Electric Industry Co. Ltd., Tokyo	Liaison Office.
339.	Oceancering International Services Ltd.	Project Office
340.	Ollys' B.V. Netherlands	Representative Office
341.	Pagode Tdg. Co. U.S.A	Liaison Office
342.	Pechney Asia Pacific, France	—do—
343.	Projecti Khatan, Italy.	Representative Office
344.	Pohang Iron & Steel Co., Korea	Liaison Office.
345.	P.G. Publishing P. Ltd., Singapore	Representative Office
346.	Pignone Engineering Ltd., U.K.	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
347.	Pinky Originals Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.		
348.	Penguin Overseas Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office		
349.	Phillipins Airlines, Phillipins	—do—		
350.	Primary Industries Corpn. U.S.A.	Liaison Office.		
351.	Pinelord Ltd., England	Representative Office.		
352.	Polish Ocean Lines, Poland.	Liaison Office.		
353.	Paras Diamond Corporation, U.S.A.	—do—		
354.	Pape (U.K.) Ltd., U.K.	—do—		
355.	Parekh Chemicals S.A., Switzerland	—do—		
356.	Parker Drilling Co., U.S.A.	Representative Office.		
357.	Pharmacia AB, Sweden	Liaison Office.		
358.	Plaxohem International Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
359.	Pioneer Overseas Corpn. U.S.A.	—do—		
360.	Perkin Elmer Int. Inc., U.S.A.	Representative Office.		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
361.	Plessy International Ltd.	Liaison Office		
362.	Pioko Fashions Inc., Canada	—do—		
363.	P & O Containers Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office.		
364.	QED Design, U.K.	Liaison Office.		
365.	Rohrn & Haas Asia Inc.,	—do—		
366.	R.H. Macy & Co. Inc., U.S.A.	—do—		
367.	Ray Chem Ltd., U.S.A.	—do—		
368.	Rolls Royce India Ltd., U.K.	—do—		
369.	Ruby Cup International Inc., U.S.A.	Representative Office		
370.	Rhone Puulens (UK) Ltd.	Liaison Office		
371.	Robert Bryce & Co., Ltd., Australia	Representative Office		
372.	Roure Bertrand Dupont, France	Liaison Office		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
373.	Richards Hegg International (India) Ltd., Hongkong	—do—
374.	R & W Inc., New York	—do—
375.	Royal Insurance Corpn., Bhutan	—do—
376.	Rank Xerox (Q/S) Ltd., U.K.	—do—
377.	Swedish Match Co., Sweden	—do—
378.	Reading & Bates Exploration Co. U.S.A.	Project Office
379.	Royal Nuddloyo Group N.V. Netherland	Liaison Office.
380.	Richter Drilling Int. Pty. Ltd., Australia	Project Office.
381.	Roxon Oy Finland	—do—
382.	Rolv Berg Drive A/S, Norway	—do—
383.	Rhodo & Schwarz GmbH & Co., KG, W. Germany	—do—
384.	Rest Ital S.R.l. Italy	Liaison Office.
385.	Sumitomo Corpn. Japan	—do—
386.	Snam Progetti S.P.A., Italay	—do—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of Company</i>	<i>Liaison/Representative/Project Office</i>
1	2	3
387.	Schmanger & Co. Leder, West Germany	—do—
388.	Shell Company of India Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office
389.	Standard Memories Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office
390.	Santa Cruz Imports Inc., U.S.A.	—do—
391.	Sea Land Service Inc., U.S.A.	Representative Office
392.	Southern Comforts Fashion Ltd. Canada	Liaison Office.
393.	Shah Safari Inc., U.S.A.	—do—
394.	Sangyang Corporation, Korea	Representative Office.
395.	Sandy Bear Design Inc., U.S.A.	Representative Office.
396.	Sitac Ltd., U.K.	Liaison Office.
397.	SMS Schloemann Sumag, A.G.W. Germany	Representative Office.
398.	Samsung Co. Ltd., Korea	Liaison Office.
399.	Sybron International Corporation	Liaison Office.
400.	South Publications (UK) Ltd. U.K.	Representative Office.
401.	Shattaf Tdg. Co., Dubai	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
402.	Stein Industries, France	Liaison Office.		
403.	Sulzer Bros Ltd., Switzerland	—do—		
404.	Speed tam Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—		
405.	Singer Co., USA	Project Office.		
406.	Seny S.A. France	Liaison Office.		
407.	STC Telecom Munciations Ltd., London	—do—		
408.	Spie Capg., France	Project Office.		
409.	Soritejdiam Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.		
410.	Step Electronics Inc., USA	Representative Office.		
411.	Sharp Corporation, Japan	Liaison Office.		
412.	Scapa Porritt Ltd., U.K.	Liaison Office.		
413.	San-El Corp., Japan	—do—		
414.	S.A.R.L. Savitri, France.	Liaison Office.		
415.	Samfung Electronics Co. Ltd., Korea	—do—		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
416.	Sedco Forex Int., Drilling Inc., Panama	Project Office.
417.	Smith International (Singapore) Pvt. Ltd., Singapore	Liaison Office.
418.	S.C. Johnson & Son Inc., USA	—do—
419.	Society Imprints Termoclettric Industrial s.p.a. SITI, Italy	—do—
420.	S.T.S. Soya Technology Systems Ltd., Singapore.	Representative Office.
421.	Siouni Import Export Corp., USA	—do—
422.	Sud Amerique Tdg. Corp., USA	Liaison Office.
423.	Spie Batignolles, France	—do—
424.	SingaNor A/S., Norway	Representative Office.
425.	Sodi S.A., Switzerland	Liaison Office.
426.	Samacro Co. Pvt. Ltd., Singapore	Project Office.
427.	Schlumberger Asia Services Ltd. Hong Kong.	Project Office.
428.	Societe Europeene De Propulsion S.A.	Representative Office.
429.	Sears Buying Services Inc., Singapore.	Liaison Office.
430.	S.A. Matra, France	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
431.	M/s. Swiss Indian Chamber of Commerce, Switzerland	Representative Office.
432.	Singer Sewing Machine Co., Inc., SSMC, Inc., U.S.A.	Liaison Office.
433.	Sonat Offshore Ventures Ltd., USA	Project Office.
434.	Sedco Forex Int. Drilling Inc.	—do—
435.	Sunk Yong Ltd., South Korea	Liaison Office.
436.	San Shoe Trading Corp., USA	Representative Office.
437.	SGS Thomson Microelectronics Pte. Ltd., Singapore.	Liaison Office.
438.	Skodaexport Foreign Trade Corp., Czechoslovakia	Project Office.
439.	SGE Railway Signals Ltd.	—do—
440.	Shell India Production Development	—do—
441.	Sartorius GmbH	Representative Office.
442.	Spindolfabrik sussen Schurr	Liaison Office.
443.	Samsung Electron Devices Co. Ltd., Korea	—do—
444.	Saudi Cable Co., Saudi Arabia	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
445.	Stryker Far East Inc., USA	—do—
446.	Toyo Manka Kaisha Ltd., Japan	—do—
447.	Tor Istag Steel Corpn., Belgium	—do—
448.	Tashi Commercial Corpn. Bhutan	Liaison Office.
449.	TRJ Traders Ltd., U.S.A.	—do—
450.	Tabs (Clothing) Co. Ltd.	—do—
451.	Tanjo Electric Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—
452.	Toyoda Tesusho Kaisha, Japan	—do—
453.	Tilda Rice Ltd., U.K.	—do—
454.	Taiheiyo Buttan Co. Ltd., Japan	—do—
455.	Tanpark Shigaon Kaithan, Japan	—do—
456.	Trabusystems Inc., USA	Representative Office.
457.	Trade Centre of Islamic Republic of Iran, Iran	Liaison Office.
458.	Toshiba Corpn., Japan	—do—

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office		
1	2	3		
459.	Tonan Tdg. Co. Ltd. Japan	—do—		
460.	Trade Development Brand, Singapore.	—do—		
461.	Toyo Engineering Corpn. Japan	Project Office.		
462.	Techno Export	—do—		
463.	Taylor Diving (SEA) Ptel Ltd., Singapore	—do—		
464.	Tata Flxsi (Pte) Ltd., Singapore	Liaison Office		
465.	Tokyo Electric Power Services Co. Ltd., Tokyo	Project Office		
466.	Teledyne Industries Int. Inc.	Liaison Office		
467.	Troodos Shippings Co. Ltd., Greece	—do—		
468.	Tampella Ltd., Finland	Representative Office		
469.	Toyoto Motor Corpn., Japan	Liaison Office		
470.	Tektronix International Inc., USA	—do—		
471.	Tommorrow's Antiques Inc., USA	—do—		
472.	Technology for Communication Int. USA	Project Office		

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office	
1	2	3	
473.	Taici Sales & Engineering Corpn., Japan	Liaison Office	
474.	Trent Laboratories Ltd., U.K.	Representative Office	
475.	Thomson Hydrides ST Microondes, France	—do—	
476.	Texas Instruments Asia Ltd., USA	Liaison Office	
477.	Univan Shipmanagement Ltd., Hongkong	—do—	
478.	Upjohn International Inc., USA	—do—	
479.	Universal Paper Export Co., 1198 Canada	—do—	
480.	U.S. Wheat Associated, U.S.A.	—do—	
481.	United States Line Inc., U.S.A.	—do—	
482.	UGP Asia Ltd., U.S.A.	—do—	
483.	Voest Alpina—AG	—do—	
484.	Vereringte delstahlwerke, Austria	Representative Office	
485.	Varion International A.G.	—do—	
486.	Valley Electronics Intl. Inc., USA	Liaison Office	

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office	
1	2	3	
487.	Vickersxatal Pty Ltd., Australia	Representative Office	
488.	Verson Inti. Ltd., U.K.		
489.	Whaiman Ltd., England	—do—	
490.	Westinghouse Trading Co. (Asia) Ltd.	—do—	
491.	Westing House Brake & Single Co. Ltd., England	—do—	
492.	Wagner Biro A.G.	—do—	
493.	Wild Heerbrugg Ltd., USA	Representative Office	
494.	W.C. Heracus GmbH, West Germany		
495.	Weatherford Inc.	—do—	
496.	W. Hegenscheidt GmbH, West Germany	Liaison Office	
497.	Westland Support Services, U.K.		
498.	Wharton William Taylor Br., Holland	Representative Office	
499.	Wings Manufacturing Corp., USA		
500.	Yaiwa Trading Co., Ltd., Japan	Project Office	
		Liaison Office	
		Representative Office	

Sl. No.	Name of Company	Liaison/Representative/Project Office
1	2	3
501.	Y & B Co. Ltd., Korea	Liaison Office
502.	Y & C Inc., Japan	—do—
503.	Yugo-Arab Co. Ltd., Cyprus	—do—
504.	Zuwain Trading Co., Abudhabi	—do—
505.	Zapata Offshore Co., USA	Project Office
506.	Sanen Verstosp N.V./Netherland	—do—

Delinking Associated Banks of State Bank of India

4162. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of India has become rather unwieldy;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal to delink the associated banks to form a separate corporate entity; and

(c) if so, whether it will give a boost to the development of associated banks as well as the areas of their operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The organisational structure of State Bank of India has been developed keeping in view its size and operations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Opening of Bank Branches in Himachal Pradesh

4163. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 25

February, 1987 to Unstarred Question No. 250 regarding licences for opening of bank branches in Himachal Pradesh and State;

(a) the names of such centres among them, where the branches have since been opened alongwith the names of the banks concerned and the dates of opening of the branches:

(b) the reasons for delay in opening the branches at the remaining centres and whether it would be ensured that the branches would be opened before any fresh identification is initiated; and,

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). As per the information available with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) district-wise names of centres where branches have been opened alongwith names of banks and date of opening the branches are set out in the statement below. RBI had earlier advised the banks to open branches in a phased manner during the remaining period of branch expansion of policy. However, in the context of Service Area Approach to rural lending RBI has advised the banks to open the branches at the allotted centres by the end of March, 1989, except in rare cases where minimum infrastructure facilities are not available.

STATEMENT

Districtwise names of centres where branches have been opened alongwith name of bank and date of opening the branch

<i>Name of District/ Name of centre</i>	<i>Date of opening the branch</i>	<i>Name of Bank</i>
1	2	3
BILASPUR DISTRICT		
Behal	29.6.88	UCO Bank
Chhakoh	29.12.87	Punjab National Bank

1	2	3
Dagrahn (Jaket Khana)	12.12.87	State Bank of Patiala
Dakhula (Mehri Kailhala)	7.8.87	Punjab National Bank
Ghandi	29.9.88	UCO Bank
Auhar	2.4.88	State Bank of India
CHAMBA DISTRICT		
Male	14.12.87	Parvatiya Gramin Bank
Saikolhi (Saikothi)	8.12.87	"
Gorala	7.9.87	"
Labal	7.9.87	"
Dieur	10.12.87	"
Jadera	2.7.87	"
Chaned	21.5.87	"
Dharbala	24.7.87	"
Durghatti	2.5.87	"
Sach	15.12.87	"
Hatli	20.11.87	"
Hobar	19.11.87	"
Baghdhar	22.6.87	"
Talka	5.5.87	"
Sahoo	30.12.86	"
Rajnagar	30.12.87	"
Mangla	30.12.87	"
Khairi	10.12.87	State Bank of India

1	2	3
<i>HAMIRPUR DISTT.</i>		
Tal	7.8.87	Punjab National Bank
Chakmoh	5.12.87	State Bank of India
Dhangota	18.12.87	UCO Bank
<i>KANGRA DISTRICT</i>		
Sansarpur	30.12.87	Punjab National Bank
Majhin	28.5.87	Himachal Gramin Bank
Srimolog	13 .8.87	Himachal Gramin Bank
Bankhandi	28.3.87	Punjab National Bank
Sunhi	26.3.87	"
Darini	28.4.87	"
Rajhoon	5.8.87	"
Chamund	20.6.87	Central Bank of India
Bharoli	8.5.87	Himachal Gramin Bank
<i>KINNARU DISTRICT</i>		
Karcham	9.4.87	Punjab National Bank
<i>KULU DISTRICT</i>		
Sarsari	16.7.87	Himachal Gramin Bank
Dohranal	12.10.87	"
Luhri	12.11.88	"
Kalath	30.12.87	UCO Bank
<i>MANDI DISTRICT</i>		
Jamni	18.7.87	Himachal Gramin Bank

1	2	3
Dahwan	25.5.87	"
Leda	17.7.87	"
Karhok	14.8.87	"
Ghatarani	19.9.88	State Bank of India
Majhwar	20.5.87	Punjab National Bank
Jarol	25.6.87	"
<i>SHIMLA DISTRICT</i>		
Koti	29.8.88	Punjab National Bank
Balg	23.12.88	"
Mauhri	26.12.87	"
Madhauni	23.12.87	"
Banoti	17.12.87	"
Nirth	22.12.87	"
Kutara	9.10.87	State Bank of India
Pujarli	28.12.87	State Bank of Patiala
Dayori Khanati	30.12.88	State Bank of Patiala
<i>SIRMUR DISTRICT</i>		
Kehri	29.2.88	State Bank of India
Didagkhanotyon	30.9.88	State Bank of India
Bhagani	1.12.87	State Bank of Patiala
Parara	20.12.88	Punjab National Bank
Benathi	21.11.88	Punjab National Bank

1	2	3
SOLAN DISTRICT		
Nund	24.12.87	Punjab National Bank
Dabhots	24.3.87	Punjab National Bank
Kotbeja	6.11.88	Punjab National Bank.

**Dividend Remittance by Hindustan
Lever Limited**

4164. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the dividend remittance in foreign currency to Unilever PLC during the years 1986, 1987 and 1988 by Hindustan Lever Limited?

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

Trade with Australia

4165. SHRI H.B.PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Australian expertise in mining can be critical in expanding deep mining in India and raising the field of coking coal mining as per study undertaken by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry titled "Export and Joint Venture with Australia;"

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

(c) the details items, particularly engineering products, general industries ma-

chinery and equipment, being exported during the last three years and current financial year; and

(d) the foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI PR. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The Piparwar integrated mine-cum-benefication project for annual production of 5.52 million tonnes of beneficiated coal is proposed to be developed with turnkey implementation by M/s. White Industries Ltd., of Australia. Government of Australia has also offered to finance import costs by a soft credit at Zero percent interest to be repaid in 10 years after a grace period of 4 years.

(c) The major items of engineering products being exported from India to Australia are hand/machine tools, household equipment of base metal, general, industrial machinery and equipment (including pumps) commercial vehicles, auto parts, hard-ware, chains, cutting tools, compressors and parts, electric power machinery, diesel engines and parts, cranes and hoists, batteries, lamps, starters, transformers, coils and chokes etc.

(d) Exports of engineering goods to Australia from 1985-86 onwards are as follows:-

	(Value in Rs. crores)
Year	Value
1985-86	8.75
1986-87	16.00
1987-88	15.00
1988-89 (April Sept).	11.00

(Source: Engineering Export Promotion Council)

[Translation]

National Housing Bank

4166. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of National Housing Bank set up to encourage housing in the country and the names of the States where Housing Finance Corporations have been set up; and

(b) the amount spent so far by the National Housing Bank and Housing Finance Corporations on housing.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The National Housing Bank (NHB) has been established with its Head Office at New Delhi and has opened one branch office at Bombay. The Reserve Bank of India has reported that similar information in respect of housing finance corporations of States is not collected by them.

The National Housing Bank will not lend directly to individual beneficiaries but would

provide refinance facilities to eligible banks/institutions for housing loans upto Rs. 50,000/disbursed from 1st January, 1989 onwards for acquisition/construction of new housing units not exceeding 40 square meters of built up area and upto Rs. 30,000/- for upgradation/repairs of old housing units.

[English]

Regional Rural Banks

4167. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Regional rural Banks set up during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the performance of these banks have benefited the poor and small farmers;

(c) the extent to which these banks have benefited the poor and small farmers;

(d) whether any directions have been issued by Union Government about the functioning of these banks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) NABARD has reported that during the three years period ending December, 1988, eight Regional Rural Banks were established, two each in the States of Andhra Pradesh and Punjab and one each in the State of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh & Tamil Nadu.

(b) and (c). NABARD has reported that the Regional Rural Banks have been meeting the credit requirements of weaker sec-

tions of society and have by and large been able to fulfill the mandate given to them.

(d) and (e). While no separate guidelines/instructions have been issued to the new RRBs, they have also to observe the same guidelines as are applicable to all other RRBs.

[Translation]

FERA violation

4168. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases registered in the year 1988-89 for violation of Foreign

Exchange Regulation Act;

(b) the number of cases in which legal action has been taken under FERA;

(c) the number of cases in which punishment has been awarded to the persons found guilty under FERA; and

(d) whether Government propose to amend FERA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The requisite information is furnished below:-

1988-89 (Upto Feb.)

No. of Cases registered	4636
No. of complaints filed in courts of law	289
No. of cases in which punishment has been awarded.	92

(d) Proposal of amend FERA are under consideration of the Government.

three years?

[English]

Deposits and Advances of Regional Rural Banks

4169. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of deposits, advances overdue, rate of recovery in the Regional Rural banks and rural branches of the commercial banks as on 31 December, 1987; and

(b) the rate of growth of deposits and advances of Regional Rural Banks and nationalised commercial banks for the last

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) NABARD has reported that the amount of deposits and overdue advances in the Regional Rural Banks as on 31st December, 1987 was Rs 2305.82 and Rs 569.72 crores respectively. The percentage of recovery to demand for these banks for the year ending June, 1988 was 48.89%.

Reserve Bank of India has reported that the deposits of rural branches of all scheduled commercial banks as at the end of 1987 were Rs. 17,527 crores. The Reserve Bank of India has further reported that the present data reporting system does not generate

separate information with regard to rural branches on overdue advances and the recovery performance.

(b) The rate of growth of deposits and

outstanding advances of regional rural banks and the public sector banks for the last three years as reported by NABARD and RBI respectively is as under:-

Year	Regional Rural Banks		Public Sector Banks	
	Deposits	Advances	Deposits	Advances
1985	33.94%	30.24%	19.5%	12.5%
1986	33.37%	26.79%	19.6%	13.7%
1987	34.4%	25.06%	15.6%	11.6%

Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh

4170. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh have allowed quarantine leave as per Government orders, if not the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the existing benefit of foodgrains advance to employees of Regional Rural Banks in Madhya Pradesh has been withdrawn; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have advised the Regional Banks to cover the lives of their staff by insurance especially in the dacoity-prone areas and area of Ambikapur and Jagdalpur districts of Madhya Pradesh which are infested with wild animals and snakes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) (a) NABARD have reported that all RRBs have been instructed to extend quarantine leave to their employees as per State Government rules. The rules applicable in this regard to the State

Government employees of Madhya Pradesh will also apply to the employees of RRBs in that State.

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

(c) NABARD have reported that all the RRBs have been advised to cover their entire staff under the Group Insurance policy on the pattern of Central Government Employees Group Insurance Scheme. No specific instructions have, however, been issued by NABARD to RRBs to provide any special insurance cover to their employees working in forest areas.

Reservations for SCs and STs in Railways

4171. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether High Courts of Allahabad, Punjab and Haryana and Rajasthan have different Judgements in regard to the filling up of reservation quota for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Railways.

(b) if so, whether Government have

preferred an appeal in the Supreme Court against the Judgement of the Allahabad High Court; if so, the present status of the appeal;

(c) whether some of the Zones of Railways have started acting pursuant to the judgement of the Allahabad High Court; and

(d) if so, whether those zonal railways obtained prior approval of the Ministry and if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken against the officers concerned who prejudice the interests of SCs and STs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The appeal against the judgement of the Allahabad High Court in J.C. Malik's case has appeared in the cause list of the Supreme Court for the week commencing from 29.11.88 and will be heard by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in due course.

(c) and (d). The Government have preferred an Appeal before Supreme Court against the judgement of Allahabad High Court, in 1978. The Supreme Court admitted the appeal for hearing and also stayed the operation of the Allahabad High Court Judgement. However, on 24.9.1984, the Supreme Court vacated the stay and issued interim order to the effect that the Allahabad High Court Judgement should be implemented. On the precedent of the Supreme Court interim order dated 24.9.1984 referred to above, the Supreme Court itself and a few High Courts/Central Administrative Tribunals have passed interim orders on the lines of the judgement of the Allahabad High Court in J.C. Malik's case covering most of Railway full/ partially.

Promotions to Branch Managers in Regional Rural Banks Sponsored by State Bank of India

4172. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State bank of India has allowed its sponsored regional rural banks to promote the required number of Officers/ Branch Managers to Area Senior Managers in terms of instructions issued by the NABARD in 1984;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there have been cases of supersession in the above promotions during the last three years;

(d) if so, the names of the regional rural banks in which such cases took place; and

(e) the action taken; proposed to be taken in accordance with the NABARD guidelines dated 1 December, 1987 and 10 February, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The State Bank of India has reported that promotions to various grades including the posts of Area/senior Managers in all the Regional Rural Banks sponsored by it are made by their Boards of Directors in accordance with existing rules in this regard.

(c) and (d). The information is being collected and the same, to the extent available will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) The appointment and promotion of Officers and other employees in Regional Rural Banks are now being regulated in accordance with the notification issued in this regard in September, 1988

Protection Work on the Right Bank of Ganga at Farakka Barrage

4173. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme for the protection work on the right bank of the river Ganga in the reach of 6 km. downstream of Farakka Barrage was approved by the Farakka barrage Authority a few years ago;

(b) if so, the details of the Scheme;

(c) the progress so far achieved in implementing the Scheme;

(d) whether the Scheme has later been curtailed/given up;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) if not, when the protection work of the said 6 km. length is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). A scheme estimated to cost Rs. 728 lakhs was sanctioned in 1986. About 27% works have been completed by January, 1989.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) The bank protection works are executed in the vicinity of the Farakka barrage as reviewed and recommended by the Technical Advisory Committee from time to time.

Express Train Between VARANASI and Trivandrum/Kanyakumari

4174. SHRI P. A. ANTONY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representations have been received for introduction of an express train between Varanasi and Trivandrum/Kanyakumari; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A triweekly service between Varanasi-Tirupati/Madras is being introduced from Mar '89. People for Trivandrum Kanyakumari can changeover at Madras. Introduction of a train between Varanasi and Trivandrum/Kanyakumari is presently not operationally feasible.

Coffee Stock at Coffee Board Depot

4175. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coffee stocks are being piled up in the pool depots of the Coffee Board at Idukki in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken to remedy this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The 1988-89 crop of coffee is expected to be of a record level. The quantities of coffee being received in various collecting Depots of the Board including the Depot at Idukki in Kerala is, therefore, quite large and more than the receipts in a normal crop year. The Board has, however, made adequate arrangements for moving these coffees to the storage centres of the Board as and when required from where these are sold.

**Surplus Workers Due to Closure of
Steam Locomotive Sheds**

4176. SHRI R. P. DAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared any strategy to absorb the staff rendered surplus on account of closure of Steam Locomotive Sheds; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Regular staff rendered surplus due to progressive closure of Steam Traction are not discharged but are being redeployed in ether posts either in the existing vacancies or against creations for new activities, after suitable training in alternative skills, as required. Till they are absorbed in alternative posts, they are allowed to continue against 'special supernumerary' posts in the same grade in which the incumbents were working.

For the above purpose, certain broad guidelines have been laid down within the broad framework thereof and depending upon the local situations, Zonal Railway Administrations have powers to redeploy the surplus staff suitably.

Kovvur Railway Station (A.P.)

4177. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken to improve Kovvur (West Godavari) station in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the details of improvements to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Improvement to stations including remodelling of station buildings, is a continuous process and the same is done on a need-based programme, in phases, subject to availability of funds. The facilities provided at Kovvur Railway station are adequate for the level of traffic presently being handled and there is no proposal, at present, for further development of the station.

Railway Hospital at Tamluk Station

4178. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of setting up a railway hospital including a blood bank at Tamluk railway station of the Panskura-Haldia section of S.E. Railway; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The engineering work of extension to the existing health unit at Tamluk for converting it into a polyclinic is in progress. Facilities provided would be consistent with workload and essential requirements.

Assistance to Fishing Units

4179. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 10th March 1989 to Unstarred question No. 2089 regarding SCICI assistance to fishing units and state:

(a) the nature of rehabilitation given to the two companies;

(b) whether small entrepreneurs are summoned to Bombay to meet the Shipping

Credit and Investment Company of India (SCICI) officials and have to stay for days before their problems are cleared; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) On the basis of appraisal carried out by Shipping Credit and Investment Company of India Limited (SCICI), it has been decided to allow re-schedulement of repayment of loan instalments by two companies, involving deferment of instalment of principal amount, and overdue interest and recovery thereof in two or more instalments.

(b) and (c). SCICI has reported that representatives of Deep Sea Fishing Companies are not required to visit SCICI's office at Bombay except when, because of incompleteness of details furnished by fishing companies, it becomes necessary to call the company representatives with a view to expediting processing of their proposals. Professional Managers of SCICI also visit business places of such companies with a view to helping them in processing their proposals.

Share Holding Rules for Joint Sector Company

4180. SHRI C. K. PUPPUSWAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the pattern of share holding rules laid down for a Joint Sector Company; and

(b) whether the Tamil Nadu Dadha Pharmaceuticals Limited is a Joint Sector Company as per the share holding rules laid down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Manipulation of NRI Investment Scheme by Banks.

4181. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:
DR. A.K. PATEL:
CH. KHURSHID AHMED:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that many leading international banks and overseas branches of Indian banks in collusion with some Non-Resident Indians are pocketing crores of rupees every year by manipulating the NRI investment scheme; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). During 1985, some irregularities in this regard were brought to the notice of the Reserve bank of India. Accordingly RBI have already issued instructions to all Indian banks having foreign branches and foreign banks operating in India, in this regard.

[Translation]

Ganga Action Plan

4182. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ganga Action Plan has recommended to bring Ganga river upto Ghats and to construct a Barrage to solve the water problem in Kanpur;

(b) if so, whether estimated cost of the Barrage is also mentioned in the recommendation;

(c) whether any offer for assistance has been received from the World Bank for this Barrage; and

(d) when the construction work of the Barrage will start and the time by which is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). A committee constituted by the Ministry of Environment & Forests in January, 1988 recommended, among others, construction of a gated barrage at Kanpur approximately estimated to cost Rs. 130 crores. The detailed project report has not been received at the Centre.

Standard of literature at railway book stalls

4183. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state:

(a) whether sub-standard and obscans literature is sold at the bookstalls of M/s A.H. Wheeler and Company at various Railway Stations;

(b) whether M/s A.H. Wheeler are not giving due place and publicity to Hindi books;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Railways have awarded the contract to M/s A.H. Wheeler and Com-

pany for 9 years, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether the number of Hindi boards in comparison to English at the book stalls of M/s A.H. Wheeler is negligible if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d). Yes, Sir. In 1967, it was decided to delete the clause of "Automatic renewal" from the agreement but to extend the period of agreement from 5 years to 9 years.

(e) Bookstall contractors sell books and magazines which are generally required by travelling public. The language-wise count of books is not maintained by the Railways.

Scheme to Minimise Sea-Erosion in Lakshadweep

4184. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to minimise the sea-erosion in Lakshadweep;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes and the action taken in this regard; and

(c) the fund provided to the Government of Lakshadweep during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Anti sea erosion measures have been planned to protect vulnerable reaches as recommended by the them of experts.

(c) Recommended outlay for the year 1989-90 is Rs. 45 lakhs.

**Demands of passengers at Kutch
(W.R.)**

4186. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any 'Dharna' was arranged by Kutch passengers Association and Kutch Yuvak mandal on 6 February, 1989 at Western Railway Headquarters, Bombay;

(b) if so, the demands presented to the General manger, Western Railway; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The main demands and the Government's views thereon are given below:—

<i>Demand</i>	<i>Govenment's views</i>
(i) Change in the timings of 31/32 Bombay Central-Gandhidham Express and augmentation of its load.	(i) Presently not feasible due to operational and resource Constraints
(ii) Construction of a new B.G. line from Gandhidham to Bhuj Nalia.	(ii) A Techno-economic survey was carried out but the project was found to be unremunerative and was not taken up.
(iii) Formation of Gandhidham Division.	(iii) There is no such proposal at present.
(iv) Increasing the length and height of platforms at Bachau, Samakhiyali and Gandhidham.	(iv) Extension of platform at Gandhidham already completed. Extension of platform at Bachau and Samakhiyali likely to be completed in 1989. However, the existing height of the Platforms is considered adequate.
(v) Renaming of Gandhidham Express as Kutch Express or Kutch Mail.	(v) Being renamed as Kutch Express from 1.5.1989.

Voters list

4187. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a large scale rigging in some States in the current enumeration of voters list of those having attained 18 years of age:

(b) if so, the names of the States from where such reports have come;

(c) the action taken by Union Government; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI

H R BHARDWAJ (a) to (d) No, Sir The Election Commission has informed that general complaints alleging irregularities in enumeration of voters had been received from two states namely West Bengal and Tripura In respect of four other States, namely, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh a few complaints with reference to particular areas or localities or cases had been received No complaints have been received from the remaining 19 States and 7 Union territories Election Commission has forwarded all these complaints to the Chief Electoral Officers concerned for necessary corrective action

Exemption of Excise Duty to Cement Plants

4169 SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Karnataka Vertical Shaft Kiln (VSK) Mini-Cement plants Association has urged the Central Government to immediately exempt such plants from excise duty for five years to save them from collapsing,

(b) whether the Central Government's *pre-mature withdrawal of the excise duty concession* with State Governments inability to release the promised interest free loans to the extent of Sales Tax paid (the highest sales tax in the country at 18% along with a turnover tax of 1.5%) were the main reasons for the industry's woes, and

(c) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken by Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A K PANJA) (a) to (c) Representations from

various associations of cement units had been received requesting for concession in excise duty on cement manufactured by mini-cement plants A concessional rate of duty of Rs 115 per tonne has been prescribed with effect from the 1st march 1969, for cement manufactured by Factories using vertical shaft kiln and with total licensed capacity not exceeding 200 tonnes per day as against the general concessional rate of Rs 215 per tonne

Evasion of Excise Duty in Art Silk Fabric Processing Industry

4190 DR T KALPANA DEVI Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received a representation from Maharashtra Pradesh Fabric processing Association, Bombay concerning evasion of central excise duty to the order of Rs 1200-1400 crores annually in Art Silk Fabric Processing Industry,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether this has led to increase in black money and resulted in inflation, and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A K PANJA) (a) to (d) In its representation, the Maharashtra Pradesh Fabric Processing Association, Bombay has stated that there is an evasion of central excise duty by the art silk processing industry of about Rs 1200-1400 crores annually The Association has suggested that the duty leviable on synthetic fabrics may be shifted to the yarn stage The Association has not given any basis for its estimate of evasion and it cannot be concluded that the present duty structure has led to black money and resulted in inflation

Loans to Farmers**4191. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the institutions which give loans to farmer;

(b) the amount of loans these institutions have taken from the Indian and foreign sources; and

(c) the amount of loan given by these institutions to farmers during the last three years and at what rate of interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The farmers can avail loan facilities from Public Sector Banks, Regional Rural Banks, other Scheduled Commercial Banks, and Cooperative Banks including Land Development Banks. These institutions do not directly receive loans from the World Bank which is generally channelised through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD). Details of outstanding agricultural advances of Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks as at the end of June, 1986, June 1987 and June 1988 are set out in the Statement below. The Banks charge interest as per RBI interest rate schedule and the

interest rates prescribed for agricultural loans are as under:

<i>Category of Advances</i>	<i>Rate of interest (% p.a.)</i>
<i>Short Term Agricultural loans</i>	
(a) Upto Rs. 7500/-	10.00
(b) Over Rs. 7500/- and upto Rs. 15000/-	11.50
(c) Over Rs. 15000/- and upto Rs. 25000/-	12.00
(d) Over Rs. 25000/-	14.00 to 15.50
<i>Term Loans</i>	
(i) Minor Irrigation and Loan Development	10.00
(ii) <i>Other Purposes</i>	
(a) Small farmers	10.00
(b) Other farmers	12.50
(iii) Advances by way of term loans for purchase of equipments based on new and renewable sources of energy for agricultural purpose.	10.00

STATEMENT

Outstanding advances of Scheduled Commercial Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Co-operative Bank

(Rs. in crores)

<i>Years</i>	<i>Scheduled Commercial Banks</i>	<i>Regional Rural Banks</i>	<i>Cooperative Banks</i>
June 1986	9482.88	871.1	6947.0
June 1987	10963.90	1061.2	7478.0 P
June 1988	12285.00*	1060.5 P	8244.0 E

P — provisional

E — Estimated

* Data provisional and relate to 50 Scheduled Commercial banks which account for about 95 per cent of banks credit.

Setting up of Indo-Australian Joint Economic commission

4192. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether India and Australia have decided on major expansion of the existing trade and economic links;

(b) whether both the countries are planning to set up a joint economic commission at the ministerial level;

(c) whether there is a "significant up-grading" of development assistance for India; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Recently four Memoranda of Understanding have been signed between India and Australia to step up cooperation in Meteorology, Railway, Coal and Telecommunication Sectors. Both the countries have also agreed to set up a joint commission at the Ministerial level to review bilateral cooperation in the economic and trade fields. A memorandum of Understanding has also been signed with the Government of Australia on the 10th February, 1989, for provision of concessional loans to finance development projects in India.

(c) and (d). These steps are expected, inter alia, to facilitate the flow of development assistance for India.

[Translation]

Inter-City Train From Gandhidham to Anand and Baroda

4193. SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce an inter-city train from Gandhidham to Anand and Baroda for the students of Kutch;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Operational and resource constraints.

[English]

Appointment of Chief Election Commissioner

4194. SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring forward a legislation regarding the appointment of the Chief Election Commissioner; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Criticism of Functioning of Railways

4195. SHRIMATI MANORAMA SINGH:

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the functioning of Railways has been criticised by the Central Vigilance Commission in his recent report;

(b) if so, the points on which criticism has been made;

(c) the present number of cases recommended by the Central Vigilance Commission for action but no decisive action could be taken thereon so far;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to remove this short coming and when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVARO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The Central Vigilance Commission's Annual Report for the Calendar Year 1987 has been received only recently. Besides giving an account of the performance (work done) in the field of Vigilance, the Report gives suggestions for system/procedural improvement. The Central Vigilance Commission have not criticised the functioning of the Railways but have commented in a few cases with the intention of assisting in the field of Vigilance matters.

(c) to (e). At present there is no case on which decisive action could not be taken by this Ministry in relation to the advice tendered by Central Vigilance Commission. The Commission's advice is given utmost respect and attention and is acted upon. In case where it is proposed to deviate from the Commission's advice, the matter is referred back to them for reconsideration and appropriate action is taken in accordance with the laid down procedure.

[English]

Constitutional Cases Pending in Supreme Court

4196. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Constitutional cases pending in the Supreme Court and for how many years, in each case;

(b) the number of such cases pending in each High Court; and

(c) the reasons for their pendency and the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTR OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The information is contained in the Statement below.

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

(c) The pendency of cases including Constitutional cases, is due to several complex factors. Various steps have been taken to reduce pendency in the courts, such as, grouping of matters regarding common questions of law, and constitutional of special benches. The judge strength of Supreme Court has been raised from 18 to 26 and of High Courts from 351 to 451 in March, 1989.

STATEMENT

Number of Constitutional Cases pending in the Supreme Court and their year-wise pendency

Year	No. of Constitutional cases pending
1	2
1968	2
1969	—
1970	3
1971	2

1	2
1972	27
1973	37
1974	42
1975	37
1976	15
1977	207
1978	125
1979	384
1980	499
1981	441
1982	1043
1983	1690
1984	905
1985	992
1986	170
1987	522
1988	234
1989	4
<i>Total</i>	7381

Track Renewal on Western Railway

4197. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS pleased to state:

(a) the allocation for renewal of railway tracks since 1985, actual amount spent

since then and the length of track renewed from January 1988 upto 31 December 1988 in railway zones covering Gujarat against the total allocation as per Seventh Five year plan and the target fixed for physical progress;

(b) the details of the railway tracks in Kilometer urgently required for renewal on Western Railway covering Gujarat area; and

(c) when these railway tracks are likely to be renewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The details regarding allocation of funds for track renewals, and the actual amount spent year-wise on Western Railway, which covers Gujarat are as under:—

(Figs. in crores Rs.)

Year	Allocation	Actual amount spent
1985-86	91.00	92.10
1986-87	102.70	103.80
1987-88	134.64	152.15
1988-89	138.72	100.56 (upto Feb' 89)
1989-90	139.55	—

About 468 km. of Complete track renewal was done on Western Railway from April, 1988 to December 1988, against the target of 473 km for the financial year, 1988-89.

(b) and (c). About 108 km of complete track renewal is urgently required to be done on Western Railway and is likely to be completed by 31.3.1990, subject to availa-

bility of funds.

[Translation]

Survey to FTZs.

4198. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RA-
MOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Indo-USSR chamber of Commerce and Industries has made a survey during last year regarding "Free Trade Zones" (FTZs);

(b) if so, whether it has been observed in the survey report that many manufacturers are misusing facilities extended in "Free Trade Zones";

(c) if so, whether Government have made an enquiry into these cases;

(d) if so, the outcome of the enquiry; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). Indo-USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry conducted a study on the growth of Free Trade Zones in the country. It has stated in the report that it had also come to its notice that a few units in the Free Trade Zones are misusing the facilities of the Zone.

(c) to (e). Government specifies various conditions in the Letter of Approval in each case having regard to the details given by the applicant in connection with his proposed manufacturing activities. In the event of any violation coming to its notice of the conditions by any unit with reference to the

approval letter, necessary action wherever called for is taken.

[English]

Flood Managements Works in Orissa

4199. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal to construct, strengthen and repair Salaine embankments in Puri district of Orissa to prevent the over flow of salaine water during floods;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have provided any funds;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether this being a Flood Control Programme, Government are considering this project on priority basis?

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

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

Word Bank Loan to Kerala

4200. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the loan provided to Kerala by the World Bank during last three years;

(b) the terms and conditions thereof; and

(c) whether Kerala State is timely paying back the instalments of the loan taken

from the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). A loan/credit of \$ 280 million has been negotiated recently with the World Bank for the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). ITIs in Kerala will also be covered under the project. The terms and conditions have not yet been finalised.

Scheme for Coffee House and Coffee Centres.

4201. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coffee Board has drawn up a scheme to encourage opening of Coffee House and Coffee Centres by the educated unemployed and those returning from Gulf; and

(b) if so, the incentives and assistance which the Coffee Board proposes to give in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir. Coffee Board has drawn up a scheme for opening of Coffee Houses and Coffee Centres by educated unemployed persons.

(b) The Coffee Board proposes to give training on various accepts of coffee brewing, roasting, grinding and management of Coffee Houses etc. to the selected personnel. With such incentives as stipend, cash subsidy, grant of agencyship for sale of raw coffee etc. to the eligible categories.

Completion: Western Kosi Canal

4202. DR. G. S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the western Kosi Canal will be completed by the end of 1990;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government are taking for the timely completion of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c). Due to constraints of funds and problems of land acquisition the Western Kosi Canal is expected to be completed by 1994-95.

Recommendations of Chakravarty Committee on Monetary System

4203. SHRI C. JANGAREDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) which of the recommendations of Chakravarty Committee on monetary system (1982) have not yet been implemented;

(b) the reasons for delay in this non-implementation; and

(c) the time by which these recommendations would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The Committee to Review the Working of the Monetary System set up by the Reserve Bank of India under the Chairmanship of Prof. S. Chakravarty, had made a comprehensive review of the working of the monetary system in India and made recommendations covering a number of aspects of the monetary system and credit policy. By their very nature a number of these recommendations can be considered only over time as the monetary and financial system develops. Some of the recommendations of the Committee are also in the nature of general

observations on the shape of things and are, therefore, relevant only in the longer run perspective. Some others are in the nature of rationalisation and development of the financial system and have, therefore, to be implemented in phased manner. While a large number of recommendations have already been acted upon, some are necessarily being implemented in stages, since they depend upon growth of monetary and financial system.

In view of the above, it is not possible to indicate a definite time-frame for completing the implementation of all the recommendations of the Committee.

Track Renewal

4204. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the targets of track renewal fixed for 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVARAO SCINDIA): The target of track renewal for 1989-90 has been fixed as 3550 Km.

Rate of Inflation

4205. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a bumper harvest this year;

(b) what was its dent on the price levels;

(c) whether the rate of inflation has gone down as a result of bumper harvest;

(d) if so, to what extent; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

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

(d) The annual inflation rate in Wholesale Price Index, on point to point basis, has come down to 6.3 per cent as on week ending 11th March 1989 from 10.1 per cent in the corresponding period of last year.

(e) Does not arise.

Opening of Office of Regional Manager of State Bank of India at Gangtok

4206. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the North-Eastern States viz. Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh are having offices of the Regional Managers of the State Bank of India in their capitals;

(b) whether Government propose to set up one such office at Gangtok;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Regional Offices/Zonal Offices, which are controlling offices of banks, are set up by the banks keeping in view the number of branches to be controlled, their level of business, geographical contiguity, availability of infrastructural facilities, administrative conveniences, cost-benefit analysis etc.

State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that the bank's branches located in the North Eastern States are controlled by its Local

Head Office at Guwahati through two Regional Offices located at Guwahati and Shillong. The bank has also set up Regional manager's Offices at Itanagar (Arunachal Pradesh), Dimapur (Nagaland) and Agartala (Tripura). SBI has further reported that it has only 15 branches in the State of Sikkim which are adequately controlled by the bank's Regional office at Siliguri (West Bengal). The bank has no proposal to set up a Regional Manager's Office at Gangtok at present.

Supplementary Import Licences

4207. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 24 February, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 471 regarding supplementary import licences and state:

(a) the cases where supplementary import licences have been issued on the basis of the decisions taken by inter-Ministerial meeting during 1988-89; and

(b) whether ex-post-facto approval was obtained from Supplementary Licensing Committee (Hq) if so, when and if not, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). During 1988-89, Supplementary Import Licences have been granted for imports of Rayon Grade Wood Pulp, Carbon Black, Integrated Circuits (IC) and Electronics Circuits Board (ECB) for Watches/Clocks, Monomethyl Acetoacetamide, penicillin G/V, etc., on the basis of the decisions taken at the Inter-Ministerial Meetings. Consideration of cases by Supplementary Licensing Committee is for the purpose of obtaining clearance from indigenous angle. Where such clearance from indigenous angle is accorded at an Inter-Ministerial meeting, approval by the Supple-

mentary Licensing Committee is not considered necessary.

Writing Off of Loans to Farmers in Maharashtra

4208. SHRI SAMBHAJIRAO KAKADE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have taken note of the reported writing off of over Rs. 200 crores worth of farmers' loans by the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) whether the Reserve Bank of India has any proposal to increase reliefs to borrowers to meet increasingly unfavourable climate for repayment of loans;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to bring parity in the huge amounts spent// granted to sick industries and the amount loaned/borrowed by small/marginal and self-employed farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The State Government of Maharashtra had reported that certain decisions were taken by them with a view to lessen the burden of farmers, landless labourers and Adivasis through a package of remission of Government dues, freezing of interest dues and rescheduling of principal alongwith interest due to cooperative credit institutions.

(b) to (d). Reserve Bank of India have stated that there are provisions in existing guidelines for providing relief by way of converting short-term production loans into medium-term loans, rescheduling/postponement of existing term-loan instalments and provision of additional need based crop/

investment loans to the farmer in case of natural calamities and other adverse exigencies. Further, Government has also decided to set up a National Agricultural Credit Relief Fund for providing relief in the debt burden to the farmers affected by successive natural calamities.

Purchase of Rubber by STC in Kerala

4209. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) has started purchasing natural rubber directly from the market in Kerala;

(b) if so, reasons therefor;

(c) the price at which rubber is being purchased by the Corporation; and

(d) the quantity of rubber purchased so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A buffer stocking scheme is being operated by Government with the aim of providing remunerative returns to the growers while simultaneously ensuring steady supply of rubber to the user industry at a reasonable price. Under this scheme the STC intervenes in the market when prices fall below the desired level. Accordingly STC has been procuring rubber from the local market in Kerala and has so far procured a quantity of 4135 MTs. at the following prices:—

RMA	— grade	Rs.16800 PMT.
RMA	— IV grade and ISNR—20 grade	Rs. 17300 PMT.

Target for priority Sector lendings by Banks

4210. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the lending target in priority sector by banks for the financial year 1988-89;

(b) whether there is any shortfall of the relative target, if so, the persons responsible therefor; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to correct the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). All Scheduled Commercial banks have been advised that 40% of their total outstanding advances should be for Priority Sector. All Public Sector Banks have already exceeded the target of 40% as at the end of December, 1988. Advances of Public Sector Banks taken together to Priority Sector constituted 45.1% of their total advances as at the end of December, 1988. However, in the cases of private sector banks the percentage of their priority sector advances to their total advances as at the end of December 1987 (latest available) was 38.4% which was little less than the prescribed target of 40%. RBI has been advised to extort the defaulting banks for making up the shortfall in lending to priority sector.

Railway Lines in Punjab

4211. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for laying new railway lines in Punjab particularly covering Hoshiarpur district during the Seventh Five Year plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Construction of a new BG line between Beas and Goindwal (27 km), at an estimated cost of Rs. 21.13 crores, has been included in 1989-90 Budget.

Utilisation of River Water

4212. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantum of river water that

is being used for irrigation in each of the major rivers viz. Ganga, Brahmaputra, Sindhu, Narmada, Godavari, Krishna and Cauvery;

(b) the quantity of water running away into the sea in each of the major rivers;

(c) whether any plan has been formulated to utilise the water going waste into the sea from these rivers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). The requisite information is as under:

(in cubic km.)

<i>Basin</i>	<i>Average annual runoff in the river</i>	<i>Estimated utilizable flow excluding ground water</i>
1	2	3
Indus (upto border)	73.305	46.000
Brahmaputra (at Jogigupa)	537.067	24.000
Ganga	501.643	250.000
Godavari	118.982	76.300
Krishna	67.790	58.000
Cauvery	20.957	19.000
Narmada	40.950	34.500

After utilisation of available water for irrigation and annual replenishable groundwater re-charge, the balance water, after evaporation and vegetation losses, flows

into the sea.

(c) and (d). The details of major projects in these basins are as under:

1.	Projects completed during pre-plan period	47
2.	projects completed during Plan period	45
3.	On-going projects of VII Plan	133
4.	New Projects of VII Plan	13

A national perspective of water resources development comprising two components viz. Himalayan Rivers Development; and Peninsular River Development have been formulated. The National Water Development Agency has undertaken feasibility studies of Peninsular River Development Component of the National Perspective.

World Bank Suggestion of Upgradation of Technology

4213. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has suggested that Government should further liberalise its policy for import of technology and capital goods under the technical Development Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government thereon;

(c) the assistance given by the World

Bank for the upgradation of country's technology; and

(d) the details of the projects which are being implemented under Technical Development Fund Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The World Bank staff has brought out a report on "India—Policies for Industrial Technology Development" It is an internal document of the World Bank. Its distribution is restricted and recipients are not authorised to disclose its contents. Discussions are being held with the World Bank Staff for possible assistance for an Industrial Technology Development Project.

(d) TDF approvals issued for import of capital goods, technical know-how etc. for quality improvement, cost reduction, energy saving etc. in the last 3 years in as under:—

<i>Financial Year</i>	<i>No. of Cases approved</i>	<i>Value approved (Rs. crores)</i>
1986-87	272	69.15
1987-88	211	62.90
1988 (April- Dec.)	183	69.22

Branch-Cum-Investment Office of LIC in Vijayawada

4214. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest stage of the proposal for construction of Branch Office-cum-Investment Building of Life Insurance Corporation at Besant Road, Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the estimated cost and the number of floors of the proposed building?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Architectural drawings for Municipal approval are under preparation.

(b) The proposed building is estimated to cost Rs. 1 crore approximately and will have ground floor plus five upper floors.

Application of Minimum Wages Act in Tea Industry

4215. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the payment under Minimum Wages Act is in vogue in the Tea Industry in Assam particularly in respect of women workers; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). From the rate of P.R. daily wages paid to the tea plantation labourers it is clear that women tea plantation labourers are not treated differently from

the man plantation labourers. The rate for child labour is lower than the rate meant for adults irrespective of man or women.

Besides the daily wages are fixed under Bipartite/Tripartite agreement, the incentive for plucking green leaves and other statutory or non-statutory fringe benefit like Foodgrains subsidy, Housing, Children education, Medical Attendance/Sickness Benefit, Earned Leave, Provident Fund, Maternity Benefit etc. are also available for tea plantation labourers in ASSAM.

[Translation]

Survey on Ground Water level in Madhya Pradesh

4216. SHRI K. N. PRADHAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether ground water level in Madhya Pradesh is constantly going down due to less rain and the excessive exploitation of ground water;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted to assess the extent of ground water in the State;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) whether any financial assistance has been provided or proposed to be provided for conducting census of minor irrigation works under the centrally sponsored scheme to the Government of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Decline in ground water levels has been observed in some localised parts of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) and (c). The annually replenishable

ground water resource for the State has been provisionally estimated at 5.9718 million hectare metres.

(d) Central assistance of Rs. 42.80 lakhs has been released to the Government of Madhya Pradesh under the centrally sponsored scheme for conducting a Census of Minor Irrigation Schemes.

**Agricultural finance Corporation
Contract for Rural Development
Projects in Nepal**

4217. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural Finance Corporation has entered into contracts for preparing rural development projects in Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) has entered into a contract with Asian Development Bank, to provide consultancy services, for preparing an Integrated Rural Development Project in Nepal. The scope of the Study would broadly include:

- (i) Development of indicators to evaluate impact of Sagarmatha Integrated rural Development Project (SIRDp).
- (ii) Preparation of resource inventory of the project area.
- (iii) Completion of reconnaissance survey.
- (iv) Determination of potential for development and examination of

various constraints.

- (v) Designing of a comprehensive integrated rural development project.

Standard of catering service at Secunderabad and Khazipet

4218. SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South Central Railway have conducted any check/raids on the vendors at Secunderabad and Khazipet railway stations regarding the quality of edibles;

(b) if so, the details of the raids/checks conducted during the last two years; and

(c) the action taken against those vendors found selling sub-standard, impure or adulterated food stuffs and edibles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 121 checks at Kazipet and 38 at Secunderabad were conducted during the last 2 years.

(c) No instance of sale of impure or adulterated food stuff and edibles came to notice. However, 3 commission vendors were removed, 19 commission beares were fined, 22 suspended and 26 warned for other irregularities and misbehaviour.

[Translation]

Construction of STC Head Office

4219. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Trading Corporation (STC) has constructed a building for its head office in Delhi and if so, the total amount incurred thereon;

(b) whether this construction work has been done by any state agency and if not, the name of the construction company;

(c) whether some shortcomings have been found in this construction work and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the construction company has been penalised for these shortcomings and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) The State Trading Corporation (STC) is constructing a building for its head office in Delhi. The expenditure incurred on the construction of the building till 28.2.1989 amounted to Rs. 26 crores.

(b) Details of agencies engaged in civil

construction STC office building are given in the Statement below.

(c) and (d). There were no shortcomings in civil construction works. However, based on the review of the structural design of the building, M/s. Engineers India Limited and the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, had indicated the following design defects:-

- (i) Some ribs of second and third floors are inadequately reinforced due to premature curtailment of bottom reinforcement;
- (ii) Some of the main ribs on lower floors (Upper Ground and First Floor) are inadequately reinforced to carry shear around the out-outs for ducts etc.

These have been rectified and it has been provisionally decided to adjust the rectification expenses against the dues payable to the Architect.

STATEMENT

STC Offices Building Complex - List of Agencies Engaged in Construction

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Nature of work</i>
1	2	3
1.	M/s. Simplex Concrete Piles (India) Private Limited	Piling
2.	M/s. Universal Consortium of Engineers (P) Limited	Civil
3.	M/s. Pest Control (India) Private Limited	Anti-termite
4.	M/s. India Water Proofing Co.	Water Proofing
5.	M/s. S. Sony & Co.	Sanitary & Water Supply
6.	M/s. Otis Elevator Co. (India) Ltd.	Lifts
7.	M/s. Bharat Electricals	Electricals

1	2	3
8.	M/s. Hydrowells Pvt. Ltd.	Tubewell
9.	M/s. S. Sony & Co.	Fire Fighting
10.	M/s. Voltas Limited	Central Air-conditioning
11.	M/s. Consolidated Engg. Co.	Aluminium Glazing
12.	M/s. Parry & Co.	Diesel Generating Set
13.	M/s. Bondvel India Pvt. Ltd.	Epoxy Grouting
14.	M/s. Watcon Water Specialists	Water Softening Plant
15.	M/s. Decon and	
16.	M/s. Bajaj	Electrical Fixtures
17.	M/s. Steelage Industries	Fire Detection
18.	M/s. Bhu Shingar	Land Scaping
19.	M/s. Laxmi Sprinklers	Addl. Fire Sprinklers System
20.	New Delhi Municipal Committee	Electrical Sub-Station and service connection

ARCHITECT : M/s. Rewal & Kuldip Singh, New Delhi

SUPERVISORY CONSULTANT ENGINEERS : M/s. Engineers India Ltd.,

[English]

**Opening of Letters of Credit by M/s.
Reliance Industries**

4220. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH :
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government permitted M/s. Reliance Industries Limited to open letters of credit in the nationalised banks during May, 1985;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether a substantial amount of

these letters of credit was deposited in the foreign banks; and

(d) whether M/s. Reliance Industries Limited had sought the permission of the Government under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). In accordance with the provisions of the Import and Export policy relating to import of PTA under OGL, M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd., (RIL) registered contracts for import of PTA with the Ministry of Petroleum during 1984 and

1985. In May 1985 on receipt of requests from RIL, 5 bank branches at Bombay, 2 of which belong to public sector banks and 3 to foreign banks in India, opened letters of credit for import of PTA, as required under the Regulations and Instructions issued by RBI against the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

[Translation]

**ST/ST Judges in High Court and
Supreme Court**

4221. SHRI R.P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Judges/Additional Judges working at present in each High Courts and the Supreme Court; and

(b) the number of those belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Minority Communities respectively, among them?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):
(a) A statement containing the information is given below;

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

STATEMENT

Actual strength of Judges and Additional Judges in High Courts (As on 28.3.89)

Sl. No.	High Court	Sanctioned Strength			Actual Strength			Vacancies		
		Pmt. Judges	Addl. Judges	Total	Pmt. Judges	Addl. Judges	Total	Pmt. Judges	Addl. Judges	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11.
1.	Allahabad	55	5	60	48	—	48	7	5	12
2.	Andhra Pradesh	24	2	26	20	—	20	4	2	6
3.	Bombay	42	6	48	40	2	42	2	4	6
4.	Calcutta	44	—	44	43	—	43	1	—	1
5.	Delhi	25	2	27	22	—	22	3	2	5
6.	Gauhati	12	—	12	11	—	11	1	—	1
7.	Gujarat	18	3	21	16	—	16	2	3	5
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5	1	6	5	—	5	—	1	1
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	—	7	7	—	7	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	25	—	25	20	—	20	5	—	5

Sl. No.	High Court	Sanctioned Strength			Actual Strength			Vacancies		
		Pmt. Judges	Addl. Judges	Total	Pmt. Judges	Addl. Judges	Total	Pmt. Judges	Addl. Judges	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11.	Kerala	21	2	23	20	2	22	1	—	1
12.	Madhya Pradesh*	23	7	30	20	5	25	3	2	5
13.	Madras*	25	—	25	21	—	21	4	—	4
14.	Orissa	12	1	13	12	1	13	—	—	—
15.	Patna	35	—	35	29	—	29	6	—	6
16.	Punjab & Haryana	23	—	23	21	—	21	2	—	2
17.	Rajasthan	22	1	23	21	1	22	1	—	1
18.	Sikkim*	3	—	3	1	—	1	2	—	2
TOTAL		421	30	451	377	11	388	44	19	63

Price Rise in States

4222. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the latest data regarding price rise, state-wise; and

(b) whether Union Government propose to impose some financial discipline on such states as have a price rise higher than other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Price indices are not compiled state-wise. The Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers is compiled for important industrial centres including some state capitals. The requisite data on the price rise in state capitals covered in the Index, during the 12 Months ending January 1989 (latest available) are given in the Statement below:

(b) No, Sir.

STATEMENT

Price Rise measured in terms of changes in Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (1960=100) between January 1988 and January 1989

Centre	Price Rise (Per cent)
Hyderabad	7.9
Ahmedabad	4.6
Srinagar	9.4
Bangalore	6.6
Bhopal	7.4
Bombay	7.3
Jaipur	10.0
Madras	5.8
Calcutta	12.0
Delhi	10.1

Note: Figures for January 1989 which are based on new series (1982=100) have been converted back to old series (1960=100) by using the linking factors supplied by the Ministry of Labour.

[English]

(a) India's position among the debtor countries; and

External Borrowings

4223. SHRI MAHENDHRA SINGH:
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(b) what is the percentage of the non-concessional borrowing to the total external borrowings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) According to the statistical information contained in the World Development Report 1988, published by the World Bank, the debt-service on external public debt as a percentage of Gross National Product (GNP) for developing economies in 1986 was 4.4. percent. For the same year, the same course indicates India's debt-service as a proportion of GNP was 1.2. percent.

(b) The debt outstanding in respect of external commercial borrowings as on 31.3.1988 was about 24 percent of the total external debt.

Incentives of Curb Smuggling Activities

4224. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced a package of incentives to curb smuggling activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of person benefited so far during the current year who have informed the authorities about the smuggling and other frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As part of the intensification of the anti-smuggling drive, the scheme of rewards and other incentives granted to informers and departmental officials engaged in anti-smuggling work was reviewed by the Government in March, 1985. As a result of the review, apart from further strengthening of the anti-smuggling infrastructure, it was considered necessary to rationalise the reward policy and accordingly the reward eligibility of informers and departmental officials was enhanced from 10% to 20% of the value of contrabands seized with provision of grant of part of the reward immediately after seizure.

(c) 1521. Persons (figures provisional) have received monetary cash rewards during the year 1988 for informing the Customs and Central Excise authorities about smuggling and evasion of Customs duties.

Export of Essential commodities

4225. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the essential commodities are being exported;

(b) if so, the names of such commodities;

(c) whether this has an adverse impact on availability and prices of such commodities in the country; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review their policy in regard to the export of essential commodities such as rice sugar, cement, fish, meat and other food products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (d). Government's Policy has continued to be to give the utmost priority to meeting the internal demands for essential commodities with the aim of making them available to the population at reasonable prices. Keeping in view, however, the need for earning foreign exchange. Government has been permitting the export of limited quantities of selected commodities in surplus situations. The production, availability, prices and similar other factors affecting the common man are constantly kept under review by the Government in order to ensure that exports of any commodity do not have an adverse impact on availability and prices.

[Translation]

Import of Disposable Syringes

4226. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of disposable syringes under O.G.L. has an adverse impact on the Disposable Syringes and Needle Industry;

(b) if so, whether the interest of this industry was kept in view while framing a policy in this regard; and

(c) if not, the remedial measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DUSMUNSI): (a) to (c). In the current import policy, import of disposable syringes has been allowed under Open General Licence after taking into consideration all factors including indigenous production. Further, indigenous industry is also given protection by way of high rate of duties on imported disposable syringes.

[English]

Assistance by Nationalised Banks to Rural Poor in Orissa

4227. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loan provided by nationalised banks to rural poor in Orissa, bank-wise during the last three years;

(b) the percentage of recovery made so far from the said loan amount.

(c) whether there is demand to convert the said long into loan term loans; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The present data reporting system of banks does not yield information in the manner asked for. However, outstanding advances of all

scheduled commercial banks in respect of their rural branches in the State of Orissa as on September, 1988 (latest available) were Rs 496 crores. The percentage of recovery in respect of direct agricultural advances of All Scheduled Commercial Banks in the State of Orissa was 52.8% for the year ending June 1987.

Complaints Against Officials of State Bank of Indore

4228. RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 4 November, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 375 regarding complaints against officials of State Bank of Indore and State;

(a) whether the requisite information has since been collected?

(b) if so, the details thereof including particulars of the officers against whom complaints were received; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). As per records available with State Bank of Indore, eight complaints were received during the year 1988 from Members of Parliament against one General Manager. The Bank has reported that the points raised in the complaints did not constitute any act of misfeasance or non-feasance on the part of the official.

[Translation]

Fare of Mail/Express trains

4229. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway passenger fare of mail/express trains for same distances is uniform;

(b) if so, whether Government have received complaints to the effect that there is difference in the fares for same distance in Dehradun Express and Avadh Express trains;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action taken by Government to remove this difference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While Avadh Express is an express train for its entire run, 19/20 Dehradun Express runs as an ordinary trains for a part of its journey. Therefore, fares in some cases, by the two trains, are different.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Implementation of Cadre Management Plan

4230. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 25 November, 1988 to Unstarred question No. 1992 regarding implementation of cadre management plan and state:

(a) whether the Committee set up by the Central Board of Direct Taxes has submitted its report,

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Appointment of more Judges in Madras High Court

4231. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of Judges in Madras High court;

(b) whether the Tamil Nadu Government has sent a memorandum recently to Union Government for appointment of seven more Judges to the High Court at Madras; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) There are 4 vacancies in the Madras High Court.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. A proposal was received for increasing the sanctioned strength of the Madras High Court by seven Judges. It is proposed to call for the views of the present Chief Minister.

India's Share in World Trade

4232. DR. DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of India's share in the world trade has declined significantly in last 30 years.

(b) if so, the extent thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). India's share in the

World Trade declined from 1.56 per cent during 1957 to 0.54 per cent during 1987. The main reasons for the decline are the vast domestic market, lack of adequate surpluses for export, high profitability in domestic market, etc.

(c) The Government has initiated a series of measures to promote exports. These are designed to generate surpluses for export, to induce the production of goods contemporary in technology and competitive in prices and to make exports profitable.

Conversion of Railways line Between Katpadi-Tirupati

4233. SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to convert the metered-gauge railway track between Katpadi Junction and Tirupati into broad-gauge track; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening bank Branches in North-eastern Region

4234. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the new bank branches opened by the nationalised banks in North Eastern Region particularly in Assam during 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(b) the number of branches established in "Char" areas (islands of the river Brahmaputra) where one forth population of Assam lives; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide them more banking facilities for their economic upliftment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that banks have opened branches at 112 centres in the North-Eastern Region during the year 1987 and 1988 as per details given below:-

Name of State	No. of bank branches opened	
	1987	1988
Assam	33	53
Arunachal Pradesh	—	1
Mizoram	—	11
Manipur	—	1
Meghalaya	1	4
Nagaland	1	—
Tripura	3	4
Total	38	74

(b) RBI has reported that 6 bank branches were opened in Dhubri and Jorhat Districts of Assam.

(c) The aim of current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 is to achieve a coverage of 17,000 population per bank office in the rural and semi-urban areas of each development block and to make available at least one bank office within a distance of 10 Kms. from every village. In the hilly tracts, sparsely populated regions and tribal areas, the population coverage norm is relaxed from 17,000 to 12, 000 10,000. On the basis of lists of identified centres received from State Governments, RBI as per the norms laid down in the branches expansion policy has allotted 421 rural and semi-urban centres to banks for opening branches in the States of North-Eastern Region.

Freight Traffic

4235. SHRI K.P. UNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shift in the movement of goods traffic from Railways to road transport over the years, during the last decade or more and whether this trend is persistent and if so, the details there of;

(b) revenue-earning goods traffic carried by Indian Railways in different zones/divisions and its percentage of variation,

year-wise since 1985;

(c) passenger traffic in different zones/divisions with percentage of variation, year-wise since 1985; and

(d) estimates, if any, of goods traffic carried by road transport year-wise since 1985.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) Although Railways continue to be Principal mode of transport, yet there is shift of traffic in favour of road transport over the years. The details are given in the statement below:

(b) and (c). Details of revenue earning goods traffic and number of passengers carried in different zones and percentage variation over the previous year are given in the statement below:

(d) The estimated goods traffic carried by road transport is as under:-

	(Billion Tonne KM)
1985-86	224.7
1986-87	240.4
1987-88	257.3
1988-89	27.3

(b) and (c). Details of revenue earning goods traffic and passengers carried in different zones and percentage variation over the previous year

Revenue earning goods traffic—Tonnes carried

<i>Railway</i>	<i>1985-86</i>	<i>% age variation</i>	<i>1986-87</i>	<i>% age variation</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>% age variation</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>

Central	69,894	7.15	78,159	11.83	80,371	2.83
Eastern	74,540	11.54	82,140	10.20	86,602	5.43
Northern	68,012	15.05	78,240	15.04	80,148	2.44
N. Eastern	11,094	25.93	12,544	13.07	12,729	1.47
N. Frontier	8,941	22.83	9,886	10.57	11,096	12.24
Southern	31,389	10.84	31,769	1.21	32,112	1.08
S. Central	43,183	12.17	45,586	5.56	46,285	1.53
S. Eastern	1,02,383	6.75	1,10,134	7.57	1,18,403	7.51
Western	46,374	7.65	50,721	9.37	52,710	3.92

Number of Passengers carried

Central	9,67,358	3.41	9,97,588	3.13	10,76,344	7.89
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Railway	1985-86	% age variation	1986-87	% age variation	1987-88	% age variation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Eastern	4,64,249	2.60	5,04,733	8.72	5,42,637	7.51
Northern	3,97,329	8.76	4,20,377	5.80	4,30,489	2.41
N. Eastern	1,95,476	3.32	2,02,877	3.79	2,16,269	6.60
N. Frontier	33,085	4.26	35,181	6.34	32,028	(-) 8.96
Southern	2,89,913	1.47	3,03,308	4.62	3,15,120	3.89
S. Central	1,73,082	3.55	1,76,835	2.17	1,84,854	4.53
S. Eastern	1,67,804	2.60	1,77,950	6.05	1,91,851	7.81
Western	10,62,765	0.45	10,91,946	2.76	11,42,829	4.66

Quota of Berths at Visakhapatnam

4236. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow travelling from Visakhapatnam to Vijayawada and vice versa by Coramandal Super Fast Express and to issue tickets for this purpose;

(b) whether there is also a proposal to increase quota of berths for Visakhapatnam in 34 UP Mail, Coramandal Super Fast Express and Godavery Express trains;

(c) whether Government also propose to introduce reservation of berths for 34 UP

Mail and 45 East Coast express for this station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) At present, there is no proposal to increase the quota at Vishakapatnam by 3/4 Mail (there is no train as 34 UP Mail), 141/142 Coramandal Express and 7 Godavery Express.

(c) and (d). The following reservation quotas are already being operated at Vishakapatnam by 3/4 train and 45 East Coast Express:

Train	IAC	AC2T	1st Class	IIInd Class
1	2	3	4	5
3 Up Howrah-Madras Mail	2	10	12	25
4 Dn Madras-Howrah Mail	8	3	6	7
45 East Coast Express	—	—	—	51

Assistance by Nationalised Banks to Agricultural Labourers

4237. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the average annual amount loaned to the agricultural labourers by the nationalised banks during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the rate of interest charged on these loans and the percentage of recovery of the loans;

(c) whether Government propose to waive the recovery of the balance amount of the loans give to the agricultural labourers, considering the unhealthy economic condi-

tions and their inability to repay the amount of loans.

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this direction; and

(e) if answer to (c) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that their present data reporting system does not generate the information in respect of bank credit to agricultural labourers. However, the data in respect of out-standing advances to agriculture by public sector banks for 3 year period ended December 1988 is as under:

(Amt. in Rs. crores)

(A/cs. in lakh)

Year ended	No. of A/cs.	Balance outstanding
December 1986	168.58	1137.91
December 1987	188.07	11712.50
December 1988	203.87	13507.87

(b) The rates of interest for agricultural advances at present are as under:

S.T. loan for Agriculture Range of Advances	Rate of Interest % P.A
a) Upto Rs 7500/-	10.00
b) Over Rs. 7500/- and upto Rs 15000/-	11.50
c) Over Rs 15000/- and upto Rs 25000/-	12.00
d) over Rs. 25000/-	14.00 to 15.50

for loans for a period of not less than 3 years the interest rate is as under:

For minor irrigation and land development 10% P.A. and for other purposes to small farmers 10% P.A. and to other farmers at 12.5% P.A.

The position regarding recovery in respect of direct agricultural advance for all Indian Scheduled Commercial Banks for the three year period ended June 1987 is as under:

Year ended June	% of Recovery to Demand
1985	54.2
1986	56.6
1987	57.1

(c) to (e). It has always been the consistent endeavour of the Banks that generalised waivers of write-offs of loan obligations, without regard to the merits of each case harm the credit system and are not in the best interests of the poor. However, necessary provisions already exist for providing relief to various categories of borrowers in case of natural calamities and other adverse exigencies and these are being invoked by banks whenever deemed necessary.

Railway Line Between Hassan and Tiptur

4238. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been undertaken for laying a new broad gauge railway line between Hassan and Tiptur;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the above project;

(c) the steps taken by Government to lay this railway line; and

(d) the amount earmarked for this work during 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Concrete Sleeper Manufacture Unit Rampurhat

4239. SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any complaint has been received by the Railway Board regarding the Quality of sleepers and unfair practices used in manufacturing of concrete sleepers by the firm M/s. Tankrete India (P) Ltd., Rampurhat on Eastern Railway ; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take against this firm?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Irrigation Projects pending for Approval of Tamil Nadu

4240. SHRI P.R. S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the irrigation schemes of Tamilnadu pending with Union government, year-wise;

(b) the reasons for which these are pending; and

(c) the time by which these schemes will be given approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KIRSHNA SAHI) : (a) to (c). Appraisal of Modernisation of Cauvery Delta Phase-I has been completed and State Engineers have been invited for clarifications in respect of Anaimaduvu Reservoir Scheme. As 75% work of Parambikulam Aliyar Ayacut extension and modernisation of a periyar Viaigai Projects has been completed the question of their appraisal does not arise.

Residential Building Inherited by LIC Bombay

4241. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of residential buildings inherited by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) at Bombay on the day of nationalisation of life insurance;

(b) whether any of the tenements in these buildings are occupied by LIC employees, past or present;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is demand by these LIC employees to create tenancies in their names; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) There were about 110 residential buildings inherited by

the Corporation in the city of Bombay on the day of nationalisation of life insurance business.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. There are about 50 employees who are occupying the premises as tenants while 125 employees are occupying as licencees on leave and licence basis as staff quarters. Out of these 50 employees who are occupying the premises as tenants, some were occupying the tenements in these buildings as tenants on or before nationalisation while some of them who were in the occupation of the premises in these buildings belonging to erstwhile insurers prior to nationalisation were given tenancy rights subsequently.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Life Insurance Corporation of India has been receiving requests from these employees/licencees for creating tenancies in their names.

(e) The requests from the employees/licencees to convert the premises in their occupation as quarters into tenancies were considered by LIC but it has not been found justified to create such tenancies in their names.

Customs Duty Concessions to Selected Pesticides Intermediates

4242. SHRI K.S. RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the Pesticides Intermediate recommended by the Department of Chemicals for customs duty concession;

(b) the reasons for not giving customs duty concession to selected pesticides intermediate in order to give relief to the farmers;

(c) the steps being taken by Govern-

ment to remove anomaly in treating synthetic pyrethroid intermediates carrying different rates of customs duty;

(d) the different pesticides intermediates on which duty concession was granted within six months period preceding the budget through notifications; and

(e) how Government propose to give relief to the similar types of intermediates of pyrethroids still having higher rates of customs duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (e). Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals have recommended from time to time customs duty changes in respect of specified pesticide intermediates. Having regard to revenue and other considerations, Government has issued during the period 1.3.1988 to 28.2.1989, five notifications, namely, No. 16/88 Customs dated the 1st March, 1988; No. 217/88 Customs, No. 218/88 Customs and 219/88 Customs all dated the 18th July, 1988 and No 287/88 Customs dated the 6th October, 1988 giving customs duty concessions to specified pesticide intermediates. Copies of these notifications had been duly laid on the table of the House.

During the last six months, one pesticide intermediate, namely, Metaphenoxy Benzaldehyde which is an intermediate for the manufacture of synthetic pyrethroids, was exempted from additional duty of customs. There is no proposal at present to give duty concession to similar types of interme-

Computerisation of Railway Reservations (Interlinking)

4243. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have booked the Calcutta computer terminals with computerised system of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Railways propose to book other important cities computer terminals with computerised system of Delhi in the years ahead;

(d) if so, the details of cities selected priority-wise; and

(e) expenditure involved in the booking of each city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). At present, four terminals connected to the Calcutta reservation system have been provided at New Delhi and four terminals connected to the Delhi computerised system have been installed in Calcutta.

(c) to (e). No decision has been taken.

[Translation]

Unearthing of Black Money

4244. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to unearth black money invested in properties in Delhi and if so, the details of the action taken in this regard since January, 1986 to date;

(b) the number of police officers and Government employees against whom

enquiry has been conducted and necessary action taken in this regard during 1987, 1988 and in the year 1989 so far and details of officers/employees against whom action is to be taken; and

(c) the details of the benami transaction of properties in Delhi during 1987, 1988 and upto 15th March, 1989?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The Income-tax Department has been taking various measures for checking evasion of direct taxes by understatement of the real value of immovable properties. The steps taken *inter-alia* include:

- (i) Reference to the Departmental Valuation Cell to determine the fair market value of the immovable property.
- (ii) Searches and Surveys conducted by the department may also lead to the discovery of evidence relating to the understatement of the value of immovable properties. The searches conducted on 18.1.1989 in the cases of certain builders, developers and real estate agents of Delhi have resulted in the seizure of *prima-facie* unaccounted assets of Rs. 3,37,03,591 and the assesseees have surrendered unaccounted income of Rs. 1,03,93,600 during the course of the search.
- (iii) The provisions of Chapter XXC (introduced w.e.f. 1-10-86) empower the Central Government with a pre-emptive right to purchase immovable properties in certain metropolitan cities including Delhi, where the disclosed apparent consideration exceeds Rs. 10 lakhs. During the period January, 1988 upto Feb-

ruary, 1989, 31 properties were acquired in Delhi for an apparent consideration of Rs. 10,10,33,820. Out of these, 21 properties have been sold in public auction for Rs. 7,86,94,000 as against the disclosed consideration of Rs. 5,48,06,495.

(b) It is reported by the CBI that during the years 1987, 1988, 1989 (upto 15.3.89) searches were conducted by them at the residential/office premises of 27 government officials posted in Delhi in connection with investigation of 27 cases registered against them. No police officer posted in Delhi was involved in the above cases.

(c) Instances regarding benami transaction of properties may come to notice during the course of assessment proceedings, surveys, searches or proceedings u/s 281A of the Income-tax, 1961. Appropriate action under direct tax laws is taken in such cases.

[English]

Standard of Catering Service

4245. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received regarding poor service and inferior quality of food, tea and coffee during last six months; and

(b) the details of action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Electrification of Jalarpettai-Erode Railway Line

4246. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allotted for the electrification of Jalarpettai-Erode section during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount spent on this project so far, year-wise; and

(c) the time by which the electrification work of the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b).

(Amount in crores of Rs.)

Year	Funds allotted	Amount Spent
1967-68 (Year of approval)	3.37	2.60
1988-89	5.00	5.03 Upto Feb.'89
1989-90	14.00 (Proposed)	

(c) During 8th plan.

Enquiry Report on Derailment of Brindavan Express

4247. SHRI A. JAYAMOHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Commissioner for railways safety Secunderabad has submitted his report on enquiry into the derailment of Brindavan Express on 7 October, 1988 at Bangalore Cantonment;

(b) if so, the main findings thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Commission of Railways Safety which is under the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism is currently conducting an inquiry into this accident. The Final Report of the Commission has not been received as yet.

(c) Does not arise at this stage.

Reservation for SCS/STS in Central Bank of India

4248. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN:
SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) when the Central Bank of India held the last All India Service Test for promotions to Officer Cadre;

(b) whether all the candidates selected in All India Service Test-1986 have been posted; if not, the reasons therefor and the expected date of their postings;

(c) the year-wise and category-wise backlog of vacancies reserved for SCS/STS under All India Service (Mainstream) and steps taken so far by the bank to complete the backlog;

(d) whether the Bank intends to hold the next All India Service Test in 1989; if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the backlog of SC/ST vacancies under All India Service can be completed without holding the exclusive test for SCs/STs; if so, the reasons why it could not be completed so far and the Bank's future strategy to fully complete the backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Accord-

ing to Central Bank of India, the last All India Service Test for promotion to Officers' cadre (JMG Scale-I) selected have been released and for the remaining it is being released shortly.

(c) and (e). The backlog in reservations for SC/ST under All India Service (Main Stream) as reported by Central Bank of India has been as follows:

Year	Backlog	
	SC	ST
1978	54	30
1981	61	50
1983	53	60
1985	28	77
1987	—	52
1988	29	68

The bank has reported that most of the backlog in reservations are likely to be cleared in the ensuing All India Service Test.

(d) Yes, Sir. The next All India Test is scheduled on 16.7.1989.

[Translation]

Assistance for Sone Canal System

4249. SHRI KUNWAR RAM: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of assistance sought by Bihar Government for the expansion/repairs of Sone Canal System; and

(b) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). The State Government has sought World

Bank assistance. They have to prepare identification report.

[English]

Water Supply at Keonjhar Tea Plantation

4250. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether scarcity of water is posing a threat to tea plantation in Keonjhar district of Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure water supply to those tea gardens; and

(c) the assistance given by his Ministry of the State Government to launch a water supply scheme to these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (c). No such specific problem with respect to existing tea plantations has been brought to the notice of either this Ministry or Tea Board. A perennial stream in the vicinity of Tea project area is the source of water supply. However, Tea Board has been operating two schemes viz. Tea Machinery Hire Purchase Scheme and Interest Subsidy on Bank Loans for purposes of meeting Irrigation needs.

Railway Lines in Amravati, Vidarbha and Narkhed Region (Maharashtra)

4251. SHRIMATI USHA CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation from the State Government/people of Maharashtra to provide new railway lines in the State specially Amravati, Vidarbha and Narkhed regions;

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

(c) whether there is a proposal to convert the narrow and metre gauge lines into broad gauge in Maharashtra State, especially the Mantijapet-chalpur lines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A survey for a new BG rail line between Amravati & Narkher is under consideration.

(c) and (d). In Maharashtra, the following two projects for conversion of existing MG rail lines into BG have been approved.

(i) *Manmad-Aurangabad-Parbhani-Parli Vajinath:*

Length - 345 km

Anticipated cost - Rs 140 crore

(ii) *Parbhani-Purna-Mudkhed-Adilabad*

Length - 248 km

Anticipated cost - Rs. 107.42 crore

There is no proposal to convert Mur-tajapur-Achalpur NG rail line into BG.

Expansion of Indo-US Trade

4252. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great scope for the expansion of Indo-US trade;

(b) whether Government have explored the possibility to expand trade between the two countries;

(c) if so, the areas identified therefor; and

(d) the details of the plan drawn up in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (d). The major trust sectors identified in the Plan, prepared some time ago, for increasing exports to the USA are: Engineering Products, Electronic Products including Computer Software, Chemicals, Leather & Leather Products, Diamonds, Gems & Jewellery, Readymade Garments, Carpets and Durries, Marine Products, Cashewnuts and Processed Foods. Emphasis has been laid on upgradation of quality of products and product-adaptation to meet the requirements of US consumers. The marketing and publicity programmes envisaged include Buyer-seller meets, participation in specialised and general fairs and exhibitions, Departmental Store promotion programmes, and exchanges of delegations.

Missing of Wagons on Western Railway

4253. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of missing wagons destined for Bombay has been on the increase;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) how long it takes to trace them and how many were finally declared lost;

(d) the loss incurred for each missed wagons; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABI PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A statement is give below.

(e) Efforts are made be ensure that wagons move with proper labels and seal cards. In case these are lost en-route, the wagon is not allowed to move further until the correct destination is found out.

STATEMENT

Year	No. of missing wagons	No. of wagons declared lost	Time taken for tracing of the wagon	Average loss suffered for lost wagon
1986-87	47	14	15 to 20 days	Rs. 29,00
1987-88	60	5	"	Rs. 24,800
1988-89 (upto 23rd March '89)	95	10	"	Rs. 23,000

N.B. These pertain to wagons booked to good sheds in greater Bombay area on Western Railway.

Assistance by Banks to Women Entrepreneurs

4254. SHRI R.M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cases have come to the notice of Government where women entrepreneurs were refused bank loans or where granting of loans to women entrepreneurs was delayed;

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

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure easy availability of bank credit to women entrepreneurs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that it has no information regarding any complaint having been made for non-sanction or causing delay in the matter of sanction of loans to women entrepreneurs. However, women borrowers like any other borrowers can approach the bank for financial assistance for any viable productive endeavour. There are standing instructions which require that complaints relating to refusal of bank loans or delay in granting of bank loans to individuals including women entrepreneurs be looked into for remedial action.

(c) RBI have instructed all convenor banks of State Level Banker's Committees (SLBCs) that the performance of banks in the matter of extension of credit to women entrepreneurs should be reviewed in all the SLBC meetings and remedial action wherever necessary should be taken.

Disposal of Confiscated Goods

4255. SHRIPARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government also propose to dispose the confiscated goods through Super Bazaars; and

(b) if not, the difficulties being faced in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Confiscated consumer goods are sold to all Co-operative Societies approved by Central and State Governments

and duly registered under the Co-operative Societies Act and to State Civil Supplies Corporation/State Co-operatives Federations and to National Consumers Co-operative Federation for sale to bonafide consumers through the Consumers Co-operative Societies, Super Bazaars, Sahakari Bhandars etc.

(b) Does not arise.

Loan From Foreign Agencies by Private Industrial Units

4256. SHRIPARASRAMBHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether private industrial units are allowed to receive loans directly from foreign agencies;

(b) whether the sanction of Union Government is needed for such purposes; and

(c) whether Government regulate such transaction and also keep a check on the loans received by the private industrial units?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government allows private sector companies to borrow from abroad on a selective basis according to a set of guidelines for the purpose. The Reserve Bank of India also monitors the receipts and repayments.

Loans Advanced by Financial Institutions for Projects in Backward Areas in Kerala

4257. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of loans extended by financial institutions during 1987 and 1988 for projects in backward areas in Kerala; and

(b) the corresponding figures in the whole country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Available details of total assistance sanctioned and disbursed by All-India Financial Institutions (IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, IRBI, LIC, UTI & GIC) to projects located in backward areas in Kerala as also in all the States during the years 1986-87 and 1987-88 are set out below:

		<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>		
		1986-87	1987-88	
Sanctions	2700.00	75.21	3029.79	95.50
Disbursements	1890.70	47.93	2265.87	63.54

Rural Credit Delivery System

4258. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present rural credit delivery system is faulty and there are snags in the flow of institutional credit to the rural sector; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the delivery system and tone up the rural economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has taken several steps to strengthen the institutional credit delivery system in rural areas since the nationalisation of major banks in the year 1969. Some of the important measures taken by RBI are increasing banking facilities in rural areas by opening of more branches, introduction of lead bank scheme for the planned growth of the rural sectors, setting up of regional rural banks for meeting the credit need of the target group in rural areas, fixation of target for priority sectors and wider sections in bank credit. As a result of these measures, the flow of credit to rural areas has increased considerably as may be seen from the data given below:

		<i>(Rs. in crores)</i>	
		June, 1969	Sept. 1988
Total Priority Sector advances of public sector banks (outstandings)		441	30194
% to total credit		14.6	46.3
Direct Advances to agriculture (Public Sector Banks)		116	11112
% to total credit		1.3	16.9

A new approach in rural lending viz. Service Area Approach is being launched with effect from 1.4.1989, wherein every village will be allocated to a specific rural or semi-urban branch for the purposes of credit planning and credit deployment.

Lapsing of Life Insurance Corporation Policies

4259. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether quite a good number of insurance policies obtained by employees of different organisations from Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) are getting lapsed for want of administrative action both on the part of employers concerned and the LIC;

(b) whether the employees who are transferred from one place to another after obtaining policies under the LIC's salary saving scheme are not provided proper service by the LIC;

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the percentage of policies taken under the above scheme of LIC which lapsed during last three years; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to allow continuation of such policies and/or proper servicing of such policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The procedure in vogue in LIC for deducting premium from the salaries of the employees concerned (before or after transfer) under its Salary Savings Scheme works very well and prevents lapsation to a great extent. No separate data are maintained by LIC about lapses in respect of policies taken under Salary Savings Scheme.

(d) The existing system works satisfactorily. However, the Corporation has decentralised to a large extent the servicing of

policies including policies taken under Salary Savings Scheme to the Branch Offices and also introduced micro-processors to improve the services to the policyholders.

Meeting with NRIS on Industrial Development

4260. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTHAIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting has taken place between Government and the Non-Resident Indians on industrial development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof so far as the question of facilities for Non-Resident Indians is concerned?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Standard of Catering Services

4261. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the passengers do not get fresh eatables at railways stations and canteens on Southern Railway;

(b) whether any investigations have been made into the catering services at railway stations on Southern Railway in recent times; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Only one such complaint came to notice recently. Subsequent surprise checks were made which revealed no such irregularity. Such checks and inspections are made from time to time

to ensure supply of fresh eatables and better service.

Appointment of Notary and Oath Commissioners

4262. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a retirement age for Notary and Oath Commissioners;

(b) whether retired Government servants are appointed as Notary and Oath Commissioners; and

(c) whether any investigation has been conducted into their appointments in recent times?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) There is no legal bar to appointment of retired Government servants as Notary or Oath Commissioners.

(c) No investigation has been conducted by the Central Government in recent times.

All India Judicial Service

4263. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:]

(a) whether an All India Judicial service is to be constituted shortly;

(b) the States which have agreed to this scheme; and

(c) the States which have opposed?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c). The views of the State Government on the creation of All India Judicial

Service have been sought for on 23rd January, 1989. Comments of the State Government have not been received.

Export of Granite

4264. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether granite stones are exported;

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

(c) the quantity exported during the last three years by these States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (c). State-wise export statistics are not compiled by DGCI&S, Calcutta. However, granite is basically exported from Madras and Mangalore Ports. Exports of granite cut blocks and polished granite during the last 3 years were as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (in '000'</i>
<i>Tonnes)</i>	
1985-86	336.35
1986-87	362.55
1987-88	349.00
	(Provisional)

Overdraft by States

4265. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of overdraft of each State Government/Union Territory with the Reserve Bank of India as on 1 January 1987, 1 January 1988 and 1 January, 1989;

(b) the interest payable on overdraft by Government on Administration concerned; and

(c) the amount collected by Reserve Bank of India in respect of such interest during the financial year 1987-88 and the period April-December, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) A statement is given below.

(b) The rates of interest charged by

Reserve Bank of India on overdrafts of a State Government are 10% for the first seven days and 13% from the eighth day.

(c) The amount of interest collected by Reserve Bank of India on overdrafts of State Governments during 1987-88 was Rs. 1.86 crores and during April to December, 1988, Rs. 2.29 crores.

STATEMENT

(Rs. in crores)
Amount of overdraft

1st January, 1987

Karnataka	5.43
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1st January, 1988

Karnataka	30.52
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Maharashtra	45.57
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2nd January, 1989

(1st January being Sunday)

Gujarat	26.35
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Madhya Pradesh	11.61
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Mizoram	2.21
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Rajasthan	56.80
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Tamil Nadu	29.65
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Smuggling Along Indo-Nepal Border

4266. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of smugglers arrested in the border districts of U.P., Bihar, Bengal and Sikkim along the Indo-Nepal border during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the details of smuggled goods recovered, year-wise;

(c) the number of prosecutions launched by the Customs authorities, year-wise; and

(d) the number of persons convicted upto 31 December, 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (d). The number of persons arrested, the value of contraband goods seized and the number of prosecutions

launched by the Customs authorities and the number of persons convicted during the last three years of 1986, 1987 and 1988 in the

border districts of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Bengal and Sikkim along the Indo-Nepal border are given below:

	1986	1987	1988	1986
Number of persons arrested	301	261	298	
Goods seized (Rs. in crores)	8.95	12.88	16.60	
Number of prosecutions launched	48	81	40	
Number of persons convicted upto 31.12.1988	10	12	11	

Export of Shrimp to Japan

4267. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contaminated shrimps were exported by certain Indian exporters to Japan;

(b) if so, the names of the concerns involved there in and the action taken against them;

(c) whether it has made any affect on the export of marine products, if so, the details thereof, and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure export of only good quality marine products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) Reports of cholera contamination was received by the Government in five cases of exports of marine products to Japan in 1986.

(b) the names of the concerns involved in the exports are:

(i) M/s. ITC Ltd., Calcutta.

(ii) M/s. G.A. Randerian Ltd., Calcutta.

(iii) M/s. Kadalkanny Frozen Foods, Tuticorin.

(iv) M/s. Bay Sea Food Explorers & Associates Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta.

(v) M/s. G.F. Kellner & Co. Ltd., Calcutta.

Action had been taken by the Government against these five firms, debarring them from exporting marine products. These firms, however, obtained stay orders from High Courts against the debarment.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Steps taken by the Government to ensure export of only good quality marine products include stringent quality control inspection by the Export Inspection Agency to meet the standards stipulated by the importing countries and upgrading and improving the quality of the products through acquisition of latest machinery and equipment.

[Translation]

Investigation into Economic Offences

4268. SHRIDAL CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of agencies other than

Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Enforcement Directorate which investigate into economic offences; and

(b) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Apart from the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Enforcement Directorate, economic offences are investigated by the following Agencies:

Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, Directorate of Anti-Evasion, Directorate of Investigation, Custom Houses, Customs Preventive Collectorate and Central Excise Collectorate. All these agencies are empowered to investigate into economic offences under the relevant Acts.

Irrigation Potential of M.P.

4269. SHRIDAL CHANDERJAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the irrigation potential of the country, State-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken to harness irrigation potential in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The information is given in the Statement below.

(b) Against the ultimate irrigation potential of 10200 th.ha. of Madhya Pradesh, about 4245 th.ha. has been created upto the end of 1987-88. A number of major, medium and minor irrigation projects are under construction with a view to achieve the balance potential.

STATEMENT

(‘000 ha.)

S.No.	Name of the State	Ultimate Irrigation Potential
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9200
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	260
3.	Assam	2670
4.	Bihar	12400
5.	Goa	20
6.	Gujarat	4750
7.	Haryana	4550
8.	Himachal Pradesh	335
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	800
10.	Karnataka	4600

1	2	3
11.	Kerala	2100
12.	Madhya Pradesh	10200
13.	Maharashtra	7300
14.	Manipur	240
15.	Meghalaya	120
16.	Mizoram	70
17.	Nagaland	90
18.	Orissa	5900
19.	Punjab	6550
20.	Rajasthan	5150
21.	Sikkim	42
22.	Tamil Nadu	3900
23.	Tripura	215
24.	Uttar Pradesh	25700
25.	West Bengal	6110
Total States		113272
U.Ts		250
Grand Total		113522

Manufacture of Coaches

4270. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of coach factories proposed in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the estimated requirement of coaches during Eighth Plan for transporta-

tion of passengers;

(c) the number thereof at present;

(d) the class-wise number of coaches being manufactured by coach factories at present; and

(e) the number of passenger coaches withdrawn from service during last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

(c) The holding of coaches as on 31.3.88 was as under.

Passenger coaching vehicles	B.G.	M.G.
	17987	8246
Other coaching vehicles	4520	2605
Total:	22507	10851

(d) following number of coaches are being manufactured during 1988-89:

S.No.	Type of Coaches	No. of coaches
1.	BG/Electric Multiple Units	158
2.	B.G./A.C. coaches	76
3.	BG/Ordinary II	385
4.	BG/Ordinary II Sleeper	365
5.	BG/II Class luggage & brake van	211
6.	BG/MG/Inspection carriages	15
7.	MG/AC coaches	20
8.	MG/II Class ordinary coaches	132
9.	MG/II Class 3-tier	205
10.	MG/II Class luggage & brake van	75
Total:		1642

(e) The following number of coaches had been condemned during the last three years:

Year	BG	MG	Total
1985-86	899	442	1341
1986-87	1090	417	1507
1987-88	953	446	1399
Total:	2942	1305	4247

Facilities to Employees of Gramin Banks Injured in Accidents

4271. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the employees of

the Himachal Gramin Bank and the Singhbhum Gramin Bank who faced accident during office hours and/or while on office duty;

(b) whether these regional rural banks have allowed special leave and reimburse-

ment of medical expenses to them as per rules; and

(c) if not, the decision of Government in this regard?

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

Establishment Expenses of Regional Rural Banks

4272. SHRIBASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of the establishment expenses and other expenses of the regional rural banks in relation to the total expenditure from the year 1986; and

(b) the number of regional rural banks which are not running in losses, even on zero based salary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) NABARD has reported that the ratio of establishment expenses to total expenses of Regional Rural Banks for the years 1986 and 1987 was 42.04% and 41.23% respectively and that of other expenses to total expenses was 57.96% and 58.77% respectively.

(b) Of the 196 Regional Rural Banks, 45 made profits during 1987. Exclusion of expenditure on account of salaries of employees during the year would add another 138 Regional Rural Banks to the list of profit making banks.

Bank Robberies in Gramin Banks

4373. SHRIBASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the death of two branch managers and loss of both the eyes of one branch manager of gramian banks during bank robberies;

(b) the steps taken by Government for effective implementation of Government order on security or guidelines issued by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Hyderabad in case of gramian banks;

(c) whether in view of such incidents Government have advised Reserve Bank of India/sponsoring banks to introduce risk insurance in gramian banks; and

(d) the other steps taken by government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) NABARD have reported that One Branch Manager of Gurdaspur-Amritsar Gramin Bank was killed while on field duty. Another Branch Manager of Magadh Gramin Bank survived the bullet injuries sustained by him and yet another Branch Manager of Faizabad Gramin Bank lost his both eyes while resisting dacoits.

(b) NABARD have asked the Regional Rural Banks to instal security sirens in vulnerable branches. In addition RRBs have been advised to employ armed guards in risk areas.

(c) and (d). While no guidelines as such have been issued regarding the introduction of risk insurance in Gramin Banks, the RRBs have been advised to implement group insurance scheme in respect of their staff on the pattern of Central Government Employees' Group Insurance Scheme.

Criteria for Creation of Posts in Regional Rural Banks

4274. SHRIBASUDEB ACHARIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria fixed by sponsoring banks (bank-wise) for the creation of post of Second Clerk, Senior Clerk, Second Officer and other posts for branches of their sponsored regional rural banks; and

(b) whether Government have any consideration for uniform manpower planning and gradation of Regional rural Banks branches; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) NABARD has reported that while guidelines have been issued regarding minimum staff for a new branch of RRB and also for the creation of additional posts of various categories, the total assessment of manpower requirements is done by the RRB in consultation with its sponsor bank having regard to the business/regional requirements, administrative needs, area of operation and its financial position.

(b) Since RRBs are functioning in different geographical and socio-economic conditions, prescription of uniform staffing pattern for all RRBs has not been considered feasible.

Promotion Rules in Regional Rural Banks

4275. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether "Non-selection" Rule as suggested by Government to National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and guidelines of NABARD dated 1 December, 1987 are being followed in the Regional Rural Banks in case of promotions; and

(b) if not, the action taken by NABARD on receipt of representations in this regard, Regional Rural Bank-wise.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The appointment and promotion of Officers and other employees in Regional Rural Banks are done in accordance with the rules issued in September, 1988. NABARD had reported that complaints of supersession in the matter of promotions when received are looked into for necessary appropriate action.

Kutru and Barsoor Branches of Bastar Gramin Bank

4276. SHRI ANIL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kutru branch of the Bastar Gramin Bank covers about ninety villages and Barsoor branch of the Bank covers four blocks under Service Area Approach; and

(b) whether Government and the Reserve Bank of India consider it in line with their policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that Kutru and Barsoor branches of Bastar Regional Rural Bank have been allotted 83 villages (1 block) and 88 villages (4 blocks) respectively in Bastar District under Service Area Approach on the basis of contiguity, proximity, etc.

(b) RBI has reported that under Service Area Approach each rural and semi-urban branch of a bank has to be allocated on an average from 15 to 25 villages as its service area. In cases where the number of villages allocated has exceeded the above norm, more centres will be identified for opening of additional branches.

Application of Pepsico for 100% EOU

4277. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Pepsico India Holdings Inc., New York has applied for manufacture of proprietary compound used in preparations of non-alcoholic beverages under 100 per cent export oriented unit scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the place where the unit will be put up; and

(d) the export turnover expected therefrom by M/s. Pepsico?

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

(b) to (d) The proposed annual capacity of the plant is 1100 tonnes and the project is proposed to be located in Bhawanigarh Tehsil of Sangrur District in the State of Punjab. As per the application, the anticipated export turnover during a five year period will be about Rs. 24 crores.

Customs Officers

4278. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Customs officers working in Madras, Trichy and Hyderabad separately who have been found in possession of assets both movable and immovable far beyond their known income in the month of February 1989 giving details thereof;

(b) whether the earlier record of these officers was good; and

(c) if not, the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) No Customs officer working at Madras or Hyderabad has been found to possess movable or immovable assets in excess of his known source of income during February 1989. However, preliminary inves-

tigations by officers of CBI during February 1989 indicate the possession of assets allegedly disproportionate to their known sources of income by the following four officers of the Collectorate of Customs and Central Excise, Tiruchirapalli:

1. Shri M.C. Sharma, Collector of Customs and Central Excise, Tiruchirapalli.
2. Shri A.R. Prasad, Assistant Collector of Customs and Central Excise, Tiruchirapalli.
3. Shri Angamuthu, Inspector, Central Excise, Tiruchirapalli.
4. Shri K.P. Viswanathan, Inspector Central Excise, Tiruchirapalli. Further investigations by CBI are in progress.

(b) and (c). A complaint was received in 1986 by the Collectorate of Central Excise and Customs, Tiruchirapalli, against the Assistant Collector mentioned in reply to part (a) above, alleging demand of illegal gratification, which, on enquiry, was found unsubstantiated. Further, a report regarding clearance of baggage goods at the Trichy Airport by undercharging of Customs duty by the two Inspectors mentioned in reply to part (a) above was enquired into, but no conclusive proof of undercharging of duty could be found. The two Inspectors, however, were transferred out of the Trichy Airport.

Corruption Charges Against STC Officials

4279. SHRISURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has recommended action against any of the STC officials for corruption charges;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in

this regard?

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

(b) During the last five years, CBI recommended action against 8 officials of STC as under:

- i) Prosecution -Two officials
- ii) Prosecution as well as -Two officials regular Departmental action for imposition of major penalty.
- iii) Regular Departmental -One officials Action for imposition of Major penalty.
- iv) Regular Departmental-Three officials Action for imposition of Minor penalty.

(c) In all the cases, recommendations of CBI have been accepted by the disciplinary authority and action has been initiated accordingly.

Setting up of Small Industries Development Bank

4281. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the time by which the Small Industries Development Bank is likely to be set up;

(b) the causes of delay in setting up the Bank; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken for setting up the Bank early?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Government have decided to establish a Small Industries Development Bank of India

(SIDBI) to cater to the financial needs of small scale and tiny industries. Details relating to this are being worked out.

[*Translation*]

Grievances of Small Scale Units

4282. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the three national industry organisation, Federation of Small Industries of India (FASII), All India Manufacturing Organisation (AIMO) and National Alliance of Young Entrepreneurs (NAYE) have represented to Government against withdrawal of the excise exemption facility for many items produced in small units and effective reduction in the excise exemption limit of Rs. 30 lakhs apart from the impact of fresh levy on Iron and Steel and aluminium materials on the cost of production of goods manufactured in the small sector; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to redress the grievances of small scale units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) Representations from various associations of small scale industries have been received regarding the changes made in the Budget relating to the small scale sector.

(b) The points made in the representations are being examined by the Government.

[*Translation*]

Proposal to Link Jaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Barmer and Kandla

4283. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sent any proposal of recommendation to the Planning

Commission to link Jaipur, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer, Barmer and Kandla with broad gauge railway line;

(b) if so, the salient features of the above proposals or recommendation; and

(c) the details of decision taken by the Planning Commission in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Surveys were carried out for various alternative routes along the existing MG lines to link Jaisalmer and Barmer with BG. The Planning Commission, after considering the proposals, directed that a Final Location Survey for gauge conversion of Sawaimadhopur-Jaipur-Phulera-Merta Road-Jodhpur and Merta Road-Lalgarh (Bikaner), as the first phase for linking Jaisalmer-Barmer with broad gauge, be carried out.

No proposals have been sent to the Planning Commission for linking Kandla with broad gauge, as it is already on broad gauge.

[English]

Indo-US Agreement to Combat Narcotics Trafficking

4284. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and United States have agreed to combat the trafficking in narcotics jointly;

(b) if so, whether any agreement in this regard has since been made;

(c) if so, the details of the agreement; and

(d) the measures proposed to be adopted to combat this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (d). Yes, sir. Draft agreement on bilateral co-operation, covering all aspects of drug trafficking and drug abuse has been exchanged between the Governments of U.S.A. and India. As soon as the agreement is finalised, the same will be signed. The details of the agreement, which are in their nature secret, cannot be divulged at this stage.

A number of aggressive counter-measures have also been launched by the Government which, *inter-alia*, include provision of deterrent punishments against drug traffickers, strengthening of preventive and intelligence machinery (especially in and around borders and vulnerable areas), adoption of a liberalised reward scheme for both officers and informers, strengthening of bilateral co-operation between neighbouring countries (including regional co-operation under the aegis of SAARC). The Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1988 provides for preventive detention upto a maximum period of 2 years for drug-related crimes. 250 persons have so far been detained under the said Act.

The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 has also been amended to strengthen it further. The amendments, *inter-alia*, included provisions for forfeiture of illegally acquired property derived from or used in illicit drug trafficking; criminalising the activity of financing drug trafficking and for death penalty on second conviction for specified offences.

Loan From International Fund for Agricultural Development

4285. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount to be contributed towards the third replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD);

(b) whether the contribution is to be paid in Indian currency or foreign exchange;

(c) the amount of contributions made earlier; and

(d) the total assistance so far received?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (a) and (b). While India has agreed in principle to contribute towards the Third Replenishment of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the amount of contribution and the proportion of contribution in "freely convertible" and "non convertible" currencies would depend on the size of replenishment and the relative contribution of other individual member countries.

(c) India has so far contributed \$ 18 million in equal proportion of "freely convertible" and "non convertible" currencies.

(d) India has so far secured a loan commitment of \$ 195.066 million from IFAD for six projects.

Nabard Guidelines on Agricultural Credit

4286. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the agriculturists seeking credit face grave hardships due to new guidelines of NABARD regarding credit facilities; and

(b) if so, whether the new guidelines will be reviewed in the interest of agriculturists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the decision of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) regarding withholding of refinance facilities in respect of cooperative banks in some States/

Union Territories. When it was noticed by RBI and NABARD that some cooperative banks were not fully complying with their instructions relating to interest rates, conversion of loans etc. then NABARD vide its circular dated 29th November, 1988 addressed to the Managing Directors of all such State Cooperative Banks and State Land Development Banks, withheld refinance facilities till an undertaking is furnished by the concerned institutions that they would follow the instructions/guidelines issued by the RBI/NABARD.

NABARD had reported that refinance facilities were resumed in all States, except in Maharashtra since undertaking from the apex bank of this State was still awaited.

Loan From IMF

4287. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Monetary Fund has anticipated additional major demands from India for loans in the nineties;

(b) if so, the total demands made by India from the IMF during 1989-90;

(c) the amount of loan assured by the IMF; and

(d) the projects that will be undertaken by the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). There is no proposal under Government's consideration for seeking a fresh loan from IMF.

Saudi Arabian Offer to Indian Entrepreneurs

4288. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:

SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Saudi Arabia has invited Indian entrepreneurs to invest in that country;

(b) if so, the details of concessional financial proposals made by Saudi Arabia;

(c) the number of Indian entrepreneurs who have applied in response thereto;

(d) whether Government also propose to have a joint venture in the Saudi Arabia; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (e). A delegation of businessmen from Saudi Arabia visited India from 26th February, 1989 to 5th March, 1989 at the invitation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The delegation inter-alia discussed with the Indian businessmen possibilities of setting-up of joint ventures in Saudi Arabia and India. Bilateral matters concerning trade and investment were also discussed. The Saudi Arabian delegation mentioned about the incentives and financial support offered by the Government of Saudi Arabia and financial institutions for setting up of joint ventures in Saudi Arabia. No specific offer for concessional finance was however made by the Saudi delegation.

Possibilities of setting-up joint ventures in Saudi Arabia are explored on continuous basis.

Financial Assistance to Tea Industry

4289. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of financial assistance to the tea industry by commercial banks during 1989 has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the likely effect of the assistance on the growth of tea industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that the quantum of production finance to tea industry as a whole is not fixed year-wise. The total credit limits sanctioned to those tea units which are having more than one crore limit each were Rs. 313.17 crores at the end of June, 1988. The balance outstanding in these accounts as on that date was Rs. 185.06 crores.

(c) As per the projections made by United Planters' Association of southern India, tea production in 1989 is likely to be 15 million Kgs. more than the estimated figures for 1988.

Seizure of Gold in Bombay and Kerala

4290. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence seized gold worth Rs. 7 crore at two places (Bombay and Kerala);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any arrest has been made;

(d) whether any inquiry has since been made; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF THE REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The Officers of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence have in three separate cases seized approximately 593 Kgs. of gold worth Rs. 19.45 crores

(Approximately) in Bombay and Kerala during February, 1989.

(c) 19 persons have been arrested in these cases.

(d) and (e). Enquiries are conducted in such cases and section 124 of the Customs Act, 1962 stipulates that a Show cause notice should be issued to the persons from whose possession the gold has been seized before it is confiscated. The persons found involved are liable for penalty in departmental adjudication and prosecution in Courts of law.

Introduction of Fast Trains

4291. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI P.M. SAYEED:
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAO:
WAT:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:
SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
PROF. RAMAKRISHNA MORE:
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the Hindustan Times dated 21 February 1989 wherein it is stated that more fast trains like Shatabdi Express will be started in the near future;

(b) if so, the names of railway routes on which these trains will run;

(c) how far these will be beneficial to the public; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be started and the estimated cost likely to be involved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Train on New Delhi-Kanpur route has been introduced with effect from 24.3.89. Besides deployment of additional rolling stock, no other inputs on maintenance of infrastructure were necessary for the New Delhi-Kanpur inter-city express. No final decision has yet been taken in respect of other routes. The integrity expresses will reduce journey-time and provide more comfortable inter-city travel.

Cracks in Dams

4292. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reasons for the cracks reported to have developed in the Tigma Dam in Madhya Pradesh, Konar Dam of Damodar Valley Corporation, Hirakud Dam in Orissa, Rihand Dam in Uttar Pradesh and Parvathi Dam in Rajasthan have since been investigated;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The outcome, among others, indicated remedial measures like chemical grouting, sealing the cracks, replacement with sound concretes and monitoring and surveillance of the behaviour.

Setting up of Securities and Exchange Board of India

4293. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) when the Securities and Exchange Board of India is likely to be set up as a statutory body;

(b) whether there are any hurdles in setting up the proposed Board; and

(c) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to set up the statutory Board expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The various steps required for setting up of the Securities and Exchange Board of India as a statutory body are in the process of being taken.

Import of Ferrous and Non-Ferrous Metals Under OGL

4294. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that because of the import of both ferrous and non-ferrous metals under open general licence (OGL) the user industries are paying a heavy premium on these items; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to insure that both ferrous and non-ferrous metals are available to the user industries at reasonable rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). Import of certain ferrous and non-ferrous metals has been allowed under OGL to ensure easy availability of these metals to the Actual Users and small importers. Due to the liberal import of these items there should not be any premium on these items.

Mankhurd-Belapur Railway Project

4295. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the completion of Mankhurd-Belapur railway project;

(b) the time by which the project is likely to be commissioned; and

(c) whether Government propose to recover the additional expenditure being incurred on the project from the commuters of Bombay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) 27% upto 28-2-1989.

(b) In the latter half of 1990-91.

(c) No, Sir so far as Railway's share of the Project cost is concerned. As for the State Government's share of the Project cost, it is for them to decide.

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for Development of Railways

4296. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sought any assistance from the World Bank for development of Railways;

(b) if so, whether the World Bank has agreed to provide such assistance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof including the amount and the terms and conditions thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have received assistance from the World Bank for development of Railways and have at present three on-going Credit/Loans, the broad details of which are as under:

- i) **IBRD Loan No. 2210-IN/IBA Credit No. 1299-IN:**

For modernisation and maintenance facilities (for rolling stock). Value Special Drawing Rights (SDR) 184.7 million (equivalent to IS 200 million approx. in December, 1982) and US \$ 200 million.

- ii) **IBRD Loan No. 2417-IN:**

For electrification and workshop modernisation. Value US \$ 280.7 million.

- iii) **IBRD Loan No. 2935-IN:**

For rehabilitation and modernisation of track. Value US \$ 390 million.

The terms and conditions of Credit/Loans are as under:

- (a) The IDA Credit 1299-IN carries a service charge of 0.75% per annum and a commitment charge of 0.50% per annum. No interest is payable on this.
- (b) The IBRD Loans carry commitment charge of 0.75% p.a. The interest rate is variable depending upon 'Cost of borrowings' of the Bank. The current rate of interest is 7.65%.
- (c) The IDA Credit is repayable in 40 years, while IBRD loans are repayable in 14 years.

[English]

Branches of Scheduled Banks in Uttar Pradesh

4297. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of branches of scheduled banks in Uttar Pradesh particularly in Basti district opened during the last three

years; and

(b) the number of branches out of them inaugurated by non-officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that during the last three years scheduled commercial banks have opened 519 branches in Uttar Pradesh including 26 branches in District Basti.

(b) The present data reporting system of RBI does not generate information relating to inauguration ceremonies held, if any, while opening of new bank branches.

Compulsory Retirement of Officers of Income-Tax Department

4298. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state the number of officers of Assistant Commissioner grade in Income-tax Department who have been retired compulsorily during the last two years with reasons of their retirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): The term compulsory retirement is a major penalty under Central Civil Services (Classification Control & Appeal) Rules, 1965 & there has been no such case during the last two years. However, in common parlance premature retirement under Fundamental Rule 56 (j) is also referred to as compulsory retirement. During 1987-89, three Officers of the rank of Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax (re-designated as Deputy Commissioner of Income-tax w.e.f. 1.4.88) were retired under FR 56(J). Besides one Income-tax Officer Group 'A' (re-designated as Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax w.e.f. 1.4.88) has also been retired under FR 56(j). All these Officers were retired in public interest on grounds of ineffectiveness and/or doubtful integrity.

Demands of Employees of Income-tax Department

4299. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have received a memorandum of demands from the employees of the Income-tax Department;

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

(c) whether the employees had threatened to stop working on 14 March, 1989 and if so, the steps taken by Government to mitigate their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The Govt. have from time to time been receiving various memoranda of demands from the employees of Income Tax Department. It is not clear as to which of these memoranda the Hon'ble Member is referring to.

(b) In view of the reply to Part (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) A section of the employees of the Income Tax Department had proposed to stop working on 14th March, 1989. However, after discussion with the Department, they withdrew the strike call.

Import of Books

4300. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per reports with Government some books have been imported for some other purposes than commercial;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether foreign exchange is also paid for the purpose; and

(d) the action taken or contemplated by

Government to curb such activity in the larger national interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (c). Reports received in this regard indicate that certain unscrupulous importers are importing books declared as educational, but having no commercial value at over-invoiced prices in the names of fictitious firms. The intention being to remit foreign exchange out of India through legal channels. Reports indicate that earlier also, certain unscrupulous importers had similarly imported books declared as medical and technical literature at over-invoiced values in the names of fictitious firms.

(d) The Customs authorities remain alert against such offences. The persons found involved are penalised in departmental adjudication and are also prosecuted in Courts of law in suitable cases. They are also detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, if considered necessary.

[Translation]

Stoppage of Ganga-Yamuna Express at Sohwal Station

4301. SHRI NIRMAL KHATRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any memorandum regarding halting of Ganga-Yamuna Express train which runs four times a week between Varanasi and Delhi via Faizabad, at Sohwal station.

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The

stoppage is being provided in the ensuing Summer Time Table.

(c) Dose not arise.

[English]

Tax Exemptions to FTZ Units and EOUs

4302. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of exemptions of tax permitted to the units operating from Free Trade Zones (FTZs) and the 100 per cent Export Oriented units (EOUs);

(b) whether there is a demand by the exporting firms to allow a five-year tax holiday to all exporters in the country instead of the present system; and

(c) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (P.R. DAS-MUNSI): (a) Under Section 10A of the Income-Tax Act, Industrial undertakings set up in free trade zones are allowed a tax holiday in respect of their income from such units for a period of five years out of a block of eight assessment years, starting from the year in which the industrial undertaking begins to manufacture or produce articles or things. Similarly, under Section 10B of the Income-Tax Act, a five years tax holiday out of a block of eight assessment years starting from the year in which the production begins is allowed to 100 per cent export oriented undertakings. These units, besides, are permitted duty-free import of capital goods and inputs.

(b) no specific representations have been received in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Shortage of Rs. 500/- Denomination Notes

4303. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an acute shortage of currency notes of rupees five hundred denomination in the recent times;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether steps are being taken to make available more notes of this denomination for circulation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The shortage arose owing to problems of industrial relations. The problems have since been resolved and supplies to the Reserve Bank of India resumed.

Vacancies of Judges in High Court and Supreme Court

4304. SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL: SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of posts of judges are still lying vacant in supreme Court and High Courts;

(b) whether Government filled up some vacancies in the Supreme Court and High Courts during December, 1988.

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action being taken to fill up all the posts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) There are 6 vacancies of Judges in the

supreme Court and 63 vacancies of Judges/ Additional Judges in various High Courts of the Country.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. Details of the number of appointments made during December, 1988 are as follows:

A: *Supreme Court* 5

B: *High Courts:*

Himachal Pradesh High Court 1

Kerala High Court 3

Andhra Pradesh High Court 3

Allahabad High Court 4

Calcutta High Court 5

Guwahati High Court 2

Total: 18

(d) Filling up vacancies of judges is a continuous process.

Cochin-Madurai Railway Project

4305. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to take up in the next Five Year Plan the construction of inter-state railway link between Cochin and Madurai in view of various important considerations such as inadequacy of transport services in the area, importance of Cochin airport and vast foreign exchange earning potential of hinterland; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Survey for conversion of Madurai-Bodinayakkanur (89.74 km) Metre Gauge Line to Broad Gauge and its extension to Ernakulam (126.75 km) was carried out in 1986. The cost of the proposal was estimated at Rs. 115.42 crore but the project was financially unremunerative.

Electrification of Madras-Cochin Railway Line

4306. SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to undertake the electrification of Madras-Cochin line;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Madras-Jolarpettai section is already electrified. Electrification beyond Jolarpettai to Erode is also in progress.

(c) As electrification is capital intensive, within the limited resources available, it is being planned on the high density freight routes. In view of this, there is at present, no proposal to electrify Erode-Cochin section.

[Translation]

Raid on Advertising Agencies

4307. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether with a view to unearth black money, Income-tax Department have raided advertising agencies in the country recently;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) whether the informers have since received their rewards;

(d) if not, the number of informers in Delhi and Bhubaneswar who have not been paid their rewards; and

(e) the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Income-tax Department have conducted searches at the premises of two advertising agencies at Ahmedabad and New Delhi in the current financial year. During the course of these searches, prima facie unaccounted assets aggregating to Rs. 11.38 lakhs were seized.

(c) to (e). The Income-tax Department carries out searches, on the basis of information obtained from external sources such as informers at also on the basis of information gathered from sources within the Department. Maintenance of secrecy in respect of informers is of utmost importance. Disclosure of details regarding existence of informers and payment of rewards to them, in respect of given cases, will be violative of the trust reposed by the informers in the Income-tax Department, regarding maintenance of secrecy. Therefore, it is not possible, in public interest, to furnish the information sought.

[English]

Assistance by Public Financial Institutions for Projects in Backward Areas

4308. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount of term lendings by the public financial institution for projects in backward area has sharply come down in 1987-88;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reason therefore; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Sanction of assistance to units in backward areas by All Financial Institution (IDBI, IFCI, ICICI, IRBI, UTI, LIC, IGC, SFCs and SIDCs) increased from Rs. 3044 crores in 1986-87 (April-March) to Rs. 3401 crores in 1987-88 (April-March) recording a growth of 11.7%. Disbursements by these institution during the same period increased from Rs. 2155 crores to Rs. 2644 crores, registering an increase of 22.7%.

Damage to Railway Property

4309. SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the damages caused to the railway bridges and tracks zone-wise by the anti-national and the other elements during the past six months;

(b) the details of large, medium and small damages zone-wise; and

(c) the estimated expenditure incurred

by Government in repairing the tracks and bridge etc., zone-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MA-

HABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). During the past six months, ending on 28.2.89, such damages had occurred only on 4 zonal Railways. Details thereof are furnished in the statement below.

STATEMENT

Date	Location(between stations)	Details of damage	Approximate expenditure Zonal Railway wise. (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
<i>Central Railway:</i>			
1.9.88	Km. 550/14-551/2 (Kohad-Dongargaon)	A rail closure of 6.12 m long was found removed and lying at a distance of 0.7 m. Fish plates/bolts were also found removed and lying scattered.	70,000/-
21.9.88	Km. 999/12 (Adhartal-Deori)	Two fish plates and 4 nut-bolts found missing.	
18.10.88	Km. 952/5-6 (Amla-Parasia)	One iron pot lying on the track.	
23.10.88	Km. 1301 (Altherhar-Brind)	51 keys of track found removed.	
27.10.88	Km. 131/5 (Lonavla-Malvali)	Iron piece found on the track.	
21.11.88	Km. 576/5 (Hirendura-Gulbarga)	One rail key found inserted in the gap of two rails	10,000/-

Date	Location(between stations)	Details of damage	Approximate expenditure Zonal Railway wise. (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
10.12.88	Km. 426/9 (Kurduwadi-Latur)	Two stones found placed on the track.	
19.12.88	Km. 427/1	One stone found placed on the track.	
	Km. 988/9 (Wardha-Balharshah)	15 track keys found lying on the track.	
2.2.89	Km. 1283/50-54 (Gher-Hetampur)	44 pandrol clips found missing from the track.	
<i>Northern Railway:</i>			
13.1.89	Km. 22/9-10 (Kila-Raipur & Ghungana stations)	Damage to track due to bomb explosion.	5,000/-
15/16.1.89	Km. 24/12-13 (Kathunangal & Jaintipura)	—do—	

Date	Location(between stations)	Details of damage	Approximate expenditure Zonal Railway wise. (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
25/26.1.89	Km. 23/5-6 (Chherhata & Khasa stations)	—do—	
<i>Northeast Frontier Railway:</i>			
13.2.89	Bijini-Fagunagaon	Damage to track due to bomb explosion	
15.2.89 & 16.2.89	Kokrajhar-Salakati		—do—
18.2.89	Fakiragram-Kokrajhar		7.00 Lakhs
21.2.89	Sapatgram-Tipkai		
17.2.89	Dangtal-Basugaon	—do—	
19.2.89	Khoirabari-Tangla	Removal of Rails	
4.11.88	Old Malda-Malda Town	Opening of Rail joints/fish plates	Removal/Burning of track fittings and sleepers
		Removal/Burning of track fittings and sleepers	

Date	Location(between stations)	Details of damage	Approximate expenditure Zonal Railway wise. (Rs.)
1	2	3	4
7.12.88	Samuktala Road-New Alipurduar	—do—	14,500/-
19.2.89	Kokrajhar-Salakati	—do—	
21.2.89	Sorbhog-Barpeta Road	—do—	
Southern Railway:			
15.12.88	Km. 249/0-1 Sivadi and Toppur stations	Two wooden sleepers burnt by miscreants	14,500/-
16.12.88	Km. 32/13-14 Mecheri Road and Mettur Dam stations	Three wooden sleepers found damaged due to explosion	
20.1.89	Bridge No. 188 at Km. 241/4-5 between Pennadam and Mathur stations	Guard rail and one wooden sleeper were damaged due to explosion	

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location(between stations)</i>	<i>Details of damage</i>	<i>Approximate expenditure Zonal Railway wise. (Rs.)</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
21.1.89	Km. 116/2-3 between Arni Road and Kannamangalam stations	One wooden sleeper and bottom flange of a rail found damaged near bridge No. 298 due to explosion	

Suspension of Train Services

SHRI SHARD DIGHE:

4310. SHRI V. TULSIRAM
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) the details of the train services that
were suspended and routes changed during
the past six months, zone-wise;

(b) the estimated loss suffered by the
Railways as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Govern-
ment to make up the loss?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MA-
HABIR PRASAD): (a) The information is
being collected and will be laid on the Table
of the Sabha.

(b) The statistics of train-wise earnings/
losses are not maintained.

(c) Diversions and suspension of serv-
ices are done in unavoidable circumstances.

Trains Running through Kanpur

4311. SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether the timings and routes of
some of the trains passing through Kanpur
had been changed recently;

(b) if so, the names of such trains and
the date on which these were restored;

(c) the steps taken by Government for
the redressal of hardship of the passengers
as a result thereof; and

(d) the action taken to maintain regular
running of trains on all the railways zones?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MA-
HABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) Consistent with the availability and
resources to run trains via alternative route,
certain trains were run. Frequent announce-
ments at stations/by other media were also
made. Refunds were also granted.

(d) Every feasible effort is being made
to maintain regular running of trains on all the
railway zones.

STATEMENT

Mail/Express trains diverted due to agitation by Mill Workers at Kanpur and restored on their
normal routes are as under:-

S.No.	Trains	Date of restoration on normal routes
1.	1 UP Howrah-Kalka Mail	27.2.1989
2.	2 UP Howrah-Kalka Mail	27.2.1989

S.No.	Trains		Date of restoration on normal routes
3.	12 DN	Howrah-Delhi Express	27.2.1989
4.	17 UP	Prayag Raj Express	27.2.1989
5.	18 DN	Prayag Raj Express	28.2.1989
6.	81 UP	A.C Express	28.2.1989
7.	103 UP	A.C Express	28.2.1989
8.	104 DN	A.C Express	28.2.1989
9.	101 UP	Rajdhani Express	1.3.1989
10.	102 DN	Rajdhani Express	28.2.1989
11.	83 UP	Ganga-Yamuna Express	1.3.1989
12.	84 DN	Ganga-Yamuna Express	1.3.1989
13.	63 UP	Avadh Express	3.3.1989
14.	64 DN	Avadh Express	3.3.1989
15.	156 DN	Tinsukia Mail	27.2.1989
16.	155 UP	Tinsukia Mail	27.2.1989
17.	153 UP	Vaishali Express	27.2.1989
18.	154 DN	Vaishali Express	27.2.1989
19.	175 UP	Neelachal Express	28.2.1989
20.	176 DN	Neelachal Express	27.2.1989
21.	191 DN	Magdh Express	28.2.1989
22.	192 DN	Magadh Express	28.2.1989
23.	921 UP	N.E.Express	1.3.1989
24.	922 DN	N.E. Express	1.3.1989
25.	802 DN	Muri Express	2.3.1989

<i>S.No.</i>	<i>Trains</i>	<i>Date of restoration on normal routes</i>
26.	973 UP Shaheed Express	4.3.1989
27.	915 UP Puri Express	28.2.1989
28.	40 DN Delhi-Howrah Janta Express	2.3.1989
29.	116 UP Bombay-Gorakhpur Express	28.2.1989

World Bank Aided Irrigation Projects of Orissa

4312. SHRI SOMNATH RATH:
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-
GRAHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RE-
SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank had pleaded for appointment of a large number of foreign experts to study the implementation of the irrigation projects funded by the bank;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government did not agree to the bank's plea as a result the bank has stopped giving credit for irrigation projects in Orissa; and

(c) the irrigation projects being funded by the World Bank in Orissa, the amount provided so far and the amount yet to be provided with likely time thereof?

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

(c) The Mahanadi Barrages Project in Orissa continues to be implemented with World Bank assistance. The world Bank has committed assistance of SDR 63.3 million

for this project., Out of this amount of SDR 59.276 million has been disbursed upto 31.1.1989 leaving a balance of SDR 4.024 million which is expected to be drawn down by 31.3.1989 when the credit is scheduled to close.

Export of Marine Projects from Gujarat Ports

4313. SHRI RANJITSINGH
GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of COM-
MERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and value of the marine products exported from the port of Gujarat during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(b) whether the export of marine products from Gujarat coast has remained stagnant for the last three years;

(c) if so, whether the stagnation of these exports is due to under-developed facilities on the ports;

(d) if not, the other reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to enhance export of marine products from Gujarat coast?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R.

DASMUNSI: (a) The quantity and value of the marine products exports from the ports of Gujarat during the last 3 years were:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Quantity (Tonnes)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. lakhs)</i>
1986-87	8132	32.19
1987-88	7040	31.74
1988-89	6289	27.89

(April '89 to Feb. 89)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). A major cause is poor shrimp/fish landings of exportable variety. Infrastructure facilities are also inadequate at the ports of Gujarat.

(e) Steps taken to enhance exports of marine products from Gujarat coast include promotion of shrimp farming for augmenting production of cultured shrimps and encouragement of production of value added items like IQF (Individually Quick Frozen) shrimps etc.

Bank Loans to Fishermen

4314. SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the short-term loans and advances are proposed to be given to fishermen without charging any interest by the nationalised banks; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Vegetables and Cut Flowers

4315. SHRISANATKUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cooperative venture for export of vegetable and cut-flowers launched by All India Scheduled Castes Development Cooperative Society has not made any headway as yet:

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to provide assistance and expedite its execution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI) (a) to (c). As reported by the Society, the project is facing difficulty in obtaining guarantee for external commercial borrowing. It is for the Society to convince the concerned financial institutions about the viability of the project.

[Translation]

Customs Duty on Pesticides

4316. SHRI DINESH COSWAMI:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RA-
MOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently increased Customs duty on some pesticides;

(b) if so, the names of pesticides on which duty has been increased and the extent thereof; and

(c) the additional amount likely to accrue this as compared to last year due to increase in customs duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) (a) to (c). With effect from the 24th January, 1989, the rates of import duty on three bulk pesticides, namely, Monocrotophos, Methyl Parathion and Butachlor as also on one pesticide intermediate, namely, Chloro 2, 6 Diethyl-N (Chloromethyl) Acetanilide were raised. The duty on Monocrotophos and Methul Parathion was increased from 70% to 105%, on Butachlor from 90% to 105% and on Chloro-2, 6 Diethyl-N (Chloromethyl) Acetanilide from 60% to 147.25% ad valorem. The revenue gain as a result of these changes in customs duty is expected to be about Rs. 6 crores per annum.

Setting up of Financial Institutions

4317. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since set up Small Industries Development Bank, National Agricultural Credit Relief Fund and National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation as mentioned in the Budget Speech for 1988-89.

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the likely time by which these will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Government have decided to set up a Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to cater to the financial needs to Small Scale and tiny industries and are finalising modalities in this behalf. The National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation has also since been set up. The National Agricultural Credit Relief Fund has not yet been set up.

Freight Concessions to Promote Exports

4318. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give some concession in air freight to promote export of Indian goods; and

(b) if, so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b) Besides the concessions already available, there is at present, no proposal under consideration for providing further concessions in air freight rates.

[English]

Sector-wise Export Performance

4319. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the sectors in which exports have fallen behind the target with details; and

(b) the steps taken to improve export performances in those areas with details?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) The export targets are fixed on financial year basis and as such it is difficult to identify sectors which have not fulfilled the target during the fiscal year 1988-89 at this stage.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Spices.

4320. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government propose to put the import of nutmag and mace under restricted items;

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

(c) whether Government propose to increase the import duty on spices;

(d) the steps taken to prevent the smuggling of spices into India;

(e) whether the Letter of Credit (L.C) opened just a few days prior to the change of policy of import of spices from O.G.L. to restricted items, will be cancelled; and

(f) whether the new licences for the import of spices will be issued after the season ending in June?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) There is no proposal for the present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal for the

present.

(d) the anti-smuggling drive has been intensified. Anti-smuggling measures have been geared up through out the country and specially in vulnerable areas of land borders, coastline and inter-national airports and seaports.

(e) This would be governed by the transitional arrangement provided for in the relevant Public Notice.

(f) No Import Licence is required for import Nutmeg and Mace, as the same is allowed under Open General Licence.

Coffee Export

4321. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total quantity of coffee exported during 1988 and the foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): The total exports of coffee during calendar year 1988 are provisionally placed at 81952 tonnes valued at Rs. 269.03 crores.

Export of Mangoes from Bihar

4322. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any effort has been made to export mangoes from North Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). No specific effort has so far been made in regard to export of mangoes from North Bihar. However, the

Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority is trying to collect information on the availability of exportable quality mangoes from Bihar.

On-Going Railway Projects

4323. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets for partial or final completion of the on-going projects in the form of new railway lines/conversion projects taken in hand during the Sixth Plan have been fixed for the Eighth Plan;

(b) if so, the names of such on-going projects as are under execution since the 6th Plan, zone wise and the targets for their partial/final completion in each case apart from those for the completion for which the targets have also been fixed during the 7th Plan; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely date by which the targets for each of such projects would be fixed along with details for each project, zone wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) (a) to (c). Eastern Railway which has been targetted for opening by 31.3.1991, no other new line or gauge conversion project started in the Sixth Five year Plan has been targetted for partial or final completion during the Eighth Five Year Plan. Targets for completion of other new line or gauge conversion projects would depend on availability of funds during the Eighth Plan.

Opening of Bank Branches

4324. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has taken any action against nationalised banks like the UCO Bank which refused to open branches in rural areas, after allotment of centres to them under Current Branch Licensing Policy during Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the names of all such banks and number and names of branches, which they refused to open during the current plan, State-wise;

(c) whether such centres were allotted to other nationalised banks, resulting in considerable dislocation and delay in opening of these branches for rural areas and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether such defaulting banks would be discouraged in opening their branches/ extension counters in the urban areas and the other nationalised banks would be given licenses for such branches or extension counters for which they have sent their applications giving them preference over defaulting banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that under the successive branch expansion programme banks have been permitted to surrender the licences issued to them to a limited extent, as they had any difficulties in opening the branches. Such centres were reallocated to other banks so that banking facilities could be made available. During the current Branch Licensing Policy apart from UCO Bank, six other banks excluding Regional Rural Banks have surrendered 21 licences which forms a very small percentage of the total licences issued to them. The number of licences issued to these six banks during the current policy period for rural and semi-urban centres and those surrendered by them are indicated below:-

<i>Name of the Bank</i>	<i>Number of licences</i>	
	<i>Issued</i>	<i>Surrendered</i>
State Bank of India	724	11
Syndicate Bank	75	2
Canara Bank	125	1
United Bank of India	126	4
Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.	2	2
Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.	1	1
Total	1053	21

These 21 centres were subsequently reallocated to other banks which expressed their willingness to open the branches at the centres. Statewise and bank-wise names of centres surrendered and reallocated are given in the statement below.

Since the surrenders of licences were permitted by RBI on a selective basis taking into account all relevant factors and the number of centres surrendered were negligible, the question of taking any preventive measure was not considered necessary.

STATEMENT

State-wise and bank-wise names of centres surrendered and re-allotted

<i>Name of State /Name of bank surrendered the licence</i>	<i>Name of Centre surrendered</i>	<i>Name of bank re-allotted to</i>
1	2	3
<i>Uttar Pradesh</i>		
State Bank of India	Chandernagar	Alaknanda Gramin Bank
-do-	Maithan	-do-
-do	Bhandsore	Bank of Baroda
<i>Tamil Nadu</i>		
State Bank of India	Boochatipattu	Bank of India
-do-	Pandvakkam	-do-

1	2	3
-do-	Kamalmpoondi	-do-
-do-	Koda-nadu	-do-
-do-	Marappari	-do-
-do-	Namathodu	-do-
-do-	Anandvadi	South Indian Bank Ltd.
-do-	Pillundvam	Not allotted yet
Syndicate Bank	Arangaldurgam	Bank of India
-do-	Tiruvandapuram	-do-
Canara Bank	Arepalayam	-do-
Catholic Syrian Bank Ltd.	Jambukulam	South Indian Bank Ltd
-do-	T. Subbulapuram	-do-
Dhanalakshmi Bank Ltd.	Kamlaputhur	Bank of Baroda
<i>Manipur</i>		
United Bank of India	Kangchup	State Bank of India
-do-	Tamci	-do-
-do-	Leirangtham	-do-
-do-	Lairouching	-do-

Employment on compassionate grounds

ten years five years and three years respectively;

4325. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any cases for the employment on compassionate grounds for wards of the deceased railway employees are still pending for sanction/appointment for over

(b) if so, the number of such cases zone-wise in each category along-with other relevant details and the reasons for delay; and

(c) the likely date by which such cases would be settled in a time bound manner and whether any concerted efforts would be

made during the last year of the Seventh Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Information as on 31.12.1988 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Repayment of loans by farmers

4326. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State Governments had initiated an Interest Rebate Scheme with the intention of making farmers repay their cooperative loans in time;

(b) if so, the names of the States in which the scheme has been initiated;

(c) whether the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development has objected to the practice with the observation that refinance can not be given against loans to farmers attracting interest subsidy by the State through cooperative banks; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to help the farmers in the repayment of their loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that the interest rebate scheme was in operation in 10 States and one Union Territory namely Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Orissa and Union Territory of Pondicherry.

(c) and (d). The introduction of the inter-

est rebate scheme by co-operative banks in the above States/Union Territory was considered by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and NABARD as violation of their instructions relating to interest rates, conversion of loans etc. In view of this NABARD vide its circular dated 29th November, 1988 addressed to Managing Director of all State Cooperative Banks and State Land Development Bank, withheld refinance facilities till an undertaking is furnished by the concerned institutions that they would follow the instructions/guidelines issued by the RBI/NABARD.

NABARD has reported that refinance facilities have been resumed in all States, except in Maharashtra, since undertakings from the cooperative banks of Maharashtra State are still awaited.

[Translation]

Conversion of Farrukhabad-Kanpur-Lucknow metre Gauge into Broad Gauge

4327. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to convert only Kanpur-Lucknow section of Farrukhabad-Lucknow metre gauge line broad gauge, and

(b) if so, the reason for cutting off many districts centres including Farrukhabad from the State capital by this partial conversion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Rail connections between district centres and Lucknow will not be affected after conversion of Kanpur-Lucknow MG section to BG. The passengers from Farrukhabad side will only have to change over

at Kanpur from MG to BG, and vice versa.

[English]

Payment of Salary to Government Employees

4328. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instructions have been issued to the nationalised banks to the effect that Government employees whose salary cheques are deposited in their banks are not to be refused payment of salary on the first of the month even in cases where there may have occurred delay in the receipt of the salary cheque;

(b) if so, whether there have been cases of the banks dishonouring the cheques presented in the first week of the month;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the steps taken to enforce the instructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). In terms of the Civil Accounts Manual, salaries to Central Government servants are disbursed at the option of the Government servant either in cash or through cheques. Where a government servant opts to draw his/her salary through cheque, an account is opened in a bank where the cheque is deposited by him/her and payment obtained. In some Civil Ministries, system of Individual Running Ledger Account (IRLA) is followed where salary cheques of the Gazetted Officers are sent direct to the nominated banks by the respective Pay and Accounts Officers for credit to the bank account of the concerned

officers. since salary cheques are sent to the Banks by the Pay and Accounts Officers after verifying the entitlement of concerned officers, no standing instructions can be issued to banks for automatically crediting the accounts without any instructions from the Pay and Accounts Office in this behalf.

Involvement of Central Excise Officials in Excise Duty Cases

4329. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) how many Central Excise officials have been booked for alleged involvement in excise racketeering resulting in under assessment of Central Excise during the last 12 months and how does this compare with the figures of the preceding three years;

(b) whether the investigations/inquiries have been instituted into their cases and by when are these likely to be finalised;

(c) whether wealth disproportionate to their known sources of income has been revealed by raids conducted by Income-tax Departments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Introduction of Electric Trains

4330. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: (a) whether Government have a proposal to take up electrification task on many other routes also, other than priority sections;

(b) if so, the details of the trains and their routes which will be electrified during the next one year; and

(c) the estimated amount likely to be incurred thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

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

Nagothane-Ratnagiri (Coastal) Railway Project

4331. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the new railway routes under survey at present;

(b) whether Nagothane-Ratnagiri route has been surveyed so far;

(c) if so, when is it likely to be approved for construction; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The list of on-going surveys and those proposed in 80-90, Zone-wise are mentioned in the Annexure-A to Demand No.2 - Railways in Part-II of the Demands for Grants 89-90. This booklet has been supplied to all Members of Parliament along with Budget documents.

(b) to (d). Nagothane-Roha is a part of Apta-Roha line which has since been completed and opened to traffic. Based on a fresh survey conducted for the balance portion of the West Coast line, Roha-Ratnagiri-Mangalore, a proposal for construction of

this line was sent to the Planning Commission for consideration and clearance. The Planning Commission has since cleared the Mangalore-Udupi section for construction and the same has been included in the Budget 89-90. Further action will depend upon the clearance by the Planning Commission and availability of resources.

Issue of Booklets on Deposits and Loans scheme of Bank in Nepal

4332: SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether booklets on various deposits and loans schemes are published in Bengali and English languages as a result of which majority of the people in Sikkim and Darjeeling, who speak and understand Nepali language only, are not able to make use of these booklets and are unable to participate in various developmental activities of government;

(b) whether government propose to bring out such booklets in Nepali language in the public interest;

(c) If so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). The Public sector banks bring out their booklets on various deposits and loans schemes in English, Hindi and other regional languages according to their needs and requirements. The convenor banks for State Level Bankers Committee for West Bengal and Sikkim have been advised to consider the necessity of bringing out the booklets in Nepali language.

Economists Meetings with Finance Minister

4333. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he held a pre-budget meeting with economists on 20th January, 1989.

(b) if so, the suggestions made by the economists; and

(c) which of these suggestions are acceptable and which of them are not acceptable with reason therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. At the meeting held with the Economists on the 20th January, 1989 a number of suggestions were made. These, among others, included: control of Defence Expenditure, limiting the use of subsidies to deserving cases, reduction in general interest rates, improving agricultural productivity through greater investment in irrigation, control of prices, more expenditure on education, health and housing, encouraging export promotion by making our goods more competitive, formation of collective organisations of the less privileged, imposition of presumptive taxation, measures for promotion of employment opportunities, bringing about improvement of efficiency in the public enterprises and stepping up of investment to raise commodity production etc.

2. The suggestions made by the Economists, as indeed, from other associations and persons, are taken into account in the formulation of Government policy.

Bank Deposits and Investment in Bihar

4335. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of total bank deposits in Bihar invested for the development of the State and the benefit of farmers;

(b) whether nationalised banks have not made adequate capital investment in accordance with the national policy;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take other effective steps for the balanced economic development of Bihar; and

(d) the guidelines proposed to be followed in future for balanced economic development of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). As per information available from Reserve Bank of India, the percentage of outstanding credit (including agricultural credit) to bank deposits in the State of Bihar as at the end of September, 1988 was 38.97%. Further as at the end of December 1987, the public sector banks had invested a sum of Rs. 1122.76 crores ... various securities/shares/bonds/debentures of Government and quasi Government bodies in the State of Bihar.

(c) and (d). Reserve Bank of India has advised the banks for improving their credit deposit ratio in Bihar. In the field of rural lending RBI has advised the designated rural and semi-urban branches under service area approach to prepare a credit plan for each village after careful assessment of potential for various activities.

NF. Investment

4336. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Non-resident Indians have expressed their desire to invest more and

more in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to attract more NRI investment so that country's financial position be strengthened; is so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). It is difficult to determine the intention of a large number of people of Indian origin residing in foreign countries regarding investment of their money in India.

(c) and (d). There is no specific proposal presently under consideration. However, the existing schemes and regulations are kept under constant review and suitable changes are made, where ever necessary.

Supplementary Import Licences issued by CCI & E

4337. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given on 24

February, 1989 to Unstarred Question No. 471 regarding supplementary import licences and state;

(a) the details and reasons, date-wise where Chief Controller of Imports & Exports (CCI & E) issued Supplementary import licences during April-January, 1988-89;

(b) the dates on which Supplementary Licensing Committee (SLC) Headquarters met in 1988-89; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) Particulars of the Supplementary Licences are given in the statement I below.

(b) the dates on which the meetings of Headquarters Supplementary Licensing Committee were held during 1988-89, are given in the statement II below.

(c) In these cases, issue of Supplementary Licences or amendments in the existing Supplementary Licences, were approved by the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, keeping in view the merits of the cases.

STATEMENT-I

S. No.	Name of the Unit	No. & Date of the Supplementary Licence issued	Value of the licence	Items allowed for import
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s. Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.	Import Licence No. I/D/1482646 Dt. 28.1.88 was amended on 8.4.88 so as to permit the import from "General Currency Area" instead of "Japan".	—	—
2.	M/s. BASF India Limited.	Import Licence No. P/D/1096453 dt. 5.5.1988	Rs. 4,47,744/-	
3.	M/s. BHEL, Trichi	Import Licence No. P/D/1096468 dt. 9.5.1988	Rs. 635.20 lakhs.	6 sets of Verticles Coal Pulverisers.
4.	M/s. Bajaj Tempo Ltd.	Import Licence No. P/D/1482057 dt. 29.9.87 was amended on 17.5.1988 for changing the part No. of ball bearings.	—	—
5.	M/s. MELTRON, Bombay	Import Licence No. P/D/1483088 dated 30.3.1988	Rs. 28.49 lakhs	Components for EPABX.

S. No.	Name of the Unit	No. & Date of the Supplementary Licence issued	Value of the licence	Items allowed for import
1	2	3	4	5
6.	M/s. New Video Ltd.	Addl. list of items was endorsed on the 20th May, 1988 against the import licence No. P/S/1094476 dt. 10.5.88, within the overall value of the licence issued for Rs. 11,18,900/-	—	—
7.	M/s. Associated Bearing Ltd., Pune.	The value of import licence No. P/D/2252400 dt. 18.3.987 was enhanced on the 23rd May, 1988 from Rs. 10,66,000/- to Rs. 17,45,500/- for import of additional items.	—	—
8.	M/s. Bharati Telecommunications Ltd.	Import Licence No. P/D/1096814 dated 27.5.88.	Rs. 39.75 lakhs.	Components of Push Button Tele Instruments.
9.	M/s. I B P Co. Ltd.	The value of import licence No. P/D/1096257 dt. 30.3.1988 was amended on 4.6.1988 to read as US \$ 166067	—	—

S. No.	Name of the Unit	No. & Date of the Supplementary Licence issued	Value of the licence	Items allowed for import
1	2	3	4	5
10.	M/s. Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd.	Import Licence No. I/D/1504542 dt. 22.7.1988.	Rs. 93.31 lakhs	Components of Electronic
11.	M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.	Import Licence No. P/D/1504514 dt. 18.7.1988.	Rs. 63,93,214/-	220.152 MT of Diethylene Glycol (DEG)
12.	M/s. Asian Computers Consultancy Services Pvt. Ltd.	Import Licence No. P/S/1504583 dt. 1.8.1988.	Rs. 12,12,142/-	Components of Wrist Watch Cases.
13.	M/s. T.T.K. Chemicals Ltd.	Import Licence No. P/S/1504585 dt. 2.8.1988.	Rs. 31.15 lakhs	8.90 MMU of Penicillin G.
14.	M/s. Rajendra Mechanical Industries Ltd.	The value of import licence No. P/D/2252788 dt. 23.3.88 was enhanced on the 31st August, 1988, from Rs. 98,75,000/- to Rs. 1,12,78,587/- due to fluctuation in the exchange rate of DM	—	—

S. No.	Name of the Unit	No. & Date of the Supplementary Licence issued	Value of the licence	Items allowed for import
1	2	3	4	5
15.	M/s. Solar Energy Devices Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi.	Import Licence No. P/S/1504674 dt. 17.8.1988.	Rs. 65,000/-	Self Adhesive Tapes for Solar
16.	M/s. Instrumentation Ltd.	The value of import licence No. I/D/2275602 dt. 4.10.88 was enhanced on 7.11.1988 from Rs. 27,75,790/- to Rs. 29,41,297/- due to fluctuation in the exchange rate.	—	—

STATEMENT II

Dates on which the meetings of Headquarters supplementary licensing Committee were held during 1988-89

S.No.	FOR NON-STEEL ITEMS	S.NO.	FOR STEEL ITEMS
1.	18.4.1988	1.	25.4.1988
2.	23.5.1988	2.	30.5.1988
3.	16.6.1988	3.	23.6.1988
4.	7.7.1988	4.	22.7.1988
5.	28.7.1988	5.	25.8.1988
6.	18.8.1988	6.	20.9.1988
7.	8.9.1988	7.	28.10.1988
8.	27.9.1988	8.	29.11.1988
9.	24.10.1988	9.	20.12.1988
10.	22.11.1988	10.	31.1.1989
11.	15.12.1988	11.	21.2.1989
12.	12/13.1.1989	12.	28.3.1989
13.	8.2.1989		
14.	1/3.3.1989		

Encouragement of Multinationals

4338. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to encourage multinational corporations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) There is no proposal to encourage multinational corporations to invest in India. All investment, however, are welcome if they fall within our policy.

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

Reserve Funds of Nationalised Banks

4339. SHRI SAMBHAJIRAO KAKADE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of holding reserve funds by nationalised banks has been continued;

(b) whether Government have issued any guidelines for use of these reserve funds by the nationalised banks;

(c) whether for the purpose of audit of bank accounts these reserve funds are taken into account and their proper utilisation is ensured;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). In accordance with Section 17 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, every Banking Company incorporated in India is required to create a reserve fund and shall, out of the balance of profit of each year, as disclosed in the Profit and Loss Account prepared under Section 29 and before any dividend is declared, transfer to the reserve fund a sum equivalent to not less than twenty percent of such profit. Where a Banking Company appropriates any sum from the reserve fund or the share premium account, the fact is required to be reported to the Reserve Bank of India explaining the circumstances relating to such appropriation.

(c) and (d). The Balance Sheets and Profit & Loss Accounts of banks, prepared in accordance with Section 29 of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, are required to be audited by a person qualified to be an auditor

and in terms of Section 30(3) of the aforesaid Act, the auditor has inter-alia to state in his report that the profit and loss account show a true balance of profit or loss for the period covered by such account.

Financial assistance given by State Bank of India to Industrial Units in Kerala

4340. SHRI A. CHARLES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money given as financial assistance to the small scale industrial units in Kerala by the State Bank of India during 1988-89;

(b) the total number of persons benefited by the assistance; and

(c) how the assistance given during last year compares with those of the previous two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) State Bank of India (SBI) has reported that financial assistance of Rs. 15.28 crores has been given to 10,944 small scale industrial units in Kerala during the year 1988-89.

(b) and (c). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as at the end of June, 1987, the total outstanding advances of State Bank of India to small scale industrial units in Kerala were Rs. 70.55 crores in three thousand borrowal accounts. The performance at the end of June, 1987 compares favourably with the figures of previous two years as may be seen from these data set out below:

Year	No. of accounts (in thousands)	Amount outstanding (Rs. in crores)
June, 1985	2	30.56
June, 1986	2	35.07

Agricultural Field Officers in Banks

4341. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accounts of farmers which have to be supervised by the Agricultural Field Officers as per the norms fixed by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and nationalised banks;

(b) what manpower support is provided by the Chief Executives of the nationalised banks in rural branches;

(c) whether the Chief Executives are made accountable for making the priority sector lendings; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that they have advised all credit institutions in the selected districts where the pilot project for strengthening the credit delivery system is being implemented to adopt a norm of 500 accounts per Agricultural Field Officer (AFO). RBI has advised all Scheduled Commercial Banks to make a realistic assessment of the number of AFOs required taking into account the various factors, such as topography of the area, the nature and type of agricultural activity finance and the volume of business.

(b) the manpower support in rural

branches of public sector banks is provided in accordance with the norms laid down by the management of each bank.

(c) and (d). RBI has fixed the targets of lending to priority sector and the performance of banks is being monitored on the basis of quarterly statements. All public sector banks have exceeded the target fixed for advances to priority sector which is 40% of total; outstanding advances.

Availability of Water from Rainfall

4343. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY: will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of water available in the country due to rainfall in a year; and

(b) the percentage of rain water that is used for (a) irrigation (b) percolates underground and (c) goes into the sea?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAH): (a) and (b). Out of annual precipitation including snowfall amounting to about 400 million hectare metres about 12 per cent is used for irrigation, another about 12 per cent forms annual replenishable groundwater resource and the remaining after evaporation and vegetation losses flows to the sea.

Assistance by Banks to Riot victims in Andhra Pradesh

4344. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any instructions to commercial/nationalised banks with regard to loans extended to victims of the riots of December, 1988 in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of victims assisted and the total amount given as loan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India has reported that consequent to the occurrence of disturbances in Andhra Pradesh, it had issued instructions to the banks during January and February, 1989 for providing assistance to the affected persons. The main features of these guidelines were as under;

i) Sanction of term loans for repairs and renovation of factory buildings affected by riots.

ii) Suitable rescheduling/postponing of existing term loan instalments depending upon the damage suffered, time needed for rehabilitation as also income generating capacity of the unit.

iii) Housing finance for repairs/reconstruction of damaged houses as per norms in force.

iv) Fresh loans for the persons affected by disturbances for continuing/re-establish-

ing production, business and occupation such as taxi, truck, auto-rickshaw and other small industrial units, retail trade and services.

v) Consumption loans upto Rs. 500/- to weaker sections in general and for other purposes in accordance with the terms of Reserve Bank of India's existing guidelines.

(c) Andhra Bank, the convenor, State Level Banker's Committee (SLBC) for Andhra Pradesh has reported that upto the end of February, 1989 over eight hundred persons were provided an assistance of Rs. 2.35 crores in affected districts.

Pre-shipment and Post-Shipment Bank Credit

4345. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to slash pre-shipment and post-shipment bank credit interest rates; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the interest rates on export credit have been reduced w.e.f. 1st March, 1989, the details of which are given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

(Percent per annum)

1. Pre-shipment Credit

(A) (I) Upto 180 days

7.50

(Percent per annum)

(II) Beyond 180 days, and in all upto 270 days (with the prior approval of the Reserve Bank of India)	9.50
(B) Against cash incentives, etc. covered by ECGC guarantee - upto 90 days	7.50
2. Post-Shipment credit	
(I) Demand Bills - for transit period (As specified by FEDAI)	8.65
(II) Usance Bills - upto 180 days comprising usance period of export bills, transit period as specified by FEDAI and grace period wherever applicable	8.65
(III) Cash incentives, Duty Draw-Back etc. receivable from Government covered by ECGC guarantee (upto 90 days)	8.65
(IV) Undrawn Balances (Upto 90 days)	8.65
(V) Against retention money (for supplies portion only) payable within one year from the date of shipment (upto 90 days)	8.65
3. Deferred Credit	
Deferred Credit for period beyond 180 days	8.65
4. Duty Draw Back Credit Scheme, 2976	
Against Duty Draw Back as provisionally credited by customer authorities (upto 90 days)	Free of interest
5. Export Credit not otherwise specified	
14.00 to 15.450	

The reduction in the interest rates ranges from
0.85 to 2.00 per cent per annum

**Kuwait Loan for Kerala Fisheries
Development Project**

4346. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI:
Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to
state:

(a) whether Kuwait has given any loan
for the Kerala Fisheries Development Proj-
ect for Prawn culture;

(b) If so, whether any agreement in this
regard was signed recently in New Delhi;

and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Under an agreement signed on the 24th February, 1989, the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development have extended a loan of KD 7 million (Rs. 35 crores approx.) for the Kerala Fisheries Development Project of Prawn culture (Phasel) which aims at developing farms/ponds in an area of about 1500 hectares with hatcheries, feed mill and laboratory facilities.

The loan carries an interest of 4.5% per annum and an administrative charge of 50% per annum and is repayable in 30 Semi-annual equal instalments commencing from 1.8.1994.

Import of Certain Capital goods under Open general Licence

4347. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI:
SHRI H.A. DORA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have placed import of 18 capital goods relating to machine tools and textile under Open General Licence; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). At the time of announcement of the Import and Export Policy, 1988-91, 158 items of machine tools and 17 items of textile machinery were placed in the list of capital goods allowed for

import under Open General Licence (Appendix 1, Part B).

Subsequently, 14 items of machine tools and 19 items of textile machinery have been added to this list and 3 items of machine tools deleted. Copies of the Import and Export Policy, 1988-91 and relevant Public Notices are available in the Parliament Library.

Trade Agreement with Bulgaria

4348. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has signed any trade agreement with Bulgaria recently; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). The Indo-Bulgarian trade is in the free foreign exchange. Annual Trade Protocols of the type applicable to Rupee Payment countries are not drawn up. In the meeting of the Indo-Bulgarian Permanent Working Group of Trade held in New Delhi from 27th February to 1st March, 1989, agreed minutes were signed providing for indicative lists for a trade turnover of about US \$ 150 million i.e. US \$ 75 million each way during 1989. The major items included in the indicative lists of exports from India are: decoiled extractions, coffee, black pepper, iron ore, Knitwear and garments, finished leather and leather products, machine, tools, electronic items, earth moving equipment, other machinery and equipment including vehicles. Major items included in the indicative list of imports from Bulgaria are newsprint, non-ferrous metals, metal scrap, moniethylene glycol, paraffin, plastic chemicals, steel products, drugs & [pharmaceuticals, etc. and machinery items like food processing machinery, electronic

components, computers, etc.

Publicity to STC Scheme

4349. SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) has decided to make public details of various schemes formulated by it for the benefit of small-scale and other exporters;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this step has been taken to obviate the malpractices; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). STC has decided to publicise, from time to time, the details of selected schemes for the benefit of small scale entrepreneurs and their business associates for wider dissemination.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Pancheshwar Dam

4350. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal has given necessary permission to start survey work in her area in regard to construction of Pancheswar Dam;

(b) if so, whether survey work is going on in the territory of Nepal in this regard; and

(c) if so, the amount proposed to be incurred on this work during the year 1989-90?

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

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

Restructuring of Grades of Railway Employees

4351. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether restructuring of grades in different categories of Railway employees was completed prior to implementation of 4th Pay Commission's recommendations;

(b) if so, whether the restructuring of grades of employees working in Commercial department (Commercial Clerks/TC's/TTE's etc.) in Dhanbad Division of Eastern Railway has been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Cooperation with Saudi Arabia

4352. SHRI P.M. BHOYE:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level delegation from Saudi Arabia visited India recently and held discussions with Indian businessmen and Government;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) the areas identified for extension of co-operation between the two countries; and

(d) the details regarding concessional aid proposed to be extended by Saudi Arabia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (d). A delegation of businessmen from Saudi Arabia visited India from 26th February, 1989 to 5th March, 1989 at the invitation of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The delegation inter-alia discussed with the Indian businessmen possibilities of setting-up of joint ventures in Saudi Arabia and India. Bilateral matters concerning trade and investment were also discussed. No offer for concessional finance/aid was however made by the Saudi delegation.

STC and MMTC Plans to Boost Export

4353. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL:
SHRI S.M. GURADDI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corporation (STC) and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) have drawn up plans to give a fresh impetus to non-canalised exports;

(b) whether any concrete proposals have been made in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the extent of improvement likely therefrom in non-canalised exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (d). State Trading Cor-

poration has taken several steps to develop their exports, particularly of non-canalised items. These steps include:

- Provision of financial/marketing and technical assistance to associate exporters.
- Setting up of an Export Trade Development Group to develop new items and new markets.
- Opening of a Customers Service Centre to provide better services to Indian exporters.
- Formulation of scheme for import of raw material on OGL for providing raw material assistance to exporters.
- Developing and off-shore trading to increase foreign exchange earnings.
- Supply of Benzene to exporters against their advance licences.
- Making available ex-bond Methanol to exporters at international prices.
- Formulation of a price support scheme for bulk drugs for small manufacturers.

Keeping in view the above plans for promotion of non-canalised exports, STC has projects an increase of 50% in the level of their non-canalised exports in the coming year.

Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has also taken a number of steps to increase their non-canalised exports. These steps include:-

Selective identification of potential markets on long-term basis.

Selective development of domestic

sources of supply of items that would be promoted in selected markets.

- Use of strategies like project exports, counter trade to gain access for Indian products to new export markets.
- Creation of an organisational culture within the Corporation oriented towards exports on non-canalised items.
- Extensive training of human resources in export marketing management and related areas.

Non-canalised exports of MMTC have increased from Rs. 20.13 in 1984-85 to Rs. 395 crores in 1987-88. With the continuation of the above steps for the growth of exports, it is expected that the non-canalised exports of MMTC would increase considerably in the coming years.

Micro-Level Plans to Boost Tea Production

4354. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating micro-level plans to achieve a substantial increase in tea production;

(b) if so, the time by which the increase in production would be achieved;

(c) whether the Nilgiris is the first plantation district in the country identified to begin this exercise;

(d) whether any districts of Karnataka have this potential as Nilgiris for expansion in the small tea grower sector; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). All the tea gardens in India were requested during the first quarter of 1988 to prepare their developmental programmes for a period of seven years commencing from the year 1988. In the event of implementation of the Developmental programme drawn by the individual gardens it is expected that there would be substantial improvement in production over a period of next seven years.

(c) Discussions have been held for a few garden in Cachar district apart from Nilgiris district.

(d) and (e). Coorg district in Karnataka is found to have potential for expansion of tea area. So far an area of 1850 hectares has been identified as suitable for growing tea.

'Rail Roko' Agitation in Bangalore

4355. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is 'rail roko' agitation in Bangalore recently for development of railways etc. in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what were the main demands of the agitating public; and

(d) the action Government propose to take thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Dr. Rajkumar Fans Association resorted to 'Rail Roko' agitation in Karnataka State on 17.2.1989.

(c) The demands included a separate railway zone for Karnataka, circular railway for Bangalore City, preference to Kannadigas in Railway jobs in Karnataka.

(d) Railways are not considering creation of any new zone for the present in view of severe financial constraints.

Circular railway being a scheme to meet the needs of urban transport within a city, initiative in this regard, is to be taken by the local authorities/state government.

As per the present policy, recruitment in Railways is made on merit based on performance in the examination/interviews. There is no quota for any region or state.

Chitradurga-Rayadurga Railway Route (Karnataka)

4356. SHRI V. KRISHNARAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of Chitradurga-Rayadurga railway line in Karnataka; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Earthwork and bridges are in progress on Chitradurga-Challakere Section. Most of the earthwork on Malakalmuru-Rayadurga Section has also been completed. Overall progress is 14%.

(b) Completion of work will depend upon the availability of resources in the coming years.

Gatt Negotiations at Montreal

4357. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government participated in the ministerial level GATT negotiations at Montreal in December, 1988;

(b) if so, the composition of the Indian delegation;

(c) whether Indian delegation did not give the assent due to disagreement on three major areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) India participated in the Ministerial level meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations held at Montreal from 5-9 December, 1988.

(b) The composition of the Indian delegation is given in the Statement below.

(c) and (d). Whereas results were achieved at the Montreal meeting in number of areas covered by the negotiations, no agreement could be reached on four subjects (namely, textiles and clothing, safeguards, agriculture and trade related aspects of intellectual property rights). Owing to disagreement in these key areas, the results achieved on other items were put "on hold" until the next meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee scheduled for the first week of April, 1989, when the entire package of subjects would be reviewed. The decision was taken by consensus and the Indian delegation did not express any contrary view.

STATEMENT

1. Shri Dinesh Singh, Minister of Commerce.
2. Shri A.N. Varma, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

3. Shri S.J.S. Chhatwal, High Commissioner, High Commission of India, Ottawa.
4. Shri M. Dubey, Secretary (IO), Ministry of External Affairs.
5. Shri S.P. Shukla, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva.
6. Shri Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Special Secretary, Prime Minister's Office
7. Shri A.V. Ganesan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Industry.
8. Shri A. Hoda, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.
9. Shri S.S. Rajan Counsellor, High Commission of India, Ottawa.
10. Shri P.S. Randhawa, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva.
11. Shri Rakesh Mohan, Private Secretary to Commerce Minister.

World Bank Assistance

4358. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has submitted some schemes to Union Government for World Bank assistance;

(b) If so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken or likely to be taken by Union Government with regard to the above schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). An Agreement with the World Bank was signed on 17th November, 1988 for a loan of \$ 250 million to finance a multi-state road project in which Rajasthan is one of the participating States. The share of Rajasthan in the loan is \$ 58 million.

Another loan/credit of \$ 280 million has been recently negotiated with the World Bank for the Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). ITIs in Rajasthan will also be covered under this project.

Multi-purpose Identity cards in elections

4359. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
DR. DATTA SAMANT:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Union Government so far for issuing multi-purpose identity cards for the ensuing Lok Sabha and State Assemblies elections;

(b) the time by which the cards would be made available; and

(c) the reason for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c). The Election Commission has set up a Sub-Committee of Chief Electoral Officers for working out the modalities and preparatory steps for introducing the scheme of multi-purpose identity cards. Such cards will be introduced as soon as possible.

[English]**Deposits of Nationalised Banks**

4360. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN:
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the deposit of the nationalised banks for the last three years as on 31 December and on 10 January;

(b) whether there is great difference in deposits on the two date; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). the aggregate deposits of Public Sector Banks as on the last Friday of December, 1986, 1987 and 1988 and as on the last Friday of the immediate following fortnight i.e. in January 1987, 1988 and 1989 were as under:

(Rs. in crores)	
Date	Deposits
26.12.1986	92481.33
16.01.1987	91054.99
25.12.1987	106921.34
15.01.1988	105768.75
30.12.1988	127372.28
13.01.1989	123748.92

The variations are mainly due to Banking transactions such as credit of accrued interest, acceptance of short term deposits, and withdrawals of large funds in the accounts by Institutions in the month of January.

[Translation]**Cases pending against Officials of Bank of Baroda**

4361. SHRI R.P. SUMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of officers/employees in the Bank of Baroda against whom action has been taken, who have been dismissed, and whose cases are still pending for last three years and the number out of them belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) whether charge-sheets have not been issued to the officers and employees even after one year of their suspension and if so, the reasons therefor and the norms decided/accepted for issuing charge-sheets to suspended employees; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by Government for the early execution/disposal of the cases?

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

Excise Duty Concession on Cement

4362. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the date from which concession in excise-duty was made available on cement and how much it was per tonne;

(b) whether this concession was only for those who started production after the above mentioned date or it was available on the production of the older manufacturing concerns who simply enlarged their produc-

tion capacity after the above data and

(c) the licence-holder cement manufacturing concerns who have availed of this concession starting the amount of concession o availed in each of the last three years and also the weight of cement on which concession was granted each year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) The general concessional rate of excise duty leviable on grey portland cement is Rs. 215 per tonne. The concessional rate of basic excise duty on cement manufacturing by factories that have started production during the period 1st January, 1962 to 31st March, 1966 is Rs. 195 per tonne in respect of factories that have started production on or after 1st April, 1986, there is a concessional rate of basic excise duty of Rs. 165 per tonne. In the case of cement manufactured by factories using vertical shaft kiln and with the total licenced capacity not exceeding 200 tonnes per day the concessional rate of excise duty applicable is Rs. 115 per tonne.

(b) Where the concessional rate of duty is related to the commencement of production. It is available to such factories that have started production during the period in question.

(c) Information in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increase in Export of Engineering Goods

4363. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports of engineering goods, excluding electronics and software registered a 31 per cent rise in the first 9

months of 1988-89; and

(b) if so, whether the export targets for 1988-89 were revised upwards in view of such performance, if so, what were the original and revised targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) During the first 9 months of the Current year (1988-89) export of engineering goods, excluding electronics and computer software, provisionally amounted to Rs. 1030 crores as against Rs. 792 crores, during the corresponding period last year, registering a growth of 30.05 per cent.

(b) The original export target of Rs. 1340 crores for 1988-89 was revised upward to Rs. 1650 crores after a mid-term review of engineering exports in the month of September 1988. The revised target of Rs. 1650 crores excludes electronics and computer software segments.

Priority Sector Lendings by Commercial Banks

4364. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prescribed norms for commercial banks for advances to the priority sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the foreign banks operating in India are covered by such norms, and

(d) the Government's evaluation of foreign bank's performance with regard to socially oriented schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). All

Scheduled Commercial Bank have been advised by Reserve Bank of India that 40% of their total outstanding credit should be for Priority Sector which includes agriculture, small scale industries, small business etc. Further, 10% total outstanding credit should be for weaker sections which includes small and marginal farmers tenant farmers and share croppers, landless labourers, artisans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and beneficiaries under poverty alleviation programme. Banks have also been advised that advances to direct agriculture should reach a level of atleast 18% of the total credit by the end of March, 1990.

(c) and (d). The Reserve Bank of India has recently advised the foreign banks operating in the country that their priority sector advances should reach a level of 10% of their net outstandings by the end of March, 1989, to be progressively increased to 15% by the end of March, 1992. According to Reserve Bank of India the total outstanding credit in priority sector of 17 out of 21 foreign banks operating in India as at the end of June, 1987 constituted 5.9% of their total outstanding credit.

Banking Programme to Speed up Rural Development

4365. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had announced a package of banking programme intended to speed up rural development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the loans so far provided by the banks under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). The Hon.

Member is presumably referring to the service Area Approach in which a group of 15-25 villages would be allotted to a rural and semi-urban bank branch with a view to bring about an orderly and planned disbursement of credit. The work of allocation of villages to bank branches commenced in April, 1988 and has been completed. Under this approach, bank branches will have to first conduct a survey of the villages allotted to it and prepare village profiles indicating the types of activities carried on in their service area and having potential for lending. On the basis of village profiles branches will prepare Annual Credit Plan for lending for different identified activities, keeping in view the infrastructural and other facilities available and proposed to be created. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued guidelines to banks for commencing lending under Service Area Approach from 1.4.1989. Hence, the question of providing details of loans provided by banks under this approach does not arise.

Request for provision of Additional Assistance for On-Going Irrigation Projects of Andhra Pradesh

4366. SHRI T. BALA GOUD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested Union Government to provide additional financial assistance for the completion of on-going major and medium irrigation projects under construction at present;

(b) if so, since when the said request is pending with Union Government;

(c) what action has been taken so far on the request; and

(d) by when the said request is likely to be acceded to?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). No formal request for providing additional financial assistance for completion of on-going major and medium irrigation projects has been received from the State Government. However, in connection with the Special Foodgrains Production Programme for attainment of foodgrain production target envisaged in the Seventh plan, the Government of Andhra Pradesh had initially indicated a requirement of about Rs. 98 crores for accelerating work on certain projects. It was clarified to the State representatives that such a large additional outlay would not be available under this programme. A sum of Rs. 932 lakhs as additional Plan outlay during 1988-89 has been allocated to Andhra Pradesh for accelerating work on three projects in the State under the above programme.

Jewellery Export Centres

4367. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of jewellery export centres functioning in the country at present and the value of jewellery exported from each centre during 1987-88 and 1988-89 till date;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish more jewellery export centres in the country to boost this trade; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government in the respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) One 100 per cent export oriented gem and jewellery complex is functioning at New Delhi. Jewellery Exporting Units have also been set up under the Free

Trade Zone/Export Processing Zone at Santacruz Electronic Export Processing Zone (SEEPZ). Exports of jewellery during 1987-88 and 1988-89 are:

(Value in Rs. crores)

Year	Exports	
	Jhandewalan, New Delhi.	SEEPZ,, Bombay
1987-88	1.18	Nil
1988-89	2.36	4.20
	(upto 10.2.88)	(upto 28.2.89)

(b) and (c). Requests have been received to set up such complexes at Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Srinagar and Calcutta. State Governments have been requested to identify suitable sponsoring agencies as well as building premises for such complexes. Efforts are also being made to promote setting up of jewellery exporting units in Export Processing Zones in the country. Besides, in recent past, a number of policy initiatives have also been taken to promote exports of jewellery which, inter-alia, include simplification, streamlining and relaxation of procedures under Gold Control Act (1968) and relaxation in bank credit facilities, etc.

[Translation]

Illegal Import of Motor Vehicles

4368. SHRI JITENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether officers and employees of the D.R.I. have made some arrests in connection with illegal import of motor vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last one year, till date;

(c) the details of the persons who have purchased such vehicles; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken against the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir, The Officers of Directorate of Revenue Intelligence have during the last one year from 1st March, 1988 to 28th February, 1989, arrested one person named Shri Haren P. Choksey who was involved in the unauthorised importation of foreign cars and he has since been detained under the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 on 3rd February, 1988. The two cars that have been seized in this case have been purchased by one Shri Shally Thapar, resident of E. 300, Greater Kailash Part-I, New Delhi and Shri Vijay Syal of Delhi.

Section 124 of the Customs Act, 1962, stipulates that a show cause notice be issued to the person from whose possession the cars have been seized before they are confiscated. The persons found involved in the unauthorised importation of these cars are liable for penalty in departmental adjudication and prosecution in Courts of law.

Smuggling of Man made Yarn and Fabrics

4369. SHRIJITENDRASINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy appointed by Board of Direct Taxes had submitted a detailed report in regard to 'Black Money' in 1985 wherein apart from other recommendations, it was suggested that the reason for smuggling of man made yarn and fabrics and other equipment was heavy Excise, and

Import Duties and had suggested rationalisation of these taxes of ckeck smuggling; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered this recommendation and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA): (a) and (b). The National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, in its report entitled 'Aspects of the Block Economy in India' observed that one of the causes for large scale smuggling of goods such as man-made fibres, for which there is considerable demand within the country, is said to be the high excise and import duty structures. It was stated that reduction in the rates of excise and customs could, while improving tax compliance, also be expected to bring down the volume of smuggling. The observations made in this report, as also the recommendations made from time to time by some other committees and groups, have been kept in view while deciding the excise and import duty rates on mad-made fibres, yarns and fabrics. In the Budget for 1988-89, substantial reduction was made in the rates of excise duty on man-made fibres and yarns.

[English]

Appointment of Handicaps on Southern Railway

4370. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the year 1984, appointment orders in the cadre of L.D.C.s were issued against handicapped quota by the Southern Railway especially under the Trivandrum Division;

(b) if so, the details regarding order of

merit list and how many have been allowed to join;

(c) the details regarding candidates not allowed to join and the reasons therefor;

(d) how many L.D.Cs have been appointed by the Southern Railway from General Quota and from handicapped quota during the year 1984 to 1988, whether the quota for handicapped has been filled; and

(e) if not, how many vacancies have to be filled in handicapped quota?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). A list of fifteen physically handicapped candidates selected for appointment as Clerks/Tracer against the quota for the physically handicapped was prepared by the Southern Railway in 1984. Eight of these candidates were allotted to Trivandrum Division, the details being as under:—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Panel in which included</i>
1.	S/Shri V. Arvindakshan pillai	Office Clerks other than Accounts Department
2.	Thomas Varghese	-do-
3.	P.S. Rita	-do-
4.	E.K. Nirmala	-do-
5.	P.T. Mohanan	Accounts Clerks
6.	Vijayakumariamamma	-do-
7.	K. Kochusankoo (SC)	-do-
9.	P. Santhoshkumar	Tracer

Four of these persons had been offered appointment; this includes one selected for the post of tracer who was appointed as a Clerk on the Palghat Division pursuant to an order of a Court of Law.

(c) Four candidates out of this panel were not earlier offered appointment; inadvertently in one case and for want of vacan-

cies in the other three cases. Offers of appointment in Palghat Division to all these four candidates have since been issued by the Southern Railway.

(d) and (e). The information regarding number of candidates appointed as Lower Division Clerk on Southern Railway is as under:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Number of clerks appointed</i>	<i>Number of physically handicapped candidates out of column (2)</i>
1984-85	295	9
1985-86	263	40 * Selection in process.
1986-87	367	30
1987-88	189	
	1114	79

Information regarding fulfilling the quota for physically handicapped in the category of Lower Division Clerks on the Southern Railway, in being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Wage Grievances of Railway porters

4371. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the porterage rates of por-

ters have been reviewed recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). The porterage charges are reviewed by Zonal Railway from time to time. The details of the porterage charges fixed by the Zonal Railway after the last review are indicated in the Statement below

STATEMENT

Wage grievances of railway porters

Porterage rate per trip per head load of 40 Kgs.

Railways	Large Stations (In Rs.)	Medium Stations (in Rs.)	Small Stations (in Rs.)	Effective from
1	2	3	4	5
Central	3.00	2.50	2.00	June, 1988.
Eastern	3.00	2.00	2.00	February, 1989.
Northern	3.50	2.50	2.50 (except Attari Station)	January, 1989
North Eastern	3.00	2.50	2.00	January, 1989.
Northeast Frontier	3.00	2.00	2.00	August, 1988.
Southern	3.00	2.50	1.50	January, 1987.
South Central	3.00	2.50	2.00	December, 1988.
Western	3.00	2.50	2.00	June, 1988.
South Eastern	The review has been done recently and the proposed revised rates are awaiting approval of Zonal Railway Users Consultative Committee.			

Posting of High Court Judges from outside the State

4372. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the system of posting of Chief Justices and Judges of High Courts from Outside the State has been given up;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) if not, the steps taken to enforce the system strictly;

(c) the High Courts which have the Chief Justices from within their own State; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The system is being enforced.

(d) and (e). The High Courts of Allahabad and Jammu & Kashmir have at present Chief Justices from within their own States. The Chief Justice of the former is due to retire shortly, and of the latter is due for a transfer.

[Translation]

NABARD Report on Wasteland

4373. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the Report of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development regarding development of Wasteland;

(b) if so, whether the programme for development of the targeted wasteland has not yet been taken up in many parts of the country as yet;

(c) if so, the problems being faced in the implementation of this programme, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by Government so far for removing these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d). National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has stated that it has not published any Report on wastelands development. However, NABARD has taken various steps for wastelands development in the country and important ones are indicated below:

(i) Provision of refinance to banks in respect of projects by Forest Development Corporations.

(ii) Provision of refinance to banks in respect of Farm Forestry Scheme undertaken by individual farmers or groups of individuals for raising tree plantations.

(iii) Provision of refinance to banks in respect of commercial nurseries for raising of seedlings of fodder, fuelwood, timber and fruit trees for planting in wastelands.

(iv) Provision of refinance to banks in respect of captive plantation schemes on wastelands by user-industries to meet their own raw material requirements.

(v) Preparation of model wastelands development projects.

- (vi) Provision of refinance to banks in respect of schemes formulated under Tree Patta Scheme.

[English]

Committee on Cash Compensatory Support Scheme

4374. SHRI V. TULSIRAM:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a high powered committee to fix the new rates of cash compensatory support for different export items;

(b) if so, the composition of the committee and the time by which it is expected to submit its report;

(c) the period for which the committee will fix the rates; and

(d) the State-wise details of items covered under the new scheme particularly garments and hand-made items from Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) to (d). There is a Standing Inter-Ministerial Committee to review and determine the CCS rates on individual export products from time to time. Representatives of Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs and Department of Revenue), Ministry of Industry (Directorate General of Technical Development) and Chief Controller of Imports & Exports are members of this Committee. The new rates of CCS on individual export products will come into force with effect from 1.4.1989 and will be in force

for a period of three years except in the case of cotton textiles where the rates will be valid upto 31st December, 1991. The rates of CCS are fixed item-wise and not State-wise.

[Translation]

News-Item Captioned, "RBI Study Favours Low Tax Rebates"

4375. SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated 6 March, 1989 under caption "RBI study favours low tax rebates"; and

(b) if so, the follow up action taken by Government on the various conclusions emerged from the said RBI study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India in its Occasional papers of September, 1988 brought out findings of a research study conducted by one of its officers on the subject of "Impact of Fiscal Policy on the Private Corporate Sector-1970 to 1987-88". The study inter-alia points out: the general impression that the Indian Corporate Sector is over-taxed seems to be unfounded; numerous fiscal incentives and concessions had brought down the effective tax rates on the corporate sector in India to levels which are comparable or lower than those even in some developed economies and tax reduction measures may be combined with a review and reduction of fiscal concessions and incentives etc.

Findings of all such studies, as and when these become available, are taken into account while formulating Government policy.

[English]

Proposal to Enhance Amount of Loan Under Gramodaya Pathakamu Scheme

4376. SHRI C. SAMBU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loan given under Gramodaya Pathakamu (a self employment scheme);

(b) whether the amount is sufficient to start business; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to enhance the amount and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Presumably, the question relates to the Self Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY) introduced during the year 1983-84. Under this scheme, a composite loan not exceeding Rs. 35,000/- for industrial ventures, Rs. 25,000/- for service ventures and Rs. 15,000/- for small business ventures is provided to the entrepreneurs. Under SEEUY the banks, subject to the ceilings mentioned above, sanction an amount which is considered adequate for undertaking the proposed venture and there is no proposal, for the present, for enhancing the existing loan limits.

Water of Brahmaputra River Flowing to Farakka Area

4377. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the water of Brahmaputra river, which was flowing to Farakka area, was diverted to Calcutta Port with a view to

save Calcutta Port from the danger of siltage;

(b) if so, how far the diversion of the Brahmaputra water has helped in solving the problem of siltage in Calcutta Port;

(c) if it has failed to achieve the expected results, whether Government of India would consider allowing the natural flow of Brahmaputra as before; and

(d) if not, what best utilisation can be made of this huge quantum of water?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d). The Water of Brahmaputra river is not diverted to Calcutta Port.

Export of Non-Traditional Items to UK.

4378. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Britain will help India export non-traditional items like engineering goods etc. to bridge the deficit in bilateral trade;

(b) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been taken; and

(c) if so, the main features of the agreement arrived at between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI: (a) to (c). In the meeting of the Indo-British Economic Committee held in February, 1989 in New Delhi, possibilities of expansion as well as diversification of the trade between the two countries was discussed. It was agreed that both sides will make efforts to increase trade levels so as to correct the imbalance in trade. Agreed Minutes were signed at the conclusion of the

meeting which, inter-alia, covered cooperation in the area of trade and trade promotion, multilateral issues and industrial cooperation in sectors like power, food processing, petro-chemicals and fertilizers, petroleum and natural gas, civil aviation, electronics, telecommunications, machine tools and automotive components etc.

River Valley Project in Punjab

4379. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the River Valley Projects have been started in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details there of;

(c) the amount of assistance provided by Union Government to Punjab during the last three years, year-wise and the area covered under the scheme; and

(d) the area likely to be covered by the River Valley Projects in Punjab by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The multipurpose river valley project namely Ranjit Sagar Dam on river Ravi has been taken up by the Government of Punjab for harnessing the irrigation and hydro power potential of the river. The project comprises a 160 m. high dam and power plant with 600 MW installed capacity.

(c) The project is being constructed by the Government of Punjab out of its own resources. However, the Central Government made available additional resources of Rs. 45 crores in 1985-86 and Rs. 35 crores in 1986-87 for the project.

(d) No area is likely to be covered by the

project in Punjab till the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan. However, the Government of Punjab have reported that by the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan an area of 3.48 lakh ha. would be brought under irrigation by this Project.

Purchase Policy For Drugs and Medicines

4380. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's preferential purchase policy for drugs and medicines favouring the public and joint sector units goes against the interest of the small scale sector;

(b) whether Government's purchases from the public and joint sectors are on higher rates as compared to the rates quoted by the small scale sector; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not following the policy of open tender to decide the matter on merits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) The purchase policy of Government does not allow any purchase or price preference to the public Sector units over the small Scale Units. A few items of drugs and Pharmaceuticals, which are not manufactured in the small scale sector, are procured from public sector units only.

(b) Does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

Export of Books

4381. SHRI R. M. BHOYE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether India is exporting books to foreign countries;

(b) if so, the number of books exported during the last two years, language-wise and the names of countries to which these books were exported; and

(c) whether there has been any increase or decrease in the export of such books during the last three years?

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

(b) and (c). The estimated value of books and other publications, including newspapers and periodicals, exported from India during the last three years is given below:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Export (Rs./crores)</i>
1985-86	24.00
1986-87	26.00
1987-88	27.00

Export data for the total number of books and books exported language-wise are not being maintained. The major countries to which books and publications have been exported are UK, USA, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Bangladesh, Bahrain, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Qatar Oman Malaysia, Kuwait, Japan, West Germany, USSR, Pakistan, China, Kenya and Egypt. Exports have shown marginal increase during last three years.

(Source: Chemicals & Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Calcutta).

Excise Duty Concession on Cement Production

4382. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the excise duty concession has been allowed on cement production;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of the cement manufacturing companies availing this concession and the amount of concession availed by each one of them in each of the last three years and the current year; and

(d) whether this concession is available to old manufactures also who were able to enlarge their production capacity without obtaining a fresh licence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.PANJA): (a) and (b). The general concessional rate of excise duty liveable on grey portioned cement is Rs. 215 per tonne. The concessional rate of basic excise duty on cement manufactured by factories that have started production during the period 1st January, 1982 to 31st March, 1986 is Rs. 195 per tonne. In respect of factories that have started production on or after 1st April, 1986, there is a concessional rate of basic excise duty of Rs. 165 per tonne. In the case of cement manufactured by factories using vertical shaft kiln and with the total licenced capacity not exceeding 200 tonnes per day, the concessional rate of excise duty applicable is Rs. 115 per tonne.

(c) Information in this regard is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) where the concessional rate of duty is related to the commencement of produc-

tion, it is available to such factories that have started production during the period in question.

12.00 hrs.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Sir, I want to make some enquiry about your announcement in the House. The other day you have announced that you are seeking opinion from the Attorney General.

MR. SPEAKER: I will see when it comes.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Before you made that announcement that you are going to consult the Attorney General, we learn that the Government had already consulted the Attorney General. If it is so, we would like to know what is his opinion.

MR. SPEAKER: I am concerned with myself.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: But we are concerned with the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: Might be, but so far as my ruling is concerned, I can only consult various persons on whom I can rely under the Constitution.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You cannot rely on Government, Sir...

MR. SPEAKER: I will rely on my own judgement.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We are told that they have already consulted and then they have suggested that you can consult.

MR. SPEAKER: You can ask them. I am not concerned with that.

PROF. MANDHU DANDAVATE: Let

them say that they have not consulted the Attorney General.

MR. SPEAKER: I don't know whether they have consulted or whether they are allowed to consult. As far as I am concerned, I will consult on my own.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: No aspersions on you, Sir. We want to know from the Home Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: You do it with him.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We cannot talk to them directly. That is the rule of the House. Through you I would like to ask the Home Minister whether they have consulted the Attorney General and what is his opinion.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall have to look up the rules whether they are barred from consulting him. I don't know whether they have consulted him or not. As far as I am concerned, I am going to consult on my own behalf. I am going to get it categorically. Not only verbally but I have written to him also to give his complete opinion.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: They don't want to answer?

MR. SPEAKER: I don't know.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, I have asked Geetaji.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I have asked Shrimati Geetaji. You, Should not insist. Why do you disturb?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Why can't you be quiet and be cooperative all the time.? Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: She has had bad health for some time. I have called her.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): I would like to draw the attention of the House to an important subject, i.e. atrocities on women.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): What about Supriya?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: If you open any newspaper, either regional language or English, from all parts of India every day you will find that there are more than one news about the atrocities on women. I want a special discussion here, not be hemmed in into the discussion of Home Ministry's demands. I have given a notice, Sir. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Geetaji I have already allowed your submission. On that score I have never disallowed anything like that. We have always allowed it.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: I have given a notice under 193.

MR. SPEAKER: You have already done it so, we can cut it down. You can take the time. You can give in writing and we shall discuss it.

SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): She should have supported when Ms Jayalalitha issue came up.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: They have opposed the discussion on Supriya

case. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: We shall discuss it when the time comes.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): Sir, the extracts of suppressed volumes of Thakkar Commission Report are appearing in instalments in the newspapers.

MR. SPEAKER: I don't bother about it.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Are we to consult the Indian Express? Are we at the mercy of the newspapers?

MR. SPEAKER: I am not concerned with it.

SHRI JAIPAL REDDY: I would, therefore, like to know the time frame within which your ruling will come.

MR. SPEAKER: The minute I get the advice I will do it. I am not a machine. I have explained on the floor of the House that I have given it the highest priority. Not only that, I have written completely in detail what I want. I have asked him to categorically give me the appropriate opinion. It is up to him now-today or tomorrow or whatever it is- but I have to do it.

SHRI H. A. DORA (Srikakulam): By the time you get the opinion the entire Report will be out. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Again you are doing the same thing I have already told you that I am not concerned with any other thing. If he says it is not a complete Report then I will ask the Government to put it on the Table of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nal-

gonda): Are we to go to Indian Express to get the complete Report?

MR. SPEAKER: I don't know.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have told you when I ask a certain person only then he is allowed.

Yes, Shri C.P.N. Singh.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please, when I have allowed a person don't interrupt him.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Tanti, you are always incorrigible. I have allowed that hon. gentleman. Why are you interrupting? Please sit down. Do not interrupt and behave properly like a gentleman, which I suppose you are.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH (Padrauna): Sir, I am grateful that you think me to be an honourable gentleman. But being a gentleman, unfortunately, does not seem to pay.

MR. SPEAKER: What do you mean by that?

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I will be more explicit. It is a pleasure to hear Shri Indrajit Gupta. Whether it be the Opposition or the Ruling Benches or you, all will agree with me when I say that he is the one member who always gets his word said within the rules.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, that is right.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: Fortunately or unfortunately, I have been trying to emulate and imitate him and

I try to be strictly within the rules....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: He was suspended for that!

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: While I am yet to get what I want, the professors will get the better of you.

MR. SPEAKER: No...

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: Please let me say what I want to.

MR. SPEAKER: But I also want to point out one thing..

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I want to say that within the rules I have not managed to do or say what I want. Now, the Thakkar Commission has taken a lot of time. But much before that, I had very humbly, within the rules, asked for a half an hour discussion about the question concerning leakages of various secrets, whether they are defence secrets or the Thakkar Commission. But you have not given your ruling.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. C.P. N. Singh, look here...

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: It is pending for a long time*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are outshining your brilliance! It is absolutely out of rule.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: There is something more I want to tell you. Before this, I have given something regarding what Prof. Madhu Dandavate said regarding Sanjay Gandhi while speaking on the Bhopal Gas Tragedy. You said that it was not within the rules and you did not permit me to speak.

MR. SPEAKER: Now also, you are speaking out of rules only.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: What I said was expunged. But what they say is not expunged.

MR. SPEAKER: Now you say what you want to say. You quoted Shri Indrajit Gupta. Mr. Indrajit Gupta says within the bounds, but you do not. That is the problem.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I cannot. He is a senior parliamentarian. Also, only lung power seems to work with you.

MR. SPEAKER: No. I do not agree with you. Sit down.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I had given you a notice for a half an hour discussion long back. Yesterday or day before, Shri Sharad Dighe's motion was admitted and there was discussion on his notice. I had given notice much before. What happened to it?

MR. SPEAKER: It takes time. It is not binding....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Will, you may shout whatever you like. It takes time...

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: People should be hanged for Sati, people should be hanged for drug abuse, but not for treason! That is why secrets are out...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I am not bound by your wishes. I am not bound by the wishes of the hon. member. Now you have taken the whole House for a ride.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: No Sir...^{**} You have been. You show us the rules. But what do you do if we threaten to walk out?

MR. SPEAKER: Walk out, if you like.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I will not walk out now.

MR. SPEAKER: Then I will name you. What is this? You are casting reflections on the Chair all the time.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: You cast aspersions on me. Yesterday, just before I asked the question, what did you say?

MR. SPEAKER: No question at all. You cannot browbeat me like that. It is impossible to understand. I will name you. I am not going to take it like that.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalgonda): He did cast aspersions on you Sir. He said that "....."

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. Absolutely right. He is casting aspersions.

SHRI H. A. DORA (Srikakulam): He has said that "....."

Those words should be expunged. He said that categorically.

MR. SPEAKER: Absolutely correct. That is what he has said.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You are troubling the House without any relevance. Yes, Mr. Kurien.

(Interruptions)

^{**}Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki): You called me Sir. I want to say...

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. K. THUNGAN (Arunachal West): I would like to submit....

MR. SPEAKER: No, first I want to settle one account. Let him apologise. Mr. C.P.N. Singh has to apologise.

SHRI P. K. THUNGAN: Of course, I do not support what he has said....

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: Sir, you said that "I have taken the House for a ride." I said,...**....

MR. SPEAKER: I said it.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: Then, I should apologise?

MR. SPEAKER: Yes. You have to apologise. It is my job to see that the House is run according to rules.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: If I am wrong, then throw me out of this House. If I am wrong, move a No Confidence Motion against me and throw me out of this House. I don't like it. I am not going to take it lying down.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is impossible to work like that. No. Mr. Minister. It is too much. He is trying to browbeat me all the time. What does he think of himself?

(Interruptions)

SHRI. S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbubnagar): What happened Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever has happened has happened before you.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K.L. BHAGAT): No, hon. Member, whoever he may be, is justified in casting any direct or indirect aspersions on the Chair. That should not be done by anybody. Nobody should do that. That is wrong. If such aspersions are cast it is bad. Nobody can support that. Nobody would like that. In this case Sir, he has already expressed his regret. I also offer my regret. Such aspersions should also be expunged from the records.

MR. SPEAKER: Okay.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Sir, I was not here I find that the discussion on Thakkar Commission Report is to start from Monday. If the ruling does not come, then I do not think that the discussion would be possible on Monday. Therefore, I would like to have your decision on that because this will be subject to your ultimate ruling and your decision in the matter.

MR. SPEAKER: I will do it when I give my ruling. We have fixed it for Monday. By that time let us see if something happens.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: But, then we will not get the full Report, Sir. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Look here. It is a simple question of technicality, whether the whole Report has been laid. If it is the whole Report, then there is no question. If I give a ruling that this is not the whole Report, then the whole Report has to come. Then naturally, we will have to postpone it.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: That is all right. (Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki): I am only making a humble submission, about four lakh Malayalees in Delhi. Summer vacation has started and it is found that there are no adequate facilities for them to go to Kerala. I would only request you to direct the Railway Minister to run some summer specials for going to Kerala from Delhi. Will you give your direction, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: You give it to me. I will see. I will consider that.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Thank you.

SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD (Baroda): Sir, killing of people in Tibet..

MR. SPEAKER: This is something to be discussed with me. You can come and see me.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): I am on a point about Bachawat Commission.

MR. SPEAKER: You can give a Calling Attention or something, not Adjournment Motion.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: From 1978, the journalists have not got salary revision. I have given a Motion.

MR. SPEAKER: I will see to it.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram): Sir, after the Report was placed on the Table of the House, it became the property of the House. So, my submission is that propriety demands that the Attorney General should be summoned over here to make a submission.

MR. SPEAKER: That can also be taken into account when the time comes, if we

need it, if we think so. Yes Mr. Tanti.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): You sought the advice of the Attorney General the other day and till date you have not received...

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing new. This is what I have already said. Why are you repeating everything?

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: The Government has already withdrawn the notification....

MR. SPEAKER: There is nothing new.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: We are entitled to have the full Report, Sir.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): It is a matter of principle, not that any Member of the Opposition has approached me. On the eve of Holi, some Members of the Opposition were suspended. They were suspended from participating in the Debates but the DA could not be suspended. It has to be restored in a dignified manner. (Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS: We do not want any allowance for suspension period. The suspension should be rescinded.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: You do not want it. But I want a ruling on this. (Interruptions)

I want to raise it as a matter of principle, not that any Opposition Member has told me. I want your ruling. The DA cannot be suspended. That is my submission.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Soz Saheb, please sit down.

(English)

This is not a matter to be discussed here.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You will be given a sympathetic hearing.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi): Mr. Speaker, Sir we do not want D.A. for those days.

(Interruptions)

(English)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I want a ruling. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Sir, my submission is, D.A. may not be given, but suspension may be rescinded. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolgur): We do not want suspension allowance.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: But if we want to give it.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I want a ruling for the future. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur): Add it to the Prime Minister's Fund.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): Sir, may I make a statement? You may find yourself and the whole House may find itself in a highly anomalous position. Because, if you are satisfied after taking advice and all that, that what has been laid is the whole

report and there is nothing further which should or can be laid, and in the meantime before you come to your conclusion, if the portions of the report alleged to be the withheld continue to appear in the newspapers without any contradiction from the Government—they are appearing every day, yesterday, today. *(Interruptions)*

You and the House should not be put in an anomalous position. I do not want you to be put in that anomalous position. You will be in a very embarrassing position, if you are given advice which you accept, on the basis of which you will give a ruling that "What has been laid is the whole report and nothing further should be laid or can be laid...."

MR. SPEAKER: I have to see. I will have to consider what can be done.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: In the meantime without any contradiction from the side of the Government large extracts are being published every day in the Press purporting to be the withheld portions of the report. Then what will happen? The position will be very awkward and it will be highly anomalous.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. I have to look into that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The Government does not make its stand clear.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We are demanding that they should be laid here, but they are being laid on the table of the editors!

MR. SPEAKER: Might be, Might not be; I do not know.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Extracts are appearing in the press.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know what it is.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The Home Minister is here. You can ask him. They are not bothered about finding out how the leakage is taking place.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The Government owes an explanation to you, to tell you what is the position.

MR. SPEAKER: Will, I will see as the situation develops. I do not know. I cannot presume things. I cannot answer hypothetical questions. I have to see what is before me.

● (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Singh. Order, order

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: Mr. Speaker, if I have said that... "....".... I apologise and I hope that portion is expunged, including if the Chair said that I was taking the House for a ride.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no conditional apology in this House. I ask not only you, Mr. Singh, I have asked so many of my friends on the other side also.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I offer an apology to the Chair, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: Thank you. I have got no malicious intentions or anything against any hon. member, mind you. I treat all my members as my masters, my friends and my colleagues. At times there might be differences of opinion but that does not mean that there should be acrimony between us. I do not believe in this. It is not my Chair. It is your Chair. Sometimes somebody else might be sitting here. Today I am sitting. That does not mean that it belongs to me personally. No.

Now we take up Papers to be laid.

Shri B. Shankaranand

12.18 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[*English*]

Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Law and Justice for 1989-90

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Law and Justice for 1989-90. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7646/89]

Notifications under Finance Act, under Customs Act and under Central Excise and Salt Act.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): On behalf of Shri A.K. Panja, I beg to lay on Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 41 of the Finance Act, 1979:-
 - (i) G.S.R. 129 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary General of the United Nations and other members of delegation who visited India from 26th February, 1989 to 3rd March, 1989 from the payment of foreign travel tax.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 345(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th March, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. J. Batmunkh, General Secretary of the Mongolian

People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee, Chairman of the Presidium of the Great People's Khural and other members of the delegation who visited India from 7th to 10th March, 1939 from the payment of foreign travel tax.

- (ii) G.S.R. 346 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th March, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. V.M. Kamentsev, Deputy Prime Minister of USSR and other members of delegation who visited India from 6th to 12th March, 1989, from the payment of foreign travel tax.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 347 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th March, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. Yasser Arafat, President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and other members of delegation who visited India from 9th to 10th March, 1989, from the payment of foreign travel tax. [Placed in Library. See No LT-7647/89]
- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:
- (i) G.S.R. 91 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 32/88-Cus. dated the 1st March, 1988 seeking to revise the fuel-efficiency norms of motor vehicles and extending the validity thereof upto 31st March, 1990.
 - (ii) G.S.R. 92(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 31/88-Cus. dated the 1st March, 1988 seeking to revise the fuel-efficiency norms of motor vehicles and extending the validity thereof upto 31st March, 1990.
 - (iii) G.S.R. 93(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 30/83-Cus. dated the 25th February, 1983 seeking to revise the fuel-efficiency norms of two-wheelers and extending the validity thereof upto 31st March, 1990.
 - (iv) G.S.R. 94(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 210/84-Cus. dated the 1st August, 1984 seeking to revise the fuel-efficiency norms of two-wheelers and extending the validity thereof upto 31st March, 1990.
 - (v) G.S.R. 95(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 254/88-Cus. dated the 8th October, 1984 seeking to revise the fuel-efficiency norms of motor cars and extending the validity thereof upto 31st March, 1990.
 - (vi) G.S.R. 96(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum mak-

ing certain amendments to Notification No. 288/88-Cus. dated the 12th December, 1988 seeking to prescribe a concessional rate of duty in respect of dies, tools, jigs and fixtures imported for the manufacture of auto components.

- (vii) G.S.R. 359(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th March, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 132-Cus. dated the 2nd July, 1980 also as to add four more products of Nepalese Origin to the list of items which qualify for preferential entry into India in terms of the Indo-Nepal Treaty of Trade, 1978. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7648/89]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944:-

- (i) G.S.R. 90(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th February, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 332/86-C.E. dated the 2nd June, 1986 seeking to revise the fuel-efficiency norms of motor vehicles of engine capacity not exceeding 1000 cubic centimeters and extending the validity thereof upto 31st March, 1990. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7649/89]

- (ii) The Central Excise (Second Amendment) Rules, 1989 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 119(E) in Gazette of India dated the 22nd February, 1989. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7650/89]

- (iii) G.S.R. 370(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1989 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 5/88-C.E. dated the 1st February, 1988 so as to substitute for the figures and words "1st March, 1988" by the figures and words "28th February, 1986". [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7651/89]

Notifications under Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings Act, under Regional Rural Bank Act, Report of the Godavari Grameena Bank for Period ending 31.12.87, Report of Kanpur Kshetriya Grameena Bank for period ending 31.12.87 and Consolidated Report of Regional Rural Banks for period ending 31.12.87.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): I beg to lay of the Table:-

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980:-

- (i) The Oriental Bank of Commerce Officers' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 1982 published in Notification No. 3903 in Gazette of India dated 12th March, 1988.

- (ii) The New Bank of India Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 1988 published in Notification No. 5005 in Gazette of India dated the 4th June, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7652/89]

- (2) A copy of the Indian Overseas Bank Officer Employees' (Conduct) Amendment Regulations, 1988 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. REF/HRD/88/7342 in Gazette of India dated the 10th December, 1988, under sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Bank Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7653-89]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 30 of the Regional Rural Bank Act, 1976:-

- (i) The Hindon Gramin Bank, (Staff) Service Regulations, 1988. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7654/89]

- (ii) The Visveshvaraya Grameena Bank, Staff Service Regulations, 1985. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7655/89]

- (iii) The Adhiyaman Grama Bank, Bank Staff Service Regulations. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7656/89]

- (4) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions):-

- (i) Report of the Godavari Grameena Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7658/89]

- (ii) Report of the Kanpur Kshetriya Gramin Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1987 together with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

- (5) A copy of the Consolidated

Report (Hindi and English versions) on the working of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended the 31st December, 1987. [Placed in Library. See No. LT. 7659/89]

Law Commission's Report on High Court Arrears-A fresh Look

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Hundred Twenty-Fourth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Law Commission of the High Court Arrears- A fresh Look. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7660/89]

Annual Report etc of Central Board of Irrigation and Power, New Delhi for 1987-88 and a statement re delay in laying these papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.

- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the paper mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7661/89]

Annual Report of and Review on Trade Development Authority, New Delhi for 1987-88 and a statement re delay in laying these papers, Annual Administrative Report and Review on Tobacco Board, Guntur, for 1987-88 and a statement re delay in laying these papers, Annual Report of and Review on Jewellery Export Promotion Council for 1987-88 etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Trade Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Trade Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88.
- (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 - 7662/89]
- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administrative Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Tobacco Board, Guntur, for the year 1987-88.
- (4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7663/89]
- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council for the year 1987-88.
- (6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above. [Placed in Library. See No.

LT. 7664/89]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88.
- (8) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (7) above. [Placed in Library. See No LT-7665/89]

**Report of the CAG of India for 1987-88
Union Government (Commercial) Part X
- Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore
Ltd. under article 151 (1) of the
Constitution**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1987-Union Government (Commercial) Part X-Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited, under article 151 (1) of the Constitution. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7666/89]

12.19 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

- (i) "In accordance with the provi-

sions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Punjab Appropriation (Vote on Account) Bill, 1989, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 27th March, 1989, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill".

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of Rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Delhi Municipal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1989, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th March, 1989, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

12.19 3-4 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (SIXTY FIRST AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

As passed and assented to

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table a copy, duly authenticated by the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha, of the Constitution (Sixty-first Amendment) Bill, 1988, passed by the House of Parliament during the last session and assented to since a report was last made to the House on the 27th March, 1989.

12.20 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

Grant of Leave to certain Members as recommended in Fifteenth Report

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the /sitting of the House in their Fifteenth Report presented to the House on 30th March, 1989, have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following Members for the period mentioned against each:-

1.	Shrimati Premalabai Chavan	-	30.11.88 to 16.12.88
2.	Shrimati D.K. Bhandari	-	3.11.88 and 4.11.88 & 15.11.88 to 16.12.88
3.	Shri Srikantha Datta Narasimharaja Wadiyar	-	21.2.89 to 15.3.89
4.	Shri S.S. Ramaswamy Padayachi	-	18.8.88 to 24.8.88, 29.8.88 to 5.9.88, 2.11.88 to 4.11.88, 15.11.88. to 16.12.88 & 21.2.89 to 24.2.89
5.	Shri A.B.A. Ghani Khan Choudhury	-	23.8.88, 29.8.88 to 5.9.88, 2.11.88 to 4.11.88, 15.11.88 to 16.12.88 & 21.2.89 to 7.3.89
6.	Shri Bhausaheb Thorat	-	21.2.89 to 10.3.89

Is it the pleasure of the House that leave was granted by the Committee be granted?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. SPEAKER: The leave is granted.
The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.20 3-4 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM THE SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

[English]

Minutes

SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH (Bombay North): I beg to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Sitting of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House held on the 29th March, 1989.

12.21 hrs.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): With your permission, Sir, I rise to announce that Government Business in this House during the week commencing 3rd April, 1989, will consist of:-

- (1) Consideration of any item of Government Business carried over from today's Order Paper.
- (2) Discussion on the Interim and the Final Reports of the Thakkar Commission on the assassination of Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the late Prime Minister and the Memorandum of Action taken thereon.
- (3) Discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of:

(a) Energy

(b) Human Resource Development

(c) External Affairs

(d) Labour

- (4) Discussion under Rule 193 regarding situation arising out of the reported nexus between Afghan rebels and terrorists in Punjab on Wednesday, the April, 1989, at 4 p.m.

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): The following subject may be included in the next week's business:-

The following National Highways have been proposed by Rajasthan Government as "National Expressway System" for the country:-

1. Delhi - Jaipur - Ahmedabad -

Bombay (National Highway No. 8)

2. Agra - Indore - Nasik - Bombay

(National Highway No. 20)

These roads have a very high density of traffic both commercial and tourists. This is an important corridor for the major part of Rajasthan as well as to link Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra and beyond.

It is requested that they may be given top most priority.

12.23 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana) : I want to draw the attention of the Government to the irrigation system for agricultural

fields. Irrigation is mainly done through tubewells, canals and their distributaries. But tubewells remain unoperational most of the time due to faults in power lines and transformers. On the other hand, even the water to be supplied by the canals is stopped or diverted at a short distance from the originating point of the canal. So farmers are not able to get the benefit of the canal water for irrigation and in spite of that, they are made to pay the water charges. Thus in this mismanaged set-up, the farmers have to face two pronged attack.

Hence, I request the Government to emphasise the need of taking corrective steps to improve the entire irrigation system in the country.

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA (Sangrur): The following subject may please be included in the next week's agenda:

The country is anxious to solve Punjab problem. The Government claims to have released Jodhpur detainees but have re-arrested S. Gurcharan Singh Tohra and seventy-eight others under other cases. This has destroyed the climate of gesture. The Government should immediately release the Akali leaders and workers and take effective steps to punish the killers of November, 1984 riots. The Government should ensure that no police repression takes place against innocent citizens. Only this can create congenial atmosphere to solve the Punjab problem.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central): The Border Dispute between Maharashtra and Karnataka is pending for the last thirty two years. Fifteen lakh Marathi speaking people in Belgaum, Karwar and nearby villages are agitating for their merger with Maharashtra. Maharashtra Assembly passed a unanimous resolution for merger of this area in Maharashtra after opinion poll. It is the responsibility of the Central Govern-

ment to resolve this dispute and it should not be left to Chief Ministers of both States. As Marathi speaking people are forced to learn Kannada language, it is causing dissatisfaction. Hence the urgency to solve the problem.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): We, must discuss the alarming price spiral which has made the lives of common people miserable.

The prices of pulses, vegetables, mutton, fish and other articles of mass consumption have been rising continuously. The price of mutton has been rising by Rs. 2 per kilogram every month for the past six months with the result that its price rose to Rs. 40/- per kilogram in March.

Government should take serious notice of this spiral and curb this trend.

[Translation]

SHRI MANKURAM SODI (Bastar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following subject may kindly be included in the next week's list of Business.

Today only those areas of our country as are inhabited by poor, illiterate and backward people are showing an extra-ordinary rate of increase in their population despite the family planning programmes being operated in those areas because these sections of people are lacking in general knowledge as compared to the educated class. Even health services are inadequate in these areas as there are very few doctors and para-medical staff and as a result, all the activities in the hospitals have come to standstill in the absence of required staff. After going in for family planning if the children of a family are affected by any infectious disease, no modern medical facilities are available for them for their proper and timely treatment. Families living in such areas should not be covered under the family planning programmes until there is provision of modern facilities for their medical treatment in these areas.

[Sh. Mankuram Sodi]

Hence, the Centre is requested to give this matter a serious thought and issue directives to the States to make a change in their programmes.

SHRI KRISHNA PRATAP SINGH (Maharajan): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the following subject may kindly be included in the list of Business for the next week.

The number of educated unemployed in our country is increasing day by day. There are lakhs of young doctors, engineers and teachers who remain unemployed after the completion of their education. The announcement for the Nehru Employment Scheme has infused a new hope among the unemployed youth of our country. But this scheme will benefit only those young people who are interested in self-employment.

I urge upon the Government to formulate a scheme that can provide employment opportunities to the highly educated youth of our country.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): The first point I had already raised and the Speaker was kind enough to agree to that. So I leave the first point and raise my second point.

It is most unfortunate that the discussion on question of compensation to Bhopal gas victims, an important matter, is hanging unfinished. In the meantime, new petitions have been filed in the court about the out of court settlement of the Government with Union Carbide and the former judgment with regard to that. This discussion must not remain pending as it is now.

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, it is well-known that India has the largest number of Muslims in the world and every year nearly one lakh Indian Muslims go to Saudi Arabia to per-

form Haj. The Central Government has constituted Haj Committees at various levels for the convenience of Haj pilgrims. The facilities being provided by these Committees are praiseworthy. But recently the Saudi Arabian Government have expressed their inability to provide lodging facilities to the Haj pilgrims from India. This necessitated the Haj Committee constituted by the Central Government to make its own arrangements for the lodging of these pilgrims. For this purpose 1500 Riyals which is equivalent to Rs. 6000 approximately, are being charged from each of such Haj pilgrims. Since this amount is an unbearable burden, a majority of the prospective pilgrims are deprived of performing the Haj Pilgrimage. Persons desirous of going on Haj have demanded that if this much of amount has to be paid compulsorily then it should be made 'voluntary'. The Haj Committee may arrange lodging for those who are willing to bear this surcharge. Other pilgrims will have to make their own arrangements for their lodging.

Hence, I request the Government to give a serious thought to this problem and make the amount of lodging surcharge of 1500 Riyals to be charged alongwith the ticket, 'Voluntary'.

[English]

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South): Sir, I beg to submit that the following items may be included in the next week's agenda:-

Hike in prices of paper unilaterally by paper mills has affected thousands of printers in the country. The printing industry will not be able to manage with the above hike. The price of cream woven paper or white printing paper has shot up from Rs. 12,400 per metric tonne in September 1988 to Rs. 17,000 per tonne now. The prices of other qualities of paper like Maplitho and pump board have also been increased by nearly 35 per cent. The Union Government should allow more import of paper to meet the growing demand.

Secondly, Sir, Karnataka has been receiving power from Ramagundam Super Thermal Plant. Tariff for energy supplied from this plant has been increased, affecting Karnataka State Electricity Board which has been supplying power to irrigation pump sets at ten paise per unit which is far below the production cost. Neither the State Government nor the Central Government is giving any subsidy to Electricity Boards. I request the Government to direct the National Thermal Power Corporation not to increase tariff for energy supplied to Karnataka from Ramagundam Super Thermal Plant.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Sir, I will bring the observations of the hon. Members to the notice of the Business Advisory Committee.

12.33 hrs.

MOTION RE: REPORT OF COMMISSION
ON CENTRE-STATE RELATIONS -
CONTD.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now we shall go to the next item—further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Buta Singh on 30th March, 1989. Shri B.R. Bhagat.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT (Arrah): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, since yesterday, the House has been debating the very important and significant Report of the Sarkaria Commission. The Sarkaria Commission went into the question of the Centre-State relations in all aspects very painstakingly and submitted a very comprehensive report. Basically, the Commission has come to the conclusion that even after the working of the Indian federalism for nearly four decades thirty-seven years or a little more than that—the basic structure and the concept of federalism have stood the test of time and so much resilience has been provided. It also speaks of the new changes that have taken place in

the light of the changes taking place all over the world. In the system of governance of federalism, one trend all over the world is the trend of centralisation—tending to centralise at the top. Because of the dynamic functioning of modern State, the Defence, the industrialisation, the Science and Technology try to enter, pervade all the grounds resulting in the centralisation of powers. But it goes to the wisdom and far-sightedness of the founding fathers of the Constitution to have provided for enough resilience and I want to mention what Dr. Ambedkar the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of the Constitution, had said. He had said that a country like India's diversity, a country of India's regional, linguistic, ethnic, religious and all kinds of diversity can only be welded together in a scheme of federalism. The basic concept of Indian federation is that with a strong Centre, with equally a strong State autonomy and all the powers, distribution of powers, whether legislative or executive powers or the financial powers. I have been provided and put into this so as to make the Indian Centre as strong as well as the State autonomous, resurgent and effervescent. It is not a stagnating kind of State autonomy, but in its source, various things have been provided. He said at that moment of time that the real days of federalism the working of Indian federalism would come one day. Today the Centre as well as the States are ruled by only one party, one political party. But Dr. Ambedkar prophesied that a day will come that there may be a situation where the Centre will be ruled by one political party in the Indian federalism and most of the States will be ruled by different political parties and at that moment of time the working of Indian federalism will come. This is what he prophesied and for that he had provided enough resilience. He had taken care of almost everything. Nobody can take care of the future. Any time a new development may take place and that is to be taken care of. But he was confident and he had spoken in this House that the Indian federal system would stand the test of those days also and those days had come. At first that had arisen in 1957 when as many as in 8 States, the Congress lost the power and at the Centre its

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rule prevailed. Now, today that situation arises that the Congress Party is ruling at the Centre and many parties are ruling in many States. But the point is that Dr. Ambedkar had provided the constitutional forums under various articles. The Sarkaria Commission has gone into this Article of the Constitution which provides for the framework and power between the Centre and the State. But the main point is that it is not the static concept. It is not the static rule under which the provisions guide the constitutional functioning. The Constitution is a living organism. The State is a living organism, the politics is a living organism. Therefore, its functional, its operation norms, the behaviours and the standards that really go into the successful making of the Constitution. And if I use a word which has been used by the Sarkaria Commission that Indian Federation is a cooperative federalism, then confrontation has no place in this. It pains us when we see that people who have been charged with the governance of the State, people who have been working as high functionaries everywhere irrespective of party lines, should be judged by this test and spirit alone. And if we judge whether they are maintaining their standard, whether they are people of higher worth and status, higher moral stature, whether they are people who are committed to the public good, whether they are people who enshrined in them or in their thinking or in their behaviour or their action the national unity of the country, the public good of the country and the functioning in spirit and letter, more in spirit than in letter of the Constitution, well I think there should not be any trouble and there should not be any scope for confrontation because as I say, confrontation has no place. Well, we have inherited the great Indian civilization, Indian unity in diversity. Right from the beginning we have believed in the utmost freedom of the individual, we have believed in the freedom of expression, freedom of religion and freedom of all kinds and we have not given this freedom to ourselves, but we have given this freedom to whoever has come here. These 5000 years of Indian civilization—it

has its own significance, it has its own message, which is unique in this world. Every Revolution has its own message - the French Revolution and the Great October Revolution - but the Indian Revolution, the Indian Independence Movement has its own significance and the federal concept, the federal set up that was established after two-and-a-half years or nearly three years of the formation of the Constituent Assembly, and it has been working for the last 35 years laying down conventions, norms and others go to show that we have a new path, a unique path and this path, as I say, whether you call it Gandhian, whether you call it non-violence, may be that non-violence now prevails, we are happy to say in the international world because it is being accepted, that non—violence should be the guideline of conduct of international relations. That is accepted all over the country. This is at the heart of Indian Revolution, the Indian system and all our institution, whether it is Parliament or the State Assemblies or even now the new institution that has been suggested and that is being taken care of by a proposal that Parliament will be soon seized with the set up of the local bodies, the zila parishad and the panchayat, devolution of power, the third tier in the Indian Revolution. All this goes to show that we are governed by a sense of tolerance, we are governed by a sense of conciliation, not confrontation, and this is the real rub you know, and whoever practises confrontation to follow certain partisan ends is going against the spirit of the Indian Constitution, is going against the spirit of Indian Revolution, is going against the spirit of national movement, the national liberation, and the Constitution, the new polity we set up in this country against the British.

So, coming to that now let us examine what are the recommendations that this Commission had made. Many people have expressed opinion that they are not satisfied. Two extremes follow, you know. There has been a report that the Centre—on the one hand when you say that the Centre should be all powerful, on the other hand now there has been a recommendation to

this Commission that the powers of the Centre should be restricted only to four subjects—Foreign Affairs, Defence, Currency and Communication. These are the two extremes. This was also there earlier times, but this matter was not considered, but it has come, the Commission outrightly rules it out that this is not the scheme in which we are operating. Having decided that now, it says that there is a scope because of the demands of development, there is scope for bringing about some more changes in the Centre-State relations so that States after States irrespective of the political parties which control them, are demanding more and more resources, they say they are short of resources. The Congress ruled State also say the same thing. Even the All India Congress Committee submitted the Report earlier to that effect. We have recognised this fact that the States need more resources in order to fulfil the demands of the removal of poverty. The question of regional imbalance is there. Some States are very much deprived of resource and they fall behind. Others are more advanced. Certain state because of the dynamics of development, have more resources at their command. The other State have less. All these factors are there and we cannot shut our eye to them. There are some of the thing which we have to recognise. We are happy that the Sarkaria Commission went into these questions. I would like to deal with only some of them. Some hon. Members who preceded me have dealt with this and some will follow and certainly my distinguished colleague Shri Somnath Chatterjee, if he going to speak, will do so.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
(Bolpur): I spoke twice yesterday. The first was interim and the second was final.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: Following the concept that federalism is more a functional arrangement rather than cooperative action or a tactic, legalistic, institutional concept, the Sarkaria Commission has suggested certain amendments to the working of the Constitution.

According to me, the most important one is the amendment of Article 258 which provides for devolution of powers to different levels. Already there is a scheme in which there is a suggestion that there should be a third tier of Government also. It has been said that there should be a Financial Commission at the State level as at the Central level which goes into the filling up of the revenue gap. We have two Bodies, the National Development Council, the Planning Commission and the Central Finance Commission. The Central Finance Commission gives a five year review of the expenditure and suggests how the diversion of resources should be made to fill the revenue gap. Similarly, the planning Body, when they finalise the State plans, goes into the resources required and also provide for the capital gap and the transfer of resources. The development of the country has reached a stage that the real administration today at the district level is again centralised in the hands of one person, the District Magistrate. Even the Members of Parliament and of Assemblies are completely at a loss what to do when what they recommend is not implemented. If the District Magistrate is good, he does it. If he is corrupt, everything goes to pieces. This important point has come in that there must be a District Administration. The Zila Parishad is there but, it should be constitutionally recognised as the third tier of the federalism, the Centre, the State and the District. It is suggested that Finance Commission should be appointed regularly so that not only the resources go from the Centre to the States but also from the State to the Zilla Parishad. There is the elected system. I am happy the Prime Minister has taken great pains in this. He has gone to most of the District Magistrates, worked out, and held a debate with the regular Panchayat Bodies or Zila Parishads. It will come before the Parliament in the form of constitutional amendment accepting the spirit of the recommendation. Similarly, it is suggested that the Centre-State relations is a complicated one. That is the real rub of the matter. If the States feel that they do not have resources and have to face problems, then they feel frustrated. Some people say that it

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does not go far enough. Let us examine what they have suggested and how much it can be implemented. For example, they have suggested about States participation. What is important is participation of the State Governments and the Union Government in a cooperative enterprise. That fact has been suggested. They have suggested two institutional forms and one is about the Inter-State Councils. They have suggested a body comprising six Chief Minister and six Cabinet Ministers and the establishment of a Standing Committee, a formal Secretariat and so on and so forth. But the main point is that the real difference can be settled through such a body. For example, even the River Water Disputes go on for a long time, for 20 years. How many years it has taken to clear the Narmada project. In respect of Godavari and Cauvery, how many years it has taken to solve the problem. Let us provide a time-limit to solve the river water disputes—say five years or some such time period. But in many of these cases, it is the regular body, the Inter-State Council which can solve this problem and where the differences can be ironed out, political and other differences.

Further, they have gone on suggesting re-organisation of Zonal Councils and have made certain special recommendations for the North-East Zonal Council. These are worth considering. Of course, they are not a revolutionary kind that can be heard from this side or that side. If at all I have to say anything, I would say that it is a via-media. They have suggested this via media. I think it is worth considering.

Regarding devolution of financial powers, they have made use of Articles 269, 270 and 272. They have also made use of Articles 275 and 282 regarding grants-in-aid and Article 293 regarding loans. They have made very useful suggestions. For example, they have suggested that the Corporation Tax should be transferred to the states and the receipt and revenue should be given to them. Then they have made a suggestion

regarding consignment tax. That is a very important thing. Regarding consignment tax there is no decision yet. Similarly, regarding the creation of National Development Council and Economic Council they have suggested that they should be more functional bodies. There is one thing. Even today, State Plans are determined by the Planning Commission here. They decide as to how much resources should be set apart. I feel it is not fair. I am saying this that it is not a party matter. I know what they are doing. I feel that the States must be given the right to determine their own plan and have their own resources. That is the recommendation made. This can be settled by the National Development Council and the Economic Development Council and this has been recommended. They have already been constituted. This recommendation can also be considered. It can really bring harmonious relationship between the States and the Centre.

There is another important thing. I have my own views about that. I have got very definite views definite view about that. That is regarding the role of the Governors. That is the most contentious issue now. I think there have been Governor and Governors. I would like to say here that I do not agree with the Sarkaria Commission when they say that no politician should be appointed. Where do you find the men?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The point is that no controversial politician should be appointed.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: How will you determine that? How will you determine who is a controversial politician and who is not? You will come to know only when you appoint him....(Interruptions) I remember about the Report of the Nagaland Governor, presented last time. He is a distinguished retired General. His wording of the Report was not like that of a politician's. His wording was most straight forward. He speaks like that. He writes like that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: That

was drafted by S. Buta Singh. (*Interruptions*)

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(S. BUTA SINGH): Shri Somnath Chatterjee
himself is not a controversial Member. (*Inter-
rptions*)

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: Let us follow cer-
tain norms. I agree to one thing. If a person
is appointed as Governor, he should not
seek political office. That is one thing. Last
time, it happened in the sixties during
Panditji's time when Shri Ajit Jain was ap-
pointed Governor. Then he came back and
fought elections. And it was... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : I will
accept Shri B.R. Bhagat as Governor.

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: I do not want to be
a Governor. It is the greatest honour to be a
Member of Parliament. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Do you
want him for your State?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI B.R. BHAGAT: What I am saying
is that the Governor's job is a very honour-
able job in the Constitution. He has not only
to function independently, impartially and
objectively, but should be known to function
like that. The Governor must be above eve-
rything so that he does not possess power.
He possesses the dignity, the honour and
the respect. Once a Governor loses the
respect, he loses everything. As per the
norms, he is there at the wishes of the
President. The President certainly can guide
him. But it will not be in letter; it will not be put
down in writing. The Governor must function
to earn the highest esteem of the people of
the State where he serves. And even that
applies to the judges also. If a judge is
appointed to the Supreme Court, he immedi-
ately become something. The Supreme
Court is the ultimate in our judiciary. Judi-
ary in our country is commonly accepted
above board that what a judge says is the
word of God. He says truth and he will not be
influenced by anything except by the truth

and fair play. If that is not the reputation of a
judge, then the whole democracy will
crumble. One thing which we can prevail
upon is to appoint judges only in exceptional
circumstances. On the other hand, when
there is a demand to appoint the Supreme
Court Judge or the High Court Judge on this
commission or on that commission, the re-
sult is that sometimes, the commission takes
longer and longer time. And once he finishes
the term of a commission, he gets another
commission. It has gone into the vicious
circle. I think, these things can be sorted out
if there is an agreement regarding common
values.

Now in the 37 years of Indian parliamen-
tary system, Indian democracy has estab-
lished such high norms. We have the norms
of the Father of the Nation; we have the
norms of five thousand years of our culture.
Which country has contributed this much to
the human civilization? And if we ourselves
go below that and if we disregard that, what
will happen? Is it not possible that the lead-
ership in the entire country can sit together to
determine a special law? The real trouble
comes from the system of political organisa-
tion. Take for example, the elections. I do not
want to say everything. But I can tell you that
I am the most experienced person in elec-
tions. I have fought all the elections and I
have been here for the last forty years in this
House. I can tell you that there should be a
common conduct among the parties. If you
want to take a partisan advantage, if you
want to have a sectional advantage, the
national advantage will suffer. To the extent
our political system and political parties
maintain the Gandhian standard of higher
values, norms, integrity, dedication to the
service of the country, all the things will work.
The same thing applies in the functioning of
the Indian States also. We have the institu-
tion and those who are manning the institu-
tion, particularly the great people, have set
examples which can be followed by others.
The famous saying is "Mahajana Jay Na
Gata Samanta". We have the example. Why
not follow it? Why not combine all these
things? If we do this, I think, problems can be
solved. The Sarkaria Commission has pro-

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vided some of the answers. We can adopt them. He has said that it is the way in which the cooperative federalism works at a functional and operational level, that will determine the success of it. Let us follow that.

13.00 hrs.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU (Madras North): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity. I am proud to participate in the discussion as a Member belonging to the DMK Party which is the pioneer in advocating the reforms in the Centre-State relations.

In 1969, for the first time in India, Dr. Karunanidhi as the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu constituted a Committee of experts with Dr. P.V. Rajamannar as the Chairman, to inquire into the relations between the Centre and the States and to make recommendations thereto. In that Committee Dr. A. Lakshman Swamy Mudaliwar the Vice Chancellor of Madras University, Thiru P. Chandra Reddy, the former Chief Justice of the High Court of Madras were the other members.

The Rajamannar Committee, as it is popularly called, presented its report in May 1971. Largely based on that report, Dr. M. Karunanidhi, the then Chief Minister who also happens to be the present Chief Minister moved a Resolution on State autonomy in the Legislative Assembly of Tamilnadu. The Assembly discussed that Resolution for five days and for the first time in the history of India a Resolution about the Centre-State relations commending suitable changes and amendments to the Constitution was passed on 20th April, 1974.

The Resolution of a State Assembly and similar such demands from other veteran statesman from various parts of the country were not at all considered by the Central Government for many long years. The Rajamannar Committee has categorically stated that each of the two Govern-

ments—Centre and State—must have power to raise financial resources necessary to perform its executive functions. The power of the respective governments should be independent of each other for, if the State Governments have to depend substantially upon the Central bounty, they might indirectly be deprived of their autonomy in other matters. I want to lay emphasis on this particular sentence.

Such a good recommendation was not at all considered. The Rajamannar Committee report was sent to the then Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Acknowledging the receipt of the Report the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi in her letter dated 22nd June 1971 wrote to the Chief Minister Shri Karunanidhi as follows.

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, this is a discussion about Sarkaria Commission report; but he is speaking about the Rajamannar Committee report.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: I will come to that Rajamannar Commission is the Pioneer of the Sarkaria Commission.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If it is relevant and he is quoting it. I cannot prevent him.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: I quote from the letter of Mrs. Indira Gandhi:

"Dear Thiru Karunanidhi

I have received your letter on the 15th June which you have sent a copy of the report of the Centre—State Relations Inquiry Committee. Your Government will probably examine the recommendations on this report. As you know, the Administrative Reforms Commission also went into this question and has already submitted a report which is under our consideration. If the views of your Government on this matter are made available to us, they will also be taken into account. These are important issues

and we intend to consult all the Chief Ministers.

With regards, yours sincerely, etc."

But the Central Government did not take effective steps in the immediate years to come. The reply of the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi was given in the year 1971. It was only in the year 1983 that Mrs. Indira Gandhi during her second spell as the Prime Minister appointed the present Sarkaria Commission.

Before considering the views of Justice Sarkaria, I want to bring it to the notice of this august House the views of the State Reorganisation Commission Yesterday also some Hon. Members raised this problem. I quote "from the State Reorganisation Commission report:

"The national movement which achieved India's independence was built up by harnessing the forces of regionalism. It is only when the Congress was reorganised on the basis of language units that it was able to develop into a national movement. The Congress under Mahatma Gandhi realised that the same forces which worked for our national unit had also helped to develop the regional languages, which led to the integration and national feeling that helped us to recover our freedom."

Yesterday, some of the Members also spoke about nationality. India, like USSR, Peoples Republic of China, Switzerland, etc. has many nationalities with distinct languages, cultures, religions, traditions and history of their own. Another important factor is the continental geographic dimensions, with different States at different stages of development. In such a case the States are also to be considered as the federating units as the contributing units to the development and unit of Indian sub-continent. As Prof. Toynbee, a great historian observes: The growing consciousness of nationality had

attached itself neither to traditional frontiers nor to new geographical associations but almost exclusively to the mother-tongues. Here I would also like to quote Prof. K.C. Wheav: As a matter of history, federalism has provided a device through which differing nationalities could unite and while retaining their own distinct national existence, attempt to create in addition a new sense of common nationality. Nationalism in a federation can be expressed on at least two levels; it is not exclusive, homogenous passion. But what is the position today after forty years of independence? Even Sarkaria himself admits and as Mr. Ayyapu Reddy quoted I also would like to quote:

"There is considerable truth in the saying that undue Centralisation leads to blood pressure at the Centre and anaemia at periphery. The inevitable result is morbidity and inefficiency. Indeed Centralisation does not solve but aggravates the problems of the people".

This gives the crux of his point. I want to ask this Government and particularly the Home Minister who is here how long are they going to allow the blood pressure and how long are they going to allow the anaemia. That is the question before this Government now. The question is very specific.

Former President, Shri N.Sanjeeva Reddy once said:

"There is no question of parting with anything. The Constitution is there. The point is that the federal structure as envisaged in the Constitution has been eroded somewhat. I am not saying the States should get new or extra powers. I do not think States are thinking along these lines. There are some people who want Education, Health, forestry, everything to come to the Centre, as though at the Centre we have divinely gifted officers who can go and set things right in all those spheres.....some have wrong notions."

Mr. Reddy was a veteran Congress leader. He has been Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and also was a Central Minister. He was also the President of India and adorned the office of the Speaker, Lok Sabha. I further quote:

"President Tito (of Yugoslavia) told me when I was Chief Minister about 20 years ago when he came to Andhra. "Mr. Reddy, your State is two times bigger "...than mine." But a State Chief Minister cannot undertake even small things, a health scheme or a forest developmental scheme or something like that. Officials from the Centre think they have to go from here to do even such things."

Now I want to ask a simple question, whether you are going to allow it or continue with this. For years together we have been debating Centre-State relations. What are the effective steps that the Central Government is going to take in this respect?

What did Mahatma Gandhi think of the Centre—State setup? I want to bring that to the notice of this august House. I am quoting what Shri K Hanumanthaiya said in the Constituent Assembly:

"We were, during the days of freedom struggle, wedded to certain principles and ideologies as taught to us and as propounded to us by Mahatma Gandhi. The first and foremost advice which he gave in his picturesque languages was that the constitutional structure of this country ought to be broad-based and pyramid-like."

Yesterday, some of my friends here advocated for strong Centre, they did not want strong States. But the first and foremost device that Mahatma Gandhi gave in his picturesque language was that the constitutional structure of this country ought to be broad-based and pyramid-like". Further:

"It should be built from the bottom and should taper right up to the top. What has been done is just the reverse. The initiative from the provinces and the States from the people has been taken away and all power has been concentrated in the Centre. This is exactly the kind of Constitution Mahatma Gandhi did not want and did not envisage."

But the problem is that you are not at all remembering Mahatma Gandhi.

Sir, the first and foremost action that should be taken is to form the Inter-State Council. It is the desire of all the State Chief Ministers. That would give a participatory feeling among all the Indian people.

The office of the Governor is a legacy of the British colonial system. The method of appointment of the Governors make it an anachronism in a democratic setup. Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit once said that the Office of the Governor should be abolished. But the problem is that the advice of the veteran leaders, administrative and former Presidents is not followed by this Government. That is my worry.

Now, I come to Article 356 if the Constitution. There is no provision for President's rule at the Centre. Similarly, there should not be any provision for President's rule in the States. It is a word of Damocles hanging upon the State Governments. The State Government are there at the pleasure of the Central Government. If the Central Government wants to do away with the State Government, it can do that within no time even on flimsy grounds. Therefore, provisions like the much misused Articles 356, 357, 360, 365 etc. should be deleted from the Constitution of India.

The Planning Commission should be made a constitutional body with full democratic principles. I want to emphasise this.

Not only that, all the financial institutions like banking institutions, IDBI, Unit Trust of

India, NABARD and other financial institutions' are controlled by the Centre alone. All these institutions should be brought under the Inter-State Council.

The Central Government is having control over coffee, tea, cotton, sugar, tobacco, coal and even TV and radio. Therefore, from morning till night, the Central Government is having control over all things. I want to say that these things should be brought under the control of the Inter-State Council. The second channel of TV should be allotted absolutely to the State Governments. Shri K. Santhanam who was at the helm of affairs as Minister stated once. "Without a definite freedom and initiative on economic issues, the State Governments are bound to be frustrated and impotent.". In the Objectives Resolution which was adopted in the Constituent Assembly on January 22, 1947, it was announced that the Union should have only those three powers of Defence, Foreign Affairs and Communications, which had been conceded to it by the Cabinet Mission and that the States of the Federation shall be 'autonomous units', having all residuary powers left assigning to the Union the three aforesaid subjects, together with those powers which flowed by implication from the powers assigned to the Union. I suggested there should be a permanent solution to the Central-State relations keeping in view the Objectives Resolution adopted by the Constituent Assembly on January 22, 1947. I quote Dr. Chandra Pal who categorically stated 'the demand for state autonomy is not at all incompatible either with the process of nation-building or with national integration. Rather it is essential. The need of the hour is 'Unit' and not 'uniformity'. Unity in diversity cannot be maintained without permitting diversity in unity. Any attempts to crush 'diversity' is fraught with dangerous consequences and may eventually lead to disintegration and balkanisation of the country." For all these things, the only remedy is a suitable amendment of the Constitution. Because according to Lok Nayak Jayprakash Narayan, the constituent Assembly was a 'restricted Assembly'. Therefore, the Constitution framed by

such an assembly should be reviewed and amended suitably. Only then, the Centre-States relations will be maintained.

With these words, I conclude.

DR. G.S DHILLON (Ferozepur): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Sarkaria Commission has indeed come out with a very commendable Report and as an academician and politician, I have studied it with utmost care. Frankly speaking, I thought after reading the Report that I may be able to give you some sort of a solution which I could suggest to our friends who are crying for autonomy, separatism and who are raising all sorts of slogans.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: Sir, I did not say separatism. I said only autonomy.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: I am not talking about you. I am talking about Punjab. I have got nothing to do with DMK or AIADMK..... (Interruptions)..... Now, let me know whether or not you have heard of separatism, Khalistan and other things being uttered in Punjab. I am talking of Punjab. Members have talked about function and domin of Governors, the Chief Ministers and various other subjects. They have also given some suggestions.

May I also invite your attention, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, to the views expressed in this House on other occasions and also views expressed by various courts and Supreme Court. Always, whenever a Governor submits the proclamation orders, we have been facing many other problems like the dissolution of the Ministry, wrong acts by the Governors or wrongly ousting a certain Ministry, then having a gap and then proclaiming something else. when I was the Presiding Officer of this House and even later on several times the Speakers conference have been coming out with various resolutions that no Ministry can be dismissed or no President's Rule can be brought in unless the test of the majority or the minority be gone through. They have come to one conclusion that when one tests

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the majority of a certain party, then it must be done on the floor of the House. You must bring it before the House. I have seen the maximum number of President's Rules in Punjab. I was there as Speaker and as Minister also for quite a long time. When I came here I saw the other side also. It sorts of proposals come from various States, sometimes Governor questioning the majority of a particular party and saying that they have lost the majority and the other party saying, no, they have not lost the majority and all that. This thing happened many a time.

The basic problem of the Indian federalism is that we have a unique system. I am a student of Political Science and Economics. Federalism is not of only one type, as we see in our country. It has various shapes. It is also there in the Soviet Union. You have various nationalities being accommodated within the same type of federal system, the republic, the autonomous regions and so on,, and they are functioning in a perfect successful way. Some people ask me as to what is the reason for their success. The secret for their having unity in diversity is that we follow the principle of one party one ideology. We have in our country a multi-party system and we have people having different ideologies and different political thoughts. We have another type of federalism in Canada, U.S.A. and in Australia. Our Indian Parliamentary system is based on the Westminster system of Parliamentary democracy. Now, we copy a system from England which in itself is a unitary government. There is not a federal system. Without being a unitary country, we have imported into this country a system which suited their Parliament, their history and their tradition. We tried to grasp it and fit it in to our federal system, a unique federal system where we say that ours is a federal system but basically and in essence it is unitary, as mentioned by my friend Mr. Somu from the other side.

I happened to be in Canada for two years and there the States are more power-

ful. The Lt. Governors, as they are called, have much more scope for functioning. They are not controversial at all because of the election system. So is the case in the USA. But it is not the case in Australia. Now we have a mixture of so many things in our system, some from the UK, some from Canada and some from Australia, all based on the Westminster pattern. But at the same time in the case of the President and the Vice-President, and the Vice-President being the Chairman of the Senate, we have imported it from the USA. So, we seldom find any parallels whereby we can judge as to what type of a solution can be found if some problem arises. If there are parallels we can study them and try to solve our problems on that basis. But there is none. Still, in spite of that, this system has functioned well. It has lots of flexibility and elasticity in it.

My friend Mr. Somu has said, perhaps more in anger that Articles 356, 357, 354 and so many other articles are of no use and they should be scrapped. But they are the very essence of our federalism because they are the articles on which the unity of this country is based. They are the basic articles and if you scrap them, what will you bring in their place? He did not mention anything about it. In my view they are the basic articles and it is very necessary to have them in a country like ours to maintain our independence, integrity and unity.

Sir, the Governor is a vital link between the Centre and the State. Now the Commission has laid down certain criteria as regards the qualifications of the Governor. The Commission is also of the view that there must be consultation between the Chief Minister and the Central Government and he must be acceptable to the State. At the same time, the report has suggested that whenever Governor sends any report to the Centre, that must be shown to the Chief Minister. The monthly reports must be shown to the Chief Minister. When the Governor makes an assessment or an analytical study of the situation that grows up from month to month, it should be his duty to take the Chief Minister into his confidence as

to what his findings are, what his explanation is and what his suggestions are, instead of sending just one-way report every month without the knowledge of the State Government. The Sarkaria Commission has suggested a very valuable solution to the effect that that report should be a mutually studied report.

As far as Punjab is concerned, it is so bad that we have only a memorandum from Punjab but we did not have any representative meeting the Commission on behalf of various groups of Akalis. The Akalis have been basing their demands on autonomy—on Anandpur Sahib Resolution. We have been trying to find out what is this autonomy. At one stage the last Finance Minister—I think he was the Finance Minister in the earlier Ministry also—came out and said that they wanted a fiscal autonomy. I could not understand what this fiscal autonomy means. There is no instrument presented to Central Government at any stage. That was the best opportunity for them to come to the Commission and explain as to what sort of autonomy do they want. This word "fiscal autonomy" is a meaningless word. I find it is missing in the whole Report of the Commission.

If they want that nobody should be accountable to anybody—whether it is the Planning Commission or the Finance Ministry or the finance Minister—that all the finances should be at the discretion of the Finance Minister that type of autonomy of course they exercise will be difficult to give. But anyway politically this word which I have heard for the first time should have been here. I can understand that certain Departments, certain portfolios which are with the Centre may be brought back to the State as and when the situation demands. Take the case of Agriculture. As an Agriculture Minister—though it is State Subject, what the Agriculture Ministry was performing is research, finances, imports, exports and improvement of seeds etc—I always thought, even when I appeared before the Commission, that such a subject of agriculture being on the State List is meaningless. That was the reason why sometimes that sort of ar-

rangement had to be gone into. That is not bad, So far as the whole national demand is concerned, there is not harm if such subjects come to the Centre under the concurrent list.

Here are my suggestions. My friends on the Opposition must have seen so many articles appearing even in the leading papers regarding Agricultural Income Tax. It is a very controversial subject. This Commission had stated that if this concept of tax on agriculture income is accepted, then the States will have to forego some sharable part from excise and other taxes. If you gain on one side and lose on the other, I do not see any reason why it should be accepted. Income Tax on agriculture is a very sensitive issue and the government of India should not accept it without seriously consulting all the State Governments and the interests concerned. We tried to approach some Leaders in Punjab and some Parties in Punjab in order to know what really are their demands. They said, "All right. We are all ready work within the constitution;" But then they started mentioning the British restoration of certain concepts like sharing of the various portfolios. After the 1935 Act there was an exercise for two years, on what sort of federalism will suit India. All parties were concerned, a the basic structure suggested was, as my friend mentioned, that foreign affairs, defence, communications, currency, etc. will be with the Central Government, and all the other with the States.

In the mean time the War came. The subject was taken up when the Cripps Mission and Cabinet Committee came here. They started from the same base, with the Centre these four subjects with the centre and all others with the States. But strangely enough, he quoted some other friend but I quote Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru himself, what he said in December 1946. He mentioned these four departments and then he did not mention about the residuary powers or the other subjects—he just said, "and all others, on the basis of autonomy." It was only, I think it was only due to Dr. Ambedkar's efforts that this concept was given up and the concept of a strong Central Government

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besides these four subjects—sharing many other heads of income, many other subjects, the present federal system, was brought about.

I am so happy that the Sarkaria Commission have in their own way upheld the federal system that we adopted. Hypertension or blood pressure or anaemia are on one side, I quite agree with that.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is on the other side.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: Unity in diversity cannot be the same old concept as it was at the time of framing of the Constitution. diversity has increased, unity is on the decreasing side. I think if you remove the anaemia from one side and turn to the other side and say, that we are suffering from blood pressure then the blood pressure may be moved to the other side and anemia will come to this side.

(Interruptions)

We have reached such a stage. It needs a serious effort now to examine it. It is not a question of amending the Constitution here or moving some other amendment here. It is a question of seriously thinking about this tendency of diversity, and it is not because they are prompted by others. It is because it is the need of the hour, because we have reached a stage when we must revive our old culture.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI(Guwahati): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the demand for the review or a re-structuring of the Centre-State relationship has been on the national agenda for quite some time, and we have the report of the Sarkaria Commission before us today. But I find that whenever a discussion on Centre-State relationship crops up, it suffers from two great mistakes. One is that when somebody asks for more power to the States, it is interpreted as if granting of more

powers to the States will mean weakening of the Centre, or those who advocate re-structuring of the Centre-State relationship giving more autonomy in the sphere of administration or in the sphere of financial matters, do it in order to weaken the Centre.

The second fallacy seems to be that it is almost taken for granted, as if it is a fight between the Congress and the Opposition or between the party which is in governance in the Centre and those parties which are in opposition to the party in power in the States. I believe that is not correct. Those who advocate for greater power to the States do not want a weak Centre. I would not like the Centre to be weak. Of course the word 'Centre' is no more because the Constitution has not used the word 'Centre' and used the words 'Union of States', but as in common parlance the word 'Centre' is used, I will also use the same word. If the Centre becomes weak, necessarily the States also will become weak. But if the States become weak, the Centre can never be strong. I feel that one can compare the relationship with that of a body. If the Centre is the heart, then the States are the limbs. If the heart is very strong and if one has paralytic limbs, then the body can not be strong. Equally the limbs cannot be strong if the heart is weak and therefore what is required is, a balance in the field of administration, in the field of legislation as well as in the field of financial relationship. This problem of Centre-State relationship is not new. This problem did not come up in the political agenda virtually till 1967 though there was some ripple in 1959, when the first Communist Government, E.M.S. Namboodiripad Government was thrown out in exercise of the powers under Article 356 of the Constitution. The reason primarily was that up to 1967, the same party ruled both the States and the Centre and the other reason was that the States had certain personalities, who could talk in equal terms with the leadership at the Centre. We had for example, men like Gopinath Bardoloi, B.P. Chaliha, Bidan Roy who could call Jawaharlal by his first name, Sampooranand, G.B. Pant, Kamaraj, Y.B. Chavan, who has tremendous outstanding abilities as statesman

and whose voices carried weight with the Centre. But unfortunately after 1967, because of the aberrations of the political process, no outstanding person was ever allowed to come up in the States, with the result the people of the States have felt humiliated. Why is it that a party like Telugu Desam has really come into the political scene in Andhra Pradesh? Why is it that a party like Assam Gana Parishad has come in Assam? Certain things, one must consider in depth.

Let us not forget that even in 1977, when the Congress party was routed virtually all over the country, it is in Andhra Pradesh, out of 42 seats, 41 seats were won by Congress. Let us not forget that even in 1977, the year of holocaust for Congress, in Assam out of 14 seats, 10 seats were won by Congress. Why is that Telugu Desam suddenly cropped up like a batholith? It is because the pride of the people was hurt, people felt that even for a small matter if the State Chief Minister should come to Delhi and be under its dictate, then he is not worth his salt, and the people wanted the Government which can give certain amount of credibility and respect to its people. This pride is an inherent trait of the Indian people and unless our political relationship is based in which this point is reflected in the day-to-day governance of this country, the relationship will be strained and I do not think that the country will progress or prosper. The second reason is, history has amply proved that it is not that the country has disintegrated because of a liberal approach, the country has disintegrated whenever there has been over-centralisation. The most prosperous time of our history has been that of Asoka or Akbar when there was liberalism and the country disintegrated at the time of Aurangzeb, not that Aurangzeb was a corrupt ruler, but because there was too much of over centralisation. In fact, the Sarkaria Commission has taken note of it. One can point out that at page 5 of its report, when it dealt with the perspective, it says:

"Another significant fact that stands out in India's history is that the prov-

inces and the local Governments in the various empires, from the Mauryas to the Mughals, enjoyed considerable degree of autonomy. As noted by the historian, Sri Jadunath Sarkar, in ancient empires "each province led its own life, continued its old familiar system of Government (though under the agents of the central power) and used its local language".

Whenever an over-ambitious emperor attempted centralisation by steam-rolling the local autonomy, it evoked strong resentment and reaction. Such extreme centralisation proved not only detrimental to administrative efficiency, but, in counter-effect, weakened the capacity of the Central power to maintain its hold over sub-national forces on a stable and enduring basis."

If we look round the country today, it will be apparent that too much of over-centralisation has really given rise to the forces of disintegration. Also one must remember that in a country like India, if people are to prosper, if our planning process is to gain momentum, if the money spent for the planning process is to reach the people, it is possible only through decentralisation of power and there I will say that when I advocate for Centre and State relationship, I do not mean relationship merely between the Centre and the State. If the relationship ends there, we cannot get the best of the world. The relationship must further percolate. There must also be a relationship with healthy autonomy to the local bodies. That is why probably Gandhiji talked in terms of giving full autonomy to the villages and his emphasis was on *Gram panchayats*. But one cannot go in a debate of this nature in depth and in detail of these aspects and, therefore, I will refer to some of the particular provisions which need today perhaps a scrutiny.

Coming to the administrative relations, obviously one of the articles which has been mentioned by all the speakers has been article 356—the article under which the President's rule is imposed on the States.

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When in the Constituent Assembly this article was being debated, there were many speakers who expressed the apprehension that this article will be misused and this will be used as a plan to throw overboard the constitutionally elected State Assemblies. Dr. Ambedkar, while replying to the debate, pointed out and said that this has been kept there as a safety measure. He was of the view that this will not be brought into operation. I may quote again from Sarkaria Commission when it quoted Dr. B.R. Ambedkar having said: "In fact, I share the sentiments—the sentiments that there is possibility of this article being abused or employed for political purposes." But then he said: "Such articles will never be called into operation and that they would remain a dead letter." But if one goes through the Sarkaria Commission's Report, one finds that immediately after the Constituent Assembly passed the Constitution, Dr. Ambedkar, in 1953, while participating on the discussion on President's rule in PEPSU, had to strongly criticise the action of the Government of imposing the President's rule in PEPSU. The Sarkaria Commission itself has given illustrations of umpteen number of times when article 356 has been misused or even has been used to settle party quarrels of the Congress party. My own feeling is that it is not that the Constitutional machinery may break down only in the States, the Constitutional machinery may break down even at the Centre. But if the Constitutional machinery breaks down at the Centre or even if the Union Government acts unconstitutionally, there is no provision of a President's rule and rightly so, the whole thing is left to the people to decide ultimately after five years whether that government which acted unconstitutionally or made mincemeat of the Constitution, should be retained in power, and I believe that the same principle should exist so far as the States are concerned, except probably for one case that if no party enjoys the confidence of a legislature, or is in a position to rule the State, in that case one may think of imposition of President's rule. In all other

cases, in my respectful submission, the State should have the full right to continue its full tenure and it should be left to the people to judge whether the action of the State has been correct or not. Let us not forget that even on more occasions than once, the people have rejected the Central Government's decision under article 356 and the example of Andhra Pradesh stands as supreme. When the NTR Government was brought down, the people with overwhelming majority brought back NTR. Who really made a mockery of the Constitution, who really acted unconstitutionally? It is the Central Government. But the Central Government even if it acts unconstitutionally, is not thrown overboard. It is given full power for five years and ultimately after five years, the people will decide I believe that the same principle should apply under Article 356 of the Constitution.

My second point will be that so far as the Bills are concerned, today there are guidelines under which the Governor can refer a Bill to the President. If a State Assembly has sovereign power to legislate on the subject mentioned under the List II, any legislation passed by the State legislature under List II, should never come to the Government of India or to the President for their assent. We have been given the powers and the Sarkaria Commission has also given a number of instances where Bills have remained for consideration with the President for 12 years. Now, if the Bills remain for 12 years in the file of the President, then what is the purpose of passing a Bill? I believe that the provision by which the Governor is allowed to refer the Bills without any guidelines should be done away with. There are certain specific provisions that in particular cases where a Bill is affecting a particular constitutional provision, the Bill is to be referred to. Well, that may remain there. But in all other cases, the Bill passed in the legislature within the constitutional power should be given immediately assent. If the State legislature passes a Bill which is beyond its constitutional power, after all, the courts are there. Whenever a Bill is brought forward in this House by Mr. Chidambaram, even if he

feels that it is beyond the legislative competence of the Parliament, the Parliament does not give its final approval or reject the Bill. Obviously, the Speaker says that the court will ultimately decide and the same principle should apply here also.

My third point is regarding Emergency provisions. This is one point on which the Sarkaria Commission has not given its opinion. The view of the Sarkaria Commission was that after the internal Emergency has been taken out of the purview of being a consideration point of Emergency, well, all parties expressed the view that Emergency provision, as it is, may remain. A new situation has developed because internal disturbance today has been introduced in the Constitution itself as a ground on which Emergency can be promulgated. This is the united view of the House because Mr. Y. B. Chavan, after the 1977 Election, speaking on behalf of the Congress Party, gave an assurance to the country that we have learnt a lesson from Emergency and that internal emergency can no longer be made on the ground for Emergency and provisions of Emergency should be brought back to that situation in which the Janata Party brought it after the amendments. So far as Article 294 is concerned, the Article was made operative by Mr. Chidambaram but was not given effect to a legislation. I am strongly opposed to it because I believe that is a very dangerous Article 249 by which the Rajya Sabha, by 2/3rd majority, can make all subjects Concurrent without a Constitutional amendment and in the Rajya Sabha 7 States of the nominated Members can get 2/3rd majority. After all, this Article remained dormant and even Mr. Chidambaram after taking recourse to Article 249 having passed a resolution, the Rajya Sabha has failed to bring forward a legislation. I feel that dangerous legislation like this should not remain.

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): Sir, he is giving credit to me. But

Article 249 was brought forward by Mr. Madhu Dandavate.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: May be. But Mr. Madhu Dandavate did not introduce that law. My own feeling is that Article 249 should be removed from the Constitution of India.

Sir, Article 3 says that the Parliament can change the boundaries of the State. The Article is so framed that what is required under the constitutional provision is that any Bill which is brought forward to amend the boundaries or change the boundaries should be given an opportunity of the discussion in the State Legislature. But there is nothing in the Article itself that the opinions expressed by the State Government or the State Legislatures should ever be considered by the Union Government or the Parliament. There is no provision for consultation with the State Government. After all, the boundary of a State will be drawn and I can understand here that it will be too much to ask for concurrence because no State will agree for the reduction of its boundary, even if it wants to, because of political considerations. But there should be a specific provision for consultation and also provisions that the opinions expressed by the State Legislatures on it should be given due consideration by the Government or by Parliament, before the boundary is re-drawn.

So far as the Governor is concerned, my own submission is, all throughout, this is one office which is not accountable under the Constitution. The President of India can be impeached, the Vice-President of India can be brought down by a resolution. There can be impeachment proceedings against the judges of the High Courts and the Supreme Court. There can be no-confidence motion against the Prime Minister. But you cannot discuss the Governor even if he acts thoroughly and totally unconstitutionally. The provision should be made that the Governor is accountable under the Constitution may be in whatever form whether you want to bring impeachment proceedings or through a resolution. I do not understand as to why the Governor's office should be kept out of

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the purview of the Constitution itself, when similar provisions are available to the President. The President is a more important and more honourable person. We can discuss him here, and his conduct, here through impeachment proceedings. We can discuss about the judges of the Supreme Court, through impeachment proceedings. But we cannot discuss the conduct of a Governor, even if he acts unconstitutionally. I believe, specific provision to this effect in the Constitution would have an effect in the functioning. It is unfortunate that the whole-some recommendations made by the Sarkaria Commission regarding the appointment of Governor, qualifications of Governor and certain other matters have been thrown over-board by the Government immediately after this report was presented to the Government. One of the recommendations, I think, a very laudable recommendation has been that in Opposition-ruled States, an active politician should not be sent as Governor. After all, it is not that we have got that bad personality who cannot be sent as Governor, being an active politician. But we know what happened in Kerala. The Governors who are having harmonious relations with the State Government have been changed. The Governors who are at loggerheads with the State Government have been changed. This shows the mala fide of the Government. Therefore, I believe, the qualifications and the conditions laid down regarding the Governor should be given immediate effect to.

So far as the deployment of armed and para military forces is concerned, the consultation should be made and it is mandatory, so that there may not be controversies like the controversy in Tripura when a lot of allegations and also counter-defence came from this side and from Mr. P. Chidambaram. I believe, if not consent, at least active consultation should be there. So far as legislative relationship is concerned, we have already submitted that the legislative relationship should require a fresh review. After all, industry is a State subject. The Constitution says, certain industries, which are in the

national interest, can be also legislated by the Union. But the list is ever-growing and if I am not wrong, today hurricane lamp is a subject which has come in the purview of the Union list. I do not know how hurricane lamp gets a subject of national importance that Parliament is to legislate. The regulation under the development of oil fields is in the Central list. The result has been, every time, for royalty, we have to come with a begging bowl to the Government. In fact, so far as Assam is concerned, our royalty due from 1-4-1987 to 1-4-1989 is to be revised. The revised royalty has not been made available either to Assam or to Gujarat or to other States. Why do you not make it that States where mineral deposits are there should get some share of profit which the Union Government or Parliament decides? Therefore, my submission is that this should be done.

I agree with the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission that on subjects of Concurrent list, whenever the Union brings a Bill, there should be consultation between the States and the Union.

I will complete by just making a small reference to the financial relationship. If really a State should be autonomous with certain powers, the States must have certain amount of financial viability. A State without financial viability will always be depending upon the Centre and therefore the financial relationship should be so structured that the State may have financial viability. Let us not forget that the political equations may change tomorrow. If the Constitution remains as such, the frictions will continue. I believe that there has been fraud on the Constitution when income-tax is not taken as income-tax, but the same tax is put as surcharge and the States are denied of its share, it is nothing but a fraud on the Constitution. When basic excise duties are not drawn as basic excise duties but are drawn as surcharge thereby denying the States of their share, it is nothing but fraud on the Constitution. Here the Sarkaria Commission made some recommendations. I am not fully satisfied. In fact, I am totally dissatisfied with the recommendations of the Sarkaria

Commission on the administrative, legislative and financial relationship. But, some of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission will definitely improve matters and I think we will go a long way if these recommendations are accepted but I have no illusion that this Government will accept the recommendations. There may be some cosmetic changes but the cosmetic changes will not improve the atmosphere and if we want the country to prosper, if we want that the administration should go to the people, if we want participation of the people in the administration, then a total restructuring of the financial, administrative and legislative relationship is necessary and when I advocate this, I do not advocate in order to weaken the Centre. I feel that if we do this, not only the States will be stronger but the Centre will also be stronger and India will prosper.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri R. L. Bhatia, today is Private Members day. Please be brief.

SHRI R.L. BHATIA (Amritsar): I will only raise two points as all the points have been covered. I congratulate the Sarkaria Commission on the commendable role which they have played. All the political parties and all the other factions have given their representation and presented their points of view. The Sarkaria Commission have gone into very deeply into all the aspects and has given a very good report.

The founding fathers made this Constitution a two-tier system, the Union as well as the States. In that Constitution, they had earmarked certain areas and functions of the Union as well as the States. All these years, this Constitution has been functioning well and we have been able to achieve much of the progress in this country because of the Constitution. The founding fathers had one point in their mind, the unity and integrity of the nation. Therefore, they emphasised on the role of the Union or a strong Centre. The Centre is in a position to acquire all these powers and then utilise them in the fashion that it will be equitable to all the States. So,

it is not a question, as some friends have raised it, of States Versus. Centre or Centre Versus States. I think, both need to be strengthened and the strength will lie in the cooperation between the States and the Centre.

14.04 hrs.

[SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI *in the Chair*]

Mere provisions of the Constitution or amendment in the Constitution will not bring that unity. The best thing is that there should be consensus on national issues and they should be discussed and solved amicably.

Shrimati Indira Gandhi, keeping in view the aspirations of the people and the various points of view which were raised in this connection, for the development as well as due to social changes, set up this Sarkaria Commission which has taken full five years to conclude and they have taken almost all the aspects of the problems facing the country. There are two points which have been raised by the Opposition by some of the friends. The first is the financial power and the other is the role of the Governor.

With regard to the financial powers, I think, the Centre must have those powers because the Centre has a responsibility to all the States. They have to see to the needs of the States and go ahead accordingly. As we see in the case of floods, the amount lying with the Centre or the power the Centre has, should be distributed according to the needs of the people. I think, this is a very good system. This must continue.

With regard to Governors, much discussion has taken place. Mr. Sarkaria also discussed from various angles. Governors are appointed at the pleasure of the President. He has said that any Governor whose services are dispensed with, in that case the explanation should be taken. If it is the appointment made at the pleasure of the President then displeasure should also be with that of the President. So, it is not necessary

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that the Governor must be asked as to what are the reasons and explanations should be taken. Why I am saying this is because the Governor has a very crucial role to play. Between the Centre and the State, he is the liaison. He carries out the wishes of the Centre and also the aspirations of the Government. He sends the report to the Centre based on his judgement. He is not interested in anything. But all that he feels is that he must report and on the basis of that, the Centre acts.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla): It all depends on the type of the Governor.

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: You have said about the type of the Governor. I see how many good people have been the Governors. The hon. Vice-President was a Governor. Prof. Nurul Hasan has been a Governor. All the big dignitaries have been Governors. Prof. Nurul Hasan continues to the Governor. I am just giving you some examples. Such dignitaries are there. There should be no doubt about it. You should not doubt the intention of the Governor. You may be a Governor for a day also.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: Who knows it? You should have some good people in your mind. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: It has been suggested that there should be an Inter-State Council. I don't agree with this. There are already the National Economic Council, the National Development Council and there is the Planning Commission. There is the Finance Commission. All these bodies are there. They are working very nicely. So far as the national Development Council is concerned, it meets periodically in which the Chief Ministers are Members. They put forth their point of views regarding their States, etc. Deliberations take place. Certain recommendations are made on the basis of which the Centre takes the decision. I think, this is a good system. This should continue. There is no need of having any Inter-State

Council and all that. Similarly, the Planning Commission is there. The Planning Commission discusses with the States about their plans and the Central Plans. They are mutually discussed. Finally, they mutually arrive at a certain decision and they decide the areas in which they should play their role. Since it is based on consensus and discussion, the Planning Commission is also doing a good job. Therefore, we need not have any Inter-State Council in this regard.

Sir, India is a vast country. There are various problems. Some of the areas are not that developed and some other areas are more developed. So, in order to keep the development at the national level, the Planning Commission is playing a crucial role. Similarly, the Finance Commission has done a commendable job in meeting the needs of the States. In a developing economy, all these States want more money. They want more powers, they want more financial powers so that they may be able to develop their States. But the Centre, as a whole, has to see the common development of the whole nation. Of course, their demand for more money is genuine. There is no denying the fact. Everybody would like to have more money for the development. But the basis should be not such legislations or powers. The best thing is that they must come out with their demands, come out with their needs, discuss with the Centre and amicably they can go ahead with those schemes. The Centre has always catered to the needs of the States. It is because of the fact that if the States are developed, then the whole of India is developed. I would like to quote another thing. My hon. friends mentioned certain things that certain parties did something, when they came to power. Shri Dinesh Goswami has just referred to the case of Andhra Pradesh that the Governor dismissed that Government and all that. I will just refer to it. In 1977, how many Congress Governments were dismissed by Janata Party? What was the basis? Nine Governments were dismissed. So, it is not the question as if the Congress Party has removed Mr. N.T.R. but that party also did the same

thing. My only view is that, these changes will not bring development, will not satisfy the States. The real thing is the mutual discussion. The real thing is to build the consensus in this country because this Constitution is based on consensus. There were different points of view. They were brought into the statute book, in this Constitution. Similarly, if this attitude continues, if the States do not look to the Centre in the shape of confrontation, but if there is cooperation between the States and the Centre, there will be certainly development and there will be no problem. My only request is that we should stress on cooperation rather than on these legal terminologies and others.

Lastly, I would say that Akali Party had put their case before the Sarkaria Commission. You have put your Anandpur Sahib Resolution. Frankly speaking, there are so many types of Anandpur Sahib Resolutions. There are various interpretations. You may be having one interpretation. Other party may be having other interpretation. But now, since this has been put to the Sarkaria Commission and Sarkaria Commission has given their verdict, I think, now the Akali Party will not again repeat Anandpur Sahib Resolution because this has been discussed at the highest forum and they should be satisfied with the Report of the Sarkaria Commission. I am sure, Mr. Ramoowalia will appreciate the work done by the Sarkaria Commission. It is commendable.

Finally, again, I will repeat that the Sarkaria Commission Report should not be looked from a particular angle party angle, group angle or from a certain area angle. This should be looked as a Report which has taken care of all the areas, all the aspirations of States. There should be cooperation in dealing with the problem rather than confrontation.

[Translation]

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Hon. Madam Chairman, I would like to say a few words on the recommenda-

tions of the Sarkaria Commission on the Centre State relations Our nation requires a strong Centre. There is unity in diversity in our country. In the midst of many diversities there cannot be a weak Central Government. Alongwith that, our Constitution also envisages independent status to the States to function and the develop their own resources. I therefore wish that the present relations has envisaged in the Constitution should continue.

Only the States can effectively oversee and implement programmes in the field of agriculture. Food production and other related functions are entirely carried out by the States. I therefore plead that in respect of agriculture exclusive powers should be given to the States. Constitution also says powers in regard to education up to college level should be given to the States. However, University education should be handled by the Central Government. University education is vital for human resource development. That should therefore be under the dispute Central Government States. The Cauveri river water dispute is an example. The surplus water in river Cauveri is wasted in the ocean. But the Tamil Nadu farmers do not have enough water for the crops. A separate Commission for apportioning river waters between the States should be appointed which should function under the Central Government. All river water disputes should be settled within a time frame of 5 to 6 years. Whenever you ask the Central Government to settle a river water dispute, the Government gives a routine reply that the matter will be referred to a Tribunal. This is a delay tactics. This is not going to help economic development. Therefore the Central Government should takeover the powers of resolving river water disputes. Central Government should have power to distribute surplus water to the State which are scarce in water supply. Recently the Karnataka Chief Minister has declared that he was not supplying water to the Tamil Nadu Government on the distates tactics of the Central Government but of his own after a request had been received from the Tamil

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

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Nadu Government. He has said that the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu requested him to supply water and he had agreed to supply. That is a very good thing. Let both of them decide without disturbing the Central Government. That is a welcome thing. But now the Karnataka Chief Minister is telling that he has to check up whether water is available in the river for supply to Tamil Nadu. He also says that the coming talks between both the Chief Ministers will be the final talks on the matter. This is creating confusion. I therefore plead that powers to adjudicate river water disputes should vest in the Central Government.

I would also like to draw the attention of the Government to certain works undertaken by the State Governments without proper approval of the Planning Commission. The Telgu Ganga Project of the Andhra Pradesh Government is an example. The Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister says that permission of the Planning Commission is not necessary. Whether the Planning Commission permits or not, he says he will execute the scheme. This is a very serious matter. Planning Commission is an important body of the Central Government. The Planning Commission was first appointed by the Congress during the days of Nehru. It is an organisation of repute and taken up it cannot be allowed to be ignored in this manner. A firm steps has to be taken up by the Central Government against such moves. There are many non-Congress Governments with separatists demand which are functioning in this country with an ulterior motive of weakening the Central Government. Therefore in this context a strong centre is an imperative need.

About the appointment of the Governors the Commission has recommended that the Chief Ministers concerned should be consulted before making appointment. This I think is a weak proposal. Governors should be independent and strong. *They should be appointed by the Central Government. They are the administrative heads of the State*

Governments. If consultation of the Chief Ministers is required for their appointment then that would very much undermine the institution of Governors. A kind of notion will be created that a particular Governor has been appointed on the recommendation of a Chief Minister. This is incompatible with the constitutional provisions. Therefore this recommendation should not be accepted.

I would also like to refer to certain incidents which happened in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. The Leader of the Opposition in Tamil Nadu Assembly wrote certain letter to the Speaker. That was an intra-party affair. Let us not go into that. She gave that letter to somebody and seems to have instructed to deliver it to the Speaker. Subsequently for reasons best known she reversed her decision. Newspapers reports say that she has subsequently instructed to destroy that letter. But the letter was seized by the police before its destruction without any authority. It was a confidential letter addressed by the Leader of the Opposition to the Speaker. The police exceeded their authority when they opened the envelop containing that confidential letter. It was delivered to the Speaker. This House must decide whether a confidential letter addressed by the Leader of the Opposition to the Speaker can be seized and its confidentiality violated by the police? This has led to many problems in the State Assembly. How the letter reached the hands of the Speaker is still a puzzle. This definitely a breach of privilege of the Leader of the Opposition. This was raised by the Congress Members in the Assembly. It was not allowed and on the other hand violence was unleashed on them. Bharathi, the great poet sang as follows:

"Mother Bharat has 30 crores faces
but her body is one
she speaks 18 languages
but her philosophy is one
Vedas reside in her tongue.
She has sacred sword in her hand
She blesses the good
and destroys the wicked.

Bharati personified this land as a women, but

in the Assembly, violence was committed on a woman. That is the greatest insult on womanhood and the whole world should hang their head in shame. Hon. Shri Somu while speaking showed a photograph to support his statement the Chief Minister was also injured. But whatever happened in the Assmbley happened under the very nose of the Chief Minister. There were around 150 members in the ruling party members and 40 to 60 Members were in the opposition. How an this 40 or 60 Members could have overpowered 160 Members? This is a question. That was an assembly where illustrious leaders like Raja Ji, Kamraj, Prakasam, Satyamoorthy and others remained as Members. Therefore the excess committed by the police amount to breach of privilege. The Central Government should institute an enquiry into the whole matter and punish the guilty. We do not desire that the Ministry headed by Shri Karunanidhi should be dismissed. We are not interested in toppling the Government. The authorities and the advisers around him have brought disgrace to him. They have brought dishonour to the State and the dishonour should be removed. With these words I conclude.

[English]

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM (Salem): Madam Chairman, to speak on the whole gamut of Centre-State relationship and do justice to it would take a full day. Therefore, without addressing to all the major questions I would be addressing only a few specific questions concerning Centre-State relationship. Undoubtedly the Preamble to the Constitution of India lays down the basic guidelines and, in fact, the basic descriptive nature of our Republic categorically. It has been stated very categorically in our Preamble that:

"We, the people of India, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a sovereign socialist secular democratic republic and to secure to all its citizens:

Justice, social, economic and political;

Liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship; Equality of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all Fraternity assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation."

Madam, the issue which comes up in my mind is what will be the situation in the delicate relationship between the Centre and the States when the State Government decides to flout the very fundamental principles which are laid down in our Preamble of the Constitution. What is the answer to this? Normally, when such a flagrant violation of the Constitution, the Fundamental Directives takes place, the immediate answer that is very often resorted to is the emergency provisions in the Constitution under the President's Rule. But even the Sarkaria Commission in its Report has categorically stated that this would be unhealthy and if this is to be resorted to every time, we would have a situation of embarrassment. If one looks at the number of times the emergency provisions have been resorted to, the maximum number was during 1975-79. 9 cases out of the 21 cases were in 1977. The only ground put forth at that time was that the State Governments had lost the confidence of the people merely because in the Parliamentary elections, another Government, another party came as the Government at the Centre. There have been instances often of misuse of power by State Governments. Within the scope of the Constitution of India, reading both the State list and the Concurrent List, if there is flagrant misuse of power which does not really justify the imposition of President's rule, then what will happen and what is to be done? How does the Government at the Centre, the President and his representative as Governor, come to an independent conclusion as to whether at all there is violation or not? We had seen in the State of Punjab, sometime ago, when Mr. Kairon was the Chief Minister, an inquiry was instituted to go into the misuse of power. When the then Chief Minister misused his power, to the extent of trying to influence the authorities, well beyond what is called permissible limits, we have seen the inquires,

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we have seen the dismissal of Chief Minister, we have seen the action taken and we have also seen the outcome. But today whenever the issue comes up of using the commissions of Inquiry Act to decide whether or not there has been misuse of power, there have been various views propounded. In fact, the Sarkaria Commission has, while dealing with this issue, said that misuse of power is possible at both levels. When it is at the central level, yes, it is possible to look into it through a Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Centre but when it is at the State level, then the question arises whether it is only the State Government which will appoint the Inquiry Commission or whether the Central Government can do it? There are precedents where the Central Government had done so. It is not that there are no precedents. I have already quoted one example. But Madam Chairman, unfortunately, the Sarkaria Commission has tried to recommend restriction of this power which is already existing in the Commission of Inquiry Act. Then, it would be relevant for me, at this stage, to point out a few instances how flagrant violations can be done.

As I just now pointed out, both liberty and justice as well as democracy can be flouted with impunity if a State Government wishes to, specially because public order and law and order come within their jurisdiction. Actually, what happened in the State of Tamil Nadu is that very recently on the 18th of this month, the police on a complaint of cheating raided the house of a very close family friend of the opposition leader in the State. When they raided, they seized some materials. The very 'mahazar' which has been published in the Daily newspaper known as *Dinman* on the 29th March, categorically in item 7 states—if I am permitted to translate that a blue pad consisting of a sealed cover addressed to the Speaker sealed; when opened, a letter addressed by Ms Jayalalita to the Speaker dated 15th March 1989 was found. It clearly establishes that the privileged right of an elected member of Legislative Assembly was infringed; a

privileged communication to the Speaker was seized, taken hold of by the police, an executive arm of the State, which they had no right to do. The complaint was one of cheating which had no connection with the letter addressed by an M.L.A. to the Speaker of the House. Having taken hold of it, they have opened it according to their own admission for which they had no jurisdiction. Thereafter, the report clearly reveals and the subsequent events prove that this letter went from the police to the hands of the Speaker via the Home Secretary and the Chief Minister. This shows that the police is being used as an instrument to intimidate, threaten the opposition leaders, M.L.As. as well as destroy all forms of democratic functioning. In fact, the Commissioner of Police went further to deny that no, it was not original letter, but it was a photocopy. When the 'mahazar' was produced as proof, he said: "I do not know anything about it." When he was asked, how this letter reached Speaker, he denied all knowledge, when it is a known fact and as reported in the Magazine, *The Week*, dated 2-9 April, 1989...(Interruptions)

I am speaking what happens when there is a breakdown of law and order. It is not off the tangent. What happens when the law and order machinery is totally misused for political partisan ends. That is the issue and it deals with the Centre-State relationship. Does the Centre have anything to do or does the Centre watch helplessly?

After this when the Assembly took up the matter, another opposition M.L.A., not the M.L.A. whose letter went, took up and raised this issue as a privilege, what was the outcome? In the evening, the place where his brother usually sits in the evening, meets friends and comrades of the party, was raided, looted with the assistance of the police. The act was done by goondas. When the police were given the number of the scooter and the taxi in which the assailants came, criminals came, the police took no action at all. On the contrary, that member is being intimidated. The situation that has arisen in this particular instance in Tamil

Nadu is that no member of the opposition dare speak his mind, or cast any allegations or aspersions even in the Assembly, let alone outside. The very fundamentals of democracy are being crushed ruthlessly and we have a situation where one cannot say that it has reached a stage where President's Rule has to be imposed; at the same time we cannot say that the Central Government should do nothing.

Madam Chairman, the Sarkaria Commission has addressed themselves to this problem quite straightforwardly in its recommendation in para 2.4304 where they have said that the potential exists but have gone on to say that certain safeguard must be built into the Commission of Inquiry Act itself. One safeguard already exists where it is possible for a Commission to be appointed by the Parliament by means of a resolution. Provision exists but what the Report seeks to recommend is the restricting of the Central Government powers in the matter of appointment.

Madam Chairman, this will be the most unfortunate thing if this happens because there are times when situation gets so much out of control, that it would be necessary, and it would be so critical that the Central Government acts immediately. And, if the procedure is such that a resolution of both Houses of Parliament is required for an inquiry, many lives may be lost in the process.

Madam Chairman, may I bring to the notice of the Home Minister the Minister of State is here that Members of Parliament have submitted a memorandum to the Government as well as to the President of India asking for an inquiry to be held into this matter, into these incidents, where democracy is in peril, in Tamil Nadu. I only hope that the Government at the Centre would react quickly as many lives are at stake. Thousands and lakhs of rupees worth of poverty has already been destroyed by sheer misuses of power.

Madam, another issue that arises is:

Does it suffice for a Governor's Report alone to be called for? Would that amount to an inquiry in the real sense of the term? I beg to disagree. I would say that a Governor's Report would be looked upon especially in the light of the arguments that are being placed by the Hon. Members on the other side, that a Governor is a partisan or Governors have become partisan, etc., that such a report is not partisan or is neutral and in the light of this, it is necessary that an independent inquiry commission be appointed to bring out the truth. At least, let the country know that whatever be the politics, let us at least protect the fundamental guidelines laid down in the preamble of our Constitution.

Every individual has a fundamental right to have his dignity upheld, whether it is he or she, especially if a person happens to be an Opposition leader in the Assembly. Unfortunately that question is not being addressed. At least we can have a situation where we can have Opposition Members in the Assembly speaking as forthrightly as my Member do here. Not only do they get pats on the backs, also they get good words of praise and congratulations when they launch offensive against the Government. Most probably they get lots of things done by the very fundamental right of speech which they use so effectively. Why can't other Assemblies and other legislatures adopt this as a fundamental principle? Why have we lost the democratic norms?

I would like to end only by saying that it is wrong on the part of Commission to presume that a Governor would not be impartial if he has had political experience or belongs to the ruling party at the Centre. There are many such persons. After all, Prof. Nurul Hassan, for whom my learned friend in the Opposition like Shri Somnath Chatterjee very strongly pleaded for, was a Minister belonging to the ruling Congress Party at the Centre. He was impartial to such an extent that they had taken up cudgels on his behalf! What better example do we have to show that we have impartial people? Just because a person belongs to a particular party or group or just because he happens to occupy

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a particular position, you cannot say that he is not impartial.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool):
Kumari Mamata Banerjee must say that.

SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:
Kumari Mamata Banerjee cannot say it because he has gone to Orissa now.

Whatever be the recommendations, whether they are about the appointment of Governors, about Inquiry commissions or about the Commission of Inquiries Act itself, or about the emergency provisions, we must look at them from the point of view that India is one whole nation and it is not made up of parts. I would describe it as one large garden, where the nation is the land and the soil and the States are the flowerbeds in it. Let both prosper. Unless the land is valuable and prosperous, the flower beds cannot blossom. If there are no good flowerbeds the land would not be worth its salt.

Let us have a strong Centre and build strong States. That I think is fundamental to Centre-State relations.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ (Baramulla):
Madam Chairperson, I must first of all thank the Government of India for instituting the Sarkaria Commission. Now that the report of the Commission is available, we can organise reforms on the basis of its recommendations. Although the Sarkaria Commission has not fulfilled our expectations to a great extent, yet certain recommendations are really heart-warming. I am in full agreement with the view expressed by the Sarkaria Commission that the Centre has to be strong. But I would simultaneously say that the States should not remain weak.

Our hon. colleague, Dr. Gurdial Singh Dhillon was discussing the structure of our Constitution. We have a unitary Constitution but it is a federal Constitution as well. Actually we are a Federation. As pointed out by Shri Kumaramangalam, India is not made up

of parts. It is one whole. Certainly, India consists of various States and all the States together make a Union and we want that Union to be strong. The regional aspirations will also have to be met and States also have to become strong within the provisions of the Constitution of India. I feel strongly on one point. There is need for reviewing Centre-State relations. After all, we are a dynamic society and we cannot remain static. It was very much necessary to institute this Commission. Now we have got its recommendations. I did try to read the report of the Sarkaria Commission. But it is very difficult to go through so many memoranda received from States and various individuals. But I have gone through the recommendations. There are some positive recommendations on which the Government of India can organise action. There are legislative recommendations. There are recommendations in the financial sphere also. But it is very difficult to dwell deep into all those recommendations and discuss them. But so far as legislative recommendations are concerned, I would like to mention something. The Commission has recommended that before a law is passed by Parliament by virtue of Clause 3 of Article 356, read with Entries 92A and 92B in List I, the National Development Council and the States should be consulted and their comments should be placed before the Parliament. I welcome this recommendation. I felt very happy when the Commission rejected the BJP's memorandum seeking abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution. It is not temporary but it is transitory. At future point of time I will discuss why it remained a transitory provision in the Constitution. No other Party except the Bharatiya Janata Party had come forward with this particular point. I will come to BJP slightly later.

As far as the people of Jammu and Kashmir State are concerned, we feel, it is an integral part of the Constitution of India. No power on earth can remove this Article from the Constitution of India as long as the people of Jammu and Kashmir State want it.

Coming to financial matters—as I said,

it is very difficult to go through all recommendations—I wholeheartedly welcome the recommendations of the Commission in respect of Article 268, that is duties levied by the Union and collected and appropriated by the States. The Commission wants the Government of India to make a reasonable application of the provisions of Articles 268 and 269. But on my part, I would say, rather I would have expected that the Commission would have gone a little further and agreed with us, as we say now, that the residual powers should rest with the States. As of now, the recommendations which were made by the Commission should be considered by the Government of India. The recommendations are like this. "Since basic circumstances do not always remain constant, the Union Government should in consultation with the State Government periodically consider and explore the revision or imposition of these duties." So, States will have to be consulted on this.

Then comes the role of the Governor. The appointment of Governors is very important. My friends were praising a couple of Governors and they mentioned Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma's name. Yes, he was one of the very good Governors. He rose to the position of the Vice President. They praised Prof. Nurul Hassan. But we have to be watchful. We must not give more powers to the Governors. The Governors are not accountable before Parliament. You have insulated the Governor against accountability and sometimes they play havoc.

The Sarkaria Commission has not wholly come up to our expectations. But still Sarkaria Commission wants Article 155 to be amended suitably so that you can make provisions for effective consultation of the Chief Minister. Not only that. The Sarkaria Commission also wants that informally and confidentially the Presiding Officers—two Presiding Officers (the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the Chairman of Rajya Sabha) should be consulted and also the State Chief Ministers should be consulted. This is necessary. I say this because I have not forgotten, that in Jammu and Kashmir State, on

2nd July, 1984, a duly elected Government was dismissed not because of people who are in Congress now. I will raise this question in this august House one day. Congress is the largest Party wedded to the principle of socialism and secularism. It has larger responsibilities to fulfil. So, it should not tolerate the politics of manipulation. I say it here—because it is going on record—that the Prime Minister of India Shri Rajiv Gandhi, as I know him personally, does not stand for politics of manipulation. He wants to play the game of politics according to rules. But there are a couple of people who are manipulators and who have pressurized Thakkar Commission to implicate people by leaking out the whole Report to the Press. And they are creating a drama of destabilisation within the Congress. So, these manipulators; it may be at that point of time Shri Arun Nehru or it may be even Shri Makhan Lal Fotedar. They were the people who got a duly elected Government, a constitutional government dismissed in the Jammu and Kashmir State. We cannot forget that. That is our history.

Therefore, the Governors are to be selected properly and the politics of manipulation will have to be given up and if it is a Governor who is appointed after consultation, after informal consultation with the presiding officers and effective consultation with the Chief Minister, we shall make our Constitution more workable.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: I will be very brief, madam.

Then let us take Article 356 whereby the President's Rule is imposed. The Sarkaria Commission says that Article should be used sparingly, unless there is fool-proof evidence that constitutional authority no longer obtains in the State and that there is a breakdown of law and order, the President's Rule should not be imposed. And as far as we are concerned, we get the Governor's Rule. But the Governor cannot decide the majority in his drawing room. Now, we want that we must go by the advice

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of the Sarkaria Commission and always this majority will be decided on the floor of the Assembly. And, as I said we must play the game of politics according to its rules and therefore never allow the Governor to interfere with the Government after the President has appointed him, according to the procedure. Then he should not interfere with us and whenever he goes against the Constitution he must be answerable. As of now he is not answerable to Parliament and we may have to amend the Constitution for that.

The Sarkaria Commission has described the All India Services as very essential. I say that these services are very essential. But I feel sorry that, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru did not live with us for a decade more, because he would have certainly made, among other things, this bureaucracy answerable and responsive to our aspirations.

The Sarkaria Commission has made some bald recommendations. I was trying to find out further recommendations in this chapter. There are no recommendations. Even this one, about the bureaucracy, yes, we have very good people there. We are all good and bad people, we belong to India, the bureaucracy has come to stay, it is a very good service, the IAS, and it will remain so and certainly I agree with the Sarkaria Commission that it contributes to the unity and integrity of India. But, how can we make the bureaucracy responsive to our aspirations which it is not, as a whole? It is time that we do it. So many things we do not achieve because our bureaucracy is not abreast of what is happening at the grass-roots level. It is not responsive to our aspirations and the people's representatives. It is not directly responsive to the aspirations of the people. We shall have to do something in that; not by sending them abroad for training, but by having a dialogue with them and then the expectations will be fulfilled. I am sorry to say that the Sarkaria Commission has given bald recommendations so far as these all India Services are concerned

Then, there is an Article in the Constitution, that is, Article 249. It is a very dangerous article. My State Government is already in touch with the hon. Home Minister and here was Mr. Dinesh Goswami, who wanted this article to be scrapped. I say that this article should not be scrapped, but it should be tailored to the needs of the States. It should be amended because as of now, it is the power of Parliament to legislate with respect to a matter in the State List in the national interest. Now anybody can determine the national interests. It can be decided any time. But that State will not be consulted at all. So, this sweeping power to Parliament in so far as the State List is concerned is very dangerous and we have reservations when Article 249 was extended to the whole of the country. We raised our voice. We are in touch with the hon. Home Minister. Shri Dinesh Goswami wants that it should be scrapped. I say it may not be scrapped, but a provision should be made that the State Governments should be consulted.

Now I will come to the three language formula'. The Sarkaria Commission has not dealt with this question at length. I feel the Commission had committed a mistake. It is an important question. The Sarkaria Commission dealt with it cursorily. I rise here and say that the three language formula as decided by the Parliament should be implemented properly. As of now, I must report to you that it was not properly implemented. ... (Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): How can it be? Only two language formula... (Interruptions)

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ: For you, it is two-language formula. I have accepted the three-language formula wholeheartedly. I would like to say that if we make Hindi as a Rashtra Basha we must not forget Urdu, Kashmiri, and we must not forget all the fourteen languages of India in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution. I must report to you that there is a conspiracy against Urdu. Even some officers are involved in the conspiracy. Recently, the Vice Chancellor of

Aligarh Muslim University said, 'you can change the script of Urdu'. I want to take the House into confidence. We must give due sympathy to those who sit in the chair. But they want to get glued to the chair. For their personal interest, they can sell the whole nation. One of them is the Vice-Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University. He says 'even you can change the script and make it Devanagiri'. I raise an objection to this. We should not accept it. This language does not belong to the Muslims. It belongs to the whole of India. I want to tell the Vice Chancellor of the Aligarh Muslim University, Shri Brij Narain Chekbast, Shri Acharya Data Thariya Kaifi, Shri Trilok Chand Mahroom, Sri Rathana Sarshar Shri Jagannath Azad, and Shri Gopichand Charan that this language was accepted by the Hindus and the Muslims alike. All those people accepted this script and it cannot be changed. Sir, the Urdu language is not being treated properly. Wherever we hear these voices of disruption, we should reject them.

Lastly, I would like to point out that BJP is playing a Hindu card. I want the Congress Party, which is the largest party, to rise to the occasion and not to play a defensive game; they must launch an offensive through its ideology for the unity and integrity of India. At Udaipur, BJP passed resolutions, which are potentially common. I have already condemned those resolutions. Among them, they praised Rushdie for writing the book, blasphemy against Islam. Shankaracharya of Puri had condemned Rushdie because blasphemy is bad. Today it may be against the Prophet of Islam, next day it may be against Rama or Krishna. We must not encourage these people. They criticised left parties for supporting the ban. I must compliment the Government that it banned this book, before many Islamic countries did it, only to save this country from a civil war, bloodshed. The opposition is playing a game for the sake of opposition. There will be occasions when Government of India takes good measures, they should come forward and support them. At Udaipur they pleaded for abrogation of Article 370. Further they said that the Minorities Commission should

be abolished. I rise here to say that the Minorities Commission should be made a statutory body. I would draw the attention of the Government of India that BJP is playing communal politics and I expect the hon. Minister Shri Chidambaram or S. Buta Singhji, when he intervenes in the debate, to give an answer regarding the communal situation that is being created in the country by the BJP.

15.00 hrs.

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Madam, Chairman, I will make a brief submission I would like to make two or three points only.

Firstly, I want to say that a country wide discussion should be held on Sarkaria Commission Report and it should not be confined to the discussion held in the House only. As the New Education Policy was discussed in schools, colleges and in other associations, so this subject should also be discussed in the same manner. I would like that a brief summary should be prepared of this report and it should be circulated to schools, colleges, universities, lawyers' associations and public institutions for discussion because I think that after independence there has not been any other document of such paramount importance as this one which arose so much country-wise interest. The Sarkaria Commission has rightly recommended that the Centre should be strong and states should get autonomy. The 3000 years old history of our country stands testimony to the fact that whenever the Centre became weak, the country broke up into several independent units. Now on the face of numerous dangers looming large over the country, it is even more essential for the country to have a powerful Central Government. I want to submit that Centre should not be allowed to be weak under any circumstances. I am in favour of giving due powers to the States, but the Centre and States are like two brothers. It is only when both are strong that the country will become strong and this cannot happen if they are at logger-

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

heads with each other.

One of the most controversial recommendation of the Sarkaria Commission Report is regarding the appointment of Governors. It has been recommended that Governors should be appointed with consultation of the concerned Chief Ministers. I think that this has very dangerous implications because if State Chief Ministers are consulted in the matter of appointment of Governors, they will naturally demand the Governor of their liking. The Governor is the representative of the Centre and many things happen in the states such as breakdown of the law and order, financial bankruptcy and overdrafts beyond permissible limits etc. Therefore, there should be some one who in the state who should inform the Centre about the affairs of the State. If at all, you want that the Governor should be appointed with consultation of the concerned Chief Minister, you may please amend the constitution. In many countries Governors are appointed through the process of election. This method can be adopted in this country as well. And if Governors are elected, there is no need for the Chief Ministers. The same person can function as the Governor as well as Chief Minister. I mean to say that Government should never agree to the point that Chief Ministers should be consulted in the matter of appointment of Governors. It will be a very dangerous provision if accepted and the country will have to pay a very heavy price for it in the long run.

The Sarkaria Commission has also stated that the State bills reserved for Presidents assent are kept pending for a long time. Before giving his assent to the Bills, the President has to consider various aspects of the matter and has also to consult the Central Government. The Centre cannot afford to watch the interests of one state only. It has to look after the interests of all the state of the union. Therefore, if the Centre is not able to take an immediate decision on a certain bill, it cannot be accused of being partial. The Centre has to deliberate on it slowly and

cannot afford to take a hasty decision because it concerns the interests of the whole country. Therefore, I do not agree to this recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.

The Sarkaria Commission's recommendation to create an Inter-State council is a good recommendation and such councils should be constituted and in which Cabinet Ministers, Chief Ministers of States should be included. This will solve many problems and many controversies will be put to an end.

As regards the appointment of Governors, this Commission has not favoured the appointment of politicians as Governors. It is very strange that the politicians have been treated as untouchables. Even a man of means may enter into politics by mistake and besides men of status can also become politicians. Today it is a fashion to join politics. We can see cartoons of politicians in the newspapers everyday and they are lampooned. Should not good and competent people enter politics? Therefore, I strongly oppose this recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission that politicians should not be appointed as Governors. In fact, only politicians and politicians alone should be appointed as Governors because they have vast political experience and have witnessed all shades of politics. Some people think that politics is the resort of the incompetent, the rejects and the dregs of society. I would say that even good people enter politics. Now the situation has changed. Competent and good people have started entering politics and in the years to come even better people will take to politics. Therefore, politicians should be appointed as Governors, and if not all, at least 80 percent of them should be politicians.

As regards regional imbalances, all out efforts should be made to remove regional imbalances. I would like to humbly submit and I should not be misunderstood. Bihar has all the minerals, labour and infrastructure but still it is backward. People laugh at such argument and dismiss it by saying that

for a Bhiari and for that matter the people of eastern U.P., they are destined for it. If you think impartially you would realise Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh should at least be given their due. This should not happen. If regional imbalance is not removed the resentment among people will increase. The Naxalite movement in Central Bihar is spreading all over Bihar. This is not a matter to be laughed at but is of serious concern. Therefore I would like you to pay full attention to remove regional imbalance. All backward states should be helped to develop and come up. One of the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission which I liked most is with regard to reviewing of amounts of the royalty after every two years instead of two years. I would like to suggest that such review should take place every year. Bihar is suffering on this account. The minerals of Bihar are sent to various parts of the country and are also exported to foreign countries. However the state is getting only a nominal royalty. Therefore, I render full support to the recommendation made in the Sarkaria Commission Report for reviewing the royalty after every two years. The Sarkaria Commission has made the most outstanding recommendation about the three tier Government. In fact, Hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi is making efforts in this direction. Efforts are being made to establish the Panchayat Raj System. If there is a devolution of power from Centre to States, there should be further devolution of powers from state to the local bodies. Only then there will be real democracy. We shall hold detailed discussions on the Panchayati Raj System when this subject will be taken for discussion in the House.

As the hon. Member who spoke proceeding to me stated and I want to reiterate the same that there is a tendency of empowering the District Magistrates vast powers. All powers are concentrated in the District Magistrate. All the development works are undertaken by him. The public representatives have no voice. This is a very dangerous trend for which democracy will have to pay the price. The bureaucrats have little interest in development programmes. The issue of corruption is often raised in this House and I

do not want to repeat it. But I want to emphasise that power should not be concentrated in the hands of the District Magistrates who are I.A.S. officers. Persons with rural backgrounds are unable to compete in the civil services examination and one destined to lead the life of slaves whereas the urban youths who have the opportunity of receiving education in public schools and have acquired fluency in spoken English are able to compete in this examination even though they may not have sound knowledge of academic subjects. This system has to be put to an end if we want to bring real democracy.

The States should be empowered to formulate their own plans and I do not agree to the recommendation with regard to residuary powers. Residuary powers should be in the hands of the Centre and in the schemes of the Centre which are executed by the State, M.Ps and M.L.As should also have a say. They should be approved of the position with regard to steps taken for the welfare of the people.

The Sarkaria Commission has emphasised upon the supremacy of the Parliament. I do not want to go into further details but I would like to repeat what I have already mentioned. A country wide discussion should be held on the Sarkaria Commission Report because 48 or 49 years have gone by since the constitution came into force and therefore, it is necessary to have source changes in the federal structure in consultation with the people of the country.

[English]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Madam Chairman, the Sarkaria Commission was constituted in 1983 and it submitted its Report in 1987. After four years of hard work, they have submitted the Report and almost all the States have given their opinion with regard to the Centre-State relations.

As far as my State is concerned, when my lamented Chief Minister was there in

[Sh. P. Kolandaivelu]

Tamil Nadu, he had given the opinion with regard to the Centre-State relationship. He had given the opinion that the relationship of the States with the Centre must be cordial and the Centre should be strong because only a strong Centre can build strong States. If the foundation is not strong, if the base is not strong, the structure also will not be strong. That is why the Centre must be strong enough and more powers must be given to the Centre. The States must have their own powers.

The Chief Ministers of some of the non-Congress(I)-ruled States are criticising the Prime Minister and the Union Cabinet Ministers, even in Tamil Nadu, when Karunanidhi was the Opposition Leader, our Prime Minister, when he went to Tamil Nadu, was criticised as '*chhota bhai*' in politics. Is it correct to say like that? Karunanidhi may be having enough experience in politics and in age also he may more than sixty, but that does not mean that our Prime Minister is a *chhota bhai*. But he was criticised like that. Even our Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr. Chidambaram, has been criticised that in politics he is a small boy. How can they say like that? Not only the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, even the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh criticised the Prime Minister like this. I think only a strong Centre can have hold on both Congress (I) and non-Congress (I) - ruled States. The States must be given limited powers. If more powers are given to them, they will come to the conclusion that they are separate from the Centre and then they will become autocrats in their States. So, I will plead for a strong Centre and the relationship between the Centre and the States must be cordial. When the Constitution was framed in 1949, a different situation was prevailing at that time. At that time the social structure was totally different. Since then, far-reaching and sweeping changes have taken place in the country. So, in the prevailing present situation, the Constitution should be amended. The Constitution should be amended according to the sweeping changes that have taken

place in the country. There are three Lists given in the Constitution the Concurrent List, the Union List and the Central List. Now, I would like to point out that some of the powers are being taken away which are within the jurisdiction of the States, without even informing them. If any power under the State is taken away and vested with the Centre, the States should be kept informed of those powers which have been taken away from them and vested them with the Centre. If the powers are taken away by the Centre from the States, it will be an unhealthy practice and it will set a precedent.

As far as the Sarkaria Commission Report is concerned, they recommended that the residued powers with regard to the taxation should be vested the Union Government and the legislative powers must be in the Concurrent List. I accept this recommendation and it is a correct recommendation. Sir, with regard to the State-Centre relation, the then Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the late Mr. Annadurai said in 1962—he was imprisoned for having taken part in a rally and he was in jail for more than six months in Vellore—when the Press people asked when the Chinese invaded the country at that time, about his demand for a separate 'Dravidanad', he said "I am giving it up. I want a strong Centre and the nation can be great and when the nation is great I can be safe and my State can be safe". So, he had given up the demand of separate 'Dravidanad' once for all in 1962. Mr. Somu, my colleague from the DMK party, was stating that Article 356 must be taken away from the Constitution. How can it be? The very same provisions under Article 356 were used in 1980 with the active connivance of... "...in order to dismiss our Government in Tamil Nadu. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N. V.N. SOMU: There were so many reasons for sending away M.G.R. from the Government in 1980. There were so many reasons. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Somu, he is not yielding. Mr. Kolandaivelu, please continue.

Expunged as ordered by the chair.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Madam, he was quoting the very words of Shri Sanjeeva Reddy, the then President of India, that Article 356 of the Constitution must be taken away. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: I have not said so. He is misquoting me. I have not stated that. Kindly go through the records.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have clarified the position. That is over.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Madam, what I was saying is that these people who were in power were not saying anything with regard to Article 356 of the Constitution and they did not make any criticism about the Article. Mr. Sanjeeva Reddy, after he had relinquished the Office of the President, had stated that the Constitution should be amended. Why should Mr. Sanjeeva Reddy comment with regard to the Constitution? Why did he not make comment when he was in power?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kolandaivelu, as far as possible, please do not mention the names because they are not here to defend themselves. Please speak on the subject.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Madam, as far as the Centre-State relation is concerned, the Chief Minister of every State, particularly non-Congress ruled State, is taking powers in his own hands. The Chief Ministers are misusing their own powers.

Madam Chairman, on 18.3.89 one Mr. Natarajan's house was raided.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: Madam, how is it connected with this Resolution?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me see.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: What is

this? The Chief Ministers are misusing their powers for their political ends.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: How it is connected? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am here to watch the proceedings, who do you come in the way? Let me see what it is.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Madam Chairman, this is the very thing that happened on 18.3.1989 when Mr. Natarajan's house was raided by the Police Commissioner of Madras. He has seized so many articles from his house. Even I have got the photostat copy of the report seized by the police. It is true copy of it, which I have got.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: Madam, are we discussing Home Ministry's Demands?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me see. Why do you interrupt, Mr. Somu? Let him say whatever he wants to say. I am here, I am watching the proceedings carefully. Let me see.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Madam, the police has seized a blue sealed cover which was addressed to the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Assembly. Actually the police raided the House for a charge under Sections 420, 407, 409 and 307 also. Does the sealed cover which was addressed to the Speaker relate to the crime actually? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kolandaivelu, please try to come to the point.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Yes, Madam, I am coming to the point. It is a very shameful act.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: Everybody is speaking what he wants to speak, but not on the subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But anyhow, they should come to the point.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Actually I am on the subject. I am telling how the Chief Ministers are misusing the police powers. That is what I am telling. Madam Chairman, actually this cover is a sealed cover which was addressed to the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Assembly, but it has also been written that the cover was broken open and the letter was taken away and it was sent to the Home Secretary of Tamil Nadu Government. Ever it has been reported in the weekly magazine:

"According to the sources in the State Intelligence, as soon as the letter was found...."

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't read. Try to mention.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Very well, I am mentioning. The Assistant Commissioner sent it to the Commissioner who, in turn, handed it to the Home Secretary at 10.30 P.M. What business the Home Secretary has got with regard to the cover which was addressed to the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Assembly? How this is being misused? Madam, actually this letter was sent to the Speaker. Even now press people ask, even so many politicians ask with regard to this question.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: He is unnecessarily trying to bring the name of the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Assembly (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: I am not casting any aspersion. What business the Home Secretary has got? (*Interruptions*) I am not referring to the Tamil Nadu Speaker.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: What is the relevance of the Tamil Nadu Speaker here?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am watching to see whether it is relevant or not.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: How can he refer to the Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker?

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: I have not mentioned his name.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is not dragging his name into this.

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): He has not said anything against the Speaker (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): The Chair will rule. He has not said anything. The hon. Member must not be disturbed like this. The Chair will rule. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: How can he refer to the Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Assembly?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. You have to take permission before you speak, Mr. Somu.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: What relevance it has got?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you interrupt like this? Let him speak whatever he wants. I am watching the proceedings.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY: His point is Article 356 should remain (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kolandaivelu, try to be brief. Please continue.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: This is the highest forum where I can seek a remedy and you are the custodian of democracy, Madam.

When the democratic norms are being violated, I have to report to you then.

"The Commissioner in turn handed it to Home Secretary. By 10.30 p.m. copies of the resignation letter and the four-page appeal to party men had reached all newspaper offices. It is said that policemen in plain clothes took them to newspapers."

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: Which paper he is quoting?

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: I have stated already.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kolandaivelu, I have told you not to read the paper. As far as possible, try to avoid this. Try to mention the points if you have got anything to say within the scope of this discussion.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Madam, the very important point is, it is said that policemen in plain clothes took them to newspapers. What business they have got to do so? (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you again interrupt?

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: No, Madam, we cannot discuss it here (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Somu, you should not interrupt like that. I am here to watch the proceedings.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: When you were on your legs, I did not disturb you like this.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: When I spoke on this Resolution, I academically struck to it. I have dealt with the main point only. But he is unnecessarily dragging all the things here. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Without taking my permission, don't try to get up like that—It is not good. You must take my permission. What is this you are speaking? Is it a point of order or a point of information? What is that you want?

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Under what rule? Mr. Somu, please resume your seat. Mr. Kolandaivelu, please continue.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: Let him confine himself to the Resolution on the Centre-State relations.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: It is very much connected with the Centre-State relations.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Kolandaivelu, try to come to the point.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Yes, Madam. The policemen took the letter in plain clothes to all the newspapers. This is bad.. Actually....**..... is misusing the police for his political end. What is the political end here? After the recent by-elections, Madam, actually he is afraid that Miss Jayalalitha, the Opposition Leader, may come to power. That is why, in order to dislodge her from the position of Opposition leadership, he has misused the police in order to serve his political ends.

Madam, actually she has already sent a Memorandum to the Prime Minister and also to the President to appoint an Inquiry Commission to inquire into the matter and immediate action to be taken to find out who are all the assailants in this matter.

The next incident also happened in Tamil Nadu Assembly on the 21st March.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: How can he go into the happenings of Tamil Nadu Assembly? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me see what he says. I do not know what he is going to speak.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: He has mentioned Tamil Nadu Assembly. There is no question of seeing at all (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Do you mean to say that I have no right to mention Tamil Nadu Assembly? What is this? At the mere mention of the Tamil Nadu Assembly he is agitated. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Somu, let me hear what he is going to say.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: How can you allow it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me hear him first.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: He has mentioned the very name of the Tamil Nadu Assembly.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Is it illegal then?

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: How can he mention it?

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Have I not got the right to mention the Tamil Nadu Assembly. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: He has not right to mention that.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Is it unparliamentary then? It is a democratic forum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is unparliamentary, I will rule it out. Let me first hear what he is going to say. How can I prevent him from saying that? It is not possible because I cannot prevent him. Please resume your seat.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I think you should recommend that we should have Sarkaria Commission on DMK-ADMK relationship.

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: Not only that. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: The past relation of the Congress Party with DMK and ADMK may also be considered by Commission.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

SHRI N.V.N. SOMU: The Tamil Nadu Assembly is a separate forum. This House has not discussed so far anything about the happenings of any Assembly or any other forum. Speaker has given his Ruling. In the light of that, I am asking how you can allow him to mention the happenings in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. That is the point. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will give my ruling. You are not the person to reply. I am here to give my ruling. My ruling is, there is not point of order. However, you were saying something. I will see what Mr. Kolandaivelu is going to say. Mr. Kolandaivelu, you can continue on Monday.

15.31 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER. We are now taking up private Members Business Shri Ram Awadh Prasad.

[*Translation*]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[*Translation*]

Sixty-Second Report

SHRI RAM AWADH PRASAD (Basti):
 Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House do agree with the Sixty-Second Report of the Committee

on Private Member's Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 29th March 1989".

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That this House do agree with the Sixty-second Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions presented to the House on the 29th March, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

15.32 hrs.

RESOLUTION RE: MEASURES TO CONTROL POPULATION EXPLOSION

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi, you can move your resolution.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): Sir, I am grateful to you that you are in the Chair when I move my resolutions.

I beg to move:

"This House notes with grave concern the population explosion in the country which has thwarted all development efforts and urges upon the Government to take *inter alia* the following measures for improving the quality of life of the people:

- (i) recognise the family welfare programme as a national imperative;
- (ii) evolve a national consensus for acceptance of one child

per couple norm by the people;

- (iii) raise the level of education of women;
- (iv) provide adequate health care to women and children;
- (v) lay down a uniform civil code for all citizens especially with regard to marriage and family welfare; and
- (vi) set up a National Population Commission to suggest measures to achieve the target of zero per cent population growth rate by the turn of the century."

Before I start my deliberation, I will start with a sloka:

Sarve Bhavantu Sukine
Sarve Santu Niremaya
sarve Bhandrani Pashyantu
Ma Kashchid Dukhbhagbhaveta

This is the Mahamantra and this was adopted by Shrimati Indira Gandhi and she was not only the mother of India but she was the mother of the globe.

Ayam Nija Paro Vetī
Gunana Laguchetsam
Udaar Charitanam Tu
Vasudev Kutambakam

This is the Path of Jagannath culture. Lord Jagannath is not only the God of Orissa. He is the God of the whole universe and He is the God of not only Hindus but he is the God of Islam for which one Salabiga has written many poems and prayers.

It is indeed a matter of great privilege, besides being an elected member of this august House, a member of the medical profession, that I am moving this resolution, in the larger interests of the nation's prosperity. The 'Tryst with destiny' which the late

[Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi]

Prime Minister Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru echoed on the dawn of independence still rings in our ears. Although under the inspiring and dynamic directions of Pt. Motilal Nehru's lineage, the country has, if not leaped, at least progressed into a modern State. Why I say is, because we should have gone to plenty instead of progress, but for the fact that the alarming demographic growth has eaten away our progress made in various fields, be it industrial or agricultural or in the field of science and technology. The records of gross national product has provided a satisfactory growth.

The GNP growth rate is 78 per cent since 1951 whereas the population growth has exploded to over 150 per cent since 1951, thus damagingly dwarfing the progress of the nation.

In order to ensure that the real productivity programmes are continued and improved upon by our worthy leader, Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, it is imperative that a measured control to the population growth is discussed by this august House and in the global forums.

Let us pose ourselves this question: Is it possible to grow an additional 130 million tonnes of food grains, 1088 million additional metres of cloth and to construct nearly 12.65 lakh additional schools, to speak a few, by the turn of this century with the given increase in the population growth? Is it possible to accommodate 175 million school-going children? Is it possible to create an additional teaching staff of nearly three lakhs to impart education? Will we be able to build an additional 1.75 million houses? What about the unemployment, when by the turn of the century, we will have to create employment potential for an additional 47.5 million jobs? My hon. friends and respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is not so easy. It is an arduous and difficult task; although with the Congress Party at the helm of affairs, it is not impossible if we stunt the population growth.

Think of the educated youth churning out of the schools. At this rate, during 2000 AD, we may have to manage to build one primary school in every five minutes and one higher secondary school every 30 minutes.

Sir, with the advancement of medical technology, it is possible to treat the survivors of thermo-nuclear disasters akin to Chernobyl of USSR or Thienille of USA. The survivors, due to radiation, would suffer from bone-narrow depression and through bone-narrow transplantation, the survivors can be cured. But what about the population explosion? How do you curb it? The situation is alarming. It needs the immediate attention in the global forums besides this august House.

Sir, we have to consider the international perspective of our late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi. She was not only the mother of India, but she symbolised "Basudheiba Kutumbakam". How farsighted was the greatest statesman of the country, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who was instrumental in creating industrial and scientific infrastructure. He had created so many modern temples like the Bhakra-Nangal, Hirakud, Bhilai and Durgapur and also 38 internationally reputed research centres and hundreds of core-industries which are now under-utilised. All these achievement and the continued progress under the dynamic leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi would come to a nought, if we do not control child birth. Dangerous is the dymension of demographic increase. Without a fall in demographic graph, all the other growth would reflect in the negative. Let us not wait for the earthquake to shake us. Let us feel the seismic pulse, find a remedy and if need be use a long syringe, a long dose of unpalatable injection. What I am saying is to be construed as a reflection of a very honest Indian mind. For me, the nation is above self, above all things.

Let no religious faith produce a child to be destined to starve. Let no philosophy call for the curse of death due to deprivation of basic needs of life. Even the Shariat, which

our party manifesto says we will not touch it, will not share the deprivation of the right of every child to good education, basic needs of life, and quality of health life. Sir, no sane person would ever want a child to wilter in winter or succumb to sunstroke for want of shelter. Can we provide these things to unrestricted growth of population? What we need is a resolute bureaucracy and a determined Governmental effort.

In the European countries, the birth and death ratios are to a tolerable limit. In Sweden, Federal Republic of Germany and USA it is 12:11, 11:12 and 16:9 respectively compared to India which has got the birth and death ratio at 36:14. At this rate, we may surpass the Chinese population by the turn of the century. In China, they have achieved a goal of 1.2 person per year. Japan has a figure of .53 percent per year. It is worthwhile mentioning that in Western countries, the Government takes upon themselves the task of taking recourse to preventive measures rather than curative measures. They key factors for fertility decline includes changes in the attitude of the Government towards population growth and the extension service.

Even in Muslim countries, polygamy is abolished. Nowhere the Shariat or Koran, has endorsed polygamy and the four Imams who control 27 per cent of the global population and profess Islam, opined that if a person is capable to maintain satisfactorily with all the basic needs of life, he can produce more children. But at the same time, they have cautioned and cited the example of an orange tree. I quote:

"If a passer by goes behind an orange orchard, seeing thousands of orange in trees, he is elated, but the same passer by goes by the orchard the next year and sees the trees bereft of fruits, he is dejected. If only 80 per cent of the orange fruit had been nipped in the bud, the same oranges could have been seen year after year."

Thus, the Imams were not against small

families.

Take the Census of 1951. The population was 360 millions, Now it is nearly 799 millions. Rather it should have been the other way. If it is unchecked by 2,000 AD, the population will be, according to different demographers and experts, 988 million. And somebody has said that it will be 998 million. Such a reverse trend is detrimental to the cherished desire of our century old Congress Party which is committed to eliminate poverty and assure a quality life for every citizen.

Political prejudices, religious bias should not cloud our thinking. We should address ourselves to the seriousness of the problem and arrive at a conclusion. The most important national priority is to ensure quality life to every citizen. Will it be possible with the present growth rate?

I suggest the following measures for the consideration of this august House. First is, we should adopt one child family norm through comprehensive legislation without infringing the constitutional rights of the citizen. Now that is the question. If one child norm is adopted, the only problem is in Vasectomy and Tubectomy, there is a danger of child dying prematurely. The recanalisation of Vasectomy and Tubectomy is only 30 per cent successful in India whereas it is successful 80 per cent outside India. There is an alternative method. Our Government is not laying stress on that, that is, the Indian Systems of Medicine—the Ayurveda. In the Districts of Bastar and Koraput and in my constituency Sambalpur four devices of generic herbs are available. In the Koraput district, there is a free sex before marriage for Adivasies. The root is given so that the fertility is stopped. After the negotiation, again the same bark of that root is given and again fertilization takes place. It takes five years. Hon. Health Minister is not present here. He should have heard me. I have got an Ayurvedic College in my village Narsinghnath. We are having a research work. We request the ICMR to give patronage to this Bio-medical Research Centre so

[Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi]

that we are able to fulfil the aspirations of the whole globe and the whole country will be happy about it. Ensure zero growth rate by 2000 AD. Though I have written this, I am requesting the Government to have legislation phasewise. Let us have two-child norm now till we are successful to give the hope that if the first child is dead the recanalisation is made or the new method of Ayurvedic system of medicine is bio-medically proved to be successful.

It has been largely found that through education of women it is possible to keep a check on the population growth. In a country where the rural women attribute the birth of a child as a divine gift, it is necessary that they should be given education. We should induce the women to join a school at the girl stage. In China hundred per cent education is there. In India, if I tell that hundred percent education should be there by 2000 AD, it is not possible. So, I am stressing on the education of women who actually should be the decision maker for, particularly, sterilisation, contra-ceptive and spacing methods are now outdated. We have incorporated them from the British regime.

Our is not a country; it is a sub-continent having all the seven types of geological formations like old, ancient, tertiary, *Gandwana* and rock-feller. So, for us in different places different types of devices have to be adopted for population control.

The Hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister is sitting here. She is a woman; she must note my concrete suggestions. We would be spending by 2000 AD a lot of money because of population explosion and the per capita expenditure will be more than one thousand rupees. So, why not give some cash incentives to girls below poverty line to study in a school? There should be a stipend of Rs. 40 to Rs. 45 per month for primary school education. There should be Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 stipend for the higher secondary school education. For the middle class people there can be Rs. 15 to Rs. 20 for

primary school education. This is for girls only. For the upper class, it is different.

A person in China adopting one-child family norm is getting a house site, free education and after Class 12 if his child is meritorious, reservation of a seat is there in the medical college and in different technological institutions. Why not we also do this? We can also impart this incentive here.

Now, the female literacy ratio is 1:2. 24% females as against 48% male literacy. Though it has increased, from 1901 until now it is 2:1 only. It should be rather reversed and unless and until that is stressed upon I don't think we can achieve the cherished goal of Mrs. Indira Gandhi who has singed the Alma At declaration in 1977. We have adopted a national health policy in 1983 declaring health for all by 2000 AD.

Till today we have spent over Rs. 2600 crores or so only. It is just like pelting a stone over the mountain to check the population explosion. The minimum, according to my view and the Bhor Committee's recommendations, what the Health Department should get is 10% of the total Plan allocation and out of that, 50% should go to the population control programme.

In the vasectomy and tubectomy process of Allopathy and the Ayurvedic type of treatment where contraceptives come, this country should adopt the family planning in a stringent manner. Just for example you see the figures; in 1976-77, 86,63,000 people were sterilised. In 1977-78, it came down through the Raj Narain Formula to 12,42,000 only. In 1978-79, it was 18 lakhs. Now it has increased to 50,28,000. If we cannot protect the eligible couple, it is a very dangerous phenomenon. A serious thought has to be given to it.

When Mrs. Indira Gandhi was there, she was always saying in all the world-forums that the fruits in nature should be divided amongst the human beings. We always tell in all the world-forums that all human beings are the product of God. When

other European countries and developing countries like China can achieve the goal, why can't we achieve our goal? We should achieve our goal by 2000 A.D., we must achieve the Zero per cent growth by 2010 A.D. For that a comprehensive legislation is required. The sons of the soil belong to everybody. I approached the Hon. Health Minister through the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, to set up a Narasinganath Ayurvedic Research Centre - bio-medical centre - for arresting the population growth, so that we can achieve this goal.

Secondly, Sir, the family planning programme is controlled by the bureaucrats. I am not averse to that. But experience suggests that along with the bureaucrats; who will work in the family planning department, we should have doctors also, who will man those high posts. Why can't we utilise their services and keep them in that cadre? Particularly, lady doctor and women volunteers should be recruited throughout the country to explain various programmes to the people. I suggest, Sir, that community-based approach will not work. So my suggestion will be that from every village a person with a minimum qualification of matriculation should be taken as an agent and that agent should be trained for 15 days on what are the pros and cons of the various family planning techniques. This is because the media and other things are not giving due attention to the rumours which are being spread like due to vasectomy impotency will be there." About contraceptives, there are so many adverse comments, coming in the foreign journals. There is an Ayurvedic contraceptive. The Ayurvedic medicines may not cure, but they do not do any harm like creating side-effects. Therefore, my suggestion is that from each village, preferably, with a population of 2000 a minimum of four agents should be appointed and they must motivate people. Out of four two at least should be women.

Then, for doing family planning work, the village guides who were brought about unnecessarily by Shri Raj Narain should be done away with and in their place, persons

with a minimum qualification, of say matriculation who knows something, should be trained for 15 days and given that job. A refresher course should be arranged for them.

Then, family planning sub-centres must be visited intermittently, by competent people. The agent should motivate other people. The agent should be chosen by the panchayat -pradhan and other social ladies of the village so that he can motivate and explain to the people. In the upper stage, at the primary health centre level, the doctor must visit at least four times in a year to supervise the work. The marriage age has been increased to 18 and 21 but I want to marriage age should still be increased from 18 to 21 for ladies and 21 to 24 for the gents. That will help.

Under the 20-point economic programme Government is distributing free doles in different parts of the country. I would like to say until and unless a person adopts two member family norm he should not be given any type of loan. Even the farmers who do not adopt this norm should not be encouraged or rather there should be dis-incentive for them. As regards the persons working in different public sector, and Government undertakings and those who have already produced two children in their case we cannot do anything but those who are in the age group of 25-35 years should be motivated. If they adopt one member family norm then some increment should be given to them so that they can motivate other people.

Further I would like to say that the budget provision should be increased. I am telling this because all our schemes are being monitored by the State Governments. There should be provision of dis-incentive to those State Governments who take more over-draft from the Reserve Bank but do not fulfil the target fixed by the Family Welfare Department of Government of India.

As far as old age is concerned people want a son should be there for old-age security. So until and unless old age pension

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is given to all by adopting the formula which have been adopted in China, etc. things will not improve.

Another thing is that bachelors do not produce children. In the present system there is no incentive being given to the bachelors. Some incentive should be given to them in the form of ration, etc. In allopathic system of medicine the success rate for recanalisation of vas-deferens and fellopian tubes here is 30 per cent and in western countries it is eighty percent. More doctors should be trained. In this context my other suggestions are involvement of non-governmental and voluntary organisations. Some voluntary organisations in the name of doing so many things are taking lot of money from the Central Government. Some target should be fixed for the voluntary organisations also. Now about 300 voluntary organisations are engaged in this work. They are: Family Planning Foundation of India; Family Planning Association of India; Christian Medical Association of India; Rotary and Lions clubs; Trade Unions; Chambers of Commerce, etc. All these voluntary organisations ask for help from the Government but they must be asked to fulfil some target. Research work is also very low in India. I have prepared a separate note on this which I will give separately. We have got a research institute which should be tried in U.P., Bihar and other States because there population explosion is more than any other place. Women education is better in Kerala and, as such, the results there are better.

16.00 hrs.

About the Community-Based Approach to family planning, the local person involved knows much more than the outside health workers as to who is the most influential member in the decision-making process in the family; how are family and kinship relationships sustained and their significances and strengths according to the categories in the family/kin/social groups; who is the decision-maker in the family and what social

pressure could he or she use to change the attitude towards such decisions; he or she understands the taboos and customs of the different communities in the village; what is the economic situation of the people of the community. The rationale and objective of the Community-Based Approach is to increase the acceptance of family planning services; to eliminate the time gap in the supply of contraceptives; to remove cultural and social barriers; not to pressurise but to motivate the eligible couples for sterilisations like vasectomy and tubectomy. Both are very popular throughout the country but vasectomy to a less extent. I want to say that till now the status of women has not been increased. The last census says that out of 50 lakhs cases, 40 lakhs were tubectomy cases and 10 lakhs were vasectomy cases. Women have been suppressed and exploited. This approach should be changed. Motivation and other things should be done in a phased manner.

Regarding the implementation of the scheme, Government of India may not take any legislative measures immediately, they must at least try to take some steps through the National Institute of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi which is the technical research institute for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the country. It could be pre-tested in any one of the states of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, called by Bose 'BIMARU STATES'. If the results are found to be encouraging, then implement in the whole country.

Regarding the infant and child survival, we have not still improved in this. Our goal by 2000 A.D. should be 21 per thousand births and 9 per thousand deaths. But it is still less now. In other countries, the death rate has come down. In India 76 per cent of the population live in the villages and 40 per cent of the population are below the poverty line. We have adopted increase of marriage age for men and women but 48 per cent of the population have not yet adopted this. Only a legislation will not help to solve the problem. We have to think in that context. I would urge

upon the Deputy Speaker and all Members who are sitting here that irrespective of caste and religion, India can achieve much in this field. In 1976-77, when we could sterilise 80 lakhs of people, now why can't we sterilise one crore of eligible couples per year? This should be our determination so that we can reach our goal by 2000 A.D. by decreasing the population. Again, your benevolence and magnanimity has given me time and I will end by saying a slogan.

Ganga shatudra Yamuna dinadhya
Yasyav Prashutip Pariyavayante
Yuvram Sita Charam Prasoota
Samaypiyo Bharat Bhavya Desha

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"This House notes with grave concern the population explosion in the country which has thwarted all development efforts and urges upon the Government to take *inter alia* the following measures for improving the quality of life of the people:

- (i) recognise the family welfare programme as a national imperative;
- (ii) evolve a national consensus for acceptance of one child per couple norm by the people;
- (iii) raise the level of education of women;
- (iv) provide adequate health care to women and children;
- (v) lay down a uniform civil code for all citizens especially with regard to marriage and family welfare; and
- (vi) set up National Population Commission to suggest measures to achieve the target of zero per cent popula-

tion growth rate by the turn of the century."

Mr. Shankar Lal, are you moving your amendment?

SHRI SHANKAR LAL (Pali) I beg to move:

That in the resolution,

- (i) omit" (ii) evolve a national consensus for acceptance of one child per couple norm by the people".
- (ii) omit "(vi) set up a National Population Commission to suggest measures to achieve the target of zero per cent population growth rate by the turn of the century."
- (iii) add at the end—
- (vii) enact a uniform law for all citizens, without any discrimination of caste, creed or religion, for adoption of family planning programme prescribing a limit of two children per couple".

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri V.C. Jain...

SHRI SHANKAR LAL : Sir, I am on a point of order. I would like to know whether I will be given a chance to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, I will call you later on but not now.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN (Kishanganj): Sir, I beg to move:

That in the resolution,

omit " (v) lay down a uniform civil code for all citizens especially with regard to marriage and family welfare;"

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri V.C. Jain to speak now.

[Translation]

SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN (Barmer): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the resolution moved by hon. Dr. Bhoi is in the interest of the country. The Government has also taken concrete steps in transforming the Family Planning Programme into a national programme but this programme should be implemented in the manner by which the Cooperation of the people is received. We have enacted several social legislations but as the people were not cooperative they could not be implemented. If such laws are prepared which are not possible to be implemented, it will be our failure. Hitherto unanimity has not reached among our political parties as to what policy should be adopted to check population growth. As regards the programmes which are operating in the rural areas and districts, the representatives of the people such as the Sarpanch, the Pradhans the Pramukhs, the M.L.As, the M.Ps etc. take little interest in their implementation. It is only the Government officials which are taking considerable interest in this matter. If the said representatives of the people also take necessary interest in it, the Family Planning Programme could have achieved much success. These programmes are presented before the Panchayat Samiti and the Zila Parishad but the representatives of the people do not have the courage to carry the Family Planning Programme forward. The need of the hour is that all political parties should sit together and evolve some agreed formula and legal shape can be given to it. If a legislation is made but could not be implemented and it was opposed by others as it happened in 1977, it will also fail to serve any purpose as it happened in 1977. Therefore no such steps should be taken, the results of which are dangerous. The people are not prepared for it as yet. In order to encourage the public to adopt more and more family planning, the best course would be to persuade the representatives of the people to take interest in it. The question is that our target is:-

[English]

to achieve the target of zero per cent population growth rate by the turn of the century.

[Translation]

The way we are making progress we cannot achieve our target in this way. It is very essential to extend this educational programme. This programme has been very successful in Kerala. It has not been successful in my constituency and the entire Rajasthan. In my constituency 3 per cent women are educated and in district Barmer the literacy percentage is 12. The percentage of literacy in Rajasthan as a whole is 24 and among women it is 12. Until and unless more and more women are covered under the literacy programme, the family planning programme cannot be successful. More emphasis should be laid on primary education. The requirement of primary schools must be met in every nook and corner of the country. Every child keen to study must be provided facilities therefore. The State Governments as well as the Central Government should take suitable steps in this regard. It should be ensured that there is a school for every child within a radius of not more than one or two kilometres throughout the country. Last year as many as 3000 primary schools were opened in my state Rajasthan also. But they were as good as not opened since no teachers were posted there. When these people want to learn, they must be provided the opportunity. If they are not provided educational opportunity, how will you be able to make them understand the implications of family planning. As per the norms fixed by the centre there should be a sub-centre at all places having a population of 3000. Sub-Centres, First Aid posts, primary health centres, referral hospitals and big hospitals should be opened in hilly and desert areas. Where dispensaries have been opened, doctors do not go there. If two doctors are posted, only one doctor reports for duty or even one doctor is not there.

Posts of doctors, compounders and A.N.Ms. should be filled at all the places. Doctors etc. are unwilling to accept postings in hilly, desert and tribal areas. Special allowances should be granted in such areas. Arrangements should be made to provide residential accommodation to them. Then only this programme can be successful. It is also essential to post surgeons, well-versed in laparoscopy, in all primary health centres. They should have full knowledge of laparoscopy, tubectomy and vasectomy operations. All these arrangements should be made at the primary health centres otherwise huge expenditure is incurred on organising special camps, first programme is drawn, the collectors visits the place, Government vehicles run from one place to another and then just 10 or 20 to 25 women turn up. This infructuous expenditure can be avoided if arrangements for laparoscopy are made at the primary health centres. Trained doctors should be posted to rural areas and they should be offered attractive salary in comparison to their counterparts in the cities. They should also be paid special allowances so that they have full involvement in this programme. Now single child norm has been suggested. This philosophy cannot be accepted in our country at present. We are prepared to adopt two child norm. In our country person belonging to no religion will be prepared to limit his family to just one child, either a daughter or a son. It is, therefore, necessary to stick to the decision of limiting the size of a family to two children. The concept of small family is acceptable and importance of family planning cannot be denied. In our country the population is growing in an alarming progression and there are religions which do not recognise family planning. People think that children are the gift of God. It is, therefore, necessary to make them understand and persuade the fundamentalists to face the reality and see logic. We have made very little efforts in this direction. We should promote and encourage such literature which highlights the fact that no religion, whether Christianity or Islam prohibits adoption of family planning by its followers and therefore, they should take steps in this regard. For this purpose low

priced literature should be produced and made available in rural areas also so that there is change of mind and thinking in which we have failed so far. It is one of our weak points. We should make efforts in this direction. Force of law is not going to have desired results. People have to be motivated through persuasion, logic and conviction. In the right earnest we should grant stipends to girls, no matter even if the rate is Rs. 50 or Rs. 100, but this facility must be extended. Since people are not prepared to accept such a law, there is no need to enact it but democratic methods should be adopted to persuade people to accept this programme. Every effort should be made to popularise and propagate this programme to every individual through promotion of education and extension of medical facilities. If we follow this policy, our programme will definitely be successful. With these words I support this resolution.

[English]

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO (Siddipet): Sir, my hon. friend at the right point and right time has come up with a resolution which includes some of the proposals to control the population of our country. For the last about 50 years, the beginning of the post-independence era the population control has not been properly planned. Now India is the second most populous country in the world. India may be lacking in every aspect, in every field, but only in the field of population it has reached the second place in the whole world.

The population problem cannot be solved or it just cannot be controlled from Delhi or the State capitals. I feel that by making some legislation only you can not control the population. The basic unit for controlling population is the family which is in the outlying rural areas. The rural people, the families which are there, they are ignorant of population control, of the problems coming up due to a large population and how to manage when more children are produced in a particular family. Unless the Government takes corrective action at the basic

[Dr. G. Vijaya Rama Rao]

level, at the family level, unless we make them conscious about a limited family, population control cannot be achieved. Like the national water policy you may make a legislation and implement it, about the utilisation of water throughout the country, and thereby you may utilise the water in a proper way. But a single individual cannot control the water policy, whereas population control is certainly dependant on individuals. It starts from the individual's controlling his family. Therefore, each individual must become conscious of it. Therefore, in order to reach that goal, the Government, the social organisations, the people, the public representatives all of them have to play a greater and greater role.

In rural areas particularly the people are mostly illiterate. They think that by undergoing vasectomy they may get weakness or if a woman undergoes tubectomy she may become weak, or that if men go in for vasectomy they may lose their potency, and so on. Like that most of the people avoid family planning methods in the rural areas. So, the people who get more burdened or who become little more conscious about population they do so in spite of your incentives. But the people are not voluntarily coming forward and they are not following the family planning methods in our country. So, in order to win over them you must make them fully conscious of family planning. First of all you must talk to the people. Most of the people, who are illiterates, they do not know what is family planning. They ask why they should go in for family planning. Unless a family is planned it cannot contribute to the national development or participate in the economic development of the nation. Most of the people they do not know how to control their families, how to maintain a family. Until they reach the age of 60 or 70 or 50 they do not realise the need for family planning, they only think of their large family. This is so mostly in the rural areas.

We must educate people through the media, AIR, TV and other media, and create

consciousness among the public. Moreover, during the last forty years, the health facilities in our country have improved. Because good health services, the life expectancy has gone up in our country. Death Rate has gone down. Mortality amongst the children also has gone down. All these contribute increase in population. According to 1981 Census, our population was only 68.5 crores and in 1985, it crossed 75 crores mark. Now it may be 90 crores or so. By 2000, the population of our country will cross one hundred crores mark. If we do not go control the population, there will be competition among the human beings for naturally available things in our country. Further, most of the rural uneducated people are being exploited by the educated people. If we do not control the population, the educated people will exploit the uneducated people more. Moreover, in rural areas, one particular section of the people do not want to go in for family planning. They feel that getting the children is God's gift. Because of this misconception, they are going on increasing the population. We must educate these people through our media. In India and in other countries, there is a ceiling for everything. As per the land ceiling, one cannot have more land. Similarly, we can have a legislation that an individual cannot have more than two or three children. Unless we make it compulsory, we may not be able to control the population. The present incentives are not attractive. We are giving just Rs. 150/- to a man who undergoes family planning operation and Rs. 250/- to a woman who undergoes family planning operation. After undergoing the operation, people have to take rest for the nearly thirty days or so. Because of this, they lose their income. Keeping that in view you must increase the incentives and attract the viable people for the family planning. At the same time, we should educate people through our media. We should canvass more vigorously through our media for the family planning so that atleast in future we can have a quality life a healthy India and a healthy economy.

I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

[Translation]

* DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the very outset I will like to thank Dr. Krupa Sindhu Bhoi for bringing forth this important resolution before this House and thereby providing us with an opportunity to discuss the very important and serious subject.

Sir, ours is the first country in the world which adopted family planning as an official programme. But it is a matter of regret that as yet we have not been able to achieve what we desired and aimed at. That is why we shall have to make our family planning programmes more extensive and shall have to think of means to implement them much more effectively. I will not go into extensive details as that will require a long time. I will only say that it is necessary to take up more extensive and effective programmes in this respect. In the second point of his resolution, Dr. Bhoi has talked about evolving a national consciousness in this matter. Here I will say with sorrow and shame that national consciousness and consensus is not possible because most of our people are illiterate. There are schools in the villages but very few children go to those schools. The reason for this is mainly economic. There is want of consciousness no doubt, but the main reason is poverty. We shall have to think about this aspect also. In this connection I will say that in our country 'creches' have been started for infants and children. Now these 'creches' must be opened extensively all over the country. In these 'creches' the growing children will be taught what they should do when they grow up and the parents will also learn the benefits of education for their children. The immediate economic reasons will not appear so important to them compared to the future benefits of proper education for their children.

Our friend has mentioned about acceptance of the norm of one child per couple. Sir, our country consists mainly of villages. I do not believe that the villagers will accept this 'one child per couple' norm. Especially if that one child happens to be a female, then this

norm will never be accepted. If we impose this one child norm then the father of the female child will have to face many difficulties and miseries. Hence I suggest that we should think of 2 children per couple, not only one child. The third point he has raised about education of girls and women. Here I am ashamed to admit that our women are lagging far behind in the field of education. The number of educated women is very very small. Our government has of course allotted funds for women's education and adult education and is thinking of taking up women's educational programmes through various organisations. Here I will suggest that in the text books for adult education, the subject of family planning must be included in the form of interesting stories. If we advocate family planning in the books in a cut and dried manner, then they will not be acceptable. Hence we should preach them through interesting stories.

The fourth point of the resolution speaks about health care to women. Sir, I am ashamed to say that although the Government has done many things for the improvement of health care, yet in many dispensaries in the villages medicines are not available, Doctors are not available and compounders are not available. Looking to the primary health centres, we are reduced to tears. Nothing is available there. When the Prime Minister came to our State sometime back, he visited some places. He saw for himself the disgraceful conditions. It was published in the newspapers also. Such pitiable conditions do not exist in West Bengal alone, many other States are suffering from similar misfortune. The benefit of the dispensaries and health centres are not reaching all the people in the rural areas. Here I will like to point out to the Government that in our country there are many medicinal herbs, roots, leaves etc. Many ordinary diseases can be cured by their use. Sir, from my experience I am saying that if vocational training in Ayurvedic treatment is imparted to the village women, then they can treat many diseases in the primary stages. I do not like to take a long time on this. I will submit to our Health Ministry that if they want to learn more

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Bengali.

[Dr. Phulrenu Guha]

or want to do something on this aspect, then I can make their contact with various voluntary organisations who are engaged in this noble task. I can also personally help them with whatever little experience I have in this matter.

In the fifth point, mention has been made of a uniform civil code. Sir, even before independence when we carried out '*Nari Andolans*' (Women's Agitations), we had been demanding a civil code.

Sir, here I recall those days with pride when I participated in the agitations and movements launched in this connection by the great and illustrious daughters of India like Sarojini Naidu, Vijayalaxmi Pandit, Kamaladevi Chittopadhyay, Amrit Kaur, Hansa Mehta and many others. I had the good fortune of working with them as a humble worker. We still believe in that and even today we launch such agitations. I will urge upon the Government to pay special attention to this and to lay down a uniform civil code at the earliest possible.

The sixth and last point is about setting up a National Population Commission. Here I have to say that the terms of reference of this Commission should be laid down in greater detail. It is necessary to set up such a Commission. This is because we are constantly falling behind our family planning targets. We are spending a lot of money on family planning but if we visit a slum area what do we see? We see that innumerable children are moving about. If we visit a village, we find countless number of children. Specially if we go to a little interior in a jeep, numberless kids run behind the jeep. We are afraid of driving the jeep lest somebody gets runover. If we cannot put a check on this population explosion then all our development efforts will go in vain. Nobody will derive any benefit from them. We shall have to educate the families about the desirability and benefits of family planning. It is our common experience that in an educated and economically well off family, the number of

children are limited. Whereas in an uneducated and poor family the number of children is much larger. They suffer from various prejudices and superstitions. Many of them think that the use of various family planning methods are sinful. If they indulge in family planning, their work will be adversely affected. They are of the view that a larger number of children will assist them in their work and livelihood. Many of them refuse to understand that a smaller number of healthy children are more useful for the betterment of the family. I have discussed this matter with many village women. They say 'how can we carry on with less than 4 or 5 children. What will happen if 2 or 3 of them die? Death among them is quite common. Therefore spread of education among the village women is very necessary. We shall have to go all out to generate consciousness among them about this problem. Family planning programmes should be chalked out accordingly. We should all work together jointly to implement these programmes effectively and to make them a success.

[English]

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDIN (Kishanganj) Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, when I look at the contemporary world scene and particularly when I focus my attention on our own region, our own country, I find there is a race between natural resources and human population and the human race is losing this race, despite the progress that we have made in man's control over his environment, man's conquest of productive forces, man's adoption of science and technology. And there, Sir, the need for a control on population in order to secure for all human beings, a minimum measure of progress and development, a minimum standard of living, a life of dignity, cannot be over-emphasised. But while we are so clear about the end, I think, we lack clarity about the means to achieve this end. If our objective is to control population rise in order to secure a better life for man, we cannot possibly adopt means which go against his basic dignity. If our objective is to meet the essential needs of man to fulfil minimum requirement which

would enable him to lead a life of dignity, then we cannot adopt methods such as wars, epidemic, famine, etc. which were some time in the past adopted as measures of State policy in order perhaps to control the growth of population. We reject those measures. Now, we are in an era where we think that a State can do everything and therefore our emphasis has been on what the State can do in this regard. I submit Mr. Deputy-Speaker that even the State cannot make an absolute or limitless intervention in this particular phenomenon. Whatever the State decides to do, whatever the State proposes to do must be subject to the voluntary will of the people. Therefore, to my mind, the question of population control or population limitation is primarily a moral question which has to be handled with the human dignity aspects in view.

Sir, in India or in any under-developed society or any developing country, the essential need to is build up a measure of confidence among the people. We have to give them the hope that infants shall not die prematurely. The other day we had a discussion in this House and we found that the infant mortality rate was extremely high. Well, we have had a number of statistical analyses in various parts of the country and it has been established that in regions or in areas and in localities where we have been able to upgrade the quality of child welfare upgrade the quality of family welfare of maternity welfare, in order to give the people the hope that the children who are born shall not die prematurely, we have been able to bring down the desire of the people to have more children and therefore, the population growth rate. So, to some extent it is a question of building up the right psychology through the right intervention by the Government in the field of welfare through both officially sponsored and voluntary programmes.

Secondly, it is the question of information. There are still large groups of people in our country who, because of illiteracy, do not quite understand the relationship, many of them, I can assure you, do not even know the

relationship between a sexual intercourse and the conception of a child. This information has to be brought home and therefore, here also the State can play a meaningful role in extending the area of information and making the basic information available to all the couples of a particular age.

Sir, it has also been established that to the extent that we raise the level of education we are able to bring down the rate of population growth. But what is still more important is that there is a direct co-relationship between the standard of living and the level of socio-economic development and the number of children per family. Sir, it is not automatic that responsible parents want to give as good a life, if not a better life, to their progeny than what they have themselves been able to have, and therefore, we find that in the upper strata of society where there is a greater certainty that the children shall live also, shall mature, shall receive the right education, there is also a desire that in order to give them the best that they are entitled to, we have to limit the number of people. Sir, there is of course a question of lifestyle which goes on changing from society to society. It has been said that perhaps in the rural areas without electricity the rate of population growth is higher and it can be brought down if we simply introduce electricity because once we introduce electricity, we change the entire life pattern of society. You give people many more things to live for. Therefore, Sir, all these questions you have got to take into account when you think of measures which will help us to attain the objective.

The primary question, therefore, in our country is the question of economic development and included in that question is also the question of disparity in the level of development. If we are able to bring the minimum level of development for every human being and if we are able to reduce the disparities that still persist in our society between section and section, between region and region, between class and class, I am sure that the rate of population growth can be brought down to a uniform low.

[Sh. Syed Shahabudin]

In any case we have got to understand that in a democracy there is no place for coercion and therefore, coercive methods are out of court. Even if they are sanctified by laws, Yes, you can have incentives in the overall interest of society, but incentives are one thing, penalties are quite another. Can we ever conceive of a society in which we can say that the third child should be put to death, or in the case of third pregnancy, the mother shall be subject to a compulsory abortion. Are we in favour of foeticide? Can we bring our moral fibre to accept that level of coercion? No, we cannot. Therefore, whatever we do, we should keep in view that the coercion should not be the name of the game. Whatever we decide, whatever incentives we give, we must take into account, our deep sense of moral values, our traditional value system, our cultural ethos and, if I may say so, our religious convictions. In any case, laws cannot change the society. We have seen that in the case of a number of pieces of social legislation that we have enacted in our country, some-times those legislations are being reduced to merely pieces of paper. They are not implemented. For example, one effective way of controlling the growth of population would have been a limitation or upgrading of the age of marriage. We passed a law on child marriage. We know that the law has proved to be a dead letter. Millions and millions of children today in India are still being married in various places. Therefore, I am only giving an example, if you enact a law which goes against the basic moral and traditional fibre of society, without upgrading the level of consciousness, without upgrading the level of education, the level of development, then *these laws only adorn Statute Books by themselves. Whatever be the police power of state in the hands of my friends, Mr. Sontosh Mohan Dev, he cannot change the living pattern of the society.*

I have also given an amendment here to this resolution. What are we essentially aiming at? From a purely scientific point of view, if you can reduce the period of effective

fertilisation of a human females if you reduce the possibility, you reduce the rate of population growth. From a scientific point of view, that is the question of reducing the effective period of fertilisation of a couple during a period when they are capable of producing a child. Now, they have been, of course, trying this in many scientific ways— whether you raise the age of marriage or whether you adopt chemical methods or mechanical methods or surgical methods. Whatever you do, essentially what you are doing is to reduce the effective period of fertilisation.

Now, I would like to point out to you the reasons for my amendment and I am not here to talk about why uniform civil code is necessary or why uniform civil code is not necessary, because at a different place and in a different situation, we can argue that point. My basic point is, that uniform civil code is totally irrelevant to this question of population growth. Even if my hon. colleague who moved the Resolution had the question of polygamy in his mind, my submission to him, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, is that polygamy as an institution, is irrelevant, scientifically irrelevant to the rate of population growth. It is because, the effective numbers of females in a given society are decided on the basis of natural principles. That is not in the hands of human beings. Then, given the stock of females, it does not matter who the fertilising agent is. Male's role in this process of fertilisation is extremely limited. It is the female who conceives a child. It is the female who carries the child. It is the female who gives birth to a child and irrespective of who the fertilising agent is, irrespective of whether the fertilising agent is one man the others different, irrespective of whether the same fertilising agent fertilises more than one fertilisation objects, the population growth will be exactly the same. Therefore, to my mind this part of the Resolution is totally irrelevant to the question of population growth, from the purely scientific point of view. If my hon. friend has only this question of polygamy in mind. My basic submission to you is whether one male marries four females or ten females or hundred females, that will only deprive the other males of their

due share of females. It does not change the possibility of fertilisation and, therefore, the effective level of fertilisation or the rate of growth of population in any sense. That is why, I have objected to this part and I have submitted this amendment quite apart from other philosophical and other questions involved.

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Polygamy reduces the growth rate.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : That also is a scientific fact. In a given family , which circumscribes more than one female, then the natural impulse is to reduce the average number of children per female because of the burden of bearing them which lies upon the same unit. Therefore, psychologically it has been established that in fact polygamy might affect in a negative direction the rate of population growth. But I am not here to propound or plead or propagate for polygamy. My basic point is that uniform civil code is totally irrelevant in this resolution. It does not affect the question of population growth. In any case, the inclusion of this particular Clause in this resolution, to my mind, becomes counter-productive because it creates a suspicion that it has got certain political motivation, that it is directed against a particular group which has been resisting the idea of uniform civil code for one reason or the other. Whatever the reason, I am not going into validity of the reasons.

16.59 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair*]

But the fact is that there is a section of people in this country who are unlike Dr. Ambedkar who was the drafter of the Constitution and who had pleaded at the time the Constitution was written that a State should endeavour in that direction but the State shall be mad if they tried to enforce it against the will of the people. A State may have the power but a State must be prudent in exercising that power. He said that specifically in relation to this idea of a uniform civil code. I would only

point out that the inclusion of this particular Clause in this resolution takes away and in a sense produces a negative reaction, as far as the basic objective of having a uniform rate of development and winning this race of resources against numbers in India goes. We must have an effective programme of family planning and of population limitation so that our resources are not outstripped and we can easily ensure a life of dignity and meet the minimum basic needs of all our citizens and all our people. With these words, I present my amendment to the House for acceptance and I request the hon. Mover to accept the amendment in the spirit that I have presented it.

17.00 hrs.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): I would like to make a few observations in support of this resolution moved by the hon. Member, Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi. This is not a new subject. We have discussed this subject often. Last year, in the month of May, if my memory serves me right, this has been discussed under Rule 193 and we had raised more or less similar points. But this Resolution moved by Dr. Bhoi today has made a few suggestions particularly on the norm for every family to be adopted that one family, a couple, should have one child.

Many salient points have been made. The first point that I would like to make in support of the measures that have been suggested is that I do not know with what courage of conviction, we are carrying out this programme. It includes those of us who are taking part in such a debate, including those who sit as Ministers, as officers implementing different programmes relating to the welfare of the people. Laws have been made in connection with the control of population, the growth of population. According to an estimate based on some reading of the Indian situation by a foreign expert, the world will be having, after some years, a sub-human community which will not be able to stand on its own legs in any sense. People will not be able to buy their cloth, purchase their own food and just it would not be

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possible for them to earn their own livelihood. According to that reading, 37 per cent of our population in the country today is in that level. That means, this 37 per cent of the population is not in a position to purchase its own food, to make its own food and earn its own livelihood. If this is a hint, then the expert must be hinting that after some years this sub-human community in India will not be able to exist by itself. This is unfortunate. But we are not going to accept that with so much of pessimism. We do not like to accept that kind of a reading. But we would like to make a reasoned reading of that pessimism in our country. If we look back to our past, soon after the framing of the Constitution, adoption of the Constitution in 1951, we had adopted a policy of our Family Planning when some other developed countries have not even dreamt of adopting Family Planning policy. But we did that. In spite of that, the growth in the population decade by decade is not at all stopping. In spite of that, the growth in the population decade by decade is not at all stopping. It is not being stopped. This only indicates that we have not been able to drive home the matter. But where is the home? This concerns us.

Sir, India is a country with ancient tradition. It is not a new human race or new civilization. It is an old civilization with so many inhabitants with so many inhibitions. In this connection I would like to say that the programme for the population education should be given priority. In 1980, about nine years back from today, a Working Group recommended that this family welfare programme should be an integral part of the general developmental programme. I think theoretically we have accepted that proposition. We do not say that we have not done anything. Even the hon. Prime Minister in his new 20 Point Programme and the former Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi in her Programme have given due priority for this. The taste of the pudding is in the eating. We do not know how much theories, how much laws will be required. We do now know how much discussions we shall continue in this

matter. We have been ridiculing countries like China. We were thinking that that being a vast country with vast population, a certain massacre of population in the event of a war, endless 24 hour war, perennial war will wipe out this population. According to the present rate, China has just been able to control itself this population problem. After some time the population of China itself will be less than that of India. So this shows the amount of will-power, the amount of national determination that has been prevalent in a country like China. It is appreciable. This is very appreciable and this is very admirable. But can we think of that? I think, we cannot imitate China because we have so many small small communities, different provinces in their social and traditional inhibition. Today, we talk of family planning and the population explosion. My hon. friend Shri Shahabuddin has just given a brilliant speech. But then we thought he would make his speech mentioning about the targets. But what has been the target? What has been the objective? I was trying to listen to him as he makes very good speeches. I was just trying to get the target on which he was talking. But the target was missing. He was hovering around somewhere else. I do not know what was the objective of that speech itself. This indicates that there are communities, there are religious groups who still feel that they are in minority, they are still in a weaker position so far as manpower is concerned. Whatever happens at the legal level, whatever happens at the intellectual level about family planning or population growth, they, still in their sub-conscience, are of the opinion that they should have more children. We cannot stop them.

SHRI G. M. BANATWALA: Mere hallucination.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH: I am speaking from my experience. I would like to invite your attention to your own mention that polygamy reduces population. I do not know whether you have been suffering from any hallucination, because facts do not prove that contention. Polygamy naturally has increased population. But you and your

friend Shri Shahabuddin have said in very well words about this. I should say that it was only the jugglery of words. We have also seen the life and society as you have seen.

Now I come to my part of the country where there are small tribal communities. I do not know what is actually our social and national objective. For instance, some communities just want to hear their language in the All India Radio. You just ask about their population. There is a tendency particularly among the Naga Nagas, they are known as a Koki group, they just have the habit of raising the small village, small communities. Still, I do not support them nor can I stop them because it is a fact. How can we have any solution for such a situation? It is for us to suggest solution and for us to make laws and implement them properly. I am giving this example for the consideration of the Government. There are communities who always like to increase their manpower. They believe that by raising their manpower from 5,000 to 6,000 and so on, they will be able to get their rights. This has to be removed. It is for the Government to remove this kind of fear and apprehension that just because you are below one million mark you will miss that opportunity. We have to attack this problem through so many channels of our education and media and so many programmes. So far as Government of India is concerned, they have used their media through Doordarshan and All India Radio and others. After the report received from the working group on population growth, what action has the Government taken? Now everybody is for belling the cat. But who is to bell the cat? We are all in the likeness of rats—each one individually and collectively interested in belling the cat; but who is going to bell the cat? Because everybody is afraid.

Somebody was suggesting that this is a very sensitive issue and should we discuss it in the election year. Election means welfare for the people and the control of population is also for the welfare of the people. Why should we be apologetic and fight shy about it? We should be more practical about it. The only point I would like to make is about the

population education. The working group itself has mentioned that it is going very slow. I should say that the reading they have made is only theoretical so far. In order to increase it to the practical level, we have to take up some other means.

For instance we should like to introduce contraceptive methods or termination of pregnancy, etc. Those who are not legally married, we are not concerned. But we are concerned with those who are legally married. Those who are not legally married, we can stop them producing illegitimate children. There are nursing homes, hospitals, private clinics, etc. practising termination of pregnancies. They are giving the benefit to mostly those who are not married. My information is unconfirmed; this may be true also. This is good in a way because we are not increasing the illegitimate children. But then, those who are married do not care because they are married and their children will be legitimate children. So now the attack should be on the population explosion by married couples. This attack, as my friend suggested, should not be by penalties or by punishment; but by educational methods, by convincing them and by bringing them round. In order to do this, the State Governments can be taken into confidence; but the State Governments are also helpless. They have their own situations and these are beyond the normal control.

Social inhibitions and religious inhibitions are there and we cannot discuss them openly. In order to remove them and make an entry into this difficult area, the only way is to find people to work with a courage of conviction.

In the beginning, I said, what is the conviction of those of us who are public representatives like Assembly Members and Members of Parliament. The problem is the courage of conviction with which the officers work in this field. We leave this to the doctors to explain and propagate as if they are the only agents of social will. They are technicians and they are experts in their fields; but we cannot ensure political will with

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them. As for the expert opinion and technical opinion we can depend on them. But leaving this to them alone is not sufficient. We should involve more of other professions and other social workers who can work with conviction to go into this problem deeper through many channels of opinion. Then only can we expect some good results. I do not like to take more time of the House and in the end I would say that the national policy should stop insisting on strength of population of communities and States for fixing certain privileges and rights. Then the communities will be encouraged in their sub-conscious mind to produce more and more of manpower.

With these few words I thank you for the time you have given to me and I support the measure which has been suggested in this Resolution.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to congratulate Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi who by moving this resolution has focussed the attention of the House on this vital issue and provided us an opportunity to participate in the debate on it. If the growth of population in a country is checked, it can advance and make economic progress in a far better way. So first of all we have to see as how to check the pace at which the population is growing. It has led to an alarming situation. The figures indicate that population of this country is increasing by 17 million every year, which is more than the total population of Australia. It was India, where family planning was introduced first but still we have not been able to solve this problem. No effective measures have been taken in this country to check the growth of population. Rajasthan, where the annual growth rate is 40.7 per thousand, tops in population growth. This is revealed by the figures of 1985. It is followed by Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, where the growth rate is 40.3, 39.0 and 38.3 per thousand, respectively. Sir, due to speedy growth of population we confront a number of problems. It is not the

question of West Bengal, Kerala or Gujarat, it concerns the whole country. I would like to inform the House that Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh are the states where the population is growing very rapidly. But Kerala, Karnataka, Punjab, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and West Bengal are the states where the State Governments have performed very well in implementing the family planning programme and they took effective steps to check population growth. All these States have made a positive contribution in achieving the family planning targets. On the other hand Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have taken no effective measures. I would like to cite the example of countries like China, Japan, who successfully exercised population control after the second world war. I feel that this problem cannot be solved by merely passing laws. There are already good number of laws in our country, but these are not being implemented properly. As such mere law is not enough. This growth sends the prices spiralling in our country. The State Governments are not satisfied with the quota of various commodities released by the centre because the population registers increase beyond their expectation and thus they are unable to provide food to all the people. With the rise in population many un-employed youths in our country do not get employment. I feel that until and unless effective steps are taken to contain population, our problems will go on multiplying. To-day a situation has come where the human population is growing like the population of goats and dogs. This is creating an alarming situation. Two years back diarrhoea spread in Delhi and claimed 600 lives. It is not a happy situation for us. It is a matter of regret, a matter of shame. Population must be controlled in our country. It is also the responsibility of Government whether Central or of States or the local bodies, to take care of the population because the development of the country has become stagnant. I would, therefore, like to request Shri Namgyal to set up a separate cell in the Home Ministry. The Government has launched a number of programmes for population control, but there should be a cell

to review and monitor proper implementation of these programmes and to take corrective steps.

We listened to Shri Shahabuddin's speech, which was on usual lines. But he has also spoken about a uniform civil code. let a committee be constituted under his chairmanship but he too will fail to check population growth in this country. Just now he said, do this and do that. When in the House itself we, Members of Parliament, cannot arrive at a uniform decision, how the people outside can be expected to have one voice. We are facing food crisis in our country due to population explosion. The prices are sky-rocketing. Unemployment in our country is assuming alarming proportion. The number of un-employed youth in our country registered with the employment exchanges, has gone upto about 2 crores. But we do not know the number of those un-employed youth which have not registered themselves. Similarly the number in the unorganised sector is not know. I would like to suggest that a population control board may be constituted in our country, which may consist of intelligentsia, intellectuals, writers, press reporters, etc. You may invite suggestions from all sections of the people of the country through this Board.

My. Deputy Speaker, Sir, one of the reasons of population increase in our country is influx of foreigners into the border States. A large number of persons belonging to other countries enter into our country. I request you to pay due attention towards this aspect. Mr. Chidambaram, people from across the border intrude into our country in North Bengal, Bengal, Tripura and Assam. I do not know the position in regard to other States. Since the day, Bangladesh was declared an Islamic country, a vast number of people have intruded into our country and the process is still on. We have no record as to how many people have come. Both the Central Government and the State Government are worried over this problem. You may not feel the impact of this problem at present but later on when we shall step into the 21st century and our country will reach new high

of development, Government will not be able to control population. You should, therefore, pay more attention to this aspect and do something in this connection.

Sir, incentives should be given to control the population. We should also think in terms of discouraging those people who produce more children. But you do something for those persons who motivate or who encourage family planning and do good work in this field. More enactment of laws will not serve any purpose. You cannot do it yourself. You should remove illiteracy from this country and make the people educated. You explain the common man the impact of this drive through mass media. It is very essential to have involvement of the people in this work. If you are unable to involve the public in this work, you cannot create awareness among them. Now-a-days, T.V. has emerged as a popular mass media. But how many people see television these days. Radio is very important media in the rural areas as its programmes reach far flung areas. There are many villages in our country where newspapers do not reach. Number of people not having radio in our country is also for more. You should prepare schemes to create awareness among the people living in interior areas. Teams from the State, Centre and local Administration should be sent there who should convince the people.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would not like to take much time. But this is a very important subject. Until and unless we pay attention to it and control the population, no development can take place in our country during the next generation. When Shri Sanjay Gandhi was alive, he had launched a 5 point programme, out of which 3 to 4 related to population control, blood donation and tree plantation and also a policy of talk less work more. When Shri Sanjay Gandhi gave this slogan, a large number of people criticised him, the leaders of opposition had opposed him. But to-day the country has come to know that the slogan was very essential for the country. When we are holding a discussion on the subject to-day, I would like to apprise the hon. Minister that there is no

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

more controversy on it now and I would request him to give incentives for this. I would not like to talk of any major incentives which might create a serious confusion. Besides, our hon. friends, Shri Shahabuddin and Shri Banatwala will also be confused if I ask for big incentives. I would not like to confuse them. But I would like to say that people who accept the Government policy on family planning should be encouraged by way of promotion and incentives. But the people, whether he is a Minister, an M.P., an M.L.A. a leader of opposition or an Government official, who do not accept the Government policy should not be given any incentive. If you do not take a proper stand, you cannot control the population. If the population is not controlled, the future generation of the country cannot be healthy. There should be stability in the country's economy, the country should develop, our un-employed people should get employment, they should not starve on the roads and our factory workers should not starve. All these things are in the interest of our future generation. This is possible only if the population in the country is controlled.

I request you to accept all the good suggestions, no matter whether they come from the opposition party, the ruling party or anyone else it would not be proper to believe that only the political leaders possess a healthy mind. There are a large number of people in the country who do not belong to any political party and are very brilliant people. Their number is much more in our country. You ask for their suggestions and recommendation, but somehow control the growth of population.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for this is over but there are more speakers who want to speak.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO(Vijayawada): Sir, you extend the time at least by two hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, it is the consensus of the House to extend the time for this discussion by two hours.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, the time is extended by another two hours. Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. I congratulate Dr. Bhoi, my learned friend for having moved this very important Private Member Resolution, which is very vital for the development of the country.

Sir, in his opening remarks he talked about the urgency and importance of family planning in the population control so as to provide better socio-economic conditions to the vast millions of people of our country. Some of the Hon. Members who have preceded me have already given very valuable suggestions. I will not repeat what they have said but I would certainly like to add a few more suggestions. With its present rate of population growth, our country is going to be the most populous country in the entire world. Already, we are nearly 83 crores and by the end of 2001, our country is going to have a population of 98.6 crores. By the year 2050, our country's population is estimated to cross a figure of 159 crores, whereas that of China which is the most populous country may have a population of around 155 crores only. Most probably, by 2040 itself, our country is going to become the most populous country in the entire world. This is mainly because of the population growth in our country, though some fall in the death rate also contributed to this increase in population. The death rate which was 27.4 per thousand between 1941-51 has come down to 12.5 per thousand by 1981. No doubt, birth rate also came down from 41 per thousand in 1966 to 33 per thousand in the Eighties.

Sir, the main concern of the Government as well as the well-thinking persons is

that while India has 15 per cent of the world's population, all these people have to be accommodated in only 2.4 per cent of the world's land area. This is our country's geographical limitation as far as area is concerned. In spite of the best efforts of the Central and State Governments as also of the Union Territories, India's birth rate is still 32 per thousand, while China's is only 20 per thousand. Our population is growing at the rate of 2.1 per cent while in China the growth rate is 1.3 per cent only.

What should the Government do in these circumstances? No doubt, several efforts are being made and those efforts have also brought results partly. But much more is to be accomplished. When we view our neighbouring countries or other countries in the world, we find that several countries have succeeded in arresting the population growth to a great extent. I would specially like to mention the example of our neighbour, Indonesia. Indonesia is a country which has a lot of centuries-old cultural relations with our country. There is Buddhist culture as well as Hindu culture in this country. Even though, 95 per cent of its population comprises Muslims, yet Indonesia has succeeded in arresting its population growth. The Government of Indonesia have contacted the Ulemas who are their religious leaders and impressed upon them that the population should be controlled if the people are to be given a more meaningful life. They have concurred with the opinion of the Government. Those Ulemas and religious leaders have themselves taken up the task of propagating among the people that they must undertake the family planning process and programmes. This has helped the governmental efforts to a great extent and as a result of it, they could bring down the growth rate of population. There the family planning programme is given a very top priority. In fact the National Family Planning Coordination Board was set up. It is directly responsible to the President of Indonesia. It is a very supreme powered body. It coordinates all issues relating to family planning. Even Communist countries like Russia and China have also succeeded in taking the cooperation of

the religious leaders. In Russia also, there is considerable number of Muslim population and religious minorities population. In China, there is a considerable number of religious minorities population. In these countries also, they have succeeded in winning the support of the religious leaders. Unfortunately, in our country it is not so. The other day in reply to one of my supplementary questions, the hon. Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha simply said, we are doing it. Till now I have not come across a single occasion where the Government has taken into confidence these religious leaders. What is wrong in taking into confidence these leaders? Let the Government invite them for a dialogue. The Muslim countries have adopted family planning operation and no religious leader belonging to that faith can say that it is against the Quran or Islamic faith. So, they have to accept it. Fortunately or unfortunately, the people have some faith or some confidence on the *Gurus* or the religious leaders.

Similarly, in Hinduism also, a large number of people may be having a lot of faith on their *Gurus*.

My concrete suggestion is that already several decades have passed; let the Government now invite the religious leaders belonging to Hinduism, Christianity or whatever religion it may be and have a dialogue across the table and convince them and have their cooperation. I hope, definitely, it will help in your efforts for bringing down the population growth. At present Rs. 500/- is given to the people who go in for Vasectomy operation and Rs. 250/- to the people who go in for tubectomy operation. If a Government employee undergoes a family planning operation, he is being given two increments. If we calculate the monetary benefit which he derives by way of these two increments during his entire service, it will come to around some few thousand rupees. He is already educated. He is having a job. He is socially forward. He himself is conscious of the advantages that he will get if he has a small family. He can have a pleasure

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of having a few children. By doing so, he can provide education and all other facilities. He himself knows about it. We are giving such incentives to a person who is already conscious. The people who are living in remote areas, in the villages, in the far-flung areas because of their poverty or illiteracy think that having more children is a gift of God. As my friend Shri Vijaya Rama Rao and some other friends have said, children are God's gift. He is a poor fellow. He has no land. He has no house to share with and so on. He may not be having large income for a small family. So, the Government should think more seriously as to how to convince that illiterate man in the rural area to have this family planning operation accepted. So, my suggestion is that this amount which is presently being given as an incentive for acceptance of family planning programme should be enhanced at least to not less than Rs. 500 for Vasectomy and Rs. 750/- for Tubectomy operation. Now, apart from these employees who are working in the family planning or family welfare programme of the Government, there are good number of basic health workers who are spread in every village. During 1977, when the Janata party Government was in power and Mr. Raj Narain was the Minister of Health, he had introduced a new health scheme wherein for over one thousand population, there will be one basic health worker. He works among the people in that one thousand population, he supplies the medicines, whatever is being given by the Government to the needy people, and then he gives then some advice about the diseases, to go to some hospital or he will take them there. They are the people who are living in those locations and they have got a better advantage to communicate, to convince and to propagate about the benefits which those poor and illiterate people get if they undergo family planning operations or participate in the family planning programme. Now, what is it you are giving to them? A pittance! Only Rs. 150 in some cases and in others more or less the same. For Rs. 150 how can you expect any work from them?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is only Rs. 50/-.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Yes, it is Rs. 50/-. We give for on day Rs. 30/- to a male worker or Rs. 25/- to a female worker is working in the agricultural land for four or five hours, and how can you expect any work from those basic health workers, if for one month you give only Rs. 50 to them? why do you not enhance it? After all, even the lowest paid employee in our Government service is getting Rs. 1200 or Rs. 1500. Then, what Heavens will fall if you give Rs. 500 to those basic health workers, per month? That will give them some encouragement, and a satisfaction also to them, and they will in turn more vigorously work among the people, in their habitations and they will themselves propagate and they will take all such people who are eligible or fit to undergo family planning operations, that means those who have two or three children already. They know who those people are. They can take all such persons to the hospitals. I request the Government to consider and accept this suggestion.

In some countries some incentives are given. My friend Mr. Shahabuddin said that there should be no compulsion, that there should be no coercion and that there cannot be any law. But at the same time, my suggestion is that the Government has certainly a right to give incentives, to see that the people accept this programme as a national programme, as a people's which will encourage them to take up these programmes.

I want to make a few suggestions in this regard. Suppose a person has undergone an operation after one child and he is satisfied with that one child, if he himself or his wife undergoes the family planning operation, then my suggestion is that the Government may give two pairs of dresses to that child when he enters elementary school, and up to the higher secondary level you give two pairs of dresses to that child every year. Suppose a family adopts family planning after having two children, in such cases you give one pair of dress to the children.

Now, our Government in Andhra Pradesh is giving so many things, making available *dhotis* and *saris* to poor people who are having green cards, by spending nearly Rs. 30 crores at the State level. In the recent Budget it has been announced that it will give *saris* to destitute women.

what is wrong if the Government announces some incentives to the poor people in this way, giving two pairs of dresses to a small child when he goes to the elementary school if the parents undergo the operation? This will not only give encouragement to the parents to undergo the operation but this will also have an additional advantage, because our Government thinks that the human resources, will be utilised and the people of this country will be of more use for the development of this country. And we will succeed in reducing the drop-outs at the secondary level. Though at the elementary level many children are joining the school, by the time they come to the secondary level many children are dropping out. This may bring down the drop-out rate and encourage the children to continue their studies. I request the Government to consider this point also.

Similarly we are constructing houses. Our Government in Andhra Pradesh is constructing houses. We have constructed 85 lakh houses. Now, the Government is, under the RLEGP programme, giving houses to the poor people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Now we have Home Loan Account and some other schemes recognising the need to provide help to the poor and needy people. In this programme, you can give top priority to the poor person, who is eligible under economic norms a house, when he undergoes operation with one child. In China, almost all the people have accepted one child norm. In our country, we could not succeed till now. The Government should try to give incentives in this way to a poor person who undergoes operation with one child. In the matter of allocation of housesite or house, you can give top priority to a person who undergoes operation with one child and you can give top priority to a person who undergoes

operation with one child and you can give second priority to those who undergoes operation with two children. Like this, you can certainly give incentives and encourage the people. You need not undertake coercive methods just like my friend from the other side Kumari Mamata Banerjee was telling about how things have gone when Sanjay Gandhi was there. I do not want to criticise or find fault with it...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): There was no coercion. You are under wrong impression. Commissions were appointed in all the States and it has come to light that not a single death was due to family planning...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Sri Ajay Mushranji, with due respect to you, peoples verdict was there...(Interruptions) I am not trying to find fault with it...(Interruptions)

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Naturally you damage the revolution which would have come into this country by family planning programme initiated during 1975-77. The opposition took political advantage...(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: I am not trying to find fault. I only want to say how things went on. What I want to say is, without giving scope for such a situation to develop, you can give incentives in this way so that people themselves come forward and undertake family planning.

Another point I would like to make. Even though we have enshrined in our constitution a directive principle that after ten years, there will not be any illiteracy or there will be universal adult education, unfortunately the literacy among women is still very low. One glad feature is that in Kerala, which is having a very high literacy among women, population control has come to a higher level. That means, in Kerala, women have accepted family planning as a must and as a result of that, the population growth is only 1.2 per cent. My submission is, let the Gov-

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[Translation]

eminent make all efforts to increase the literacy among the women, which will help in arresting the population growth.

Another suggestion is, the Government can bring a proposal that no person with more than two children will be eligible to get the Government job or the job in public undertakings...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI AZIZ QUERSHI (Satna) : To be come Members of Parliament also....*(Interruptions)*

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : There is nothing wrong in it. The Members of Parliament need not be exempted. When it is a good thing, it can be made applicable to everybody. Unless you think of some such measure, we cannot arrest the population growth. I only urge upon the Government to think on this line.

Lastly I say that for decades we have been seeing that family planning methods like condoms are used by menfolk only and the same thing is continuing for decades and decades together while new methods have been adopted in other countries. Why should the Government not take certain measures to bring such changes in contraceptives that are supplied in our country? There is nothing wrong in that.

Finally, I agree with Dr. Bhoi that a National Population Commission should be set up. I suggest, let the Prime Minister head his Commission and let the Chief Ministers be the members of this Commission. This Commission should evolve new methods because we have already tried certain other avenues. Let us give new shape to family planning and let family planning become people's programme. Then only we can achieve our target, limit our population growth and thus help the poor and common people of this country and as per Mahatma Gandhi's wishes, everybody will get equal status and facilities in this society.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Chairman, Sir, when we were married and we produced children, we did not have so much awareness and this caused huge loss. But the present generation should remain very cautious about it.

As Dr. Bhoi has said viz there should be not more than one child in a family. If this norm is followed in our country, we can do a lot of welfare for the country. China, being a vast country and having a population of 100 crores has adopted this norm. They have set an example before us by following this norm. When a country like China could adopt this policy, why can't we adopt it. We should also adopt it. The hon. Member has laid emphasis on the point of having a uniform civil code for the whole country.

An hon. Member, who was speaking just now, was opposing the idea of uniform civil code. Thereafter, Kumari Mamata Banerjee also spoke but she did not make the point clear. These hon. Members were of the view that population does not increase by the people who keep 4 to 5 wives. They understand that polygamy leads to a fall in population. But it is definitely a wrong notion. Any effort to adopt such a notion will also definitely prove to be wrong.

Shri Bhoi has submitted that there should be a uniform civil code in the country. It should definitely be done in the right earnest. This has been the case with other countries having multi-racial population. Muslims and Christians and the people belonging to all castes, live there. They have adopted a uniform law. They have enforced uniform civil code in all civil rites, whether it is the case of marriage or any other rites. If this system is followed in our country, it will do a lot of good to our country. Otherwise, the population of our country which was 33 crores before independence and is now 80 crores, will reach the alarming figure of 100 crores by the turn of 2000 A.D. When the population is only 80 crores, our plans are being dislocated. Now 38 per cent people

live below the poverty line. They have no shelter, no food to eat, no clothes to wear. They do not receive education and get medical facilities. How can it be possible for us to provide all facilities to such a vast population. It is, therefore, very essential to check this population growth.

During the last 40 years a lot of progress has been made. No other country has made this much progress. But it seems as if nothing has been done. Let us take the case of education. I would like to make a reference to Rajasthan in this connection. Only 36 per cent men and 12 per cent women are educated in the State. How can we think of launching this programme in a State where a vast majority of people is uneducated. That is why education is most needed in our country. We can set things right if all our children are educated. Primary education should be made compulsory for both boys and girls. The hon. Member laid much emphasis on women's education, but I feel that special attention should be paid to both men and women's education. Just like the primary education, more and more children should be given middle and secondary education. Thereafter, instead of giving priority to B.A. and M.A. standard of education, more attention should be paid towards technical education so that we could produce more and more technicians who will contribute their might to the progress of the country. If necessary, these people can go for their self-employment also. But employment cannot be ensured by simply doing graduation of M.A. It is very essential to pay attention to it. We can be successful in this programme if we pay attention towards the education of both boys and girls. Otherwise we will confine ourselves in our religious activities making claims that this religion should have more population and that religion should have less population. The whole system will be dislocated in religious fanaticism. That is why education is quite essential to run the whole system in a systematic manner. Just now Shri Rao was telling that efforts are being made in other countries like China, the U.S.S.R. and even in our neighbouring country Pakistan to adopt this pro-

gramme, whereas in our country we drag religion into the question of implementation of this Programme and issue religious verdicts against it. Due to this the population increase. This sort of things must be stopped.

18.00 hrs.

How is it possible to implement this programme by enforcement of law. There can be no comparison between China and our country in this regard. Because, in China a law, once enacted, becomes applicable to all. But this proposition cannot be made applicable in a democratic country like that of ours. Just now an hon. Member was speaking and Colonel Sahib opposed his views. But it is a fact that much emphasis was laid on the population control in 1977. In 1977 the opposition parties tried to instigate the people of this country against us. During the Janata rule late Shri Raj Narain was himself the hon. Minister of Health, about whose programme Shri Rao was just mentioning that Health workers were appointed for this purpose. Today no Health worker is looking after the work of family planning programme. Shri Rao was telling that people accept the programme only when they are given various incentives like house at some places, digging of wells or supplying power or State Government should give incentives. As people have no education, they are attracted towards this due to avarice or for some incentives. We went through the family planning programme that was undertaken last year. It has been stated in the figures that one doctor had conducted 4 vasectomy or 4 tubectomy operation in a day. It is not at all possible for a doctor to conduct so many operations in a day. In this way efforts are made to give fictitious figures. There are cases where one person is shown to have undergone vasectomy operation twice such type of fictitious figures are being shown. This state of affair must be checked. This work will be successful only when Government officials, some selected persons and social workers are deployed in this task. It cannot become successful until and unless people are involved in this work and who

[Sh. Girdhari Lal Vyas]

discharge their duties honestly. I would like to make yet another submission. Our I.A.S. I.P.S. Officers and State Government Officers or those working in public sector undertakings bring cases, but the Patwaris, Tehsildars, B.D.Os, S.D.Os and Collectors show these cases against their names. When the time of awarding prizes comes, those studious workers who contributed their might to do maximum propaganda of the programme remain in the back ground. All the prize shabe have been received by Government officials. Thereafter it discourage the genuine workers who contributed their might to make this programme a success. The system has got to be changed. Incentives must be given whether he is a collector or any other officer or somebody working in a public undertaking. The higher the authority, the more he wields his influence. Today there was a question on family planning and I had put my supplementary.

As regards the Family Planning Programme about which you have stated that health facilities will be made available to all by the year 2000. I would like to know as to how will the Government achieve this target? The Government should enlighten us about the number of the people likely to be covered under each health centre and each sub-centre? Further, whether Family Planning workers to be appointed and whether necessary medicines have been made available? How can medical facilities be available to all without making these arrangements? Thousands of such operations take place and some cases may go unsuccessful and may get complicated and post operation treatment becomes necessary. What are your proposals regarding post operation treatment? Even if the poor man is in a dying condition after such an operation, no medical help is available. Everyone is ready to get appreciation but no one is willing to make necessary arrangements for post operational treatment in case of complications arising out of such operations. Therefore, it is absolutely essential to pay attention in this direction. This will boost the morale of

the common people and they will feel that their Government takes care of their interests. If a person with one of two children dies as a result of undergoing sterilization operation and the Government takes care of his children and makes necessary arrangements for their upbringing then the morale of the people will be boosted and they will feel assured in every way. They will also grow to expect that Government will provide old age pension and they will never have to face extreme poverty. It is only after all such arrangements are made that this programme can be successful. Along with it, it is imperative to provide facilities for strengthening the financial position of the people. Unless the Common man is able to stand on his legs, he cannot think of such matters. Hence, all these aspects here to be looked into.

A National Population Commission should be appointed to control the growth of population in the whole country. Its recommendations should be implemented appropriately. All the religions should participate in it and all the recommendations should be implemented properly as only then there can be an effective check on population explosion. More funds will be required for this purpose. Government provides Rs. 2000 crores for the Family Planning Programme but most of the amount is spent in giving T.A./D.A. to the officers and the money given to provide incentives is misused. Therefore, this programme should be implemented honestly and each incentive should honestly be given for its effective implementation. The 20 Point programme seeks to provide all kinds of facilities like these of housing, irrigation, drinking water supply, education of children, health facilities and digging of wells etc. to the people living below the poverty line. This type of arrangement will encourage people and they will have more confidence in the Government and will make all out efforts in making this programme a success. If the Government is sincerely interested in making this programme successful, it should take it very seriously and with open heart. If we merely table the Budget here and make our submis-

sions and walk away it will not do. We shall have to exert full pressure and make all possible efforts in this direction. An infrastructure is needed for the development of the country. The same way an infrastructure has to be created for the control of population. Therefore, necessary infrastructure has to be created by which this programme can be implemented effectively. I hope that Government will pay special attention in this direction and will make all out efforts to implement this programme and make it a success. Only then can true welfare of the country can take place. Our development programmes will also be successful only when population is under control. We want to uplift the people living below the poverty line and we have prepared several programmes for this purpose. However, they will be successful only when we are able to control our population effectively. Only when we are able to control our population effectively. Only then can the country become prosperous and self sufficient. This is our most important target for the achievement of which the Government, the people and all the the political parties will have to make concerted efforts. It is only then that real economic growth will take place. We shall be able to check population growth through the Family Planning Programme and it is only then that we shall achieve our aim and development of the country can take place.

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the proposal of Dr. Bhoi but I do not agree with the suggestion of bringing a legislation in this regard. Gurudev Rabindra Nath Tagore had said that the birth of every child in this world signifies that God has not lost faith in the future of mankind so far. I think that if Gurudev Tagore had been still alive when the population of this country has exceeded 80 crores, he would have hesitated in making such a statement. He would not have made such a statement at least about India.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, so far as framing a law in this connection is concerned, history

will testify that no revolution in this world has been brought by law. So far as religion and Family Planning Programme are concerned, efforts are made to show them at variance. To say that any religion is against Family Planning, in my opinion, is not based on facts. There is no truth in it. Dr. Bhoi has just submitted something about the Shariat. While speaking on Islam he referred to the 4 Imams and to their followers and to their teachings. Firstly I would like to clarify that there are only 3 basic principles underlying Islam and these are:

- (a) Faith in the Almighty;
- (b) Full faith in Quran as a spiritual text.
- (c) To accept Prophet Mohammad as the last Prophet and have complete faith in his teachings

The person who has faith in all these three things is a true Muslim and a true follower of Islam. It is not necessary to follow any other principle for a Muslim. Whatever the Imams say are merely interpretation these are individual interpretations of various people. So far as the question of Muslims and Family Planning is concerned, it is incorrect to say that Muslim are against Family Planning and I want this matter to be clarified to the people by the House. There is not a single word in Quran, Hadis, or in the teachings of the Prophet which condemns Family Planning. Wherever there has been a difference of opinion and the people have protested, they have done so against abortions. This is so because one section feels that man does not have any right to kill a human foetus since life has already entered into it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You continue next time. Now papers to be laid on the Table.

18.16 hrs.**MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA—***Contd.***[English]**

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Income-tax (Amendment) Bill, 1989 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 29th March, 1989 and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

18.17 hrs.**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—Contd.****[ENGLISH]**

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table.

(1) A copy of Notification No. 112/89/C.E. (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1989 exempting solar photovoltaic cells from the whole of excise duty when used in the manufacture of specified goods even outside the factory of production of solar cells, under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944.

(2) A copy each of Notification Nos. 134/89-Customs and 135/89-Customs (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1989 restoring nil rate of customs duty on specified goods imported for offshore oil exploration/exploitation under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in library See No. LT-7667/89]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House now stands adjourned to meet again on 3rd April, 1989 at 11.00 AM.

18.18 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, April 3 1989/Chaitra 13, 1911 (Saka).