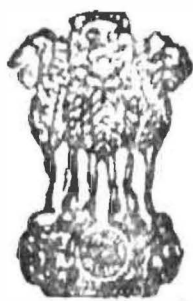


LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

**Thirteenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)**



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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, March 16, 1989/Phalgun 25,
1910 (Saka)*

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

RE: SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS

[*English*]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Sir, we request you to revoke the suspension. It was an unprecedented one. It has never happened in the history of the Parliament. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA (Ponnani): Sir, it is absolutely necessary. It does not look good. Let the suspension be revoked. During the Question Hour proceedings, so many Members are absent... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: It is actually in bad taste... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: At least you can do one thing. Call the leaders of the Opposition in your Chamber and talk to them about revocation of the suspension. Let us find out a solution to the whole problem. This is the Budget Session. The Budget is before the House... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Kolandaiveluji, Banatwallaji, you know my approach.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I am replying to them. Why are you replying?

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki): Shri Banatwalla should have advised the opposition also when they behaved like that... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: I am with you... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: We are with you... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Let me reply, Kurienji. Why can't you let me say something? What I say is, I appreciate the sentiments. I simply and fully agree with you that this is unprecedented. I never can visualise such a situation.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Discipline is a must in the House... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have never thought of doing it. For the last nine years, we have been working like close friends.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: You were very patient and cordial... (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I have tried my level best and according to the rules laid down by

this House, I am always to be at the service of my people.

(Interruptions)

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH (Mahendragarh): So what happened when you called them yesterday in the meeting, we would like to know. You find a way out of this impasse.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When I explained, you were not here. I explained, when I called all my hon. Members—they are as good my masters as you all are, but still I am bound by certain rules—I tried every way to reach a consensus, to do everything possible in my power. I explained to them and also you must have seen yesterday the statement from this side also...

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur): They were disrespectful to you also.

MR. SPEAKER: Look, what I could do is, I cannot break the rules; if the Government is willing or any time willing, if there is anything on the Table here, then I am bound to oblige for a discussion. I have never debarred it and I shall never do it. But what can I do? To appease a certain section, either this side or that side, I cannot do it. If I do it once, it will be a steamrolling thing where all the doors will be broken and I cannot run this House. The way it was all done, I tried my level best, my hon. Deputy-Speaker did his best, to persuade them, we did everything possible, but we could not do anything. Then naturally, what else was there to do? And I left the option open to all of them that these are the two ways to do it — either let the House run or just do away with it. So simple it is. I am really pained; I am not at all feeling happy. I want all my Members here. I want discussion. I want an amicable discussion, however heated the discussion might be, but not like this. This is what I deplore, because I am only concerned with today. What I am concerned is about the future of my institution, of your institution, of this country's institution, because it is the

safest guarantee for the perpetuation of the people's rule over this land. You are the voice. And this voice should not in any way, either by majority or by minority, be taken into their own hands in a way to force the hands. What is given to you is voice, argument and not use force. If force is to prevail, then this democracy will break into pieces. Then I cannot sustain it. Then one day, they will say, "No, no, you, Speaker, you are nothing, you do this thing". And next day, they will do it. So my only appeal to all the sections is this. I feel really very sorry. I am not easy in my mind that this thing has happened and in spite of all the efforts, all the persuasion I could not do anything. So I am feeling the same thing. Mr. Banatwalla, Mr. Kolandaivelu and my other friends. I am never happy to suspend even a single Member, what to talk of all of them. I do not feel happy about it. It has never been my intention to do it. And still if they want all of them to come, I think, they can all get together and a way can be found. I am ready to oblige all of you.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH: The opposition is not to be out of the House when the Budget is being discussed. They represent over 125 million people and they are not participating. It is not fair to the people. And at the same time, if you cannot persuade them, let you and the Government find some ways so that the people in this country may not start thinking that parliamentary democracy is in danger, there is no use fighting elections and it is no use sending people's representatives. It is such a large section of the people that they should not be debarred from raising their voice.

MR. SPEAKER: It is a question of observance of rules.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: The most unfortunate thing is that if some people write something in the newspapers to malign the Government...

MR. SPEAKER: This is something else. It is left to them. What can I say about it?

(Interruptions)

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: An article in the newspapers... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: My responsibility is to run this House according to the rules.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: One individual outside this House in dictating to this Parliament... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please now take your seat. There is nothing on this.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): We share with you, Sir, all the pain that the Parliament itself suffers from today. I have observed all that has happened yesterday most of the time. I do not think that the Government was at fault and I do not know what more the Government can do. Poor Deputy Speaker, in your absence, battled with himself most of the time and he was embarrassed. I thought he was going to make an appeal for the observance of non-violence here in this House. Violence also was made use of. I made that appeal to my colleagues also on this side. A number of them were very much excited. They were not allowed to join hands with those other people who took the initiative in regard to violence, who indulged in violence also. The most extraordinary thing is that quite a number of Members on that side, who I thought were very patient with us all, in the end hastened to ask the Deputy Speaker to suspend them. I speak subject to correction. Quite a number of them, I thought, were not going to be suspended. They were not inclined to join hands with the other people who were being suspended. But nevertheless they allowed their names to be placed on the list of suspended Members and they joined hands with them. What does it mean? They wanted to turn this suspension into a political weapon. That means they wanted to join hands with those people who do not believe in parliamentarianism and non-violent way of settling matters, either in the affirmative or in the negative. Therefore, if Parliament has

to be carried on, if Parliament is to be the spokesman for the national opinion as a whole, and if democracy is to be sustained in this country, I wish to commend the example set by yourself and your Deputy Speaker and also by those Members who exercised more than ordinary patience yesterday with the kind of demonstration of the bazar, of the 'round thana' of the unruly, uneducated, unsocial people who get together at a 'round thana'. But I am extremely sorry that this thing should have happened in this last year of my Parliamentary life—and I suppose my parliamentary life is a record not only in our Parliament but also in all the Parliaments all over the world. Thank you.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH (Padrauna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also want to make a submission. What is happening now is very very unfortunate. Unfortunately, documents of a secret nature seem to be leaking out very often. This Parliament must go into the obsolete Official Secrets Act... *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No, this has nothing to do with it...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You can give me some motion, not like this.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH: I have given a motion today also for Half-an-Hour discussion.

MR. SPEAKER: I will see to it. Now we have the Question Hour. This is something outside it. Nothing doing....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. C.P.N. Singh, you are out of the order....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: No, not allowed....

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: You can give something else, not like this. You are always barking up the wrong tree..

*(Interruptions)**

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this. We will see to it, later on.

[*English*]

Not like this.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): Sir, I would share the sentiments of various Members expressed today. Normally, I would not have stood up to say something, but I thought a little clarification, which I have given already, needs to be given again and that is, with a deep sense of anguish, we had to take recourse to this step of suspending Members after all your efforts, all the efforts in the House, outside the House, inside your Chamber, all possible efforts, had failed and they were frustrated. That was the situation. We waited for a day; we waited for all, we waited for some time and so on and so forth. Nobody will feel happy even if one Member should go out of the House. We would not be happy and no one would be happy. But a situation was created. Even then I made a motion. I said yesterday and I make it clear that originally, it was proposed to suspend only some of the Members of the House. I named them. They have mentioned their names in the Motion, those who were standing in the well of the House. Now, it is for others to see whether they were privy to that or not. It is for them to decide themselves. But when the indication came that no distinction should be made, if some of their people are to be suspended they should also be suspended, when this sort of indication

came that there should be no differentiation between them and, therefore, in that case, if they are to be suspended, they should all be suspended, otherwise, the business of the House could continue to be obstructed, when this situation arose much against my wishes, much against my desire, I had to move that motion. Some of them in their press statement have also said and virtually corroborated what I had said. They said that there should have been no differentiation. Therefore, we asked that all these Members be suspended. Under these circumstances, they had to be suspended. Nobody is happy about it. Government is not happy about it. But we had no other course. Ultimately we cannot allow some people to dictate to the House under any circumstances.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): This has been brought out in the press, Sir. The press is not quoting this kind of information. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: I really agree with what you say. You have also not realised what the position is — one man sitting here in this Chair is in a dialogue, may be the Deputy-Speaker, may be the Speaker or the Chairman, he has to face the hazardous task. He is the custodian, he is your servant and you have entrusted him with the task of ensuring a smooth working and for that you have set some rules. And if they violate the rule and if they go astray and behave like that then they are liable to be taken to task. Or if we do something without an intention, then we might apologise. But when you say that certain things have to be done in a particular way, "No, no, this is not the law but morally this should be done", there comes the question of dividing line and then one has to do something. I did not do it day before yesterday. We tried our level best. I tried the other way also and this is something which I do not like either here or in the State Assemblies. The way it is all going around, this is something casting slur, this is something denigration of the Parliament, this is something anti-democratic. We do not want it to be a mobocracy, we want it to be a democracy

and democracy is through dialogue and through discussion, not with muscle power - that is what I am against. I can appeal for any discussion, I can allow any discussion whatever you like, but it should be under the law. There should be some way by which, through this door or that door I can bring in and I tried my level best. I am feeling so much. I don't feel at ease when my Members are not here in the Parliament. We have to take stern action and that I do with the consent of all my Members also.

Now, Question No. 307 - Shri Jitendra Prasada, no. Q. No. 308 - Shri Narsing Suryavansi - No. Then Prof. K.V. Thomas.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Development of Sports in Kerala

*309. PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government has recently submitted a proposal to Union Government for the development of sports in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The report proposes selection of talented children at Panchayat, District and State levels and their intensive training on a scientific basis with the ultimate objective of preparing them for Olympics and other international sports competitions. The project period is envisaged to be 10 years and is

estimated to cost Rs. 107.54 crores. The project report is being studied in Sports Authority of India and in the Department.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: Sir, even though Kerala is a small State, we have made a commendable contribution in the field of sports and games. Sir, we have submitted a programme for 10 years so that the children in the younger age-group can be given training and finally they can be even fit to take part in the Olympic games. I understand from the answer of the Minister that this proposal is under the active consideration of the Sports Authority of India. My request is that immediate action has to be taken. So, my Supplementary is, there are a number of sports schools in Kerala which are now there for giving a number of good sportsmen to the country. Many of these sports schools lack modern equipment. And similarly, the students in these sports schools could not be given nutritious food due to financial constraints. So, my question to the hon. Minister is whether the Government of India will help the sports schools to acquire modern sports equipment as well as give financial aid to give good nutritious diet.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that we do have schemes to cover both these. We have a scheme for the subsidised equipment to the States where we give matching grants to the States for acquiring the necessary equipment. And as far as nutrition and other things are concerned, we have the scholarships both for the juniors and sub-juniors and for the seniors which have to be used for the nutritional support to the outstanding sportsmen.

Sir, the question essentially related to a proposal which has been submitted by the Government of Kerala and it is only for the State of Kerala and the budget required for the scheme only for that State is Rs. 107.54 crores. Sir, given the constraints that I have a budget in the last plan of Rs. 200 crores for the entire country for five years, so we have been able to give Rs. 107 crores out of it only to one State is something which the Mem-

bers will have to judge whether it is possible or not.

PROF. K.V. THOMAS: This is for 10 years and seen though we have asked for Rs. 107.5 crores, whatever you can give, we will be happy. They have given a proposal.

The second thing is, the Government of India helped the Kerala State by giving financial aid for constructing both outdoor and indoor stadia. But in Kerala the cost of the land is very high, the cost of labour is very high. So, whatever terms which you have fit for other States, will not fit into Kerala and in Cochin, in our constituency, we have started the construction of an indoor stadium with the financial aid from the Government of India. We are happy that the Minister has helped us a lot. But as the cost of the land and that of labour has gone up, we would like to get more financial aid for the completion of this stadium. So many request to the Government is whether they will give more help so that we will be able to complete the construction of both the indoor and outdoor stadia.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, while I appreciate the local problems, I must tell the Member that we have an All India pattern of assistance. I cannot have a separate pattern of assistance for each State. But I would like to tell the hon. Member that as far as the figures of infrastructure are concerned, for 1986-87 against an All India allotment of Rs. 13.75 crores, Kerala got Rs. 1.32 crores. And in 1987-88 they got an extra special grant of Rs. 2 crores for the national games besides the amount of Rs. 1.17 crores under the normal scheme. In fact, Kerala has been getting a very large share of whatever infrastructural grant we have been releasing and they have given excellent results and they have been taking a great deal of interest in sports development. But, Sir, the matching grant by the States to whatever we release has to be 50:50. so, whenever the proposals come individually, we consider them and give our share, but the State also have to be prepared to put in an equal amount. Only then can we hope to give further relief.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: The hon. Minister has just said that the financial grants or aids are given to the sports development through the State Government. The hon. Minister had been to my constituency, Jabalpur, two years ago and she had declared a certain amount for the construction of sports complex at Jabalpur. Only a few days ago in answer to my question, the hon. Minister has said that they are awaiting the project from the State Government.

I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any law or Act or ordinance or regulation or rule under which the Government of India is debarred to ask the State Government for expediting a particular project.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: I would like to remind the Member that sports is still a State subject. It has not yet come on to the Concurrent List, though we have been in touch with the State Governments and we have introduced draft legislation for bringing it on to the Concurrent List.

Basically I cannot fund a project directly in a district or to a local body except through the State Government. We write to the State Government. We invite them to the grants giving committee, whenever there is a problem. But most often, the state Governments do not respond. They do not tell this to the MPs. But when we contact them, they say,

[Translation]

We do not have money. Where from we can give our share.

[English]

It is because they are not able to give their 50% of the shares. They do not send their proposal to Delhi because they have to give a matching grant when we give it.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: They do not want to give to Jabalpur. They will give somewhere else.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: That is your local problem. You should chase it.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you know, a rich sports talent is available in Rajasthan. Kenyan sportsmen earned a name by displaying their high standard of games in the recent Seoul Olympics. Similar sportsmen can also be spotted in Rajasthan. Rajasthan is mainly a desert area where people graze their sheep and goats. They are habitual of travelling a long distance on foot. If we make some efforts, we can spot promising sportsmen there. Will the hon. Minister State whether Government will consider setting up Sports Centres in areas like Sikar and Jhunjhunu keeping in view the rich sports potential available in these areas?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: The hon. Member might be aware that we have already sanctioned a scheme to construct a stadium in Sikar. Recently I went there and discussed about foundation stone laying ceremony, but I came to know that the State Government does not have adequate funds at present.

[English]

They have actually delayed the laying of the foundation stone. We have already sanctioned it on his recommendation. If the hon. Member would like to give us a proposal for Jhunjhunu or some desert area for sports development, we are prepared to consider it, when we receive it.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: I do agree that it is not possible for the Government of India to give more than Rs. 100 crores to a particular State. I know, our State Government is sending proposals not with the intention of getting things done, but for their propaganda. But one aspect we will have to take into consideration that Kerala is a State which has produced international sports persons like P.T. Usha, Valasamma, Shiny Abraham etc. One thing also which

you have to appreciate is that parents or the people in Kerala are very liberal and are prepared to send their daughters unlike many other States, in the field of sports. Taking that aspect into consideration, why do you not show some special consideration for the Kerala State, specially for training ladies?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We provide funds only for projects. For training, if I give separately for ladies, I will be charged with discrimination in favour of them. (*Interruptions*). I cannot be partisan. I would like to tell the hon. Member that in his own constituency we have given the All-India Water sports Complex. It is coming up for local talent for water sports. Whenever we have found talent and whenever we have found minimum infrastructure, we have put in money to develop and create All-India infrastructure in Kerala. I will not go into the details lest I should be charged of discriminating against the others.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: What about my constituency? I request the hon. Minister to give something to my constituency also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We have given them so much. They want more and more. (*Interruptions*)

Shrimp Fishing by Multipurpose Fishing Boats

*310. SHRI SOMNATH RATH†:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

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

(a) whether large units are plying multipurpose fishing boats for shrimp;

(b) the number of such foreign, made boats fishing off Orissa Coast;

(c) whether this is against the rules and affecting all sectors of fishermen; and

(d) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). A large number of multipurpose deep sea fishing vessels are plying off the Indian coast for purposes of catching fish including shrimp. Such Vessels can ply anywhere off the Indian coast. As such it is not possible to give the number of such vessels fishing off the Orissa coast.

(c) and (d). Questions do not arise since these vessels operate beyond the area of operation of mechanised and non-mechanised fishing vessels.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a ban on this multipurpose deep-sea fishing vessels. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there was a Working Group set up by the Government and what were the recommendations of the Working Group in this regard. I would also like to know as to what is the chartered policy of the Government and whether the Government will entrust the Coast Guards to check the illegal fishing.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: Sir, it is true that when indiscriminate fishing was done, a Working Group was set up. It sat down and gave certain recommendations. Would you like me to repeat those recommendations? The recommendations are: i) More number of deep sea fishing vessels should not be permitted for shrimp trawling in the North East Coast of India; ii) Government should encourage diversified fishing and suitable incentives may be given to them; iii) A legislation enforcing Mesh Regulation of Cod End at 35 MM and above instead of 18 to 25 MM as prevalent now all along the coast should be enforced; iv) Installation of outrigger should not be permitted on deep sea fishing vessels. Even provision for fixing outrigger at a later stage should not be permitted; v) A high-level technical Committee may be constituted to inspect deep-sea

fishing vessels and to issue necessary certificate to the effect that the vessel conform to the approved specification with respect to type, fishing equipment and fishing gear for which permission has been given by the Government and vi) Mercantile Marine Department should be instructed/informed that all fishing vessels may be registered only on production of technical certificate issued by the Expert Technical Committee.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH: The hon. Minister has not replied to my suggestion. I wanted to know whether the Coast Guards would be entrusted with the responsibility to check this illegal fishing. I hope the hon. Minister will consider that suggestion. Now I put my second supplementary.

Sir, the fishermen in Orissa coastal areas are very poor. They catch fish with the help of country boat. They are not able to compete with the mechanised vessels. They are not able to earn their livelihood since illegal fishing is going on in those areas. All these fishermen are very much harassed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister certain details. There is also a Fishing Act in Orissa. The hon. Minister has stated that initiative would be taken to support and give credit to such poor fishermen. Will the hon. Minister think of assisting these poor fishermen of Orissa? Will he see that they are given sufficient credits to have those mechanised vessels? Will he also see that they are not exploited by the fishermen of other parts?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: First, I will first take the first part of the question. The Orissa Marine Fishing Regulation Act was enforced in 1982. It was very fairly and properly demarcated that traditional non-mechanised boats can fish up to 5 kms. from the shore and this was reserved for the traditional crafts. Then mechanised boats with the length of 15 metres are allowed to operate beyond five kilometres from shore. Then mechanised boat vessels of 25 gross tonnes and above or vessels above 15 metres length should be allowed to operate beyond ten kilometres from shore. Now any

fishing vessels is allowed to operate beyond 25 nautical miles from the shore. No vessels is allowed to inter-change the base without permission of the concerned authorities. Now, no restrictions can be put on outside trawlers whether it is from Andhra or Kerala. Our land is common for everyone, our water is common and our rivers are common. But the local State Governments do regulate according to the things which I have just mentioned. And wherever foreign vessels potch into, that is where our coastal guards come. And we have caught quite a number of boats. In that way, we do safeguard the Indian fishermen. I would not like to say about a particular State. Indian fishermen may belong to any State, they can fish in our waters.

SHRI K. PRADHANI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal to have a fishing harbour at Nawagarh in Puri District? What is the progress made so far in this direction? Secondly, I would like to know whether there is any proposal for a Shrimp Hatching Centre at Gopalpur and what is the progress made so far.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: In Orissa, we had sanctioned two fishing harbours. One is 'Dhamra' sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 69 lakhs, and the other is 'Astarang' sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 313.22 lakhs. Both are hundred per cent ready. We have no other plan at Puri at this particular moment.

As far as hatching of Shrimp is concerned, my senior colleague Bhajan Lalji is concerned with that. It does not come under my Ministry.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the multi-purpose deep sea fishing vessels are allowed to catch Shrimp also. I understand that when boats are allowed to be imported the stipulated condition was that they should not try to fish for shrimp. If you allow these multipurpose vessels to catch Shrimp, there will be two problems. On the one hand, Shrimp will

be over-exploited and we are facing that crisis—and on the other hand, they will not be catching fishes other than Shrimp. The result will be that the fishing industry will be in sickness. Most of the fishing units are already sick because of over-fishing of Shrimp. Shrimp is a costly fish. Everybody is trying to catch Shrimp violating the stipulated conditions. You are allowing them to violate the conditions. I would like to know how it happens. Secondly, what are you going to do regarding the sickness of the industry? We are not increasing the quantity of catch. Though export is increasing, industry is getting sick. There are certain demands from the industry. I would like to know whether you are considering those and doing something to revive the industry from sickness.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: I agree with you that exports are increasing in terms of rupees but not otherwise. It is because of trawlers becoming expensive. I agree with you. I would like to inform you that acquisition of Shrimp trawlers allowed in 1968 and 1973 and in 1977, it was banned because we did not permit them, and we allowed multi-purpose fishing vessels. But we put conditions which will not allow them to fish the Shrimp. Now there are only two places in the whole country where Shrimp can be fished, that is, the sand head of Orissa and West Bengal. Now we are doing it in Bhajan Lalji's department. We are doing it now in the back waters where there are hatcheries. I think we are going in a big way. There we are not allowing multi purpose vessels to put on outriggers which sweep the floors and catch hold of Shrimps. There are baby eggs also. We are doing everything possible. Last two years we had drought. Sometimes it looks strange that how the drought on land affects sea. But Shrimps live on vegetation which the rivers bring to sea. That is why there are sand heads in Orissa and West Bengal. That is one of the reasons. We have not yet done the full capacity shrimps catching. We are doing everything possible to see that we regulate it in such a way that we do not miss the babies also.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN: You did not answer my second part of the question. The fishing industries are sick. *(Interruptions)* What is the attitude of your Ministry?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: My attitude is very sympathetic and I hope the same sympathetic attitude will be taken by the Finance Ministry.

DR. DIGVIJAY SINH: I would like to apprise the Members that there are parts of the world like Peru where overfishing has totally depleted the entire fishing resources of those areas. We are heading in that direction. As an environmentalist I would like to ask what research is being carried out to arrive at an optimum carrying capacity of specially crustaceans such as crabs, shrimps and lobsters on our sea coast; how much can we take? Has any inter-Ministerial research been done in this field? What has been done to find out why the prawn culture as an industry is not developed in our country? What is being done to coordinate between the Agriculture Ministry, the Departments of Fisheries and Environment to see that all the mangroves which have been destroyed where prawn breeds are restored? That is the breeding ground and all the mangroves have been destroyed totally all over the coast of India. Lastly what sort of regulation are you going to have to see that we don't overfish and the number of fishing licences are controlled?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER: The Hon. Member has asked a question which is directly related to the Agriculture Ministry. I will coordinate on this particular very important aspect which he has brought to our notice with my senior colleagues and we can be probably able to do something.

Drop-Out Rate Amongst Scheduled Caste Students

*317. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the drop-out rates amongst

the Scheduled Caste students have been increasing in spite of various incentives and scholarships being given to the Scheduled Caste students; and

(b) if so, what other facilities and concessions Government propose to give to the Scheduled Caste students in order to encourage them for continuing their studies?

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

(b) Does not arise.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: The answer given by the Minister is not satisfactory. The Governor of Tamilnadu had stated on 28th December 1988 that the drop out rate in the schools for Scheduled Caste students was increasing. This was a serious problem. The rate of progress in the education of students from the Scheduled Caste had been alarmingly low. Though the Government had so far set up 1150 schools exclusively for Scheduled Caste, hardly 30% of the 2.43 lakh students who studied in these schools made it to the school finals. About 70% of the students passing out from the schools and 80% passing out of the degree course were from affluent families.

In view of this I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government would consider opening of schools like Navodaya Vidyalayas or Kendriya Vidyalayas in those areas where a large majority of families belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are living because to uplift those people the best course would be to take the schools at their doorstep?

SHRI L.P. SHAHI: It is a fact that there is a very large rate of drop-out. Although statistically it is not increasing yet it is not a matter of satisfaction because the drop-out rate is still high. So far as opening of Navodaya Vidyalayas for such people is con-

cerned we are processing with a plan to open one Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district possibly in the present Plan period. But I am sorry to inform that Tamil Nadu Government has not yet come forward to help us in opening of new Navodaya Vidyalayas in that State. So far as other facilities are concerned the facilities being afforded to members of SC and ST are arranged by various departments. Education Department has put reservation of seats in all its institutions for members of SC and ST. It has also given instruction for relaxation in standards so far as admission is concerned. Some scholarships are also available. Other facilities are being afforded by the Welfare Department which gives pre-matric, post matric, hostel and different other facilities. Some of the State Governments have gone still further and they are providing free meals or uniforms not only to these people but also to the students in a particular age group concerning other castes also.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Sir, even after affording incentives and various other facilities to the SC students the drop-outs are there. To arrest this phenomenon, I would suggest that the Government may consider conducting examinations separately and exclusively for the SC and SC students from the Tenth standard onwards. The question papers may be set much easier keeping in mind various other considerations to be given to this class of students. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any scheme of conducting separate examinations especially for SC students.

SHRI L.P. SHAHI: At present there is no scheme for conducting a separate examination but I have already stated we have provided relaxation in the standard of marks in case of SC and ST students. So far as Navodaya Vidyalayas are concerned we have more students from scheduled castes than what their percentage was indicated. That shows scheduled caste students are also competing and coming in the Navodaya system.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: As far as Tamil Nadu is concerned the drop-out rate there is very less because of the nutritious meal scheme brought by our late-lamented Chief Minister, Shri M.G. Ramachandran. The drop-out rate with regard to scheduled caste students and poor peoples children is very very less as compared to other States. As regards Navodaya Vidyalayas you have mentioned that you are going to start such school in each and every district. Actually as far as the language policy is concerned we have made it clear to the Central Government and also to the Department of Human Resource Development that there should be a two language policy. You are imposing Hindi in the non-Hindi speaking areas also. That's why we are against these Navodaya Schools. Unless you adopt the two-language policy of our founder leader, Mr. Annandurai, we will not accept these Navodaya Schools. That's why we have made it clear. Will this Government come to the help of the non-Hindi speaking States where the Navodaya Schools can be stated by adopting the two-language formula?

SHRI L.P. SHAHI: Navodaya Vidyalayas and Central Schools have a pattern of their own and that is at the national level. It is very difficult to relax that for a particular State because there may be a demand from other States also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Why not? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: It is a national language. I know, it is all right. Look here, certain things are for national integration. There is no question of imposition.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member is right in asking about the drop-out rate. The Government gives incentives like scholarship, clothes, books and hostel facilities to them,

but does the Government monitor these things? The Government provides funds, but does it ensure whether books, scholarships and similar other concessions reach the students I am of the view that it does not reach them and that is why the drop-out rate is increasing. The Government should make arrangement for its proper monitoring. Funds are granted by the Central Government to different States and then the States further distribute it to the districts. Will the hon. Minister make arrangement to ensure through Hostel and Panchayat Samitis or other means that the funds allocated for the students actually reach them so that there is no drop-out?

SHRI L.P. SHAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as monitoring is concerned, we try our best to do so but at present, we get information through State Governments because the scheme is executed through them. Therefore, the monitoring results also depend on the position of individual States in the matter of education. Some States are educationally backward and that is why the drop-out rate in such States is also high. Contrary to it, some States are economically sound and educationally advanced and that is why drop-out rate in these States is comparatively low. This depends on the situations prevailing in different States. We definitely try to have proper monitoring, but we have to depend on the State Governments through which the scheme is executed.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my next question is on eve-teasing. I thank you for allowing me to ask supplementary. Regarding the drop-outs, the hon. Minister has given figures and said that to say so is not totally correct. You know there is a saying about figures—"Jhooth bilkul jhooth aur uske bad ankade." (Lie, white lie and then figures) You cannot find out the actual position regarding drop-outs of SC and ST students by giving these figures. In spite of various benefits given by the Government, the drop-out rate among the female SC and ST students is much higher. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister

whether the Government will take steps to avoid such situation?

SHRI L.P. SHAHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, different State Governments are adopting different measures. We have to keep a watch over their results. The Fourth and Fifth Educational Surveys revealed that the number of admissions, particularly among girls belonging to the poor section of the society, has substantially increased. It shows that the situation will further improve in future.

[English]

EEC Proposal to Establish Common Market for Coconut

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

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the proposal of European Economic Community (EEC) to establish a common market for coconut;

(b) whether Government are in favour of the proposal;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the views of Government have been conveyed to the European Economic Community

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No Sir.

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

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: The price of coconut in the State of Kerala has gone down very much and even now, every day it is falling down. An alarming situation is prevailing in the State. The entire

economy of Kerala depends on the price of coconut. Taking this aspect into consideration, will the Government take steps to declare the floor price of price of coconut and make arrangements with Nafed for the purchase of coconut?

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: No doubt the prices of coconut and copra have gone down this year as compared to last year. At Alleppey, in 1987 the price was Rs. 2992 per thousand nuts and the copra price was Rs. 233 per quintal. There has not been any minimum support price so far declared for copra. But in 1985-86, when the prices were going down, there was market intervention scheme. It was implemented in Kerala, Lakshadweep and Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the ruling market prices were Rs. 1050 per quintal. Under that scheme, the Nafed and Kerala Cooperative Agriculture Marketing Federation were authorised to purchase 30,000 tonnes of copra in Kerala and in Lakshadweep by Lakshadweep Cooperative Marketing Federation and Nafed at an agreed price of Rs. 1200 per quintal of fair and average quality copra. But the prices of copra got stabilised in Kerala immediately after the intervention in April 1986 and hardly 11,000 tonnes were purchased 10,000 tonnes were purchased by Nafed and 11,000 tonnes by Kerala State Cooperative Marketing Federation. This year also, I can assure the hon. Member that we are keeping a close watch on the market prices and we are making a critical appraisal of the trends in the market and if it is desirable, keeping in view the best interest of the farmers, the Government will have no hesitation in coming to a decision.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: Thank you very much for making a decision for coming to a decision. But the situation in Kerala is very serious. During the time of the previous Government, the Kerala Government had taken a decision to purchase the coconut at a fixed price through the Marketing Federation. But this Government has not taken any action so far. My submission is that either the Central Government must come to the rescue of the people of Kerala or

you must have some discussion with the Kerala Government and arrangement should be made at the State level. Something should be done. Otherwise, the entire economy will go down. My humble request is that the Government must take some immediate steps to save these farmers from the present state of affairs.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: As I just told the hon. Member in 1985-86, the Kerala State Cooperative Marketing Federation made initial purchases of 11,000 tonnes of copra. The Kerala Government can, through the Kerala State Cooperative Marketing Federation, go into market intervention and no doubt, in 1985-86, the then Government had come to the rescue of the farmers. Therefore, we can ask the Kerala Government to take immediate steps.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Research on Oilseeds

*306 **SHRI H.B. PATIL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent for research and development of oilseeds in the country during the last three years.

(b) the details of the research presently being carried on in different institutes in the country and its outcome; and

(c) whether there is any long-term policy regarding research and development on oilseeds and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) to (c). Statement - I is given below:-

STATEMENT I

(a) The Government of India has disbursed a sum of Rs. 81.13 crores under programmes on research and development of Oilseeds during the last three years as per the following details:

(Rs. in crores)

Sl.No.	Programme	Disbursement in three years			
		1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	Total
1.	Research Programme	1.96	2.58	4.38	8.92
2.	National Oilseed development Project (NODP)	26.48	14.04	12.73	53.25
3.	Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP)*	—	—	18.96	18.96
Total		28.44	16.62	36.07	81.13

* Programme started in 1987-88,

(b) The salient features of the researches and their outcome are summarised below:

On going researches

1. Development of varieties and hybrids with desirable attributes.
2. Identification of economically viable cropping system for different oilseeds crops and situation.
3. Development of appropriate production and protection technologies for maximising and stabilising productive levels per unit area, time and inputs.

crops.

5. Production of nucleus and braid-ers seed of varieties and parental materials of by brides.
6. Impart training of extension personnel.
7. Conduct onfarm trials for demonstration of realizable potential of improved technologies
8. Carry out mission oriented basic researches in priority areas.

Cut Come of Reserches

1. Developed 46 high yielding varieties and hybrids in the last three years, with 15.30 per cent higher yield potentials (average)

4. Evolve integrated pest and disease management strategies/ technologies for different oilseed

over the local varieties, is indicated in the Statement II below.

2. Identified a number of location specific implementable oilseed based sequential and inter-cropping systems.
3. Developed and demonstrated simple low cost package of practices giving additional yields over the prevailing farming practices in different oilseed crops.
4. Developed appropriate plant protection measures for different crops and crop growing situations to minimise losses from insect pests and diseases.
5. Highlighted potentials of minimal/life saving irrigation of sensitive stages when moisture is critical for crop growth.
6. Production of basic and breeders seed of different oilseed crops has been stepped up to more than 10,000 quintals (planned) in 1988-89 as against

the production of 2762 quintals in 1985-86.

7. Conducted large scale on-farm trials of recommended improved varieties/hybrids and technologies to generate awareness among farmers.
8. Organised 19 training programmes for 586 middle and higher level extension functionaries on improved technologies.
9. Collected large number of exotic and indigenous germplasm lines of different oilseed crops for evaluation and exploitation under Indian conditions.

(c) Yes, Sir. To achieve self-reliance in oilseeds production, Technology Mission on Oilseds was initiated by the Government of India in May, 1986. Based on the exercise done by the Mission, an integrated policy on oilseeds was developed, keeping in view crop technologies farmer support services, improved processing and post-harvest technologies and remunerative prices and market support.

STATEMENT II

Details of the varieties developed in the last three years under the all India Coordinated Research Projects on oilseeds alongwith the extent of increase in productivity

Crop.	No. of varieties developed	Names of varieties	Extent of increase in yield over check (in percent)
1	2	3	4
GROUNDNUT	9	ALR.I.M-335, VRI-I (VG-18) SG-84, ICGS-II ICGS-44, MA—16, TG—9, CGC-4018 (GIRNAR-I)	10—20

**RAPSEED
MUSTARD**

1	2	3	4
MUSTARD	4	RL-1359, RW-351 (BHAGIRATHI), RW-85-59 (SARAMA), NDR-8501	20
TORIA	3	TL-15 TWC-3(PANCHALI) PT-30	10—20
SESAME	5	RAUSS-17-4, TNAU-10, TC-289 JLT-7, RAJESWARI	15—25
LINSEED	5	DPL-21 (JEEVAN) LCK-152 (GAURAV), RLC-6 (KIRAN) JANAKI, KL-31 (NAGARKOT)	11—18
SUNFLOWER	8	MSFH-8, MSFH-10, MSFH-17, CO-2, APSH-11, SS-56, LDMRSH-I, LDMRSH-3	15—30
SAFFLOWER	2	HUS-305, (MALVIYA KUSUM 305) NRS-209 (NIRA)	10—20
CASTOR	1	SHB-18(GCH-4)	20—26
NIGER	3	GA-10, GA-5, RCR-317	17—20
SOYBEAN	6	PK-564, PK-472, PK-471 VL-SOYA-2, JS 80-21, MAGS-58	15—20

Uniformity in Syllabus

*307. SHRIJITENDRA PRASADA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been the policy of Government to open Kendriya Vidyalayas both in the rural and urban areas with a view to achieve uniformity of syllabus through out the country;

(b) if so, to what extent the said objective has been achieved; and

(c) what further steps are contemplated in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P SHIV SHANKER): (a) No, Sir.

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

Women in Agriculture

*308. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a special training programme would give women agricultural workers better access to new farming technologies so that they could also gain the benefits of scientific upgradation in these areas; and

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

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

(b) Following steps are being taken to provide access to women agricultural workers to new farming technologies:

- i) Projects on 'Training of Women in Agriculture' are being implemented in the States of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Orissa with the external assistance.
- ii) Institutional and peripatetic training is being conducted for woman farmers through Farmers Training Centres, Krishi Vigyan Kendras and the scheme of 'Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM).
- iii) Through Training and visit System of Extension, new technologies are being transferred to farmers including farm women.

Drought Relief Assistance to Kerala

*312 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Kerala has sought financial assistance for the imminent drought situation arising out of failure of north-east monsoon; and

(b) the decision of Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) No memorandum has been received from the Government of Kerala seeking Central assistance for drought arising out of the failure of the North-East monsoon.

(b) Does not arise.

Negotiation Between Iran and Pakistan to Create "Muslim Belt"

*313. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Iran and Pakistan have begun negotiations on creating a "Muslim belt" to the north-west of India;

(b) whether Iranian Foreign Minister was in Pakistan recently for this purpose; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF.K.K.TEWARI): (a) Government are not aware of any negotiations between Pakistan and Iran on creating a "Muslim belt" in the north-west of India.

(b) Government are not aware whether any negotiations took place between Iran and Pakistan on creating a "Muslim belt" to the north-west of India during the Iranian foreign Minister's visit to that country during February 1989.

(c) Does not arise.

International Seminar on "Water for Mankind"

*314. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an international seminar on 'Water for mankind' was held in February, 1989:

(b) if so, the main points discussed therein; and

(c) the outline of solutions considered at the Seminar to the problems related to water management and the consequences of drought and such other natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY): (a) to (c). The seminar on 'Water for Mankind' was held on 6-7 February, 1989.

The seminar mainly discussed the broader aspects of water management related to organisation, data base, communication, health, irrigation technology and environment.

The consensus arrived at the seminar is given in the statement below:

STATEMENT

*6-7 February 1989 in New Delhi
National Drinking Water Mission*

The seminar was called to confront the French experience, systems, analysis in

water management with existing Indian experience. The seminar felt that water though renewable resource would be the most critical resource needed for development in the coming decade and should be given to top most priority in planning, programmes and activities in the country, indeed in the world, and all attempts should be made to protect the increasingly scarcely available resource.

ORGANISATION

The group acknowledges that in every country the water policy has to be regularly reviewed and has felt that today a national study is required on the organisational issues related to water. The study will focus on the organisational structures and their inter relationship at various levels of administration in the country. The group urged upon the Government to launch such a study immediately with the objective of developing an integrated approach towards water management.

DATA BASE:

It was felt that although sufficient data has been collected by different organisations, the collection system needs coordination and information should be made open. It has been recommended that there should be a centralised data base on water which should be made accessible to all agencies both Government and non-Government as well as to any member of the public so as to meet Central as well as Regional and local requirements. The data base should include the quantity, availability as well as quality of water and details of projects related to water. It should also project consumption pattern, demand projections and should be dynamic in nature.

COMMUNICATION:

The seminar strongly expressed unani-

mous consensus on highlighting the necessity to develop technics of mass communications/media, system on demystification of new technologies. The role of women has been found essential in water management, in drinking water agriculture and pollution management. The women should be involved in water committees in actual maintenance of the system and also in the planning of the women beneficiaries. For a communication strategy the target audience should be women. Various models should be tried and further developed suitably to different socio-geographical milieu.

WATER AND HEALTH:

It has been unanimously agreed upon that there is a need for identification of requirement of trained manpower in these areas on the one hand and on the other hand training activities with the rural, periurban and urban people on various aspects of all water management and health aspects of water. A close coordination between health, water supply and engineering, education sectors should be effected. To achieve health for all the emphasis should be preventive on a approach and priority to preventing the water pollution diseases. The water related diseases should also be tackled simultaneously.

WATER AND IRRIGATION:

It was agreed to recommend to launch a study of the possibilities of creation of further low cost irrigation potential. The emphasis should be laid on productivity of the water and of quality of distribution special programme study should be launched to organise a programme for saving and avoiding the waste of water. The Main objective should be to make people conscious about the cost of water.

TECHNOLOGY

The need to develop a system manage-

ment project in the development and use of technology has been emphasised and the following fields have been identified as Indian priorities.

- a) Control of pollution and depollution of aquifers.
- Aquifer management and recharge
- b) Advanced technologies in drinking water treatment such as :
 - Ozonisation
 - Membranes
 - Technology for defluoridation of water. This should include low cost, village household technologies.
- c) Low cost sanitation and onsite disposal and treatment system.
- d) Advanced technologies in waste water treatment for recycling and reuse of water.
- e) Development of mechanical engineering aspects of water distribution, leak detections, computerised mapping.
- f) Use of non conventional energies (biomass, wind, tidal) and in particular solar photovoltaic energy.

WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

There should be study for development of a multidisciplinary effort to reduce the conflict between the user and the system and the conservation of the resources in order to maintain and equilibrium. Distribution of water should be taken up based on

that policy for prevention of industrial pollution. A study of the present state of industrial and urban pollution should immediately be launched and made public. The protection of the industrial spring spar and hydrothermal sources should be mandatory. There should be an approach of conservation in general.

In conclusion the inter-relationship, technical environmental and economical that arises in this field were stressed by all participants and justified the title of the seminar. The french participants were made aware of the sheer size of Indian water sector and the considerable potential for action. For their part, they will concentrate on the areas identified which seem to offer the best chances for complimentary cooperative R & D ventures on suitable technologies. It was felt desirable that the dialogue should not end here and suggested to have an informal gathering within three months to review the support which may come from the French side, and the priorities and practical steps on the Indian side for joint action in science, R & D, Joint training of required manpower and others.

Procurement of Engines for Pioneer Class Vessels Constructed by Hindustan Shipyard Limited

*316. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Shipyard Limited had placed orders on a West German firm for main and auxiliary engines needed for the pioneer class vessels constructed by it;

(b) if so, the number of main and auxiliary engines procured and the total expenditure involved therein;

(c) whether Union Government had examined the possibility of procuring similar

machinery from soft currency areas; and

(d) the amount which would have been saved had these been procured from soft currency areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) 10 Nos, Main Engines were procured by Hindustan Shipyard Limited during the period 1971-76 at a total cost of Rs. 1154 lakhs from the West German firm, M/s. Blohm & Voss A.G. No auxiliary engines were purchased from this firm.

(c) and (d) Against Hindustan Shipyard Limited's first global enquiry in 1971 for purchase of main engines, no offer was received from the soft currency areas. However, in 1975 Government had considered the possibility of installation of Sulzer Engines manufactured in Poland in the series of pioneer class vessels under construction in Hindustan Shipyard Limited. As considerable design changes were involved resulting in additional expenditure and time over-run, this was not considered feasible.

It is not, therefore, possible to estimate whether any savings would have been there if the main Engines had been procured from soft currency areas.

Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails

*318. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of Indian fishermen are languishing in the Pakistani jails since long;

(b) if so, their number at present and since how long;

(c) whether any steps are being taken

by Government for their release; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). There are, in all, 46 Indian fishermen & sailing crew in Pakistani jails (33 fishermen from 26.10.88 and 13 sailing crew from 8.2.89)

(c) and (d). Government are constantly in touch with the Government of Pakistan for their release.

Construction of second Hooghly bridge

*321. KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT

Section	I	(Calcutta Side Approach)	:	96.44%
Section	II	(Howrah Side Approach)	:	85.43%
Section	III	(Main Bridge)	:	76.00%

The bridge which was scheduled to be completed by December, 1990 is likely to be delayed further due to the breakdown in January, 1989 of a crane engaged in the erection of one of the Pylons.

Eve teasing in DTC buses

*322. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some drivers and conductors of Delhi Transport Corporation buses or those working under the DTC have been nabbed by police recently for teasing school girls;

(b) if so, the details of the incidents; and

(c) the action taken by the police

be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of construction of the second Hooghly Bridge in Calcutta;

(b) the latest estimate of the time by which the project is to be completed; and

(c) the reasons for delay in the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). Second Hooghly Bridge under construction at Calcutta falls on a State road and is, therefore, primarily the responsibility of the Government of West Bengal. Section-wise progress as on 28.2.1989 is as under:

against the erring drivers and conductors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). On receipt of a complaint from two school girls regarding harassment on 13-2-1989 by staff of a private bus operating on DTC permit the police have arrested the driver and conductor of the bus. The case is under investigation by the police.

Passport Office in Delhi

*324. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the public is put to great difficulty due to lack of space and other amenities in the Passport Office in Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct a new passport office in Delhi with modern facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) No, Sir. While there is lack of space in Passport Office Delhi, convenience to public has been ensured by using the one window system for acceptance of passport applications and a facilitation counter to assist the applicants.

(b) No sir.

Allocation for Development of Cochin-Madurai National Highway

*325. SHRI GEORGE JOSHEPH MUNDACKAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated or proposed to be allocated for development of the newly declared Cochin-Madurai National Highway during 1989-90; and

(b) when the development work is expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Consequent on its declaration as a National Highway in February, 1989, the State Govt. have been requested to conduct a survey to identify the deficiencies and developments needed. No amount has been earmarked for this road as no estimate in this regard is available.

Implementation of Various Schemes

2882. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in setting up of

an Aluminium Research, Development and Design Centre;

(b) steps taken for Scientific Development of Mineral deposits;

(c) the progress made in testing of copper concentrates in "Smelting in Melt" technology developed in U.S.S.R.;

(d) leaching and Electro-winning of copper from low grade ores at Malanjkhand;

(e) progress made as regards PRC technology for copper refining; and

(f) the steps taken to procure USSR technology for aluminium-silicon alloys production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Jawahar Lal Nehru Aluminum Research Development and Design Centre to be set up at Nagpur has been registered as autonomous society. Land for the Centre has been taken over recently from the Maharashtra Government. Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Ltd. have been appointed as the Consultants. The project is being assisted by United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO).

(b) The Scientific Development of Mineral Deposits was envisaged primarily as a programme of Human Resource Development for upgrading technological capabilities of the personnel of the Indian Bureau of Mines, Geological Survey of India and the Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd., in the areas of mining, mineral inventory, mineral economics and exploration through training in organisations/projects well known for their expertise in the relevant fields. It is being taken up with the assistance of United Nations Department of Technical Co-operation for Development (UNDTCD). The personnel to be trained are being identified.

(c) The scheme is under implementation through UNIDO assistance. Samples of copper concentrates were tested on laboratory scale in the technology 'Smelting in Melt in USSR and found to be prima-facie suitable for treatment by the process. Subsequently samples of copper smelter reverbs and pyrites have also been sent for testing in the above technology to USSR.

(d) The Scheme is under implementation through UNIDO assistance for development of technology for recovery of copper from low grade ores at Malanjkhand. Three foreign experts visited Malanjkhand copper project of Hindustan Copper Ltd. to assess the status of the leaching operations in progress at this project. They rendered technical advice and assistance on the project already taken up on Chemical leaching of oxide ores as well as on the proto-type work on bio-leaching of low grade sulphide ores. Based on their interim recommendations, action is being initiated for setting up of a microbiology laboratory at the Malanjkhand Copper Project for giving necessary support for the field tests for bio-leaching operations.

(e) This programme was proposed for implementation through UNIDO assistance to verify the advantages of adopting periodic reverse current (PRC) technology for copper refining in Hindustan Copper Ltd. UNIDO was to provide an expert for technical assistance in conducting pilot plant trials at Indian Copper Complex of Hindustan Copper Ltd. A suitable expert has not been located so far by UNIDO.

(f) The scheme is under implementation through UNIDO assistance. Samples of raw materials for production of aluminium-silicon alloys have been sent by the National Aluminium Co. Ltd. to USSR for laboratory scale tests. The interim report on the tests received recently is currently under discussion between National Aluminium Co. Ltd. and a Soviet expert team and subject to the

techno-economic evaluation being favourable, pilot plant tests will be taken up.

Financial Assistance to Women in Maharashtra

2883. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched schemes for providing financial assistance to the State Government of Maharashtra to provide training to rural women folk to enable them to take to production of cottage industries products so that their economic status can be raised;

(b) if so, the number/nature of such schemes that are now in operation in Maharashtra; and

(c) the benefits provided by these schemes to rural women folks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

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

Houses Constructed Under Indira Awas Yojana

2884. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the number of houses constructed in different States State-wise during 1988-89, under Indira Awas Yojana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY): A

Statement indicating the number of houses reported to have been constructed in differ-

ent States/UTs during 1988-89 under Indira Awas Yojana is given below.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>State/UT</i>	<i>No. of houses reported to have been constructed</i>	<i>Period of reporting</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5446	Dec., 88
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NR	June
3.	Assam	247	Sept.
4.	Bihar	9939	Dec.
5.	Goa	NR	June
6.	Gujarat	2937	December
7.	Haryana	255	September
8.	Himachal Pradesh	83	June
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	NR	September
10.	Karnataka	286	September
11.	Kerala	5943	December
12.	Madhya Pradesh	2237	September
13.	Maharashtra	740	June
14.	Manipur	2	June
15.	Meghalaya	98	December
16.	Mizoram	65	December
17.	Nagaland	122	December
18.	Orissa	3004	December
19.	Punjab	NR	December

1	2	3	4
20.	Rajasthan	2206	September
21.	Sikkim	NR	September
22.	Tamil Nadu	18512	September
23.	Tripura	225	December
24.	Uttar Pradesh	14691	December
25.	West Bengal	2899	September
26.	A&N Islands	NR	September
27.	Chandigarh*	—*	—*
28.	D&N Haveli	NR	December
29.	Daman & Diu	NR	—
30.	Delhi	NR	December
31.	Lakshadweep	NR	December
32.	Pondicherry	95	September
All India		70032	

*sr. NR — Not reported

* — RLEGP, of which Indira Awas Yojana is a sub-scheme not being implemented in the UT of Chandigarh, since 1987-88.

Committee on Panchayati Raj System

2885. SHRI SYED SAHABUDDIN:
SHRI K. PRADHANI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the composition of the Committee set up by Government to suggest ways and means to strengthen the Panchayati Raj System;

(b) the term of reference of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee shall undertake public hearing; and

(d) the target date for the Committee to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

TURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) No such Committee has been constituted by this Department.

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

[Translation]

Primary Schools under Border Area Development Programme

2886. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new primary schools proposed to be opened during 1988-89 and 1989-90 under Border Area Education Development Programme;

(b) whether Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan are the most backward districts from education point of view and there is immediate need of opening more primary schools in these districts; and

(c) if so, the time by which new primary schools will be opened there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Administrative sanctions have so far been accorded for opening 6 new Primary Schools in Gujarat, 67 in Jammu and Kashmir and 396 in Rajasthan under the Border Area Development (Education) Programme.

(b) and (c). The rate of literacy in Barmer and Jaisalmer districts of Rajasthan is very low.

According to the programme of Action formulated for implementation of National Policy on Education, 1986, all habitations with a population of 300 (200 in the case of

tribal, hilly and desert areas) will be provided a primary school within the Seventh Plan. The State Government of Rajasthan reported that there are 294 villages without primary schools in 13 Panchayat Samitis of four border districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer, Bikaner and Sri Ganganagar with population of more than 300, and 102 villages with population of 250—300 without primary schools. Opening of 396 primary schools for these habitations has been approved. The State Government is making efforts to start schools as early as possible.

[English]

Central Assistance to Promote Export of Alfanso Mangoes

2887. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Alfanso Mangoes, grown in the Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri district of the Konkan region of Maharashtra is one of the best quality mangoes which are very much in demand;

(b) whether because of new levies on mangoes by the State the sale of mangoes is likely to suffer; and

(c) if so, whether some central assistance is proposed to be offered to offset these levies so as to accelerate indigenous consumption as well as export of mangoes?

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

(b) No new levies are imposed.

(c) Does not arise.

Treatment of Wheat Seeds

state:

2888. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research has recently introduced any new technology for treatment of wheat seeds before sowing that gives very high germination rate; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Externally aided coconut plantation programme in Karnataka

2889. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to

(a) the funds made available to Karnataka for implementing externally aided coconut plantations programme in the State;

(b) the countries which have provided assistance; and

(c) the details of the other coconut development Programmes undertaken in Karnataka so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) There is no externally aided coconut plantations programme under implementation in Karnataka at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Details of coconut developmental programmes undertaken in Karnataka by the Government of India through Coconut Development Board so far during Seventh Plan are given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Coconut Development Programmes in Karnataka Undertaken by Coconut Development Board During VII Plan

55

Written Answers

MARCH 16, 1989

Written Answers

56

Sl.No.	Name of the Scheme	Physical	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)			Remarks
		7th Plan Target	Achievement	7th plan Outlay	Achievement	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Production and distribution of T X D hybrid coconut seedlings (Numbers)	1,25,000	80,229	10.966	6.599	Continuing
2.	Providing assistance for irrigation facilities (No. of pumpsets)	1,700	850	10.000	11.000	—do—
3.	Coconut Nursery attached to Mandya farm (Number of seedlings)	71,000	59,006	12.340	6.212	—do—
4.	Integrated control of leaf eating caterpillar. Release of parasites (in million)	3.00	3.9	3.4215	2.139	—do—
5.	Expansion of area (in ha.)	2,050	3968.18	38.50	61.752	—do—

Sl.No.	Name of the Schem	Physical	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)			Remarks
		7th Plan Target	Achievement	7th plan Outlay	Achievement	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Coconut plantation in Canal embankments (Number of seedlings planted)	13,000		6.100	1.818	—do—
7.	Establishment of hybrid seed garden for the production of D x T hybrid seedings (ha)	200	200	1.50	1.50	Scheme completed
8.	Establishment of Demonstration-cum seed production farm for coconut in Mandya (Area in ha.)	20 ha.	20 ha.	13.89	16.30	continuing
9.	Package scheme for coconut Area coverage (in ha.) Demonstration plots (Nos.)	10,000 ha 400	10,000 ha. 400	7.7	7.832	Scheme completed
10.	Establishment of Regional Coconut Nursery (Nursery units)	1	1	2.00	0.711	Nursery established
11.	Establishment of 40 Elite seed farm for production of T x T hybrid seedlings	200 ha	200 ha.	1.5	1.5	maintainance

Sl.No.	Name of the Schem	Physical	Financial (Rs. in lakhs)			Remarks
		7th Plan Target	Achievement	7th plan Outlay	Achievement	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	Rehabilitation of coconut holdings effected by drought.					
	Distribution of pumpsets	500				The scheme is under implementation
	Drip irrigation units	250		16.25		
	Coconut pick ups.	80				

**Increase in the prices of Steel products
and Iron ore**

2890. SHRIMOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times the prices of iron and steel products were increased during the last three years and the details thereof;

(b) whether it affects the prices of other products also; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to check the rising trend of prices of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) A statement indicating the JPC base prices of different items of iron and steel since 21.2.85 is given below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Increase in production and availability of iron and steel by containing the cost of production by improved productivity.

STATEMENT

JPC base prices of standard/tested iron and steel (F.O.R. Rail-head station) since

(Rs./tonne)

21.2.85

24.12.87

1.3.88

1.4.88

8.1.89

1.3.89

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

Category

1. Plates

i) 5 mm	6360	7690	7710	7750	8525	8735
ii) Above 5 to 10 mm	6360	7690	7710	7750	8400	8630
iii) Above 10 mm	6780	8260	8280	8320	9070	9300

2. Structural

i) Joists	6140	7050	7070	7110	7410	7555
ii) Channels	6030	6850	6870	6910	7210	7355
iii) Unequal angles and Z Sections including Z piling)	6900	7750	7770	7810	8110	8255
iv) Others	6030	6550	6570	6610	6910	7055

3. Semis

i) Blooms	3840	4650	4670	4710	5010	5155
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	21.2.85	24.12.87	1.3.88	1.4.88	8.1.89	1.3.89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ii) Slabs	4040	4850	4870	4910	5210	5355
iii) Billets, RC Squares, Continuously cast billets	4200	5050	5070	5110	5410	5555
4. Bars & rods in coils/straight length						
i) 5.5 to 12 mm	5150	6000	6020	6060	6360	6505
ii) Above 12 to 36 mm	4900	5750	5770	5810	6110	6255
iii) Above 36 mm	5100	5800	5820	5860	6160	6305
5. Flats						
i) 5 mm and below thick	5210	6060	6085	6125	6425	6635
ii) Above 5 mm thick	5210	6060	6085	6125	6450	6595
6. SP Sheets Coils						
i) 16-20G (1.6 to 1.0 mm) thick	7890	9060	9110	9150	9850	10130

	21.2.85	24.12.87	1.3.88	1.4.88	8.1.89	1.3.89
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ii) Thinner than 20 G (1.0mm) to 24 G (.63mm)	8900	9480	9530	9570	10270	10550
iii) 26G (0.5mm)	10550	9560	9610	9650	10350	10630
iv) 28G/30G (0.4/.0.3 mm)	11390	9720	9770	9810	10510	10790
7. GC Sheets/Coils						
i) 16-20(G)(1.6 to 1.0 mm) thick	7940	9110	9160	9200	9900	10180
ii) Thinner than 20 G (1.0mm) to 24 G (.63mm)	8950	9530	9580	9620	10320	10600
iii) 26 G (0.5mm)	10600	9610	9660	9700	10400	10680
iv) 28G/30G (0.4mm/0.3mm)	11440	9770	9820	9860	10560	10840
8. HR Coils /Skelp/Sheets						
A) Skelp						
i) 3.15mm and below thick	6090	7340	7365	7405	8325	8535
ii) Above 3.15mm	5930	7180	7205	7245	8165	8375

21.2.85

24.12.87

1.3.88

1.4.88

8.1.89

1.3.89

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

B) HR Coils

i) 3.15 mm and below	6190	7600	7625	7665	8785	8995
ii) Above 3.15 to below 5 mm thick	6030	7470	7495	7535	8655	8865
iii) 5 mm thick	6230	7640	7660	7700	8765	8975
iv) Above 5 mm to 10 mm thick	6230	7640	7660	7700	8620	8765

C) HR Sheets

i) 14 G (2 mm) and thicker	6520	7900	7925	7965	9085	9295
ii) 16 G-20 G (1.6 to 1.0mm) thick	6790	8000	8025	8065	9185	9395
iii) Thinner than 20 G (1.0mm)	7290	8500	8525	8565	9685	9895

9. CR Coils

i) 14 G (2 mm) and thicker	7790	8780	8820	8860	9830	10025
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21.2.85

24.12.87

1.3.88

1.4.88

8.1.89

1.3.89

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

ii) 20G (1.0mm) to
below 14 G (2mm)
thick

8000

8990

9030

9070

10040

10235

iii) Below 20G
(1.0mm)
thick

8330

9320

9360

9400

10370

10565

10. CR Sheets

i) 14G (2mm and
thicker

7860

8850

8890

8930

9990

10185

ii) 20G (1.0mm) to
below 14 G (2 mm)
thick

8070

9060

9100

9140

10200

10395

iii) Below 20 G (1.0mm)
thick

8400

9390

9430

9470

10530

10725

11. Pig Iron

i) LM Grade—4

2690

3170

3175

3200

3600

3730

Note: In between 1.4.88 and 8.1.89 the following changes took place in respect of certain categories:-

- i) Balancing Import Pool Fund (BIPF) levy of Rs. 270/- per tonne on HR Coils/Sheets and skelps w.e.f. 13.10.88 and of Rs. 200/- per tonne on pig iron w.e.f. 22.12.88.

ii) Excise duty levy shown against the items below w.e.f. 2.11.1988.

	<u>(Rs. /tonne)</u>
a) Flats (Above 5mm)	25
b) Plates (5 mm thick)	125
c) HR Coils (5 mm thick)	145

Setting up Aluminium project in Orissa

2891. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the commissioning of alumina-aluminium project in Angul in Orissa has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to expedite the work and complete it within the stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (c). The approved start up schedule of the various segments of National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO) project and their status are as under:

Unit		Approved start up date	Present Status
1		2	3
1.	Bauxite Miant	November 1985	Started up on schedule and under continuous production since January, 1987.
2.	Alumina - Plant	September 1986	Bauxite grinding section was started up on schedule and there has been regular production of Calcined Alumina (Phase I) since August, 1987. Phase- II has also been completed and is under production since June, 1988.
3.	Port Fac- ileitis	December 1985.	Completed on Schedule and in operation.
4.	Captive Power December 1986. missioned.	2 Units 1987. All the five units have now been com-	First two units were commissioned by March, Plant
5.	Aluminium Smelter	December, 1986.	Start up was achieved on 28th March, 1987 when the first pot was energised. After over coming teething problems, Aluminium Smelter is being progressively commissioned. Production of Aluminium during 1988-89 is expected to be about 80,000 tonnes. Pot Line I is expected to be fully commissioned by the end of March, 1989. Pot Line II is ready for operation, but will be commissioned after stabilisation of the Pot Line I in accordance with the advice of the Aluminium Pechiney (AP) of France who are the process licensor.

Minerals Exploration Especially in Orissa

2892. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the areas proposed for minerals explorations in 1989-90;

(b) whether some areas have also been considered for minerals exploration in the State of Orissa;

(c) whether excavation work has been taken up in some areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the progress made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). Mineral exploration is a continuous process and is being carried out by the Geological Survey of India, (GSI) in various parts of the country in accordance with approved Annual Programmes of each year taking into consideration National priorities based on proposals received from various sources.

During the current Field Season from October, 1988 to September, 1989 the programme in Orissa includes investigations for graphite in parts of Bolangir, Sambalpur,

Kalahandi, Koraput and Phulbani districts; for base metal in a major lineament zone separating Eastern Ghat Group and Iron Ore Super Group rocks, for gold and heavy metals in Mayurbhanj district, for Manganese in Bonai-Keonjhar belt, Koraput district, for Chromite in Sukinda belt in Cuttack district and of Coal in parts of Talcher and Ib-river Coalfields. The required exploration programme of GSI for the Field Season 1989-90 will be ready by September, 1989.

Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL) a Central Public Sector Undertaking conducts detailed exploration for minerals in the country as per approved programmes part of which is funded by Government of India under its grant-in-aid for promotional projects and for Coal and other minerals on contractual basis as per mutual agreement between the clients and MECL.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to sustained efforts of mineral investigations in the State of Orissa 7.60 million tonnes of manganese ore and 14.75 million tonnes of Chromite ore could be added to the reserves of these commodities in Orissa during 1985-87. Reserves established by MECL as on 31.3.1988 in the State of Orissa for different minerals are as follows:

Mineral		District	Reserves (Million Tonnes)
1		-2	3
1)	Bauxite	Koraput Sambalpur Bolangir	726.730
2)	Coal	Dhenkanal	2529.553
3)	Copper	Mayurbhanj	0.329
4)	Nickel	Cuttack	64.590

[Translation]

World Bank Assistance for Agriculture Based Industries

2894. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank is providing financial assistance for development of agro-based industries; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects implemented with World Bank assistance?

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

(b) NCDC-III Agro-Industrial Project for establishment of agro-processing and oil seed based and related industries in the Co-operative Sector is being implemented by National Cooperative Development Corporation with a financial assistance of Rs. 238.00 crores from the IDA of the World Bank.

[English]

Grading System for Class X

2896. SHRIMATI MANEMMA ANJIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training has suggested the introduction of grading system for the examinations for Class Tenth in schools;

(b) if so, the advantage of the grading system over the system of awarding marks in different subjects; and

(c) whether any decision has been taken to introduce the system in the Boards/ Schools which are under the administrative control of Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION & CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) In pursuance of the National Policy on Education 1986, which envisages the use of grades in place of marks, the NCERT has suggested introduction of grading and scaling in respect of examinations being conducted by the Boards of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education at the end of Class X and Class XII.

(b) One of the defects of evaluating the performance of a student in terms of marks is that often marks are treated as absolute and infallible measure of one's ability which is not true. Usually, the error of measurement is much larger than the difference between the marks obtained in a subject by two or more students. So, the absolute marks on a 0 to 100 point scale cannot distinguish properly between two students whose marks differ only by a narrow margin.

Often the marks assigned to a student reflect not only his ability but also the examiner's standard of marking, i.e. whether the examiner is lenient or strict. The examination marks, therefore, can only have relative value and not absolute value. It has been seen that examiners agree to a much greater extent in rank ordering the answer scripts but they differ widely in respect of absolute marks given to students. Some of the defects in evaluating students in terms of marks can be overcome by classifying students into a smaller number of grades on the basis of rank of students. Grades show the relative position of a student in a group of examinees. Grades are, therefore, not affected by the difficulty level of examination and variation in the pattern of marks in differ-

ent subjects. They cover the entire range of achievement, whatever be the range of marks in any subject. Thus, evaluation in terms of rank ordering is expected to be more reliable than that in terms of marks. The introduction of grades reduces the chances of misclassification of students due to unreliability of scores obtained by students in an examination.

(c) CBSE has already introduced grades on a 9 point scale in its examinations w.e.f. 1988 examinations.

Plantation of Kinu Orange in Punjab

2897. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps for the development of Kinu orange plantation in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any amount has been allocated to Punjab for the plantation of Kinu orange; and

(e) if so, the amount allocated during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (c). The Government of Punjab have taken various steps for the development of Kinu orange plantations such as production and distribution of quality planting material, popularisation of improved agro-techniques. Besides, an Elite Progeny Orchard Scheme is operating at Ladhowal under the control of State Farms Corporation of India for supply of various fruit

plants including kinu. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is providing assistance for tropical fruits including Kinu under all India Coordinated Research Project at Bhatinda/Ludhiana. ICAR is also strengthening regional research capabilities of Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana through the World Bank assisted National Agriculture Research Project under which infrastructure facilities at the Regional Research Station Bhatinda are being strengthened.

(d) and (e). The amount allocated by the State Government of Punjab during the last three years are Rs. 40.46 & 49 lakhs. Under All India Coordinated Research Project the ICAR has provided Rs. 6.18, 5.15 & 6.03 lakhs during the last three years.

Preservation of Places of Historical and Archaeological Importance in J & K

2899. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Udhampur): Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of places of historical and Archaeological importance in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for the preservation of the monuments in Jammu and Kashmir before the construction of Savalkote Hydro-electric Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). A list of ancient and historical monuments/sites of national importance in Jammu and Kashmir is given in the statement below. No report of the construction of Savalkote Hydro-electric Project has been received so far.

STATEMENT

Ancient and Historical Monuments and sites of National Importance in Jammu and Kashmir Referred to in part (a) of Lok Sabha Question No. 2899 for March, 16, 1989

Jammu and Kashmir

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Locality</i>	<i>Name of monument/site</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>District Anantnag</i>		
1.	Avantipur	Avantisvara Temple
2.	Avantipur	Avantisvami Temple
3.	Chakradhar	ancient site
4.	Kakapur	Ancient temples
5.	Khrew (Shikargah)	Monolithic Shrine
6.	- do -	Remains of ancient temple
7.	Ladhav	Ancient temple
8.	Malangpura	Remains of stupa above Malangpuri
9.	Mattan	Bumzuva cave and temples
10.	Payar	Ancient temple
11.	Rampur	Remains of ancient temples
12.	Randirshingpur	Martand Temple
13.	Shopian	Albad Sarai
14.	Shopian	Burapura Sarai
15.	Shopian	Khanpura Sarai
16.	Verinag	Mughal building round the spring
<i>District Baramulla</i>		
17.	Bandi	Detha Mandir

1

2

3

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------|---|
| 18. | Buniyar | Ancient temple |
| 19. | Fatehgarh | - do - |
| 20. | Paraspur | Remains of a stupa |
| 21. | - do - | Remains of a monastery |
| 22. | - do - | Remains of a Chaitya |
| 23. | Pattan | Sugandhesa Temple |
| 24. | - do - | Sankara Gaurisvara temple |
| 25. | Sumbal | Ancient site |
| 26. | Tapar | Pratapavami temple |
| 27. | Ushkura | Excavated Remains and ancient site |
| 28. | Wularlake
island | Mosque and other ancient remains of the |

Jammu District

- | | | |
|-----|---------|--------------------|
| 29. | Akhnoor | Remains of Ambaran |
|-----|---------|--------------------|

District Kathua

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|--|
| 30. | Basohill | Rock carvings of Devi riding a lion |
| 31. | - do - | Rock carvings of Sitala, Narada, Bhahma
and Radha-Krishan |
| 32. | - do - | Visvenvara Cave temple and other cave
temples |
| 33. | Bilaswar | Group of ancient temples |
| 34. | Mahadhora | Trilochananath temple |
| 35. | Burzahom | Ancient site with megaliths |
| 36. | Durganag | Sankarachary Temple |
| 37. | Hari Parbat | Ancient Temple |

1	2	3
38.	- do -	Gates in the rampart of the Fort
39.	- do -	Mosque of Akhun Malla Shah
40.	Srinagar	Ancient site at Pandrethan
41.	- do -	Ancient temple at Bohri Kadal
42.	Harwan	Excavated remains and ancient site
43.	Srinagar	Excavated remains in Pandrethan
44.	- do -	Khangah of Shah Hamdan
45.	- do -	Monuments known as Pari Mahal
46.	- do -	Pandrethan Temple
47.	- do -	Pathar Majid
48.	- do -	Tomb of Zain-ul-Abidin's mother

District Udhampur

50.	Babour	Ancient site
51.	- do -	Group of ancient temples
52.	Kirmahi	Group of four temples
53.	Ramnagar	Fort Attributed to Raja Suchet Singh
54.	Ramnagar	Palace attributed to Raja Suchet Singh
55.	- do -	Samadhi of the Queen of Raja Suchet Singh

LEH District Ladakh

56.	Ladakh	Hemis Gumpha
57.	- do -	Ancient Gumpha at Thikesy
58.	- do -	Ancient Palace at Shey
59.	- do -	Buddhist Gumpha Phyang

1

2

3

60.	- do -	Old Castle Leh
61.	- do -	Ancient Palace at Leh
62.	- do -	Buddhist monestery Alchi
63.	- do -	Stupa at Tissrru

Modernisation of D.S.P. with the Help of Foreign Firms

2900. SHRI H.G. RAMULU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some foreign companies/firms with or without Indian collaborators have been given contracts for modernisation programme of the Durgapur Steel Plant recently;

(b) if so, the details of each such contract for different jobs with the value of the same including the value of jobs given to

their Indian collaborators; and

(c) the cost of imports by each party for the entire project?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Letters of Intent have been issued for five global packages for DSP modernisation to foreign firms with Indian Associates. The contracts are being finalised.

(b) The details of the packages expected to be executed by the foreign firms alongwith their Indian associates are as under:—

Sl.No.	Name of Package	Contracting Firm	Value of Contract (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3	4
1.	Raw Materials Handling Complex Package.	M/s Mannesman Demag (West Germany) led consortium.	397.77
2.	Sinter Plant Package	- do -	121.32
3.	Blast Furnace Complex Package.	- do -	338.52
4.	Basic Oxygen Furnace Package.	- do -	574.69
5.	Continuous Casting Plant Package.	M/s Concast A.G., Switzerland.	178.49

(c) The likely imports are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Package	Value of Imports (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Raw Material Handling Complex Package	52.75
2.	Sinter Plant Package	51.71
3.	Blast Furnace Complex Package	145.63
4.	Basic Oxygen Furnace Package	257.58
5.	Continuous Casting Plant Package	38.47

In addition, Rs. 66.14 crores worth of imports will also be required for the execution of the balance works.

Encroachment on School Land by Archaeological Department in Himachal Pradesh

2901. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation regarding the encroachment on the land belonging to the Government Middle School, Masroor in Tehsil Dehra, District Kangra, Himachal Pradesh by the Archaeological Department has been received by Government;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government on the complaints and to ensure the smooth functioning of the school; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the steps proposed to be taken to ensure that the encroachment is vacated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND

CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir. It may be clarified that the Archaeological Survey of India has not encroached upon any land belonging to the Government Middle School, Masroor, District Kangra (Himachal Pradesh) or any such organisation.

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

Price Support Policy

2903. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the report appearing in the Economic Times dated 26 December, 1988 highlighting the report of the Punjab, Haryana and Delhi Chambers of Commerce and Industry regarding ineffectiveness of the farm Price Support Policy and lopsided development in the use of inputs and in terms of structure of produce; and

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

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

(b) The Punjab, Haryana & Delhi (PHD) Chambers of Commerce and Industry's study highlights the structural rigidities in agriculture which are well known. The development programmes for agriculture are intended to remove these weaknesses

The subsidised supply of inputs continues to be helpful to farmers in adopting improved methods of cultivation.

The price policy followed by the Government provides appropriate support to the development programmes by ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce, thereby encouraging them to invest in agriculture and improve productivity. The PHD study confirms the relevance of this approach.

[Translation]

Car Burning by Students of J.N.U.

2904. SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been some incidents of car burning at the Jawaharlal Nehru University Campus;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to enquire into the causes of such incidents and take strict action to check their recurrence; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (d): According to the information furnished by Jawaharlal Nehru University, there have been two incidents of car burning in the University Campus on 28.4.87 and 31.1.89 respectively. In both the cases, the matter was reported to the police. However, the investigation done by the University could not identify the persons involved in the incidents. The University has taken various security measures to prevent the recurrence of such happenings in the future. These include checking of all vehicles entering the Campus after 11.00 P.M. as well as of those parked at odd places in the Campus, raising of the boundary wall etc. Patrolling by the Police at night in the Campus has also been intensified.

[English]

Cultivable Land

2905. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of cultivable land at present, State-wise, as compared to the area by the end of Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total area under cultivation, State-wise;

(c) the total barren land State-wise; and

(d) the total acreage under flow irrigation and tube-well irrigation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (d). A Statement giving

State-wise cultivable area for the year 1985-86 (latest available) as compared to 1984-85 (last year of the Sixth Plan), cultivated area,

barren & unculturable land and area under irrigation (canals/tubewells) for the year 1985-86 is given below.

STATEMENT

Statewise Cultivable area, Cultivated Area, Barren & Unculturable land and Irrigated Area (Canals/Tubewells)

State	Cultivable Area		Cultivated Area	Barren & Unculturable	Irrigated Area 1985-86	
	1985-86	1984-85	1985-86	1985-86	Canals	Tubewells
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andhra Pradesh	16206	16176	13585	2269	1783	183
Arunachal Pradesh	281	281	141	55	—	—
Assam	3229	3229	2794	1541	362	—
Bihar	11265	11321	9617	1014	973	933
Gujarat	12376	12376	10337	2628	489	305
Haryana	3806	3830	3781	156	1181	1038
Himachal Pradesh	809	818	627	160	7	4
Jammu & Kashmir	1061	1051	818	259	289	2
Karnataka	12867	12846	11590	804	735	42
Kerala	2438	2434	2234	83	100	38
Madhya Pradesh	22817	22799	20133	2294	1296	84
Maharashtra	21087	21087	19034	1710	410	—

State	Cultivable Area		Cultivated Area 1985-86	Barren & Unculturable 1985-86	Irrigated Area 1985-86	
	1985-86	1984-85			Canals	Tubewells
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Manipur	164	164	140	1419	—	—
Meghalaya	1104	1104	244	231	—	—
Mizoram	584	584	248	201	—	—
Nagaland	788	806	279	—	—	—
Orissa	7912	7912	6541	367	853	226
Punjab	4291	4289	4248	69	1412	2229
Rajasthan	25831	25827	17581	2817	1154	170
Sikkim	114	97	99	173	—	—
Tamil Nadu	8422	8437	7168	570	774	88
Tripura	312	311	258	—	—	—
Uttar Pradesh	20885	20885	18386	1112	3330	5467
West Bengal	6117	6117	5798	187	717	689
All India	185212	185221	155990	20148	15879	11544

Legislation to Control Exploitation of Ground Water

2906. SHRI T.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAPPA:
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Drinking Water Mission has recommended for the introduction of suitable legislation by State Governments to control the exploitation of ground water resources by industrial units;

(b) if so, whether Government have addressed the Chief Ministers of States in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Most of the States/Union Territories have considered the question of introducing suitable legislation to control exploitation of ground water. The States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra & Madhya Pradesh have taken positive steps for introducing the legislation. In Bihar, restrictions have been imposed on sanction of minor irrigation schemes in areas categorised as 'dark and grey'. The other States have not yet decided on introduction of the legislation.

Crisis in Kerala Cashew Industry

2907. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cashew industry in

Kerala is facing a serious crisis;

(b) whether Government have made any study regarding the prevailing crisis; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take to help the industry and the cashew cultivators in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Gram Panchayat Elections in Punjab

2908. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hold elections for Gram Panchayats in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the election schedule drawn up for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Elections are likely to be held shortly.

[Translation]

US Military Bases in Pakistan

2909. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF-

FAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the US programme of setting up Military bases in Pakistan continues even under the present regime of Pakistan and thereby posing a threat to the country's security; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take up this matter at diplomatic level with concerned Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) and (b). Though there have been reports to this effect, the US government has denied that it is constructing any military bases in Pakistan.

[English]

Indo-Pak Accord on Non-Attack on N-Plants

2911. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Pakistan have signed an accord recently not to attack Nuclear Plants in each other's Country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The text of the Agreement is given in the statement below.

STATEMENT

Agreement of the Prohibition of attack against Nuclear Installations and Facilities between the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

The Government of the Republic of

India and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties.

Reaffirming their commitment to durable peace and the development of friendly and harmonious bilateral relations;

Conscious of the role of confidence building measures in promoting such bilateral relations based on mutual trust and goodwill;

Have Agreed as Follow:

ARTICLE - I

1. Each party shall refrain from undertaking, encouraging or participating in, directly or indirectly, any action aimed at causing the destruction of, or damage to, any nuclear installation or facility in the other country.

2. The term "nuclear installation or facility" includes nuclear power and research reactors, fuel fabrication, uranium enrichment, isotopes separation and reprocessing facilities as well as any other installations with fresh or irradiated nuclear fuel and materials in any form and establishments storing significant quantities of radioactive materials.

ARTICLE - II

Each Contracting Party shall inform the other on 1st January of each calendar year of the latitude and longitude of its nuclear installations and facilities and whenever there is any change.

ARTICLE - III

This Agreement is subject to ratification. It shall come into force with effect from the date on which the Instruments of Ratification are exchanged.

Done at Islamabad on this Thirty-First day of December, 1988, in two copies each in Hindi, Urdu and English, the English text being authentic in case of any difference or dispute of interpretation.

(K.P.S. Manon)
Foreign Secretary

(Humayun Khan)
Foreign Secretary

For the Government
of the Republic
of India

For the Govern-
ment of the Islamic
Republic of
Pakistan

Pesticide Poisoning

2912. SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGA-LAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to Pesticide poisoning sixteen farmers in Andhra Pradesh fell ill after spraying lannet;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any infrastructure to monitor Pesticide poisoning in different States and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government have any record of similar incidents in other States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof during last three years State-wise?

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

(b) Government of Andhra Pradesh has reported that 16 persons had developed nausea, vomiting and giddiness while spraying Methomyl (Lannate) on cotton in Guntur District during December, 1988.

(c) Section 26 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 empowers the State Governments to notify the persons for reporting all occurrences of poisoning (through the use or handling of any insecticide) to the designated authorities.

(d) and (e). The following incidences of poisoning due to pesticides have come to the notice of Government during last 3 years.

Sl. No.	State	Year	Total no. of poisoning cases	Deaths
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Gujarat	1986	6	6
2.	Tamilnadu	1986	5	5
3.	Punjab	1986-87	126	126
4.	Kerala	1987	40	—
5.	Andhra Pradesh	1988	16	—

Proposal to Set up Fast Food Industry

2914. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up an industry for fast foods; and

(b) whether any licence has been issued to put up such industries in Madras and Bombay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Fast Foods are not defined anywhere. In the absence of specifying the particular industry for which the information is sought it is not possible to furnish the requisite information.

Research Achievements Made by Agricultural Universities

2915. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Agriculture Universities in India;

(b) has any Indian Agriculture University has to its credit any exclusive research achievement of its own; and

(c) if so, the name of such university and the details of research achievement to its credit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Sir, there are twenty six State Agricultural Universities in India.

(b) and (c). All the State Agricultural Universities have research achievements to their credit which have helped in increasing agricultural production in the respective states. The major achievements of each agricultural university is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

Transfer of Ships from Bombay-Goa Route to Bombay-Kandala Route

2916. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Shipping Corporation of India has taken a decision to transfer the two ships "Konkan Jewak" and "Konkan Shakti" from Bombay-Goa route to Bombay-Kandala route; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Expansion of Fishery Projects

2917. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government has submitted any scheme for the promotion and expansion of fishery projects with foreign collaboration in the State; and

(b) if so, when and the details of the projects?

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

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Separate Cells for Physical Education in UGC and NCERT

2919. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken steps to open separate cells for physical education in University Grants Commission and National Council of Educational Research and Training;

(b) if so, the work assigned to those cells; and

(c) the progress made so far in development of physical education through the cells?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The University Grants Commission has set up a separate cell to look after activities in the field of physical education and sports. There is no separate cell for physical education in the NCERT.

(b) and (c). The UGC Cell examines the proposals from universities and colleges for financial assistance under the National Sports Organisation Programme; and looks after all matters relating to physical education at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels. The major efforts made by the Cell in the development of physical education are as follows:

(i) Guidelines for minimum sports

infrastructure required by a university/college have been formulated and circulated to the universities and colleges. Proposals have already been received from a number of universities/colleges.

(ii) The introduction of a three-year Degree Course in Physical Education, Health Education and Sports in multi-faculty colleges/universities has been agreed to by the Commission.

(iii) A Committee has been appointed to work out modalities for the compulsory participation of students at first degree level in sports and games.

(iv) A Committee has also been appointed to prepare a model curriculum in Physical Education at the post-graduate level.

(v) A Panel on Physical Education has been constituted to monitor and evaluate performance in the field of Physical Education.

Though NCERT has no separate cell for physical education, it has, however, prepared guidelines and syllabi for Physical Education at the school stage.

Condition of Children In India

2921. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to UNICEF Report 1989 on the state of World's Children;

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

(c) the steps taken to prevent the exploitation and abuse of children in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). 'The State of the World's Children 1989' inter alia contains a reference that at this time many millions of children are growing up in circumstances which mean that they will never fulfil the mental and physical potential with which they are born. It refers to the special need for protection of the mental and physical growth of children. These references are not focussed on India as such.

Government of India are fully alive to the needs of the country's children and have taken all necessary measures.

The National Policy on Children adopted in 1974 declares that children are a supremely important asset and that it shall be the policy of the state to provide adequate services to children both before and after birth and through the period of growth, to ensure their full physical, mental and social development. The policy provides that the children shall be protected against neglect, cruelty and exploitation and that no child under 14 years shall be permitted to be engaged in any hazardous occupation or be made to under-take any work.

Several steps has been taken to deal with the problems of child labour as shown below:

- (i) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act was passed in December, 1986 to prohibit

the employment of children below 14 years in certain specified occupations and processes and to regulate the employment of children in other permitted employments.

- (ii) The National Child Labour Policy was formulated in August, 1987, with the object of bringing certain facilities to children who are removed from work and children who work in permitted employments. These facilities could be in the shape of non-formal education, health care, vocational training, recreation facilities, and raising of the income of the families of child workers through poverty amelioration programmes.
- (iii) Voluntary organisations in different parts of the country are given financial assistance for taking up projects to benefit child workers.

The Government of India have also enacted the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 to check other forms of child abuse. The Act provides for punishment for offences in respect of Juveniles like employment of Juveniles for begging, giving intoxicating liquor or narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances to juveniles and cruelty or exploitation of juveniles.

Recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Group on Domestic Shipyards

2922. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI:
SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an Inter-Ministerial Group

was set up for examining the problems of low order book position and capacity utilisation adversely affecting the performance of domestic shipyards;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Group for solving the problems; and

(c) the recommendations which have been accepted and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). A Standing Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Surface Transport) has been constituted in September, 1988, to review and suggest long-term measures for ensuring adequate orders on the two Public Sector Shipyards, namely, Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, and Cochin Shipyard Limited, Cochin.

The Standing Committee reviewed the position in January, 1989 and after noting the orders already available with the two yards, decided to review the position after six months.

Revamping of Haldia unit of H.F.C.

2923. CHOWDHARY KHURSHID AHMED:
SHRI MODH. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether two foreign consultants had recommended for the revamping Haldia unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation;

(b) if so, when the recommendations were submitted to Government by the foreign consultants;

(c) whether any final decision has been

taken by Government in this regard, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the average monthly loss suffered by Government due to closure of the unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report received from the consultants, was submitted by HFC to Government in July, 1988.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) This involves an examination of the full implications of the considerable investment involved. The loss has not been assessed as Haldia is not an operating unit—but still a project. However, an amount of Rs. 1.52 crores is being spent every month by way of standing charges including salaries and wages.

[Translation]

IIT Examinations in Hindi

2924. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:
SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR:

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

(a) whether the students of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi have demanded that combined entrance examination should be held in Hindi and other Indian languages also;

(b) whether Government are keen to encourage Hindi and other Indian languages; and

(c) if so, the difficulties in organising combined entrance examination of IITs in Hindi and other Indian languages and the time by which this demand of students is likely to be accepted and all the examinations of I.I.T.s held in Hindi and other Indian languages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) Some students of Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi have made this demand.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It has been decided that the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) 1990 be conducted in modern Indian languages included in the VIII schedule alongwith English.

[English]

Pre-Arranged Accommodation Schemes for Haj Pilgrims

2925. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any stipulation as regards compulsory pre-arranged accommodation for those going on Haj pilgrimage;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the authority which has imposed the same;

(c) whether Government are aware of the discontent and general protest against the scheme of compulsory prearranged accommodation;

(d) whether Government have followed up the matter with the Government of Saudi Arabia;

(e) if so, at what level and the result of the same; and

(f) the measures, if any, taken to provide required relief to Haj pilgrims in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) and (b). The Saudi Ministry of Haj & Auqaf has stipulated that all the 24,000 Indian Haj pilgrims who will be proceeding under the sponsorship of Central Haj Committee during Haj-1989 should stay in pre-arranged accommodation at Makkah and Madinah as is being done by pilgrims from Iran/Indonesia/Malaysia/Pakistan/Turkey etc. The Scheme requires that a delegation of the Indian Haj Committee should visit Saudi Arabia and negotiate and enter into general agreement with the Saudi "Monssasa" of South Asian countries, which looks after the Indian Haj pilgrims, the rates of rent at which the buildings are to be rented for Indian Haj pilgrims. There after the Central and State Haj Committees may inspect and select the buildings at Makkah and Madinah for stay of Indian Haj pilgrims.

(c) to (f). Government have received representations from the Central Haj Committee and from all over the country against implementation of the scheme of pre-arranged accommodation for Haj pilgrims in Saudi Arabia. The matter was taken up with the Saudi Haj authorities through diplomatic channels as well as by sending a ministerial delegation led by Shri K.K. Tewari, Minister of State for External Affairs which also included S/Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait and Shri Maulana Asad Madni, MPs and Shri Sneedul Hasan, Minister, Govt. of U.P. The delegation had met the Saudi Minister for Haj at Rayadh on Saturday, March 4, 1989 when the Saudi Minister reiterated that (i) the Saudi regulations require that all foreign Haj pilgrims should stay in approved and prearranged accom-

modation only at Makkah and Madinah; (ii) many other countries have been following the Scheme for past several years and that the Indian Haj authorities should implement the Scheme during Haj-1989 in respect of all the 24,000 pilgrims who will be performing Haj under the sponsorship of Indian Haj Committee; (iii) Saudi Govt. is not prepared to grant any exemption to Indian Haj pilgrims. The question as to whether the pre-arranged accommodation scheme can be implemented in respect of the Indian Hajis for Haj-1989 remains under consideration.

[Translation]

Africa Fund

2927. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total deposits in the Africa Fund so far and the names of the countries contributing therein;

(b) the amount spent out of this for relief in Africa and the nature of assistance provided so far; and

(c) the programmes likely to be undertaken in the near future for augmenting this Fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Contributions in cash, kind and project assistance approximately equivalent to US \$ 422 million have been so far pledged to Africa Fund by 52 countries. A list of the pledges is given in the Statement below. A total amount of US \$ 920, 380/- is in the Fund Account as cash deposits received (and interest thereon).

(b) As most of the contributions to the Africa Fund are in kind, services and project assistance, they are being implemented bilaterally by the donors with the recipients after identifying projects that fulfil the objectives of the Fund. The Fund Committee has been informed by some of the donors of supplies of essential items and equipment, project assistance, deputation of experts in different fields and scholarships offered to the Frontline States and Liberation Movements. Several other projects are in different stages of implementation. It is approximately estimated that about half of the pledges made for contribution have already been redeemed or is in the pipeline.

Out of the cash contribution of US \$ 920, 380 the following allocations have been made by the Fund Committee:

i) South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO)	US \$	400,000
ii) African National Congress (ANC)	US \$	200,000
iii) Pan Africanist Congress (PAC)	US \$	50,000
iv) UNICEF and Children's Fund for Southern Africa (CHISA)	US \$	120,000
v) UNHCR in response to International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees & Displaced Persons in Southern Africa (SARRED)	US \$	50,000

vi) TV film on Africa Fund

US \$ 50,000

- vii) Expenses on passages for representatives of Liberation Movements and other contingencies US \$ 50,000

Total US \$ 920,000

(c) Apart from continuing efforts to speedily redeem the pledges already made the following projects for mobilisation of Public Opinion and Financial Resources are being undertaken by the Fund:

- i) Worldwide distribution of a brochure on Africa Fund in different

languages.

- ii) Production of a short TV film on Africa Fund to be telecast internationally.

- iii) Cooperation with anti-Apartheid Movements in several countries.

STATEMENT

Contributions Pledged to Africa Fund (As on March 16, 1989)

1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	India	Rs.	500	million	(in kind)
2.	Nigeria	US\$	15	million	(in kind)
3.	Peru	US\$	10	million	(in kind)
4.	Algeria	US\$	10	million	(in kind)
5.	Yugoslavia	US\$	12	million	(in kind)
6.	Argentina	US\$	3	million	(in kind)
7.	Congo	CFA	100	million	(in kind)
8.	France	FF	20	million	(in kind)
9.	Barbados	BD\$	100,000		(in cash)
10.	Djibouti	US\$	10,000		(in kind)
11.	Italy	Lira	7	billion	(in kind)
12.	Libya	US\$	10	million	(50% in cash 50% in kind)
13.	Guyana	US\$	5,000		(in cash)

1	2	3	4	5	6
14.	USSR	Rubles	65	million	(in kind)
15.	Afghanistan	US\$	5,000		(in cash)
16.	Nicaragua	US\$	50,000		(in cash)
17.	Nauru	Aus.\$	10,000		(in cash)
18.	Bangladesh	US\$	10,000		(in cash)
19.	Mauritius	Rs. (M)	500,000		(in cash)
20.	Maldives	US\$	1,000		(in cash)
21.	Norway	NK	10	million	(in cash)
22.	Uganda	US\$	100,000		(in cash)
23.	Philippines	US\$	500		(in cash)
24.	Pakistan	Pak Rs.	50	million	(in kind)
25.	Sweden	SK	140	million	(in kind)
26.	Cyprus	US\$	100,000		(in kind)
27.	Brunei	US\$	100,000		(in cash)
28.	Egypt	US\$	6	million	(in kind)
29.	Nepal	US\$	25,000		(in cash)
30.	Malaysia	US\$	2	million	(in kind)
31.	PDR Yemen	US\$	150,000		(in cash)
32.	Laos	US\$	7,000		(in cash)
33.	Vietnam	US\$	10,000		(in kind)
34.	Jordan	US\$	5,000		(in cash)
35.	Czechoslovakia	KSC	5	million	(in kind)
36.	Rawanda	US\$	5,000		(in cash)

1	2	3	4	5	6
37.	Cameroon	CFA	15	million	(in kind)
38.	Bulgaria	Levs	1.1	million	(in kind)
39.	Republic of Korea	US\$	1	million	(in kind)
40.	Guinea Bissau	US\$	5,000		(in cash)
41.	Poland	Zlotya	700	million	(in kind)
42.	Thailand	US\$	20,000		(in cash & kind)
43.	Hungary	Forints	61	million	(in kind)
44.	Ghana	US\$	5	million	(in cash & kind)
45.	Kenya	US\$	150,000		(in cash)
46.	Seychelles	US\$	2,000		(in cash)
47.	GDR	GDR marks	21	million	(in kind)
48.	Turkey	US\$	500,000		(in kind)
49.	Netherlands	DFI	23	million	(in kind)
50.	Indonesia	US\$	2.25	million	(in cash)
51.	DPR Korea	US\$	1.55	million	(in kind)
52.	Cuba	Pesos	101,060,400		(in kind)

The total US \$ equivalent worked out on the basis of indicative exchange rates prevalent in September 1988 to US \$ 422 million approximately.

[English]

Setting up High-Alloy High Speed Steel Plant at Titlagar In Orissa

2928. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is proposal to set up a sophisticated high-alloy high speed steel plant at Titlagar in Orissa;

(b) whether it is a joint sector project;

(c) if so, the cost, capacity and employ-

ment generation potential of that plant; and

(d) the time by which the plant would start commercial production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). A letter of Intent to Messrs Powmex Steels Ltd. for setting up a project for manufacture of high speed steel in any category 'A' backward area in Orissa. They have chosen Turla Village near Titlagarh in Bolangir District as the location of the project. The company and the promoter have entered into a joint venture agreement with the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. in respect of this project.

(c) As per information furnished by the company the cost of the project is estimated at Rupees 70.72 crores, their licensed capacity 3000 MT and installed capacity 3750 tonnes per annum, employment generation potential - 550.

(d) The letter of intent is valid upto 31st May, 1989. In the application it had been indicated that the estimated time required for commercial production from the date of issue of letter of intent or industrial licence would be 24 months. The unit expects to start commercial production by January 1991.

[Translation]

Mortality Rate of Milch Cattle Calves

2929. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the mortality rate of cow and buffalo calves in the country as compared to other developing countries;

(b) the measures taken of Government so far to reduce their mortality rate;

(c) whether any recommendations have been made at second World Buffalo Conference in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made?

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

[English]

Ferro Chrome Plant at Jaipur road in Orissa

2930. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the present installed capacity of Ferro Chrome Plant at Jaipur road in Orissa;

(b) whether the plant is facing a lot of problems;

(c) whether these problems have been identified; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and assistance extended by Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) The installed capacity is 10,000 tonnes per annum of High carbon/low carbon ferro chrome.

(b) to (d). The Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa Ltd. (IDCOL) has identified the following problems of this unit:

i) The plant and machinery have

become old.

- ii) Due to its low capacity the unit is not able to compete in indigenous and international markets.
- iii) Adequate power is not available for full production. IDCOL has reported that captive power plant of 9.5 MW is being installed and they have applied for an industrial licence for substantial expansion of their licensed capacity from 10,000 to 25,000 tonnes per annum. This application is under consideration.

India's Aid to North-Eastern Province of Sri Lanka

2932. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU:
SHRI T.V. CHANDRASHEKHARAPPA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India supplied aid packets to North-Eastern province of Sri Lanka in February, 1989;

(b) if so, the total aid provided; and

(c) whether any further aid is being sent to Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Items requested for by the Government of the North-Eastern province of Sri Lanka were supplied in February, 1989.

(b) Cost of the items supplied was Rs. 3,17,54,729.98.

(c) Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

Vacant Posts of Yoga Teachers and Supervisors in Delhi Administration Schools

2933. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Yoga teachers and Supervisors lying vacant in the Senior Secondary Schools under Delhi Administration;

(b) the reasons for not filling up the posts lying vacant;

(c) whether Government propose to fill up these posts; and

(d) if so, the time by which these are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) As per Delhi Administration, about 50 posts of Yoga teachers are lying vacant in the Senior Secondary Schools under them. However, no post of Supervisor has been sanctioned for Senior Secondary Schools.

(b) The Yoga Scheme has been introduced on experimental basis and is under review by an Expert Committee.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of reply to (b) above.

[English]

Development of Sea Food Industry

2934. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUS-

TRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop sea food industry in a big way;

(b) if so, whether any action plan has been prepared in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). There are various schemes for the development of sea food industry through enhancement of production and expansion of sea food trade. Some of the principal features of these schemes include exploitation of deep sea fishery resources through introduction of resource specific vessels, promotion of shrimp farming, encouragement for the setting up of sea food processing units, promotion of production of diversified items of sea food and marketing of value added fish products, etc.

[Translation]

Long Term Scheme Formulated by CIWTC

2935. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ships required by the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation to make adequate use of rivers in the country;

(b) the number of ships with the Corporation at present;

(c) whether the Corporation propose to make good this shortage through some foreign company;

(d) if so, whether the Corporation has

formulated a long-term scheme for the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). The Central Inland Water Transport Corporation at present have an effective fleet strength of 112 vessels. The Corporation is engaged in inland water transport operations mainly in Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly and Brahmaputra river systems. Replacement and augmentation of fleet is done as per requirements on a continuing basis. 63 new vessels are being acquired during the 7th Five year Plan.

(c) to (e). The Corporation has plans to acquire 43 new vessels during the 8th Five Year Plan. There is no proposal, at present to import these vessels.

CIWTC has however made a proposal for import of 2 hovercrafts for facilitating passenger traffic between Calcutta-Haldia in the 7th Five Year Plan.

[English]

Soil Conservation Scheme in Kerala

2936. SHRI V.S. VJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any centrally sponsored scheme for soil conservation in the catchment areas of river Valley Projects is in operation in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the details of the work done in this regard?

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

AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The catchment of Kundah has been covered under Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Soil Conservation in the River valley Projects since Third Five Year Plan.

(b) The objective of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme is to reduce the high rate of siltation of the multi-purpose reservoirs. It also helps to improve the productivity of the catchment by treatment of the catchment with suitable soil and water conservation measures. A total area of 12770 ha. has been treated with an expenditure of Rs. 5.89 crores by the end of 1987-88. The programme for 1988-89 is to cover 1344 ha. with an outlay of Rs. 80 lakhs.

Functioning of DMS Booths

2937. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints that DMS Milk booths close down before the prescribed closing time and the milk vans collect the crates by that time even when the milk has not been sold in full; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ensure that milk vans do not remove the crates of milk before the closing hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Two complaints were received during the three months period from December '88 to february 89 regarding early collection of empties.

(b) The concerned Heavy Vehicle Drivers have been warned. General instructions have also been issued to Heavy Vehicle Drivers not to collect the empties before

scheduled closing hours if milk is available at the depot.

Indo-French Collaboration in Farm Sector

2939. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement was signed between India and France for co-operation in the field of farm-sector; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). During the visit of a delegation from France in January, 1989 cooperation possibilities in the priority sectors of agricultural and food industries, cattle-breeding and fruit and vegetable fields were explored.

Revamping of Delhi Transport Corporation

2940. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:

SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to revamp the Delhi Transport Corporation in view of its poor performance;

(b) if so, the details of the new measures likely to be taken for providing an efficient transport service to the commuters in Delhi; and

(c) the number of buses likely to be added to the existing fleet of Delhi Transport

Corporation during 1989

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Delhi Transport Corporation has shown improvement in terms of physical parameters such as fleet utilisation, vehicle utilisation, fuel-conservancy, inventory control, etc. In order to achieve progressive improvements in DTD's operations, various measures taken on a continuing basis, include decentralisation of administrative, financial and operational powers, improvements in management information system through computers, plugging of leakages in revenue, improved and intensive checking and rationalisation of routes. The D.T.D. have also been selected for awarding Best Productivity Performance Award in Passenger Road Transport City Service for the year 1987-88 by National Productivity Council.

(c) The number of buses programmed for acquisition on replacement and augmentation account is 300 for 1988-89 and 506 for 1989-90.

Appointment of Sports Persons in Public Undertakings

2942. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether sports persons are given any preference in appointments in public undertakings functioning under the Union Government;

(b) whether the State run undertakings also give such preference to sports persons in the matter of appointments; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS

SPORTS AND WOMEN CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Many public sector undertakings have made provision in their recruitment rules for reserving posts for sportspersons who have represented the country at national or international meets.

(b) and (c). As per information available some State Governments namely Orissa, Punjab and Tamil Nadu give preference to sportspersons in the matter of appointments in State run Undertakings. Such preference include reservation of some posts for sportspersons in the case of Orissa and Punjab, and relaxation in prescribed procedure in case of Tamil Nadu.

Outcome of Talks Held with Australian Prime Minister on Indian Ocean

2944. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Australian Prime Minister during his recent visit to New Delhi discussed with the Prime Minister about the growing presence of out side naval forces in the Indian Ocean and the prospects of freeing the Indian Ocean of such naval presence and the foreign bases in the area;

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held; and

(c) the steps being taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) to (c). During the course of the visit of the Prime Minister of

Australia to India, matters relating to the Indian Ocean were discussed.

Both India and Australia are active members of the U.N. Adhoc Committee on the Indian Ocean. This Committee has called for the convening of an International Conference on the Indian Ocean so that the UN Declaration of 1971 calling for the Indian Ocean to become a Zone of Peace, Free from great power rivalry, can be implemented. No date for the convening of this Conference has been fixed so far, though the 43rd Session of the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution calling for the convening by 1990.

Damage to Cash Crops in Sikkim

2946. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cash crops in Sikkim viz. Cardamom and Potatoes have been damaged severely due to black frost;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have received any request from Sikkim Government for assistance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the assistance actually rendered to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (d). No report on damage caused to cardamom and potato crops due to black frost nor any request for Central assistance has been received from the Government of Sikkim.

(e) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Loss Incurred by PDIL

2947. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total cumulative loss suffered by Project and Development India Limited so far;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by Government to avoid recurring losses in this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) As on 31st March, 1988, the total cumulative loss of Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL) was Rs. 20.72 crores.

(b) The losses were due to:—

(i) Paucity of work with the Engineering Division due to delay in the start of new gas-based fertilizer projects.

(ii) Commercial exploitation of the Catalyst Pilot Plant and heavy man-association fixed cost.

(iii) Gap between grant-in-aid and income from R&D products and services and expenditure on Research and Development.

(e). The profitability of the Engineering Division is expected to improve after the work on new fertilizer projects starts. With the commissioning of the Catalyst Modernisation Project at Sindri, approved by the

Government at an estimated cost of Rs. 16 crores (approx), the Catalyst Division is expected to become economically viable. The R&D Division is making efforts to get more client-oriented work to narrow down its deficit.

[English]

Launching of New Programme for Employment in Rural Areas

2949. DR. PHULRENU GUHA:
DR. DATTA SAMANT:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new programmes are being launched or proposed to be launched for employment to rural poor in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):
(a) Yes, Sir. A new Intensive Rural Employment Programme known as Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojana is being launched with effect from 1st April, 1989.

(b) The Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojana will be implemented in 120 districts of the country chosen on the basis of incidence of backwardness and unemployment. Rs. 500 crores have been provided for the Yojana. The funds under the Yojana will be in addition to the funds available under the existing wage employment programmes. It has been calculated that the total wage employment created under the old and new programmes will be such that almost all the wage employment needs of at least one member of rural family in the hosen districts will be met.

Expansion of Kalinga Iron Works

2950. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken for the expansion of Kalinga Iron Works, Barbil in Orissa;

(b) if so, the amount earmarked for the expansion of that Iron works;

(c) the Central assistance given for the expansion of that plant, if any; and

(d) the details of the programmes/plans included in the expansion programme?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (d). Kalinga Iron Works is a unit in the Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa Limited (IDCOL), a public Sector undertaking of the Government of Orissa. As per information furnished by IDCOL, they have received a registration for substantial expansion of the capacity of Kalinga Iron Works by 40,000 tonnes of foundry grade pig iron over and above the existing capacity of 1,00,000 tonnes. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 18.14 crores, No central assistance is involved in the project.

Visit of Turkish President

2952. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK:
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Turkey visited India in February, 1989; and

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

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

(b) President Evren's visit was the first ever Presidential visit from Turkey to India. He had talks with our President and Prime Minister. At the talks bilateral ties were reviewed and perceptions on various issues of international interest exchanged. The visit also provided an occasion to both sides to express their political will to expand and deepen relations, including economic and commercial relations.

Fixation of Support Price of Wheat

2953. **SHRI HET RAM:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural costs and Prices Commission while fixing the support price of wheat keeps in mind the market rates in lean season;

(b) if so, the rationale in fixing the rate at Rs. 173/- per quintal as on 28 February, 1989 when the market prices ranged between Rs. 295/- to Rs. 450/- per quintal;

(c) whether Government propose to give the farmers the benefits of the market prices; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). The procurement price of wheat was fixed at Rs. 173 per quintal for the 1988-89 marketing season on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices and after taking into account the views of the State Governments and the Central Ministries.

While recommending the level of prices, the Commission takes into account a number of important factors including the trend of market prices of the commodities prevailing during the entire year including the lean period, cost of production, changes in input prices, effect on cost of living, parity between prices paid and price received, etc.

(c) and (d). The farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market at prices which may be higher than the prices fixed by the Government.

Employment to Mines Affected Persons

2954. **PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the policy of Government to provide employment in projects to members of families affected by land acquisition for those projects as well as the local population;

(b) if so, whether representations for employment of such eligible persons affected by Madhavram Dolamitc Mines in Khammam district of Andhra Pradesh are pending for long;

(c) whether the said public sector project has already reached production stage; and

(d) if so, the steps taken for employment of local tribals as well as those affected by land acquisition?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) As per the general policy of the Government, employment to displaced persons is provided subject to their suitability and availability of vacancies in the concerned public sector undertakings.

(b) to (d). Certain representations for the employment of displaced persons and local inhabitants in Madharam Dolomite Mine have been received. The names of certain persons received from the Employment Exchange for employment in Madharam Dolomite Mine are being considered by the project authorities. Madharam Dolomite mine is ready for trial runs.

Tribal Area Operational Research Projects Under ICAR

2955. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research operates the Tribal Area Operational Research Projects through its units;

(b) if so, the details regarding the number and names of the States that have been covered under such projects; and

(c) the aims of these projects and achievements made so far, State-wise?

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

(b) The project is in operation at 26 Centres covering 10 States viz., Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.

(c) The aims of the project are (i) making a survey of the socio-economic background of the tribal communities under the project; (ii) introducing appropriate low-cost agricultural technologies on their farms for increasing production and income; and (iii) giving training in the methods of modern

farming and farm management. Since the inception of the Project, 16000 tribal families have been benefitted through the 26 Centres under the Project. There has been a significant increase in their incomes due to adoption of new farming practices. State-wise achievements made so far may be seen in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

State-wise Brief Achievements under Tribal Area Operational Research Project

1. *Andhra Pradesh:* The Operational Research Project on Tribals was sanctioned at Rastakuntabai in Vizianagaram, Seethampeta in Sirikukalam and Bhadravaram in Vizianagaram. The demonstrations were conducted on improved varieties of paddy mainly RGL 1210, 1231 and 1746 of Ragi V-550 of Bajra ICMS-7703 of green gram, TS-16 and of groundnut and Kadiri—I—3. The results of these demonstrations showed 50% to 200% increases in yields. All the participating farmers as well as neighbours were trained by organising field days on the demonstration sights. Demonstrations were also laid out on banana inter-cropped with vegetables and pine-apples. The farmers earned a net profit of Rs. 15 to 20 thousand per hectare.

2. *Bihar:* One centre is in operation at Ranchi, executed by Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi. 300 families have been benefited so far at this centre. About 150 ha. area was brought under high yielding varieties of the common crops of the area. The demonstrations were laid out on popular inter-crops, where yield was obtained more than 20 q/ha over the local one. Tribal families have adopted vegetables and fruit farming after proper training and demonstrations. Arkel variety of garden pea and tomato were found to be most popular among the tribal communities and they could earn more than Rs. 3,000/- per hectare.

3. **Gujarat:** Five centres are functioning namely Waghai in Dang, Khedubrahmha in Sabarkantha, Deesa in Banaskantha, Daho in Panchmahal executed by Gujarat Agricultural University and Vallabh Vidyanagar in Kaira Distt. and the fifth one is executed by Charotar Vidya Mandal, Anand for children and women development. The tribal families have adopted the high yielding variety of paddy (Ratna), of Jowar (GJ-35, 36, CSH—5) and i) and of Groundnut (JL-24) in place of local varieties. The highest net return was from cotton blackgram (Rs. 2139/ha), cotton-cowpea (Rs. 2050/ha), Maize blackgram (Rs. 1553/ha)

4. **Himachal Pradesh:** Central Potato Research Institute, Shimla operated three centres on development of potato in tribal areas, namely Lahaul-Spiti, Waghai (Dang) and Ahmednagar. About 200 demonstrations on Potato laid out where the yields obtained were in the range of 160 q/ha to 437.50 q/ha.

5. **Kerala:** One centre is working at Amboori which is being executed by the Kerala Agricultural University. For regular income demonstrations were laid out on rubber plantation as one of the most successful homestead vocations for the tribal community. Inter-cropping Tapico with cowpea and sweet potato were found popular. Chikku, Mango and Papaya were planted at the home-stead. On an average each of the family could earn Rs. 400/ year.

6. **Maharashtra:** Four centres are in operation in this States namely at Dharnim, Chikhaldhara in Amravati distt., Kinwat in Nanded Distt. and Aheri in Gadchiroli distt. Hybrid jowar (CSH-4, and 9) was demonstrated in the tribal field which yielded 40% more (13.0 q/ha) than local variety. Different cropping patterns and inter-cropping were demonstrated to the tribal farmers. Jowar-wheat-mung fetched Rs. 7005/ha. Soybean-wheat-mung, paddy-wheat-mung,

paddy or groundnut-wheat-paddy-vegetable could give on an average Rs. 5,000/ha.

100 Kitchen gardens and 70 gardens of lime, papaya, guava and oranges were established in the tribal fields which gave an extra income of Rs. 50 per family and Rs. 1500 per garden to the tribals.

7. **Madhya Pradesh:** The centres namely Dindori in Mandla district and Sidhi in Sidhi town are being operated by Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwa Vidhyalaya, Jabalpur. Six improved paddy varieties were successfully demonstrated and yielded more than 30 q/ha. Demonstrations were also laid out on improved variety of Kodo, Kutki Niger, groundnut, maize soybean, wheat, gram mustard. On an average, the yield of these crops were found two and half times more than the local varieties. In case of wheat, the yield was more than 30 q/ha. In Summer, Bhindi and Cowpeas were grown and the yielded substantially higher than the local varieties which gave an income of Rs. 3000/ha.

8. **Orissa:** Three Centres viz. Phulbani, Keonjhar and Koraput are functioning in this state, which are being executed by Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology. Inter-cropping under rainfed conditions with Mesta-minor millets or regi or vegetables; arhar, ragi, maize with vegetables, paddy-arhar etc. were introduced and demonstrated in tribal fields where the combination gave the highest net return of over Rs. 6000/ha. Whereas in most of the cases, the returns were in the range of Rs. 1500/- to Rs. 4000/-ha. For supplementary income, tribals have taken up bee-keeping, goatry sericulture, basket making etc. for which the training and demonstrations were given to the farmers. On an average, each of the family could earn Rs. 1000/- per year from such vocations.

9. **Rajasthan:** Two centres are oper-

ating at Banswara and Dungarpur district under the control of Rajasthan Agricultural University, Udaipur,. Over 1200 trials on crop production during kharif, rabi and summer were demonstrated continuously to the tribal farmers. The main crops were maize, cotton, wheat, mustard and mung. The mixed cropping were jowar-mung or urd-maize. The highest yield was obtained in maize 36 q/ha against the average of 18 q/ha. Mangoes, chikku, Banana and citrus were extensively planted. 100 vegetable farms were established from which more than Rs. 4500/ha is being earned by the tribals. For additional income, rope making has been taken extensively from which tribal family earned an extra income of Rs. 30/day.

10. *Tamil Nadu:* One centre namely Sandynalha in Nilgiri district is under operation under the aegis of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. Demonstrations were laid out in the field of tribal farmers on Tea, coffee, potato and cole crops. Training were given on scientific management for growing these crops. These crops yielded two time smore than the local ones.

Production by Mini Steel Plants

2956. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether nearly 1/3rd of the total steel production in the country is related to Mini Steel Units;

(b) the number of licensed plants in operation, the number of licenced plants which have been closed down;

(c) the utilisation of installed capacity during 1988 and the reasons for the low utilisation fo capacity; and

(d) whether Government have received

any memorandum from the Industry for supportive measures to increase the utilisation capacity and the Government's response to the suggestions made therein?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) A little over one-fourth of the total steel production is related to mini steel plants.

(b) As per information available, 142 licensed units are in operation and another 23 licensed units are reported to have closed down due to various reasons.

(c) The capacity utilisation of the working units during 1988 was 70% to 90% in general. The reasons for this level of capacity utilisation are as follows:

- i) Internal financial difficulties
- ii) Inadequate supply of power; and
- iii) Shortage of scrap.

(d) Representations have been received by Government from time to time from the industry regarding shortage of inputs. Government have inter-alia taken steps to import steel scrap/sponge iron to meet the demand of the industry to the extent possible.

Amount Allocated to Karnataka under DPAP

2957. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to Karnataka under the Drought Prone Area Programme during 1988-89; and

(b) the details of the assistance given to small and marginal farmers to diversify cul-

tivation in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) The total allocation for Karnataka State during 1988-89 is Rs. 1249.00 lakhs which is shared equally by the Central and the State Governments against which Rs. 312.25 lakhs has so far been released by the Central Government.

(b) DPAP is an area development programme. As such funds are allocated for taking up area development works in key sectors like land development, water resource conservation, afforestation and pasture development etc. within the frame work of an integrated watershed project. No specific allocations are made for providing input assistance to individual beneficiaries like small and marginal farmers under this programme. It is laid down that such assistance should be made available to individual beneficiaries within the project area by suitably dovetailing beneficiary oriented Central/State Schemes.

Price and Import Policies of Steel

2958. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to

revise the pricing and import policies of steel; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposed changes?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of Sill units in 1988-89

2959. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steel plants under the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) have improved their production during 1988-89;

(b) if so, the details of the production in each quarter and its comparison with corresponding quarters of the previous year; and

(c) the main factors contributing to the increase in production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The details of actual quarter-wise production of Crude steel by SAIL during the year 1988-89 and the cumulative production during April 1988 February 1989 as compared to the corresponding quarters of the previous year are given below:

(In Million Tonnes)

	Year 1988-89	Year 1987-88	Percentage growth w.r.t. 1987-88
1	2	3	4
Ist Quarter	1.952	1.680	16
IInd Quarter	1.952	1.692	15

1	2	3	4
IIIrd Quarter	2.213	1.937	14
IVth Quarter (Jan. - Feb.)	1.502	1.439	4
April 1988 - Feb., 1989	7.619	6.748	13

(c) Better equipment availability with improved maintenance and stricter adherence to technological discipline have led to higher blast furnace productivity which coupled with increased capacity contributed to higher production.

Water Scarcity in Bhilai Steel Plant

2960. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bhilai Steel Plant is facing acute water scarcity;
- (b) if so, the measures adopted by the Bhilai Steel Plant to overcome this problem; and
- (c) to what extent shortage has been overcome?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIM.L.FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Measures adopted by the Bhilai Steel Plant to overcome this problem are as follows:
- i) Water recycling schemes introduced to conserve the available water storage;
 - ii) Conserving by introducing economy and supplementing drinking wayer supply by boring tube wells in the township.

(c) These measures have brought down industrial water consumption by about fifty per cent. To meet the shortage in summer months, State Government has been requested to maintain the supply at augmented level.

Oilseeds Corporation

2961. DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government propose to set up an Oilseeds Corporation on the pattern of the Food Corporation of India for the procurement of oilseeds, fixing support price of oilseeds and for giving boost to oilseeds production; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) and (b). The Government of India have recently announced an Integrated Policy on Oilseeds. One of the main elements of the policy is to ensure procurements of oilseeds and edible oils at prices which are remunerative to farmers and fair to consumers. This involves building up of an adequate buffer stock of edible oils and oilseeds to be used for market intervention by appropriate sale and purchase operations. The National Dairy Development Board, which has a Rs. 700 crore

project operating through seven State level federations and 3300 cooperative societies, has a large enough infrastructure to perform this role and has, therefore, been designate the Market Intervention Agency by the Government of India. Under the circumstances, it would effectively be performing the role for edible oils and oilseeds which Food Corporation of India has been doing for wheat and paddy; and hence Government has proposed to set up an Oilseeds Corporation.

Resolutions of UN General Assembly

2962. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the titles of the Resolutions adopted by the UN General Assembly during its last session;

(b) the particulars of the Resolutions India co-sponsored, supported, abstained or opposed, separately;

(c) the brief rationale for abstention or opposition in the relevant cases; and

(d) any special initiative taken by the Indian delegation alongwith its composition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

[Translation]

National Policy on Natural Calamities

2963. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of devastation caused by earth quakes and floods there is need for a national policy on natural calamities; and

(b) if so, action by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). The national policy for financing of natural calamities relief expenditure is based on the recommendations of the Finance Commissions appointed from time to time and Government decisions there on. The present policy is considered adequate for meeting the exigencies of the situation caused by Natural Calamities.

Review of Nuclear Policy

2964. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the acquisition of Tritium by Pakistan and its progress towards making of Atom Bomb, Government propose to review its nuclear policy; and

(b) if not, the measures being taken to protect the country's security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). Government keep a constant vigil on all developments, including Pakistan's clandestine nuclear weapons programme, which could have a bearing on India's security, and Government are taking all necessary measures to safeguard it.

[English]

Printing Press by Social Welfare Board in Orissa

2965. **SHRI SOMNATH RATH:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Social Welfare Board of Orissa has recommended for establishment of a printing press at Bellaguntha, Orissa by Sarvodaya Samajik Kendra, Bellaguntha in district Ganjam; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Central Social Welfare Board for establishment of the printing press?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has not been approved by the Central Social Welfare Board, as it does not have scope for providing employment to women commensurate to the high capital investment on machinery and equipment.

Child Welfare Scheme

2967. **SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Central Government sponsored Child Welfare Schemes which are under implementation in the State of Orissa;

(b) whether there is advert of trained lady employees in Orissa to take care of the Children; and

(c) if so, the details of the places in Orissa where such Bal Sevika Centres are proposed to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The names of some important Central Government sponsored Child Welfare Schemes which are under implementation in the State of Orissa are:

1. The Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS);
2. The Wheat Based Nutrition Programme.
3. Creches for Children of Working and Ailing Mothers;
4. The Early Childhood Education Programme;

5. The Balwadi Nutrition Programme;
6. Scheme for the Welfare of Children in need of Care and Protection;
7. Scheme for Prevention and Control of Juvenile Social Maladjustment.
8. The Universal Immunization Programme;
9. Oral Rehydration Therapy;
10. Prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia; and
11. Programme for Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWCRA)

(b) No such reports have come to notice.

(c) Does not arise.

Computers /T.V. for Schools

2968. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether computer and television are considered to be most effective medium for spread of knowledge and education;

(b) if so, whether Government contemplate to provide one computer and television set in all the schools, at least High Schools,

in the country particularly in the backward hilly areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) The research studies have shown that technological aids including television and computers, if used with regularity and under the guidance of trained teachers in proper school-setting, can be an effective medium for spread of knowledge and education.

(b) and (c). The Centrally sponsored scheme for Education Technology started in 1987-88 envisages supply of T.V. sets and Radio-cum-cassette Players to elementary schools in a phased manner. 75% cost of TV sets and 100% cost of Radio-cum-Cassette Players is born by the Central Government. During 1987-88, 10,049 TV sets and 37,562 Radio-cum-Cassette Players were sanctioned to 13 States/UTs. During 1988-89 so far 11,029 TV sets and 49,430 Radio-cum-Cassette Players have been sanctioned to 22 States/UTs.

A pilot project on Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools (CLASS) was started in 1984-85 in 248 schools and was extended on year basis till 1987-88 by adding 1701 more schools. The CLASS Programme envisages supply of 5 micro-computers to each selected school. The selection of schools is made on the recommendation of the State/UT Governments. Subject to availability of funds the Government would like to give

computers to more schools.

Directions Issued by Technology Mission on Oilseeds

2969. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of directions given by the Technology Mission on oilseeds to various bodies involved in increasing production of oilseeds and edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): The Technology Mission on Oilseeds is a consortium of a number of Government agencies for accelerating self-reliance in edible oils by increasing production of oilseeds and promoting efficient processing of oilseeds. For effective coordination and implementation, the Mission has formed four Mini Missions for four basic thrust areas:

- a Mini Mission on Crop production technology under the leadership of ICAR for further development of profitable technology to motivate the farmers;
- a Mini Mission on post harvest technology under the leadership of CSIR for developing more efficient post harvest technology particularly storage, processing, handling and marketing with a view to get more oil and other products out of given quantity of oilseeds;
- a Mini Mission on the extension and delivery services to the farmers under the leadership of

the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for reaching more productive and profitable technology to the farmers and for providing inputs like seeds, fertilizers, bio-fertilizers, pesticides, equipment, credit etc. to help farmers apply better oilseeds production technology; and

- a Mini Mission on post harvest support, co-chaired by the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation and Department of Civil Supplies to ensure better prices for the farmers and better support to the trade and industry for increasing the efficiency of post harvest processing.

2. Separate Operational Plans have been prepared by each of the Mini Mission setting out objectives, strategies and time bound activities. These activities are reviewed by each of the Mini Missions every month and subsequently by the Mission Committee consisting of all partner agencies. Thus, the strategies and activities for increasing production of oilseeds and edible oils are contained in the Operational Plans of the Mini Missions.

3. The major oilseeds growing States have set up Missions at their own level and similarly inbuilt directions in their Mission documents. They are recipients of assistance under Centrally assisted and Centrally sponsored schemes for the enhancement of oilseed production. Financial and physical progress under these schemes are carefully monitored and suitable directions given to both Central and State agencies to ensure their effective implementation. In addition, officials from the TMO frequently visit the State in order to review progress and resolve problems.

Gas based Fertilizers Plant at Shajahanpur

2970. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed gas based fertilizer unit at Shajahanpur will be given to the private sector and a N.R.I. is being appointed as a promoter for this plant;

(b) whether in the past the private sector has backed out several times in setting up of this plant; and

(c) if so, the reasons for giving this plant to the private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The application of an NRI is being considered. A final decision is yet to be taken.

(b) In the past, due to the slow and tardy implementation of the project by M/s. Ap-eejay Fertilizers Ltd., the validity of the Letter of Intent was not extended.

(c) In a mixed economy like ours, there is scope for both public and private sectors depending upon the availability of resources, entrepreneurial capability, etc.

Measures Taken by States for Faster Development of food Processing Industries

2971. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have been advised by Union Government to take a series of measures including lowering

of sales tax and octroi rates on processed foods and to simplify the regulatory procedures for faster development of the food processing industries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by various States in this direction so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The State Government had been advised to form nodal agencies to coordinate activities and evolve action plans relating to development of food processing industries. Meetings of the Nodal agencies of the North, South, East, West and Central Zones have been held in order to identify the problems faced by the food processing industries in different States and to take appropriate follow up action.

Development of Cochin Port

2972. PROF. K. V. THOMAS:
SHRI VAKKOM PU-
RUSHOTHAMAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the development of Cochin Port in Kerala during 1987-88 and 1988-89; and

(b) the development works which were undertaken and the amount spent against the allocations?—

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). The outlays allocated for the plan schemes of Cochin Port Trust for the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 and the expenditure against these allocations are given below:—

(In crores)

Year	Plan Outlay (Final)	Expenditure
1	2	3
1987-88	3.54	1.38
1988-89	14.00	8.19 (till Feb. 89)

The main development schemes which were executed/are under execution during these years are:

- i) Integrated Development Project
- ii) Container Handling Facilities
- iii) Dredger in replacement of dredger 'Lady Wellington'
- iv) Procurement of cranes
- v) Container Handling Facilities-IInd Phase
- vi) Construction of stores complex and Barge berths.

Taking over of Giovinola Binny by Fact

2973. PROF. K.V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Giovinola-Binny has been taken over by the Fertilizer and Chemical Travancore Limited and production has commenced;

(b) whether the ex-employees of Giovinola-Binny have requested FACT to gave them employment ; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The Fertilizers and Chemicals, Travancore Limited. (FACT) acquired the fixed assets of Giovanola - Binny at Palluruthy in auction from the Liquidator. The acquired assets have been refurnished and shop activities of FACT Engineering Works (FEW) have since been shifted to Palluruthy effective from 10th February, 1989. Operation at Palluruthy has already commenced.

(b) and (c). Some of the ex-employees of the Liquidated Company have requested for re-employment. Their requests will be considered, subject to requirement of additional hands, competence of available workmen and recruitment policies of FACT.

Passport Applications Pending at RPC Calicut

2975. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of passport applications pending at the Calicut Passport Office as on 31 January, 1989; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to expedite the disposal of these applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) 43,632

(b) The delay in the issue of Passports is mainly due to a sharp increase in the number of applications received during 1988. Arrangement for over time payment and additional staff on contingency basis have been made. A fresh SIU study has also been initiated to increase staff in various Passport Offices commensurate with the increased work load. 13, 545 cases are pending with Police/other authorities, who have also been reminded to expedite their reports. Steps have been taken to ensure expeditious police verification without sacrificing security requirements.

Coconut Production

2976. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHAN-
DRASEKHARA MUR-
THY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the extent to which the target of coconut production during 1988-89 is likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): The extent to which the coconut production likely to be achieved during 1988-89 is 7360 million nuts.

Appointment of displaced Persons in Vizag

2978. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed by the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant in all categories, Executive and non-executive separately;

(b) the number of displaced persons appointed, out of the total number of 5,000 to 6,000 persons previously agreed to by Government; and

(c) the additional number of displaced persons likely to be absorbed by the time of completion of the first stage and the second stage of the steel plant separately?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Executives 1413 and non-executives (including trainees) 7426.

(b) 3199.

(c) Subject to suitability, 800 and 1000 by the end of Stage I and II respectively.

Employing of Indian Residents by Indian Missions/Consulates Abroad

2983. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Embassies and Consulates abroad are employing Indian residents there for administrative and support services; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Issuance of Passports from Regional Passport Office at Patna

2984. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for passports and the number of passports issued from the Regional Passport Office at Patna during the years 1986 to 1988;

(b) whether the migrants from Bihar are finding difficulties in getting immigration

clearance from Government:

(c) whether any complaints have been received by Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K.TEWARI): (a) The number of applications received for passports and the number of passports issued from Passport Office at Patna during the year 1986 to 1988 are as follows:

	1986	1987	1988
Passport applications received	11893	10000	12768
Passports issued	15344	8394	8543

(b) to (d). The Ministry of Labour as the administrative Ministry for the Indian Emigration Act, 1983, look into the related difficulties and complaints of individuals. However, they do not maintain separate statewise data in respect of emigration clearances or individual complaints.

Coconut Seedlings Under Tissue Culture Scheme

2985. **SHRI GEORGE JOSEPH MUNDACKAL:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether coconut seedlings are being produced in a large scale under tissue culture scheme for supply to farmers;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the further steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The technology can be put to large scale use only when the technique is refined and pilot scale studies become successful.

(c) Research has been intensified under the Technology Mission on Oil Seeds and the Department of Bio-Technology is funding and monitoring the programme closely at four laboratories including the Central Plantation Crops Research Institute.

Import of Milk Solids

2988. **SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantities of milk solids both gifts and commercial are being imported;

(b) the year-wise imports of milk solids during the last three years and the manner in which these were distributed;

(c) whether bulk of imported solids were issued to Mother Dairy, Delhi and Calcutta and other dairies run directly by the National Dairy Development Board; and

(d) if so, the details of actual allocation made year-wise and dairy-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The gift commodities received from the European Economic Community

are meant for fund generation and for maintaining a buffer stock operation under Operation Flood Programme. The share of import in the country's total throughput (in terms of total solids) has declined from roughly 15.4% in 1970-71 to less than 5% in 1987-88.

(b) The year wise imports of milk solids and also issues to the dairy plants during the last 3 years from 1986-87 to 1988-89 (upto December, 1988) are given in Statement I below.

(c) and (d). The details of issues of dairy commodities to the dairies in Calcutta and Delhi for re-combination purposes are given in Statement II below.

STATEMENT - I

Details of Import of Skimmed Milk Powder, Whole Milk Powder, Butter Oil and White Butter on Gift and Commercial Basis and Issues to the Dairy Plants for Recombination During 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 (Upto December, 1988).

Year	Skimmed Milk powder	Whole Milk Powder	Quantity in Metric Tonnes	
			Butter Oil	White Butter
Imports (Provisional)				
1986-87	5879	10	344	800
1987-88	38005	—	18336	6059
1988-89	28172	—	NIL	5162
(Upto December 1988)				
ISSUES (FOR RECOMBINATION PURPOSES)				
1986-87	35782	2870	3499	4112
1987-88	38106	—	7351	3401
1988-89	28609	—	4362	4189
(Upto December, 1988)				

STATEMENT—II

DETAILS OF SKIMMED MILK POWDER, WHOLE MILK POWDER, BUTTER OIL AND WHITE BUTTER ISSUED TO THE DAIRIES IN CALCUTTA AND DELHI FOR RECOMBINATION PURPOSES DURING 1986-87, 1987-88 AND 1988-89 (UPTO DECEMBER 1988)

(QUANTITY IN METRIC TONNES,
(UPTO DEC. 1988)

	1986-87				1987-88			1988-89(UPTO DEC.88)		
	Skimmed milk Powder	Whole Milk	Butter Oil	White Butter	Skimmed Powder	Butter Oil	White butter	Skimmed Milk Powder	Butter Oil	White butter
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DELHI										
Delhi Milk Scheme	5382	—	330	604	7176	867	571	5094	656	38
Delhi Mother Dairy	9063	—	894	1558	11839	2310	1500	10850	2069	1241
CALCUTTA										
Greater Calcutta Milk Scheme	4640	—	795	—	4333	1625	49	2760	151	494
Calcutta Mother Dairy	8594	2710	573	823	11262	2141	1281	7383	868	874

Foodgrains Production

2989. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total foodgrains production during each of the last three years;

(b) the State which had the highest growth rate in foodgrains production, in million tonnes;

(c) whether Government have any special incentive programme for outstanding performance of the States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The total foodgrains production during the last three years i.e. 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 was 150.44, 143.42 and 138.41 million tonnes respectively.

(b) The State of Punjab had the highest growth rate in foodgrains production, which was 6.57 percent per annum for the period 1967-68 to 1986-87.

(c) and (d). At present, there is no scheme to provide special incentives for outstanding performances to the respective States.

Recognition of Qualified Persons by IBM

2990. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise break-up of qualified persons so far granted recognition under

rule 22C of Mineral Concession Rules by the Indian Bureau of Mines for preparation of Mining plans; and

(b) the State-wise break-up of mining leases yet to be modified as on date under the amended Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1972.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) The State-wise break-up of number of persons granted recognition under rule 22C of Mineral Concession Rules by Indian Bureau of Mines as on 8.3. 89 is as follows:

<i>State/UTs.</i>		<i>Number of Persons</i>
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	54
2.	Assam	6
3.	Bihar	42
4.	Chandigarh	2
5.	Delhi	16
6.	Goa	72
7.	Gujarat	24
8.	Haryana	5
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3
10.	Karnataka	47
11.	Kerala	3
12.	Madhya Pradesh	59
13.	Maharashtra	49
14.	Meghalaya	1

1	2	3
15. Nagaland		1
16. Orissa		38
17. Rajasthan		94
18. Tamil Nadu		67
19. Uttar Pradesh		10
20. West Bengal		51
Total		644

(b) According to the returns received, the number of mining leases yet to be modified as on 25.2.89 is as follows:

State	Number of mining leases
1. Bihar	17
2. Jammu & Kashmir	2
3. Madhya Pradesh	2
4. Orissa	1
5. Uttar Pradesh	1
6. West Bengal	18
Total	41

Implementation of various Schemes

2991. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in implementation of the scheme regarding Integrated mine-smelter complex of Hindustan Zinc Limited;

(b) the present stage of development of Ambamata and Deri Zinc and lead Mines in Gujarat and Rajasthan; and

(c) the details of schemes draw up for detailed exploration of lead and zinc deposits in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) The Integrated Lead-Zinc Mining and Smelting Complex of Hindustan Zinc Limited was approved on 17.11.1988 and is to be completed within 28 months from the date of sanction. The work on the project is in full swing; major work orders have been awarded and the company is making efforts to complete the project even ahead of schedule.

(b and c). Information is being collected and shall be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Scarcity of Drinking Water in Villages of Uttar Pradesh

2992. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Uttar Pradesh where there was scarcity of drinking water during the last drought period;

(b) the number of villages out of them where drinking water has been provided so far and the amount of Central assistance provided for this purpose;

(c) whether the State Government has sought any additional amount; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof and the

action taken by Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) At the commencement of the last drought period of 1987-88, there was scarcity of drinking water in 4500 villages in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) drinking water facilities have been provided in all the above villages. However, as on 1st Feb., 1989 there are 6516 identified problem villages without safe drinking water facilities which are being taken up for coverage under the on-going State sector Minimum Needs programme and the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (SRWSP). During 1987-88, a sum of Rs. 9.23 crores was provided as Advance Plan Assistance (APA) for providing drinking water facilities in rural areas under the scarcity relief programme. A sum of Rs. 37.5 crores was provided under ARWSP and Rs. 0.3 crores for implementation of Schemes in the mini mission project areas. During 1988-89, the assistance provided to the State Government of Uttar Pradesh is Rs. 37.01 crores under ARWSP, Rs. 6.5 crores for mini mission project areas and Rs. 2 crores for the activities under the Sub Missions on Control of Flourishes and Removal of Excess Iron in drinking water.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Release of Rs. 16.45 crores was requested by the State Government under ARWSP in relaxation of the prescribed conditions under the release procedure out of which Rs. 7 crores has already been provided.

Proposal for Setting up Sculpture Museum in Almora (U.P)

2993. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up an idol sculpture museum near Jageshwar and Baijnath temples in Almora district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for it in the current financial year;

(c) whether land has been acquired for this purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (d). A sculpture-shed exists at Baijnath, district Almora, Uttar Pradesh which is proposed to be upgraded as sculpture-shed-cum gallery at the estimated cost of Rupees one lakh. The proposal to set up a sculpture-shed at Jageshwar, district Almora, Uttar Pradesh is subject to the land acquisition proceedings which are in progress and, therefore, no provision for the construction has been made at this stage.

Covering of Blocks Under ICDS in U.P.

2994. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of development blocks in Uttar Pradesh covered under the Integrated Child Development Services Scheme and the amount proposed to be spent thereon during the year 1989-90;

(b) whether the State Government propose to cover more development blocks under this Scheme;

(c) if so, whether the request of the State Government has been accepted; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) For Uttar Pradesh, 230 Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) projects have been sanctioned so far; 222 Centrally-sponsored and 8 in the State Sector. They cover 209 blocks, apart from providing 21 urban projects for slum/poor areas of cities.

No year-wise allocation of Central grants to States is made for the Centrally sponsored ICDS Scheme. Grants are released to State keeping in view their requirements.

(b) to (d). The ICDS Scheme is proposed to be expanded in a phased manner. The number of new Centrally-sponsored ICDS projects, available in a year, is distributed among different States and their locations are decided upon, in consultation with the State Governments. This procedure would continue to be adopted.

Construction of Hapur and Moradabad bye passes

2995. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of bye-passes around Hapur and Moradabad cities on National highway No. 24 in Uttar Pradesh is likely to be taken up during 1989-90 ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). Land acquisition for these two bypasses is provided for in the Seventh Five Year Plan. construction of the bypasses will however be taken up after lands has been acquired.

[English]

University for 'Thlrld Age'

2999. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a university for 'third age' on the lines of such a university in the United Kingdom; and

(b) if so, an outline of this concept and whether any plan has been chalked out in this regard and nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT S OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). The Government have no such proposal under consideration. However, as far as facilities of education for the old and retired persons in concerned, the Indira Gandhi National Open University admits all learners to its programmes irrespective of their age and station in life.

Request for Assistance from New Universities

3003. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new Universities that

have approached University Grants Commission for special assistance;

(b) whether under the present scheme all Universities are treated on equal footing for grants from the University Grants Commission;

(c) whether Government propose to provide special assistance to new Universities for raising their standard matching to that of the established universities; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (d): According to Section 12-B of the UGC Act, no grant shall be given by the Central Government, the University Grants Commission or any other organisation receiving any funds from the Central Government, to a University established after June 17, 1972, unless the Commission has, after satisfying itself as to such matters as may be prescribed, declared such University to be fit for receiving such grants. Universities which have been declared fit under section 12-B of the UGC Act are provided financial assistance for their general development, as well as special assistance for specific schemes. The assistance under general development is for buildings, equipment, books and journals, staff and such other facilities designed to promote the quality of teaching and research and to foster corporate life on the campus. The Commission generally makes a tentative allocation for each university on the basis of the stage of development of each university, the nature and type of programmes offered by it, the student and faculty size and other relevant factors. During the Seventh plan the universities have been categorized into four categories, namely, Rs 125 lakhs, Rs 100

lakhs, Rs 75 lakhs and Rs 50 lakhs. Each University prepares its plan within the tentative allocation provided by the commission. For the special schemes the norms of grants form part of the scheme. The proposals made by the Universities are examined by the Standing Committee of the Commission for special programmes to select institutions for implementation of such schemes. Out of a total 142 State Universities, only seven universities have yet to be declared fit by the UGC for receiving assistance.

Shipping Industry as an Export Unit

3004. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has recommended that the shipping Industry be treated as an export unit;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the concessions that are likely to be given to the Shipping sector as an export unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The Ministry of Surface Transport has recommended to the concerned authorities granting of export unit status to Shipping Industry on the grounds that it is a net earner of foreign exchange. Ministry of Finance have informed that there is no decision to allow any concessions to shipping industry as available to export units.

[Translation]

Allocations for New education Policy

3006. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT :
SHRI AKHTAR HASAN:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RE-

SOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of budget allocated for education by Union Government at present is sufficient for the schemes of new education policy;

(b) If not, whether Government propose to increase the allocation for education; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (c). Keeping in view the over all financial constraints, funds have been provided under all the priority programmes of the National Policy on Education, 1986

[English]

Integrated Brackish Water joint Venture Project in Orissa

3007. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have taken a final decision on the joint venture project for the setting up of modern prawn hatchery in various parts of Orissa;

(b) if so, the details of water area proposed to be covered under the project; and

(c) the assistance received from Japanese Government for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No proposal has been received from the Government of Orissa for setting up of modern prawn hatcheries in different

parts of the State, under joint venture.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

Adult education Centres in Orissa

3008. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state;

(a) the number of Adult Education Centres proposed to be set up in Orissa during the Seventh Plan;

(b) the number of adult Education Centres which have been set up in that State during the Seventh Plan so far; and

(c) the details of the main work being done by different Adult Education Centres in Orissa.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHANI): (a) to (c). Proposal for setting up adult education centres in Orissa s in other States/UTs during the Seventh Plan period have been mooted on year to year basis. The proposals take into account variables such as resource position and the state of infrastructural development pertaining to the specific programme. These centres are entrusted with the task of imparting functional literacy which includes teaching literacy and numeracy together with arousing their awareness of environment problems of growth and development. The number of adult education centres for different years during the Seventh Plan are as under:-

1985-86	7310
1986-87	7920
1987-88	8490
1988-89	8960

Demand and Availability of Low Silicon Limestone

3009. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand of low silicon limestone in the country has increased;

(b) whether there is limited availability of low silicon limestone in the country;

(c) if so whether Government have any proposals to import low silicon-limestone in 1989-90; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The current availability of limestone in the country is not adequate to meet the total requirement of the Steel Plants. Efforts are however afoot to locate/identify and develop sources of supply of low silica high grade limestone in the country. The gap in 1989-90 between requirement of Steel plants and availability from indigenous sources is planned to be bridged by imports.

Integrated cattle Development Projects with Danish Assistance

3010. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any integrated Cattle Development Project has been implemented in the country with Danish assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated so far to the project; and

(d) the details of Danish assistance provided for implementing the project in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Question does not arise.

(d) A proposal of the Government of Orissa for implementation of an Integrated Animal Husbandry Project in Koraput district has not been finalised.

Reduction of Subsidy on Fertilizers

3011. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reduce the subsidy on fertilizers and also to extend the depreciation on fertilizer plants; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. In order to reduce the burden of subsidy and to make the units operate efficiently, among other things, Government have decided to change period of depreciation for calculation of retention prices of indigenous fertilisers.

Mushroom cultivation

3013. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether mushroom cultivation is

being encouraged as a part of the diversification programme;

(b) the States where mushroom cultivation is being done at present; and

(c) the details of assistance given to State of Karnataka to promote mushroom cultivation during Seventh Plan?

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

(b) Cultivation of mushroom has been taken up mainly in the States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, J & K, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Manipur West Bengal, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Goa and Union Territory of Delhi and Chandigarh.

(c) Government of India have implemented an Indo-Dutch mushroom project with the assistance of the Netherlands in the state of Karnataka through which assistance is being provided for setting up of Spawn production laboratory.

Degradation of Land In Kerala

3016. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total hectares of land which has degradation problems in Kerala;

(b) the forms of degradation;

(c) whether there is any Central Scheme to check the degradation of land in the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). Kerala is affected by various types of problems of soil erosion and land degradation, such as sheet erosion, gullies, deforestation over-grazing, drainage, coastal erosion and salinity etc. About 15 lakh hectares is affected by various kinds of soil erosion and land degradation problems.,

(c) and (d). In order to tackle the problems of soil erosion and land degradation, important Central Soil Conservation Development Programmes under implementation in Kerala are;

- i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of soil Conservation in the Catchment of Kundah River Valley Project.
- ii) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Watershed Development Programme for Rainfed agriculture in Palghat district.

Development of High Yielding Varieties of Coconut Seedlings

3017. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research to develop a disease resistant high yielding varieties of coconut seedlings is now in progress; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Nine high yielding varieties consisting of seven hybrids and two selections have been released at Central and State levels. These are capable of yielding 1.59 to 2.29 tonnes of oil/ha as against the national average of 0.51 t. oil/ha.

Intensive research to combine disease resistance/tolerance with high yield is in progress.

Allocations for Development of New National Highways

3018. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether new National Highways have been declared recently; and

(b) if so, the amount being provided for their development, National Highway-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Five stretches of highways have been declared as National Highways in February, 1989.

(b) No funds have been specifically earmarked for the new National Highways. State Governments have been requested to undertake an inventory survey to identify the deficiencies and improvements required.

Credit Facilities to Farmers

3019. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of small, marginal and big farmers amongst the total population of farmers;

(b) the percentage of credit being utilised by each of these categories;

(c) whether there has been any appreciable increase in the credit utilisation percentage by the small and marginal farmers during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

Targets for Operation Black—Board

3020. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the physical targets State/Union Territory-wise under the Operation Black-board for the year 1987-88, 1988-89 and actual cumulation achievement upto 31 December, 1988;

(b) the financial allocations, State-wise, upto 31 December, 1988.

(c) The amount released, State-wise, upto 31 December, 1988;

(d) the amount actually spent, State-wise upto 31 December, 1988;

(e) the percentage of developmental blocks covered State-wise, upto 31 December, 1988; and

(f) whether the targets for 1988-90 have been laid down or is under consideration, if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND

CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (f). The scheme of Operation Blackboard was launched in 1987-88 aiming to bring about substantial improvement in facilities in primary schools in the entire country in a phased manner, beginning with 20% of Blocks and Municipal Areas in 1987-88, 30% in 1988-89 and 50% in 1989-90. for the first phase a budget of Rs 100 crore was made and for the second and third years it

has been increased to Rs 130 crores for each phase. The State-wise details of the C.D. Blocks covered, amount released and amount spent by States upto 31 st December, 1988 are given in the Statement below sanction under the scheme are issued on the basis of proposals made by individual States and approved by State Level Empowered Committee against the overall target. Therefore, individuals targets for States could not be fixed in advance.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Name of States/UTs</i>	<i>No. of Blocks covered upto 31.12.1988*</i>	<i>Percentage of Blocks covered</i>	<i>Total Amount released upto 31.12.1988**</i>	<i>Amount utilised by State Governments/ UTs (upt-to-date indicated)</i>	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	221	20	621.62	304.34	(31st Dec.'88)
2.	Assam	33	24	826.69	142.50	(31st Dec.'88)
3.	Bihar	120 (+39*)	20	2606.59	956.22	(30th Sept. 88)
4.	Gujarat	61 (+7*)	33	466.43	496.95	(30th Sept. 88)
5.	Haryana	20 (-16*)	20	62.93	23.52	(30th Sept. 88)
6.	Himachal Pradesh	18	26	148.75	147.79	(31st Dec. 88)
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	37	31	156.90	64.98	(30th Sept. '88)
8.	Karnataka	19	10	295.54	79.15	(30th Dec. 88)
9.	Kerala	30 (+11*)	20	151.11	50.00	(31st Dec. 88)
10.	Madhya Pradesh	92 (+65*)	20	1194.10	46.58	(30th Sept.'88)
11.	Maharashtra	52 (+50*)	17	545.03	78.84	(31st Dec.'88)
12.	Manipur	8	31	38.03	NIL	
13.	Meghalaya	6	20	78.37	NIL	
14.	Nagaland	7	28	25.66	24.21	(31st Dec. '88)

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	No. of Blocks covered upto 31.12.1988*	Percentage of Blocks covered	Total Amount released upto 31.12.1988**	Amount utilised by State Governments/ UTs (upt-to-date indicated)
1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Orissa	65	21	753.00	443.29 (30th Sept. 88)
16.	Punjab	37	31	402.62	333.88 (31st Dec.'88)
17.	Rajasthan	93 (+137*)	39	1175.55	944.36 (30th Sept.'88)
18.	Sikkim	405	100	41.57	12.00 (31st Dec.'88)
19.	Tamil Nadu	157 (+7*)	41	740.63	267.12 (31st Dec.88)
20.	Tripura	4	24	42.12	NIL
21.	Uttar Pradesh	277	31	1759.43	361.24 (31st Dec.88)
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	11	23	63.17	56.92 (31st Dec.88)
23.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	100	1.99	NIL
24.	Delhi	— (+22*)	—	32.39	NIL
25.	Goa	2 (+1*)	20	12.03	3.80 (31st Dec.88)
26.	Lakshadweep	1	100	0.48	0.22 (31st Dec.'88)
27.	Mizoram	5	25	11.80	10.53 (31st Dec.'88)
28.	West Bengal	73 (+20*)	21	384.34	NIL

* "Block" includes Mandal, Educational Blocks or whatever territorial unit was used by the State Govt. for the prupose. Number in bracket indicates Municipal Areas taken for coverage in addition to blocks.

** Figures exclude sanction by State Level Empowered Committee for which actual release took place after 31.12.1988

Expenditure on Festivals of India*(Rs. in crores)*

3021. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated final expenditure on
the Festivals of India in USA, France, USSR
and other countries;

(b) the estimated or final expenditure on
the reciprocal Festivals in India, country-
wise;

(c) whether the expenditure figure cov-
ers only expenditure by the Government or
includes expenditure incurred by other
Semi-Government or non-Government or-
ganisations or institutions involved in the
Festivals; and

(d) the names of the sponsoring and
implementing agencies in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND
CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P.
SHAH): (a) The estimated final expenditure
on the Festival of India in USA, France,
USSR, and other countries is as under:

1. U.K.	Rs. 1.77
2. France and USA	Rs. 10.75
3. USSR	Rs. 14.48
4. Japan (As on 31.12.88)	Rs. 3.00
5. Sweden	Rs. 0.66

(b) The estimated final expenditure on
the reciprocal Festivals in India country-wise
is as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

1. Japan	Rs. 0.55
2. USSR	Rs. 20.98
3. France	Rs. 1.57

(c) The expenditure figure includes expen-
diture incurred by Government only

(d) The names of the sponsoring and
implementing agencies are indicated be-
low:-

Name of festival		Ministries/Departments/Organisations involved
1	2	3
1.	Festival of India in U.K.,	Handicrafts & Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd; ICCR, Sangeet Natak Akademi
2.	Festival of Indian in USA and France	Handicrafts & Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd. ICCR, Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ministry of Commerce, Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Tourism State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., Air India.

1

2

3

3. Festival of India in the USSR

ICCR Housing and Urban Development Corporation of India Ltd., Sangeet Natak Akademi, Ministry of Commerce Deptt. of Textiles Handicrafts & Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd., National Institute of Design, Department of Science & Technology, Department of Sports, Department of Women & Child Development Department of Education, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

4. Indian Manifestation in Sweden

Handicrafts & Handlooms Exports corporation of India Ltd., Bharat Bhavan Bhopal Prince of Wales Museum, Bombay, Orissa Lalit Kala Akademi.

5. Festival of India in Japan

Sangeet Natak Akademi, Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal, Prince of Wales museum, Bombay, Handicrafts & Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd., Housing & Urban Development Corporation, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage, National Museum of Natural History, Welcome group of Hotels.

6. Japan month in India.

Directorate of Film Festivals, India International Centre, India Tourism Development Corporation, Lalit Kala Akademi

7. Festival of USSR in India

ICCR, M/s. National Circus Co., M/s. Anamika Kala Sangam, Calcutta, M/s. Rotary Club Calcutta, Sanskrit Sagar, Calcutta, Nandikar, Calcutta, INTACH, Calcutta, M/s. Digvijay Cement Co. Ltd., All State Government and UTs, National Council for performing Arts, HUDCO, Ministry of Commerce Deptt. of Textiles, Deptt. of S & T Deptt. of Sports, Deptt. of Women and Child Development, Deptt. of Education, Ministry of Urban Development, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

1	2	3
8.	Festival of France in India (Phase.I)	Music Akademy Madras, U.T. Government Pondicherry, Kala Academy, Goa, Jazz India, Bombay, Jazz India Delhi Chapter, Delhi, ICCR, Deptt. of Culture.

[Translation]	(d) if so, the details thereof?
Connecting of Villages with Metalled Road	THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):
3022. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:	(a) Yes
(a) whether many villages having a population of 1500 and more and Headquarters of village Panchayats are not linked with the metalled road;	(b) Separate information about funds spent during the Seventh Five Year Plan, on connection of villages with population over 1500 by metalled road is not maintained in this Ministry. However, details of amount spent under Minimum Needs programme by the Various states is given in the Statement below:
(b) the state-wise details of the amount spent during the Seventh Five Year Plan in this regard;	(c) and (d). No specific programme has been made for the above purpose However under MNP, every year funds are earmarked for the construction of these roads and the villages get linked with all wheather roads.
(c) whether Union Government propose to link these villages with the metalled Roads by providing more funds in 1989-90 ; and	

STATEMENT

Sl.No.	States/U.Ts	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	14.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.85
3.	Assam	25.80
4.	Bihar	115.67
5.	Goa	0.51

1	2	3
6.	Gujarat	17.49
7.	Haryana	0.15
8.	Himachal Pradesh	32.15
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	25.43
10.	Karnataka	31.39
11.	Kerala	39.73
12.	Madhya Pradesh	47.90
13.	Maharashtra	24.58
14.	Manipur	7.91
15.	Meghalaya	4.56
16.	Mizoram	12.31
17.	Nagaland	1.40
18.	Orissa	28.50
19.	Punjab	0.41
20.	Rajasthan	27.85
21.	Sikkim	7.94
22.	Tamil Nadu	23.52
23.	Tripura	15.14
24.	Uttar Pradesh	359.83
25.	West Bengal	20.80
26.	A & N Island	3.98
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	D & N Haveli	0.39

1	2	3
29.	Delhi	—
30.	Daman & Diu	*
31.	Lakshdweep	0.30
32.	Pondicherry	1.11
Total		904.60

*Included in Goa.

[English]

Shortage of Brass and Copper

3023. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of copper and brass have gone up recently affecting the small scale units particularly in the Saurashtra region of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons for the shortage of brass and copper;

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the production of copper and brass in the country; and

(d) whether Government propose to import copper and brass to meet the indigenous demand so that small scale industrial units may not suffer?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIM.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no serious shortage of copper in the form of cathodes, wirebars or of brass. However, there is a marginal short-

fall in the availability of copper wire rods.

(c) Brass, an alloy of copper and zinc, can generally be produced by the manufacturers of copper and copper alloy products. The following steps are being taken for increasing the indigenous production of its constituent metals i.e. copper and zinc:-

(a) Debottlenecking and modernisation of the smelters and refineries of Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL) for achieving the optimal capacity utilisation.

(b) Setting up of a continuous cast copper wire rod plant of 80,000 tonnes per annum capacity by HCL.

(c) Setting up of an integrated mining and smelting complex in Rajasthan by Hindustan Zinc Ltd., which will produce 70,000 tonnes of zinc per annum.

(d) Since the indigenous production of copper and zinc is only able to meet the country's demands partly, the balance requirement of the metals is met through imports. Besides, copper scrap, brass scrap and zinc scrap, are permitted for import under OGL.

Commonwealth committee of Foreign Ministers Meet on South Africa

3024. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he attended a meeting of the Commonwealth committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa, held at Harare in February this year; and

(b) if so, the specific issues discussed therein and the outcome thereof?

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

(b) The following issues were discussed;

South Africa's policy of destatisation and the security needs of frontline states; the Special Fund for Mozambique; the Commonwealth strategy for promoting trade and investment in the frontline and neighbouring states; sanctions and arms embargo against South Africa; and means of countering South African propaganda and censorship.

There was general agreement that sanctions against South Africa were beginning to have a perceptible impact on the South African economy. It was decided that Commonwealth members would respond favourably to requests from the Un Secretary General for personnel in constituting Observer Components of United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG). It was agreed that a report on destabilisation would be published. The Commonwealth Foreign Ministers' Committee also issued a separate statement on the arms embargo.

Outcome of the Talks Held with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister

3025. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister visited New Delhi recently; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the talks held with the Soviet Leader?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b). The Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister and Ambassador to Afghanistan, Mr. Y.M. Vorontsov visited Delhi from 16th to 18th February, 1989, for a detailed exchange of views on the present situation in Afghanistan.

[Translation]

Commissioning of Zinc Smelter Plant at Chanderia in Rajasthan

3027. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Zinc Smelter Plant set up by Hindustan Zinc in Chanderia, Chittorgarh, Rajasthan has been commissioned; and

(b) the source from where the water is likely to be tapped for the plant?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). The integrated Rampura-Agucha project, which includes the Zinc-Lead Smelter at Chanderia, was sanctioned in November, 1988 and is to be implemented in a period of 28th months. Major work orders have been awarded and the company is making efforts

to complete the project even ahead of schedule. The water requirements for the Smelter will be met from the nearby Gosunda Dam which is under construction on river Berach.

Price and Distribution of Aluminium

3030. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has requested Government to Control the prices and streamline the distribution of aluminium;

(b) whether Government have granted

permission for capacity expansion to Hindustan Aluminium Company Limited, Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, National Aluminium Company Limited and Indian Aluminium Company Limited and also ensure sufficient supply of power and other essential raw material to these plants; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The present licenced capacity for producing primary aluminium by the four companies is as under:—

<i>Name of the Company</i>	<i>Licenced Capacity (tonnes/annum)</i>
National Aluminium Company Limited. (NALCO)	218,000
Bharat Aluminium Company Limited. (BALCO)	100,000
Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Limited. (HINDALCO)	150,000
Indian Aluminium Company Limited (INDAL)	117,000

Whereas NALCO, BALCO and HINDALCO have insulated themselves against power shortages having set up their own captive power plants, INDAL continues to depend upon the State Electricity Boards for their power supplies. They are, however, having proposals for setting up captive power plants for their smelters at Hirakud (Orissa) and Belgaum (Karnataka). As for other essential raw materials like bauxite, calcined petroleum coke, aluminium fluoride etc., no serious problems have been reported.

Shortage of Cold Storage Facilities for Potatoes

3031. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are no proper facilities for storage of potatoes in various parts of the country, especially in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar as a result of which potato cultivators are facing hardships;

(b) if so, the total storage capacity for potatoes in these areas; and

(c) the action taken to increase the cold storage capacity this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY):

(a) There are no reports about the potato cultivators facing hardships due to lack of proper facilities for storage of potatoes.

(b) As on 1.1.88, there were 788 cold storage with a capacity of 26.03 lakhs tonnes and 210 cold storages with a capacity of 3.66 lakhs tonnes in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar respectively. There were 1661 cold storage with a capacity of 26.09 lakhs tonnes in the remaining parts of the country.

(c) Administration of cold storages in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab and West Bengal are with the respective States Governments. Administration of cold storages in Bihar and other parts of the country is implemented by Government of India.

The State Government of Uttar Pradesh has been following a liberal licensing policy to encourage construction of cold storages. The State Government is giving incentive for the construction of new cold storages for increasing the cold storage capacity by way of exemption from the ceiling of the maximum charges fixed by the Government which a licence may charge for storing agricultural produce in the cold storage. The exemption is given for a period of 10 years.

Cold storages are mainly constructed in the private sector. However, for promotion and development of cold storages in the cooperative sector, technical and financial assistance is generally provided by the State Governments with supplementary assistance made available by the National Coop-

erative Development Corporation (NCDC). NCDC is sharing 75% of the cost of construction of the cold storage.

Committee to Look into the Performance of Delhi Transport Corporation

3032. SHRIKALIPRASAD PANDEY:
SHRI KAMLA PRASAD
SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Transport Corporation is incurring heavy losses and facing various difficulties due to introduction of partial privatisation scheme;

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal to appoint a Committee to look into the deteriorating performance of Delhi Transport Corporation; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). There is no privatisation of buses of DTC. The losses incurred by DTC are mainly on account of un-remunerative fare structure, rising cost of labour and other inputs. In order to improve performance steps taken on a continuing basis by DTC include decentralisation of administration, financial and operational powers, improvement in management information system through computers, inventory control, plugging of leakages in revenue, intensive checking and rationalization of routes. DTC have also been selected for awarding Best Productivity Performance Award in Passenger Road Transport—City Service for the year 1987-88 by National Productivity Council. There is no proposal to

set up only Committee to go into question of performance. Remedial measures are yielding positive results.

[English]

Protection of Poor People from Cold Wave

3033. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce centrally sponsored scheme for the protection of the poor people from Cold Wave; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Issue of Passports

3034. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passport offices in the country as on 31 December, 1988;

(b) the number of passports issued by Passport Offices during 1988, office-wise;

(c) the average time taken for the issue of a passport during 1987 and 1988, particularly in Punjab;

(d) the number of passports cancelled or impounded during 1988 with details of each case; and

(e) the increase in staff office-wise on 31 December, 1988 as compared to 31 December, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARY): (a) There were 21 passport offices and 2 Passport Liaison Offices in the country as on 31 December, 1988.

(b) <i>Passport Office</i>	<i>No. of Passports issued in 1988</i>
1	2
Ahmedabad	88,928
Bangalore	48,488
Bareilly	53,678
Bhopal	19,929
Bhubaneswar	4,965
Bombay	2,16,526
Calcutta	51,688
Cochin	1,64,767
Chandigarh	67,331
Delhi	92,476
Guwahati	3,628
Hyderabad	88,358
Jaipur	40,997

213	Written Answers	PHALGUNA 25, 1910 (SAKA)	Written Answers	214
1		2	1	2
Jalandhar		70,492	Triuchirappalli	89,185
Kozhikode		80,238	Panaji	12,162
Lucknow		43,794	Total	1,341,584
Madras		84,158		
Patna		11,527		
Srinagar		8,269		

(c) and (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) Information is furnished in the statement below.

STATEMENT

		1986					1988					Increase/ Decrease
		A	B	C	D	Total	A	B	C	D	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Ahmedabad	4	3	61	10	78	4	3	64	10	71	—7
2.	Bangalore	4	3	60	7	74	3	2	50	7	52	—22
3.	Bareilly	3	2	49	6	60	3	2	42	7	54	—6
4.	Bhopal	1	1	19	5	26	1	1	16	5	23	—3
5.	Bhubaneswar	1	1	8	5	15	1	1	8	5	15	—
6.	Bombay	13	7	219	23	262	13	6	209	22	250	—12
7.	Calcutta	2	2	36	14	54	3	2	41	13	59	+5
8.	Chandigarh	3	3	53	11	70	4	3	64	11	82	+12
9.	Cochin	5	3	85	12	105	5	3	87	13	108	+3
10.	Delhi	6	4	103	13	126	6	5	110	13	134	+8
11.	Guwahati	1	1	7	5	14	1	1	8	5	15	+1
12.	Hyderabad	4	3	58	8	73	4	3	57	8	72	—1
13.	Jaipur	2	2	37	7	48	2	2	34	7	45	—3
14.	Jalandhar	4	3	54	10	71	4	3	64	10	81	+10

		1986					1988					Increase/ Decrease
		A	B	C	D	Total	A	B	C	D	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15.	Kozhikode	3	3	56	7	69	4	3	69	7	83	+14
16.	Lucknow	2	2	36	5	45	2	2	37	5	46	+1
17.	Madras	4	3	67	10	84	5	3	73	10	91	+7
18.	Patna	1	1	16	5	23	1	1	15	5	22	—1
19.	Srinagar	1	—	10	4	15	1	1	9	4	15	—1
20.	Trichy	3	3	55	7	68	3	2	50	7	62	—6
21.	HQR Cell	7	—	50	—	57	3	—	26	—	29	—28
22.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	11	—	13	+13
Total		74	50	1139	174	1437	74	50	1144+3	174	1445	+8

Construction of a Bye Pass on National Highway No. 6 Near Deogarh

3035. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction a bye-pass on National Highway No. 6 near Deogarh in Orissa;

(b) if so, whether it is likely to be constructed during the year 1989-90; and

(c) the financial provision made therefor?

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

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

Assistance to Punjab Agricultural Colleges

3036. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Agricultural Universities and the Agricultural Colleges in Punjab which have been given grants/other assistance during the year 1988-89; and

(b) the details of the assistance given, University-wise and college-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI): (a) Sir, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana and Khalsa College, Amritsar have been given Central assistance during 1988-89 by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(b) College	Scheme	Assistance given during 1988-89 (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
I) Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana	i) Development Assistance and Central contribution for implementation of revised UGC pay scales.	113.353
	ii) Assistance towards various All India Coordinated Research Projects.	116.74
	iii) Ad-hoc Schemes	9.76
		239.853
II) Khalsa College, Amritsar.	Development of College of Agriculture-affiliated to general Universities.	9.76

Purchase and Sale Price of Gowar Seeds

3037. SHRI HET RAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that farmers have to purchase the Gowar Seeds at much high rates and sell the crop at lower rate thereby incurring heavy loss;

(b) if so, the reasons for wide variation in the prices of Gowar at the time of the sowing and at the time of harvest; and

(c) the steps contemplated by Government to avoid the loss being suffered by the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, Generally the crop production rates are governed on demand and supply principle. In case of production of seed the extra expenditure is incurred on grading, certification, handling, storage, packing, transportation etc. which increase the prices of seed. The prices of grain is always lower in every crop and gowar is no exception to it. The gowar crop is normally sown under rainfed conditions. During the year 1987 the gowar crop was severely affected due to severe drought condition that prevailed in the country. During Kharif 1988 monsoon was quite favourable and demand of Gowar seed increased very much. This situation therefore, led to the increase of the prices of Gowar seed at the time of sowing. The continuation of good monsoon during 1988 has resulted to good production of gowar crop and therefore, there was a wide variation in the prices of Gowar at the time of sowing and at the time of sowing and harvesting.

(c) Question does not arise.

Development of Iron Ore Mines in Orissa

3038. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of iron ore mines in Orissa have been declared sick;

(b) if so, the number of those mines both in public and private sectors respectively;

(c) the reasons for the sickness of those mines;

(d) the steps taken to develop and revive those mines during the last three years;

(e) whether any-anti-pollution measures have been taken in working iron ore mines in Orissa and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Anti-Pollution Vessels for Major Ports

3039. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI:
SHRI HARIHAR SOREN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to deploy anti-pollution vessels in major ports;

(b) if so, whether such vessels are being imported;

(c) if so, the number thereof including their cost and the country from which they are to be imported; and

(d) the ports where such vessels are likely to be deployed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d). There is a provision in the Annual Plan of 1989-90 for purchase of 10 anti-pollution vessels for the Major Ports of Madras, Bombay, Cochin,

Mormugao, New Mangalore, Tuticorin and Calcutta (including Haldia). The country of import and the likely cost are not known at present.

SAARC Teachers' Convention

3040. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply given on 17 November, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 984 regarding South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation Teachers' Convention and state:

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

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether participation of teachers to the said convention was also invited from Sikkim; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) to (e). No such official SAARC Convention was organised during October, 1988. However, the Convenor of the National Coordination Committee of Indian Teachers' Organisations, Bhubaneswar, has informed that convention of teachers of SAARC countries, sponsored by that Committee, was held at Bhubaneswar on 29th, 30th and 31st October, 1988.

A copy of letter No. 70/89 dated 1.2.1989 received from the Convenor of the above Convention, in response to our request seeking the required particulars, is given in the statement below.

The question of Government adopting any criteria for selection of teachers for such a Convention or intervening in such selection does not arise since the convention was not an official event.

STATEMENT

SAARC Countries Teachers' Convention

Bhubaneswar, 29th, 30th & 31st October, 1988

Sponsored by : World Federation of Teachers' Unions (FISE)
: National Co-ordination Committee of Indian Teachers' Organisations

Office : 43, Bhoumangar
Bhubaneswar - 751001

Phone : 51597
Gram: Mahasangha, BBSR

No. 70/89/ Dt. 1.2.1989.

To

Shri D.P. Bhatnagar, Desk Officer,
Ministry of Human Resource Development,
Department of Education, New Delhi.

Ref. No. F.13-25/88-Desk (TE).

Dear Sir,

With reference to your letter dated 21st December, 1988 and 20th January, '89 I am to

state that the convention of Teachers' Organisations of SAARC countries was held from 29th October to 31st October, 88 at Bhubaneswar. Sri J.B. Pattanaik, Chief Minister of Orissa inaugurated the convention on the 28th evening.

The theme of the convention was mutual cooperation and co-ordination between the Teachers' Organisations of SAARC countries for development of education and betterment of the material conditions of the teaching community in the region.

The conference was sponsored by the World Federation of Teachers' Unions (FISE) and National Co-ordination Committee of Indian Teachers' Organisations jointly.

The representatives of the World Federation of Teachers' Unions (FISE) as well as Teachers' Organisations from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Pakistan and India were co-operating the convention. The teachers representatives from Pakistan could not attend due to the fact that Pakistan Government did not permit them to attend this convention.

The Convention after three days deliberation adopted an unanimous declaration asking all the Teachers' Organisations of the region of co-operate with each other under the guidelines of the SAARC Secretariat and FISE. It also declared to have such conventions & meetings for further exchange of the views and ideas and to evolve a mechanism with the frame work of SAARC Secretariat and FISE to ensure continual close cooperation between Teachers' Organisations and co-ordinate their efforts to secure justifiable solution to the problems confronting the education and educators around the SAARC region.

I am also sending a few copies of the Souvenir published after the Convention which contains all the documents and declarations of the convention for your reference and necessary action.

Thanking you for your co-operation.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Sd/-

1.2.89

Convenor

SAARC Countries Teachers' Convention

Free Primary Education to All

3041. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the constitutional assurance of providing free primary education to

every child in the country has been fulfilled by all the State Government; and

(b) if not, the States where this could not be fully implemented and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). Education is free in all States/Union Territories for children studying in primary classes in schools run by Government.

Share of Indian Ships in Carriage of Exports

3042. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the share of Indian ships in the carriage of exports during the last three years;

(b) the corresponding increase, if any, in the share of foreign ships in carriage of exports;

(c) the share of exports handled through Bombay Port during that period; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c). The share of Indian and foreign ships in the carriage of exports and also share of exports handled through Bombay Port during the last three years are given below:—

(In million tonnes)

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Share of Indian lines	7.28 (18.5%)	8.21 (19.7%)	7.21 (18.4%)
Share of foreign lines	32.16 (81.5%)	33.38 (80.3%)	32.05 (81.6%)
Share of Bombay Port	2.95	3.03	3.31

(d) Following steps have been taken by Government and shipping lines to increase share of Indian shipping in sea borne trade:

- (i) India has entered into bilateral shipping agreements with certain countries which provide for parity in cargo liftings and freight earnings;
- (ii) There are standing instructions to Public Sector Undertakings/ Government Departments to negotiate as far as possible, C&F exports and FOB imports.

(iii) Share of Indian shipping lines in carriage of iron-ore exported by MMTC has been brought up through successful commercial negotiations.

(iv) The use of foreign flag vessels in the oil trade has been brought down by arranging acquisition of suitable tankers for Indian shipping companies.

(v) In addition to the above, incentives are given to shippers for inducing them to use Indian bot-

toms for exports, thus in the case of export shipments carried from Indian ports in Indian vessels, exporters are given REP licence on the exports in question at the rate of 10% higher than their normal replenishment rate.

Literacy in Maharashtra

3043. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a distinct growth of literacy in Maharashtra during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, both in urban and rural areas separately showing the targets fixed and achievements made, year-wise;

(c) the amount of central assistance

made available to the State Government for this purpose during the last three years; and

(d) whether the funds were fully utilised every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b). The growth in the literacy rate in the state of Maharashtra during the last five years would be known only after the 1991 census.

(c) and (d). Central assistance for promotion of literacy is given to the State of Maharashtra under the programmes Operation Black Board and Adult Education. The position regarding central assistance given to the State and amount utilised during last three years under these two programmes is given in the Statement below.

STATEMENT

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Year	Amount of grant released	Amount of grant utilised
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Adult Education:			
(a)	Rural Functional Literacy Projects	1985-86	356.60	221.62
		1986-87	355.40	269.35
		1987-88	311.34	311.34
(b)	Strengthening of Administrative Structures	1985-86	26.71	25.10
		1986-87	27.95	28.61
		1987-88	32.19	39.70
(c)	Post Literacy & Continuing Education (Establishment of Jana Shikshan Nilayams)	1987-88	53.87	—
2.	Operation Black Board	1987-88	543.03	78.84

Declaration of Coconut as an Oilseed

3044. SHRI T. BASHEER: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from State Government of Kerala to declare coconut as an oilseeds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b). Demands have been made from time to time to declare Coconut as an Oilseed. It is not considered necessary to declare coconut as oilseed because being a plantation crop, distinct from annual crops of other oilseeds, coconut requires specialised handling for which Coconut Development Board has been set up. Besides, only a small part of this crop is being used as edible oil.

Land for Navodaya Vidyalaya at Baswakalyan (Tiprant) District Bidar, Karnataka

3045. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Navodaya Vidyalaya at Baswakalyan (Tiprant) in Bidar District, Karnataka has not yet been provided suitable land by the State Government; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to get land for the said Vidyalaya?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAI): (a) and (b). The State Government of Karnataka had provided 30 acres of land at Narayanapur Village around Baswakalyan Town where Navodaya Vidyalaya was started in the year 1987-88. However, on the inspection of the site by the National building Construction Corporation, to whom the construction work of Navodaya Vidyalaya Building was assigned, it was observed that the land allotted was not suitable as a public road was passing through it. The Government of Karnataka has, therefore, been requested to allocate some other alternative land for the Vidyalaya.

[Translation]

Preservation of 'Jasta Pradavan Sthal'

3046. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in the Kota edition 'Dainik Nav Jyoti' dated 5 February, 1989 under the caption "Jasta Pradavan Sthal Ko Antrarashtria Aitihasik Dharohar Ke Roop Main Manyata";

(b) if so, the views and comments of various domestic and foreign metallurgical committees thereon;

(c) whether Government propose to formulate any long term scheme to preserve and develop this place; and

(d) if so, the time likely to be taken for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). The American Society of Metals has presented a plaque in recognition of the old zinc smelting town of Zawar as a site of International Historical importance. The Indian In-

stitute of Metals, the foremost Metallurgical Institute in India, has welcomed this recognition given to the site.

(c) and (d). Hindustan Zinc Limited is fencing the area where the plaque has been installed and its surroundings; and will be taking steps to develop the area, as a place of attraction for the visitors.

Minerals Exploration in Bastar (M.P.)

3047. SHRI MANKURAM SODI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the minerals for the exploration of which survey is being conducted by Union Government with a view to find out natural minerals wealth in Bastar District of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the names of the minerals, exploration of which has been completed so far and the estimated quantity of the wealth; and

(c) whether the survey has indicated any possibility of finding gold in Bastar and if so, the estimated percentage of its quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b). In the current Field Season 1988-89 (1st October, 1988 to September, 1989) the Geological Survey of India is carrying out exploration for primary tin in Kondaras Dongry and Bangalur areas in Bastar district. Regional exploration for colluvial tin in Tongpal-Pushpal and Katskalyan areas has been completed and a colluvial resource of 5628 tonnes of recoverable tin metal has been estimated from the colluvium with grades varying from 32 gms/tonne to 917 gms/tonne. As part of collaboration agreement with BRGM of France, Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. (MECL) is re-evaluating the potentialities of tin occurrences in Bastar District.

(c) In the course of recent surveys in Bastar presence of gold has not been indicated so far.

[English]

Raising of Memorials of Freedom Fighters Abroad

3048. SHRI NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a request for raising suitable memorials to the freedom fighters and to commemorate important events in the freedom struggle in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon and the names of the freedom fighters/events selected for this purpose alongwith the action taken so far to build those memorials; and

(c) if so decision has been taken so far the likely date by which a decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K.K. TEWARI): (a) to (c). A number of such requests have been received both in the Ministry and in Indian Missions abroad; the Indian Missions abroad vet such request for their suitability before forwarding them to the Ministry. Hence full details are being collected from them and statement will be laid on the Table of the House.

Radhakrishnan Scholarships

3049. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the British Government has instituted "Radha-Krishnan Scholarships"; and

(b) if so, the amount, duration and other details of the scholarships?

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

(b) The "Radhakrishnan Scholarships" are not administered by the Government of India. Selection of candidates for these scholarships will be undertaken by the Rhodes Scholarships Committee which is not a government organisation. The amount and duration of the scholarships would vary with the courses of study and the financial requirements. The scholarships, admissible to Indian nationals below 26 years of age, would be for 2 years in the first instance and their number would be determined by Oxford University in any given year.

Pollution created by NALCO

3051. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Aluminium Company set up at Damanjodi in Orissa is posing a serious health hazard in the locality;

(b) whether pollution control measures have been taken by National Aluminium Company at its plant;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which National Aluminium Company Limited is expected to take adequate pollution control measures?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

Construction of Working Women's Hostels

3052. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of working women's hostels constructed during the current plan period at different places so far; and

(b) the details of working women hostels likely to be constructed during 1989-90 State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) 157 projects for the construction of working women's hostels at different places have so far been sanctioned during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

(b) It is proposed to sanction approximately 60 additional Working Women's Hostels during the year 1989-90, on the basis of applications received from Voluntary Organisations through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

[Translation]

Production of Breweries more than Licensed Capacity

3053. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of breweries which are producing more than their licensed capacity; and

(b) the action proposed to be taken by Government against those breweries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House. Excess production in violation to the provisions of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, could attract action under that Act.

[English]

Benefits of Science and Technology to Farmers

3054. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA:
SHRI R.M. BHOYE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to deliver the benefits of science and latest technology to the farmers both in the plain and hilly areas for increasing agricultural and horticultural production; and

(b) the target fixed under the each scheme for 1989-90?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The steps taken in this regard include:

- (i) The agricultural extension service has been re-organised in 17 States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Ra-

jasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal on the pattern of Training and Visit System of Extension. The system provides for interaction of researchers and extension workers, systematic training of field extension workers, systematic training of field extension workers and their scheduled visits to farmers to deliver the latest technology both in plain and hilly areas. Demonstrations and skill teaching/training are also employed to educate the farmers.

- (ii) Training workshops in agriculture and horticulture are being organised by the Directorate of Extension in collaboration with State Agricultural Universities and research institutions in which middle level extension functionaries are being trained.
- (iii) Information communication support for dissemination of improved farm technology is also provided through farm/fairs and field days screening of films, holding demonstrations and exhibitions and through the print/mass media.
- (iv) The I.C.A.R. has been operating technology transfer projects such as Krishi Vigyan Kendras, National Demonstrations, Operational Research Projects and lab to land programme for creating awareness, training of farmers, farm youths and farm women to help them adopt new agricultural technologies.
- (v) Various crop oriented programmes are being implemented to

enhance the productivity and production of specific crops like oil seeds, rice, wheat, millet and maize.

(b) The extension system popularly known as Training and Visit System provides for holding monthly workshops for subject matter specialists and fortnightly trainings for field functionaries on a regular basis. 67 training workshops on agricultural production technology and 17 on horticultural technology are to be organised in 1989-90 to train middle level extension functionaries. 19 training workshops have been scheduled at the National Centre for Management of Agricultural Extension, Hyderabad. Extension Education Institutes located at Nilokheri (Haryana), Rajendranagar (Hyderabad), Anand (Gujarat) and Jorhat (Assam) would be organising 86 extension communication workshops for lower level extension functionaries. The I.C.A.R. will run technology transfer through 91 Krishi Vigyan Kendras, 100 National Demonstrations in 48 districts each, 152 operational research projects and lab to land programme covering 20,000 farm families.

Shortage of Cold Rolled Coils and Sheets in Automobile Industry

3055. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the automobile industry is facing acute shortage of cold rolled coils and sheets;

(b) whether the automobile industry is mostly dependent upon import of cold rolled coils and sheets;

(c) whether the Minerals and Metals

Trading Corporation (M.M.T.C.) has allocated sufficient foreign exchange to import cold rolled coils and sheets to meet the demand; and

(d) if not, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Automobile Industry have faced some shortages of cold rolled material.

(b) Yes, Sir; particularly for deep drawing and extra deep drawing qualities.

(c) and (d). Ministry of Finance allocates necessary foreign-exchange to the canalising agency i.e. the Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) for imports. It is the constant effort of Government to meet the requirements of all consumers from indigenous availability, duly supplemented by imports to the extent possible.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur): Sir, I have given a notice under Rule 184. Is it under consideration?

MR. SPEAKER: I will look into it.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar): Sir, I seek your protection as a Member of Parliament. I am being restricted to perform my duties as M.P. in my own constituency, Srinagar. My car has been seized by the State Government. My rights have been curbed as a Member of Parliament. This is your responsibility; this is the

responsibility of the Speaker to come to my rescue.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot do it.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. If anything can be done, it can only be done under the law; State itself can do it.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: It is a question of my constituency. As Speaker, it is your responsibility to come to my protection and instruct the Government not to come in the way of performance of my duties.

MR. SPEAKER: If anything happens restricting your activities as a Member, you write to me and I will find out.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji): I have given a notice of breach of privilege against Shri Ashok Sen. I have quoted an entire para of the proceedings. He has said that the House had voted in favour of the Bill without knowing the contents..... *(Interruptions)*.

MR. SPEAKER: I will see to it. I cannot discuss it here. I never allow it.

*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed. It will not go on record.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Sir, I want to raise a small question; it is very important and relevant. According to the rules, we cannot discuss here any State subject.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, we do not.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: According to the rules, they cannot also discuss the Central Government in any House of the State Legislature. But yesterday, the West Bengal Assembly has passed a resolution that the Thakkar-Natarajan Commission report should be laid on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not my subject.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: Can they discuss it? What is your ruling?

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. You give me something; I will look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to the events that took place in this august House during the last two day. The Opposition has used the supreme legislative body of the country for political ends and behaved in a very irresponsible manner..... It all happened when somebody published the report.

MR. SPEAKER: Enough is enough.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: An individual published his own version of the report and that created an uproar in the entire House.

MR. SPEAKER: I have listened.

[English]

Enough, not allowed.

*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

12.03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. SPEAKER: You are also forcing your point of view. You are also not yielding. Neither you nor he is listening to me.

Annual Report of and Review on National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India, Ltd. New Delhi-1987-88

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): I beg to lay on the Table:—

You are also doing the same thing.

(Interruptions)

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Sir, malaria and gastro-enteritis have again broken out in trans-Yamuna colonies...

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts.

[Translation]

- (ii) A copy of the the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library. See No. LT- 7533/89]

MR. SPEAKER: You give in writing.

[English]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: I have already given.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I shall look into it.

SHRI SHANKAR LAL (Pali): Thousands of labourers working in Maharaja Ummed Textile Mills in Pali, Rajasthan are on strike since 5th January.

Review on and Annual Report etc. of National Mineral Development Corporation, Ltd, Hyderabad for 1987-88 and Hindustan Steel Works Construction Ltd., Calcutta for 1987-88 and statements for delay in laying the former two papers

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI M.L. FOTEDAR): I beg to lay on the Table:—

MR. SPEAKER: You give in writing under Rule 377, I shall look into it.

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government

on the working of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual report of the National Mineral Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in library see No. LT-7534/89]

(b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Steel Works Construction Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the ? Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in library. See No. LT-7535/89]

(2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in library. See No. LT- 7534 and 7535/89]

Annual Report etc. of and Review on Technical Teachers, Training Institute, Calcutta for 1987-88 Khuda Baksh Oriental Public Library, Patna for 1987-88 and Statements re. delay in laying these papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the Technical Teachers' Training Institute, Calcutta, 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-7536/89]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, 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 Khuda Bakhsh Oriental Public Library, Patna, for the year 1987-88.

(4) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the

[Sh. L.P. Shahi]

papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT-7537/89]

- (5) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Malaviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur, for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon, [Placed in Library see No. LT-7538/89]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Regional Engineering College, Durgapur, for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library See No. LT-7539/89]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Regional Engineering College, Calicut, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Regional Engineering College, Calicut, for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library See No. LT - 7540/89]

- (8) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Engineering

College, Slichar, for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT-7541/89]

- (9) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, 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 Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, for the year 1987-88.

- (10) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT - 7542/89]

- (11) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rampur Raza Library for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts, under sub-section (2) of section 22 of the Rampur Raza Library Act, 1975.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Rampur Raza Library for the year 1987-88.

- (12) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (11) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7543/89]

Annual Report of and Review on the Working of National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, New Delhi for 1987-88 and statement *re* delay in laying these papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): I beg to lay on the Table:-

- (1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, 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 National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development, 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-7544/89]

Statements *re* Review on and Annual Reports of Goa Meat Complex Ltd., Panjim for 1986-87 and 1987-88 and Statements showing reasons for delay in laying these papers and Review on and Annual Reports of Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd., Hyderabad, for 1985-86 and statement *re* delay in laying these papers etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND

COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table:—

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, for the year 1986-87.

(ii) Annual Report of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library See No. LT-7545/89]

- (b) (i) A statement regarding review by the Government on the working of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual Report of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7546/89]

- (2) Two statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1)

[Sh. Shyam Lal Yadav]

Library. See No. LT-7548/89]

above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7547/89]

- (3) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

- (a) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1985-86.

(ii) Annual Report of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Limited, Hyderabad, for the year 1985-86 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7548/89]

- (b) (i) Review by the Government on the working of the Uttar Pradesh State Agro Industrial Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1981-82.

(ii) Annual Report of the Uttar Pradesh State Agro Industrial Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1981-82 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in

- (4) Two statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (3) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7547 and 7548/89]

Review on and Annual Report of Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. Visakhapatnam for 1987-88 and statement *re* delay in laying these papers. Annual Administration Report of and Review of Calcutta Port Trust for 1987-88 and statement *re* delay in laying these papers, etc.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam for the year 1987-88 along with Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (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-7549/89]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1987-88.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Calcutta Port Trust 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-7550/89]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Bombay Port Trust, Bombay, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Bombay Port Trust, Bombay, 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-7551/89]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 1987-88.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, 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-7552/89]

- (9) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trust Act, 1963:—

- (a) (i) Annual Accounts of the Bombay Port Trust, Bombay, for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Accounts of the Bombay Port Trust, Bombay, for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7553/89]

- (b) (i) Annual Accounts of the Calcutta Port Trust for the year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Accounts of the Calcutta Port Trust, for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7554/89]

- (c) (i) Annual Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust for the Year 1987-88 together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) Review by the Government on the Accounts of the Paradip

[Sh. P. Namgyal]

Port Trust for the year 1987-88. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7555/89]

- (10) Three statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (9) above. [Placed in Library See No. LT-7553 to 7555/89]

- (11) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited, for the year 1987-88 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the Accounting year. [Placed in Library See No. LT-7556/89]

12.04 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:—

- (i) "In accordance with the provisions of Rule 111 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Bill, 1989, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 1989."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of Rule 111 of the Rules of

procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to enclose a copy of the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Amendment Bill, 1989, which has been passed by the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 14th March, 1989."

BILLS, AS PASSED BY RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table the following Bills, as passed by Rajya Sabha:—

- (1) The Central Industrial Security Force (Amendment) Bill, 1989.
- (2) The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Amendment Bill, 1989.

12.4 1/2 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Statement showing action taken by Government on recommendations contained in 34th Report

SHRI GANGA RAM (Firozabad): I beg to lay on the Table a Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in Chapters I, II and III and final replies in respect of Chapter V of Thirty-fourth Report (Eighth Lok Sabha) on Working of Integrated Tribal Development projects in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

12.05 hrs.

[Translation]

STATEMENT RE: MINIMUM SUPPORT
PRICE FOR RAW JUTE AND RAW COT-
TON FOR 1989-90 SEASON

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI BHAJAN LAL): Sir, the Government
have fixed the minimum support prices for
raw jute and raw cotton for 1989-90 season.

The basic variety for fixation of mini-
mum support price for raw jute has been
changed from W-5 to TD-5 grade, the early
sown olitorious jute, in Assam because of
the wider adoption of TD-5 grade.

The minimum support price for basic
variety i.e. TD-5 grade of raw jute in Assam
for the 1989-90 season has been fixed at Rs.
280/- per quintal, which is Rs. 17.50 per
quintal higher than the corresponding sup-
port price in the previous season.

It has also been decided to increase the
price differential between TD-5 and W-5
grades of raw jute to Rs. 15/- per quintal as
against Rs. 12.50 per quintal in the previous
season. As a result, the minimum support
price for W-5 grade in Assam for the 1989-90
season works out to Rs. 265/- per quintal as
against Rs. 250/- per quintal for 1988-89
season.

The corresponding prices for other
grades of capsularis and olitorious jute will
be fixed by the Jute Commissioner in the
light of normal market price differentials.

The Jute Corporation of India will as
usual undertake price support operations in
case the prices tend to fall below the mini-
mum support prices. It has also been de-
cided that the Jute Corporation of India
should carefully rationalise the releases of
stocks of raw jute held by it in order to meet

the exigencies of a possible rise in the prices
in the lean period.

The minimum support price for raw
cotton of fair average quality for H-4 variety
in the long and superior long cotton for 1989-
90 season shall be Rs. 650/- per quintal
giving an increase of Rs. 50/- per quintal
over the minimum support price fixed for
1988-89 season. The minimum support
price for raw cotton of fair average quality for
F-414/H-777 variety shall be Rs. 540/- per
quintal. This price is higher by Rs. 40/- per
quintal over the corresponding price of the
previous season. The minimum support
prices for varieties other than H-4 and F-414/
H-777 will be fixed by the Textile Commis-
sioner on the basis of the normal price differ-
entials.

The Cotton Corporation of India will
undertake price support operations in case
market prices of raw cotton tend to fall below
the level of minimum support prices fixed by
the Government.

I am confident the incentives offered by
the Government in terms of substantial in-
creases in the minimum support prices will
enthuse farmers to achieve further in-
creases in production and productivity of jute
and cotton.

12.07 hrs.

[English]

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) Estimates Committee

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW(Dum Dum): I
beg to move:

" That the members of this House do
proceed to elect in the manner required

[Sh. Asutosh Law]

by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, thirty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Estimates for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, thirty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Estimates for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) Public Accounts Committee

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): I beg to move:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 309 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Accounts for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by Sub-rule (1) of Rule 309 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Ac-

counts for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

[English]

Recommendation to Rajya Sabha to nominate Members

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): I beg to move:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is:

" That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted

12.10 hrs.

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES CONTD.

[English]

(iii) Public Undertakings Committee

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN
(Alleppey): I beg to move:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 312B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Undertakings for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

The motion was adopted

12.11 hrs.

PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS COMMITTEE

[English]

**Recommendation to Rajya Sabha to
nominate Members**

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN
(Alleppey): I beg to move:

" That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

" That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Undertakings of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted.

12.12 hrs.

**ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES —
CONTD.**

[English]

**Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled
Castes and Scheduled Tribes.**

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker): I beg to move:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 331B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, twenty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and

[Sh. Arvind Netam]

Scheduled Tribes for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 331B of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, Twenty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

12.13 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED
TRIBES

[English]

**Recommendation to Rajya Sabha to
nominate Members**

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker): I beg to move:

" That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate ten members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

" That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate ten members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha.

The motion was adopted.

12.13 1/2 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

[English]

Sixty-Seventh Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): I beg to move:

" That this House do agree with the Sixty-seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 15th March, 1989."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

" That this House do agree with the Sixty-Seventh Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 15th March, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

12.14 hrs.

SUPPLEMENTARY DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1988-89

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): I beg to present a statement (Hindi and English versions) showing the Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1988-89.

12.14 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Demand to save the independent character of Kerala's daily *Mathrubhumi*, lately in danger of being restrained owing to a big business house concerning the share of the daily

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey): The *Mathrubhumi* is one of the most widely circulated and influential papers of Kerala. It has its influence not only in that State but all over the country. It was started by the freedom fighters who took great pains to spread the message of the great leaders to the general public. There were occasions when the freedom fighters themselves circulated this paper amongst the public to spread the message of independence. It played a leading role in the freedom struggle of our country. The path shown by founders of this paper has been consistently and assiduously followed and thus this great Daily has

been able to maintain its independent character all these years.

Now, efforts are being made by a big business houses controlling a chain of newspapers and magazines in the country to corner the shares of this Daily which would certainly curb its independent character.

We are all for curbing the monopoly press as it is against the healthy development of press in the country. I hope the Government of India will take a note of this development and help in keeping the independent character of this paper.

[Translation]

- (ii) Demand for declaring the Chhota Nagpur area of Bihar a drought affected area

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH (Chatra): The Chhota Nagpur region in Bihar comprising of Palamau, Hazaribagh and Plateau of Gaya district has been affected by drought. The paddy crop has been destroyed and now the rabi crop has also been ruined. Poverty has driven the people of this area to cities. Due to acute drought conditions, the problem of drinking water and irrigation has become very serious. The people of this area have lost their strength to save their lives and the lives of their livestock. The above problems should be taken seriously under the democratic and socialistic provision.

Under the above condition of acute crisis and natural calamity I would like to make an appeal to the Central Government that in view of the seriousness of the situation they should conduct an inspection by an expert committee and declare the Chhota Nagpur plateau comprising of Gaya, Palamau, Hazaribagh as a drought affected area.

[English]

- (iii) **Demand for re-instatement of those DTC employees whose services were terminated in 1987**

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonepat): About 3000 D.T.C. employees were stripped of their jobs by the D.T.C. authorities in 1987. The dismissed D.T.C. employees have been struggling hard since then to make their both ends meet. In these hard days of rising prices, it is very difficult to survive and remain without a source of income. We can well imagine the deplorable conditions of the dismissed D.T.C. employees. I request the Minister of State for Surface Transport to kindly issue necessary instructions for the reinstatement of all the D.T.C. employees at the earliest.

- (iv) **Demand for setting up industries in Mukundapuram Constituency of Kerala to enable the educated unemployed youth of the area to get employment**

SHRI K. MOHANDAS (Mukundapuram): Mukundapuram constituency in the State of Kerala is an industrially backward area. Although it is near Alwaye, the industrial belt of Kerala, it has not received any attention so far and thus no development has taken place here. It is predominantly an agricultural area. The spread of education has created a feeling of unemployment as it has happened in the rest of the country. Although Alwaye is an industrial area, yet the employment opportunities there have reached a level of stagnation. This has aggravated the unemployment situation in this area.

Only industrialisation is the answer. I, therefore request the Government to set up a few medium industries in Mukundapuram

constituency so that the young educated unemployed of this area get employment.

[Translation]

- (v) **Demand for simplification of the provisions of the Forest Act, 1980 so that many approved development plans for the hill areas of U.P. may get through**

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): About 2000 development plans of hill areas in U.P. have been pending for years now, for want of clearance due to the tedious provisions of the Forest Act, 1980. 95 per cent of the work had been completed in some of these plans before the provisions of this Act came into force. The remaining 5 per cent work is awaiting clearance. Due to the delay in getting clearance there has been extensive soil erosion. The people are not getting drinking water as the intake tanks of some of these schemes have dried up and approval for the construction of new intake tanks has not been granted. Even people wishing to open a tea shop in the forest area and needing a few pieces of stones for their house repair are expected to take the approval of the Government of India. The resentment among the people is at its peak.

The people of the area are launching a campaign of tree felling. If the Government did not take steps to simplify the provisions of the Forest Act, 1980, the people will denude 3/4th of the forests themselves and thus cause their own disaster. At the sametime, I would like to warn that the growing discontent in this border area might prove quite harmful for the country.

- (vi) **Demand for extension of range of the Faizabad T.V. Relay Centre**

SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI (Faizabad): Only the residents of Faizabad city get the benefit of T.V. Relay Centre functioning in

the city in my Parliament Constituency. It is necessary that the residents of other areas of the district Faizabad and Rudoli Town of district Barabanki falling within my constituency should also be provided the opportunity of viewing the programmes relayed by the Faizabad T.V. Relay centre. It is, therefore, necessary that the range of this Relay Centre may be augmented by 4 times.

I would like to request that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting should make suitable arrangements to extend the range of the T.V. Relay Centre at Faizabad so that the residents of district Faizabad and Rudoli (district Barabanki) could also avail of its benefits.

[English]

(vii) Demand for electronic telephone exchanges in Calcutta

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Telephone is an essential requirement in our day-to-day life; but at Calcutta, it has become an ornamental instrument only, due to mal-functioning of the manual exchanges. Jadavpur, Tollygunge, Bhowanipore, Kidderpore and Behala are most populated areas in Calcutta; and in all these areas, the telephones rarely function, and the people have to face tremendous hardships. I would request the Government to take immediate steps for the installation of electronic exchanges in all these areas, for smooth and faultless functioning of the telephones.

12.21 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET 1989-90 GENERAL DISCUSSION—CONTD

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House

will now take up further general discussion on Budget (General) for 1989-90. Shri Dharam Pal Singh Malik.

[Translation]

SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK (Sonapat): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the General Budget for 1989-90. In this Budget the hon. Minister of Finance did a commendable work by paying attention to unemployed youths and homeless people. He deserves our thanks for this. A number of provisions have been made in the Budget to remove unemployment. For this purpose 120 districts in the country, where the number of unemployed people is more, which are backward in the matter of development or where the people living below the poverty line is more, will be identified. Attention will be paid to remove their unemployment. While I would like to express my thanks to the hon. Minister for paying attention to the problem of unemployment, I would also like to submit that we will be more successful in our objective if the scheme is launched in the whole country instead of selecting only 120 district for this. I do agree that there are areas in the country where the problem of unemployment is very serious, but I would like to submit that there is no place in the country where people living below the poverty line cannot be found.

I would like to mention the names of Sonapat, Rohtak and Jind districts in Haryana where the land holdings have shrunk to such an extent that the small farmers are finding it very difficult to survive. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister to include Sonapat, Rohtak and Jind districts of Haryana while identifying 120 districts and also implement the schemes to solve the unemployment problem in these districts.

The hon. Minister of Finance in his Budget speech has discussed about National Housing policy, liberalising the hous-

[Sh. Dharam Pal Singh Malik]

ing loan policy, providing loan at lesser rate of interest and introducing insured housing scheme. In this connection I would like to make a special mention of the housing scheme and make a suggestion in this regard. The problem of housing is very acute in the cities. It so happens that when people construct houses in the cities the officials of the Income Tax Department harass them. They conduct raids on their premises. They enquire the sources from which the owner got the money and so on and so forth. But it yields no results. This only encourages corruption, dishonesty and bribe. In order to silence them people bribe the officials and the entire thing is hushed up. Instead of doing all this, the Government should give full liberty to people to construct houses in the cities. There should be no enquiry about the source of money. It does not matter how big the house is and where from the money comes. This will yield three benefits. The first is that black money will come into circulation. It will be utilised in solving the housing problem of the country. Secondly, more number of houses and shops will yield more revenue by way of House tax, Property tax to the local Municipal bodies the State Governments and the Central Government. Therefore, it should be fully liberalised. My submission is that if it is done that way, it will solve our housing problem and unearth black money which will come in circulation, with the help of which the country will develop and the problem of unemployment will be solved. This is so because a number of people will get employment opportunities in the construction of houses at a large scale. Therefore, my submission is that such a provision should be made in the Housing Policy.

Secondly, I would like to submit that if one casts a cursory glance at our country's Budget not only of this year but also of the previous years, even a layman can easily conclude on the basis of the funds allocated

by the Government and on the basis of statistics as mentioned on the papers, that India has become a land of riches. However, the fact is that the funds sanctioned by the Centre for the purpose of development works are not spent on those developmental activities. Instead these funds, are pocketed by the corrupt people. Therefore, my submission is that before formulating my policy the Government should first see to it that corruption is brought to an end. Being it so, more output can be achieved with even less amount of funds. But it is seen that the more the amount of funds sanctioned by the Centre, more the increase in corruption and requisite funds are not spent on different items of expenditure. In fact, the amount of funds spent remain the same as it was earlier. Increased allocations do not reflect in the increased percentage of expenditure. Therefore, corruption and dishonesty have their horrible magnitude in our country. First a provision should be made to do away with it.

Last time, we observed that people were voted to power in Haryana merely on the anti-corruption slogans. This indicates the extent of magnitude of corruption in our country. In Haryana, the Government came to power last time only by raising the slogan that "Corruption will be done away with and the provision of water and electricity will also be made for the people. The fact, however, is just the opposite there. A fine arrangement for corruption has been made there. Today, if someone wants to indulge in corruption in that state, he can do so very successfully. Moreover, there is no question of the provision of water and electricity. Therefore, I would like to submit that this corruption should be done away with. As such electoral reforms have been very much talked about here. However, in this regard, I would like to submit that electoral reforms can be effected only when the Government issues multi-purpose identity cards for the same. Here, I would like to submit that we can use them

also for removing corruption from our country. In this regard, my submission is that all the families in India should be issued multi-purpose identity cards which should mention the details of the property of each individual in the family. I want to point out that perhaps people have purchased benami properties even in bogus names. Nobody knows as to who is the real owner of a particular property. There is exactly no such register in our country today which may indicate the details of the property, with each individual. So my submission is that a card should be issued to every family which may indicate the details of the property of the head of the family, so that sale and purchase of an individual property may be recorded in that card. With that provision, we can remove corruption because at present people have been earning huge profits on benami properties in the form of their black money and spread corruption. If a ban is imposed on this, one of its benefits will be that the increasing prices will be controlled. If this intensity of corruption and dishonesty is minimised, the prices will automatically come down. Otherwise, nobody can control the price rise.

The Government conducts the budgeting exercise every year. But we should see as to why corruption is active, what is its basic cause and why does one become corrupt and accept bribes? In my view, the reason behind this is that it is money and not the Government which ensures our security. A person who is richer than me feels that he is more secured than Dharam Pal Singh Malik by virtue of being richer than me. Similarly, a person who has more money than him, says that he is even more secured than both of us. From the very childhood, we are taught that none but money alone helps in adversity. If the Government takes up this responsibility of our security in the bad times and normal times, then I feel that it will help in removing corruption. This will also help us in bringing about socialism in the true sense of the term.

Regarding income-tax, my submission to the hon. Minister is that he has given a rebate of only 5 per cent on the tax which is to be levied on Rs. 18 to 25 thousand just for show. This rebate would not do at all. If you just consider this, what is the use of teaching people to conceal their income, telling lies and filing bogus returns? Today, there is not a single family that can afford to live properly with an annual income of Rs. 25 thousand. Otherwise, there should be such a provision that only those persons living below the poverty line should be exempted from tax. But that is not going to serve any purpose. So I strongly urge upon the Government to raise the exemption limit to Rs. 25 thousand. No tax should be levied on a person having an annual income upto Rs. 25 thousand.

I would like to submit about those freedom fighters who had made great sacrifices for the security of their country in their prime of life and today when they have retired and leading the life of an exservicemen, they have been compelled to resort to fast and agitation here. Therefore, I would like to suggest to the Government to allow equal rate of pension for equal rank to enable them to lead their life properly in these days of inflation, and there may not be any heart burning among the personnel who had retired at a different point of time which had made them eligible for a different rate of pension.

Regarding the farmers, all the hon. Members have asserted in this House every time that 80 per cent people of our country depend on agriculture. Either these people themselves cultivate their land or else they work as labourers but the only means of their livelihood is agriculture on which they cannot be self dependent. Hence, I would like to submit to the Government to reduce the rate of interest on the loans given to them for the purpose of agriculture. The present rates are very high which have rendered the farmers as perennial debtors and the amount of

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loans goes on increasing. Moreover, the prices of the agriculture produce should be fixed properly in accordance to their cost of expenditure. With these words, I support this Budget.

SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Mr. deputy Speaker, Sir, the new Budget which has been presented here seems to be an election Budget as there has been no increase in the taxes. But so far as the Budget preparation is concerned, we should either turn completely to communism or else happily accept free enterprises. But we have been sandwiched between these two and with such a Budget we have been dragging the country to such a condition where the poor has become poorer. You know that it takes ages to shape the character of a nation. But the way we have turned the things, in our country and have prepared the Budget, we have distorted the character of the entire country. No matter, to be very honest we may claim but I would like to ask whether any person files a correct income tax return and whether a Government employee can pull on with his family with his present income. No, this is not so and that is why he is given to accepting bribes and we should admit this fact. As a result of it, today we find that the whole country is in the strong grip of corruption. If you really want to abolish the system of capitalism and black money, then I would like to ask the Government to demonitise the currency notes of Rs. 500, Rs. 100 and Rs. 50 denomination. That will take out the entire black money from circulation which will benefit the poor but the Government won't do it in spite of their tall claims about the poor because the Government receives funds from all the capitalists. In the name of the poor, Government is bound to safeguard the interests of the capitalists. In the Government does not stand for the capitalists, it should fix a ceiling in respect of the urban property and an-

nounce that a person would be allowed to construct not more than one house in the city and the surplus property will be seized by the Government, and such houses should be allotted to those persons who do not have any house of their own. But the Government won't do it. The Government can provide facilities to the multinational companies like coca-cola but it cannot provide safe drinking water for its people. Today, the people of the country are in need of safe drinking water and not coca-cola. Here also the politics of votes govern your action. Though the Government has made some provisions in the Budget to deal with the problem of rural unemployment, no provision has been made for the urban unemployed and the urban poor.

Relief has been provided in respect of cement and aluminium to benefit Monopolists and capitalists. It has been done so that they may contribute for your party fund. I want to submit that by doing so you are spoiling the character of the people and driving them to corruption. You are not doing so by words but you convey through your actions that corruption and bribe-taking is unavoidable for survival. The prevailing tax-structure is responsible for the deterioration of the character of the people and its effects can be observed in the present law and order situation which is going from bad to worse and causing undue harassment of the public.

There are no schemes for the upliftment of the weaker sections. Besides, provision of 5 percent relief in income-tax has little significance. Exemption limit should have been raised from Rs. 18 thousand to Rs. 25 thousand. Similarly, while discussing socialism, the subject of levying taxes on agriculture income also comes up. Proposals are made in this respect but we cannot see any progress made in their execution. A Parliamentary Committee should be set up to look into it. It is unfortunate that Government is not willing to take any steps in this regard. Which are at most necessary. It is interested

only in making pleasant statements and telling people that prices have not been increased as a result of this Budget. However, 11 percent hike in freight tariff of the Railways is bound to affect prices and you can see that prices have already increased and commodities have been disappeared from the market. As a result, the middle classes and the upper middle classes are very hard pressed. They are facing piquant situation on account of it. Therefore, I will request you to pay attention to this matter and prevent the development of an explosive situation in which the masses may rise up in protest. I would like that action should be taken after due consideration. There is still time to make changes at the basic level and solve the problem for ever.

I am grateful to you for providing me time to express my views.

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support this Budget because it is welfare oriented and special care has been taken to see that the poor are not burdened in any way. The required resources are to be mobilised from the higher income groups. While preparing the Budget, efforts have been made to deal with modernisation, unemployment, increasing employment opportunities and attaining self-sufficiency. Definite provisions have been made for them.

I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance towards certain specific points. It is being observed over the years that very good Budgets are prepared and very balanced tax proposals are made. However, we have also observed that whenever the Budget session is to commence whether of the Parliament or of the State Assemblies, the weaker sections and particularly the middle classes become apprehensive of the fact that the Budget would mean rise in prices. The whole sale prices increase and Government is not able to control over retail prices.

If you observe carefully, you find that there is no relationship between the levy of taxes and price rise. Special attention should be paid in order to control price rise.

Similarly, our foreign exchange position is also very critical. 18 per cent of funds are being spent on our Central Plan and an equal amount is being spent on payments of interest. It can be easily estimated as to how much more interest will have to be paid during the coming years. Therefore, the import-export policy must be made realistic. It is being stated time and again that our import-export policy will be made practical but it has never been done.

As regards, wasteful expenditure, Government has been constantly emphasising on curbing wasteful expenditure and the Hon. Minister has also sent written instructions to every Ministry in this regard. However, you will observe that a tendency has developed in the administrative machinery not to bother about it and no one is willing to curb wasteful expenditure. I would like to draw your attention to one instance of wasteful expenditure. You may observe as to how much wastage is being done in the name of art and culture. One example of colossal wastage is that of Bharat Bhawan which is situated in Madhya Pradesh. Lakhs of rupees are spent there every year. I will tell you the purposes and under what heads such expenditure is incurred. 'Kavi-Sammelan' was organised in which 100 poets were invited to participate but the number of audience was only 10. Invitation Cards were printed and each card was worth Rs. 100, Rs. 200 or Rs. 400. The people of Bhopal feel that Bharat Bhawan has become the Centre of debauchery and luxurious lifestyle of the rich and all such activities are being carried out under the cover of art and culture. Sir, a 'Vishwa Kavi Sammelan' was convened recently. The poems recited on that occasion were of such standard that it is not possible to recite them here. From this

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we can imagine the extent to which the standard of our poetry has fallen and extravagance indulged in. It is being said that five star culture is being encouraged and it is not incorrect to say so. The Bofors affair and Shri Herschman is coming to India in connection with the Fairfax affair and the gimmic indulged in are all a part of this culture which has polluted the whole country. All this must stop. Wasteful expenditure should be identified and curbed. If extravagance is not controlled the weaker sections will definitely rise up in protest. They will not tolerate it for long and will protest one day. Some people are growing richer and some are constantly hard pressed.

NREP and RLEGP were two separate programmes for tackling poverty but now they have been unified. As regards our backward States, I would like to submit that though there has been a lot of development in the entire country but gap between developed and backward states has not been reduced. The Central Government provided cent percent funds for the RLEGP but now it will be shared. I would like to request that RLEGP should continue in its original form and some more schemes should be approved for the development of backward states so that they also come at par with other States.

It is said that India is an agricultural country. Agriculture is the backbone of our economy. However, it would be observed that cattle-rearing is also equally important and due emphasis has to be laid on that as well. It is only when agriculture and animal husbandry are developed simultaneously that our economy can be strengthened in the real sense. Attention has of course been paid in this direction but not to the desired extent. Required improvement in the breeds of cattle has not taken place; desired increase in the number of cattle reared has also

not taken place. Adequate fodder arrangements have also not been made so far. This is why unemployment is a major problem in the rural areas. If we observe carefully, we will find that underemployment is even a bigger problem there. The rural people suffer from malnutrition and diseases arising out of it. If milk production is increased it will definitely benefit them. Besides, it is essential to encourage animal husbandry from another angle as well. Land loses its fertility with the use of chemical fertilizers. In order to save the soil and maintain its fertility, natural fertilizer made out of animal dung should be used along with chemical fertilizer. This can be done only when necessary attention is paid towards cattle-rearing and maximum provisions are made for this purpose. Herein lies the secret of the country's prosperity as well. Sir, even dead cattle are useful. It is an important source of fuel and energy supply but still scant attention has been paid towards it.

Similarly, I want to draw your attention to another point. The biggest misfortune for our country is the existence of an irresponsible Opposition. They have adopted only one point programme viz to find out ways for tarnishing the image of Hon. Prime Minister and slander him. Every opposition party has got this one point programme only, for which they take resort to falsehood. They do not have any positive policy. If they talk such things against the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, we should face them publically.

Indiraji espoused the cause of the poor. She nationalised the banks for the benefit of the poor and abolished the privy purses of erstwhile rulers and poor stood by her but let us examine what we are doing now. We have tried to bring them above the poverty line through our programmes and we have succeeded also to some extent. Formerly, 50 per cent of the people were living below the poverty line and now their number has come down to 38 per cent but what is their

position. How far they have been benefited by the overall development. How long will they continue to remain dependent on banks and your schemes. They are in a very sorry state. We may claim that we did not let anybody die of starvation but we cannot deny that 38 per cent of the people, according to the Government statistics, are living below poverty line and quality of their life is so pitiable that their children cannot have two square meals a day. We have raised clusters throughout the country where the people below the poverty line live. We may claim that we have brought some of them above the poverty line during last 5, 10 years. Indiraji had given us a lead by suggesting that the tribals should be provided food at subsidised rates and she had herself said that wheat should be supplied to them at the rate of Rs. 1.50 per kilo and we should supply foodgrains to all the poor in the country at subsidised rates. What are you doing about it. We find that during the last 2 to 4 years, the administration has gradually reduced the quantity of grains supplied at control rates. Earlier a quantity of 10 kgs. per head was being supplied, which has now been reduced to 1-2 kgs. only. As a result thereof there is great resentment amongst all the poor people against the Government and the congress party. We are unable to understand as to how the administration has done it. I want to submit that full ration should be given to all the persons and those living below the poverty line should get foodgrains at subsidised rates. This will help improve the atmosphere considerably.

I want to submit one more thing that when we can give an electric connection to a Harijan, a tribal, then why can't we give it to the people living below the poverty line. They are residing in a cottages allotted to them under your resettlement programme or living in some other dwelling for generations. This facility should be extended to them which will not only light their cottage but their children will also be able to study at night. If you do

this, it will definitely be a noble deed and it will build a good atmosphere.

I want to submit 2-3 things more. These days some workers' movement or the other always goes on in the country, it may be for increase in dearness allowance or increase in the pay scales. Somewhere or the other strikes continue or employees sit on 'Dharna'. Now time has come when you have to decide a national wage policy for the entire country. Why do you keep it confined to I.A.S. people, you should give this benefit to all categories of employees. All the state Governments employees should get the Central pay scales since there is a marginal difference only at present, you will have to give very little money. If you cannot do it now, you should give a guarantee that you will it by the end of the Eighth Five Plan. I feel that the loss sustained by the country due to these agitations is far more than the amount we will have to give on conceding their demands. If the employees are satisfied, their performance will improve.

Many hon. Members have spoken about the taxes. I will confine myself to only one or two things. Nowadays two wheeler has become a necessity and a part of life for mobility of a person belonging to the middle class. Therefore, tax on it should not be increased. Why do you want to reduce their mobility?

Similarly, for the last 2-3 budgets people have pleading for increasing the income-tax exemption limit from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 25,000. I feel that all the hon. Members, who have spoken here, have made this request and I hope that the Minister of Finance will consider it.

In the end, I want to say something about a matter concerning my constituency. We had passed Bhopal Gas Act. A petition by some people challenging this Act is pending in the Supreme Court. It is going to have

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far reaching consequences. If this act is declared invalid, a piquant situation will arise, the entire sum received from the Union Carbide will have to be refunded. Let us ponder for a while as to who are these people, who have developed sympathy for the gas victims of Bhopal. They can not guarantee the time within which they will be able to arrange payment of compensation but they have been constantly taking keen interest and are in fact helping the Union Carbide while shedding crocodile tears for the gas victims. The sole purpose behind it, for which hundreds of U.S. lawyers visited India, was to shift hearing of this case to U.S.A., which would be in their interest. They want the case to end here, act to be declared invalid and the sum returned to the Union Carbide. Thereafter, a case may be initiated in U.S.A. In this way, these people are trying to grind their own axe. They have made it an international issue.

I am very grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak but I will like to repeat my request that an enquiry may please be ordered to find out the organisations with their headquarters in England and France, who are helping certain organisations here and have cast their espionage network in India.

With these words, I support the Budget.

[English]

SHRI A. CHARLES (Trivandrum): Sir, I rise to support the budget for the year 1989-90.

Let me, at the outset congratulate the hon. Minister for Finance for doing his best within the financial constraints for presenting a pro-poor, pro-growth and anti inflationary budget.

Sir, an ideal budget is one that keeps a balance of the receipt and expenditure accounts, where the public debt is reduced, where the people are not burdened with avoidable taxation and where the people get sufficient opportunity to engage themselves in productive labour without depending too much on Government subsidies and grants. In the credit of Shri Chavanji it must be said that he has spared no pains to achieve these objects in the present budget and nobody would dispute the fact that he has succeeded to a large extent in his efforts, though some of the disquieting trends in our economy have not been fully negated.

This budget has to be viewed under the background of the very serious situation in which the Government's finance was passing through during the last two years. In spite of the worst drought during 1987-88 the G.D.P. has grown by 3.6 per cent during the year. Even the foodgrains production was about 138 million tonnes in 1987-88, which is only marginally lower than that of the previous year and last year's production of food grains and oil seeds was an all time record. During the current year the growth of G.D.P. is expected to cross 9 per cent and the average growth rate of G.D.P. during the plan will be over 5 per cent which was the target fixed. Sir, these are no mean achievements.

The basic problem that faces the country is the problem of poverty and unemployment. Realizing this, very serious efforts have been made in the present budget to counter this menace. There is a proposal to merge NREP and RLEGP into a single programme and to decentralise its implementation the Central Government sharing 75 per cent of the total expenditure. In addition to this, there is a proposal to launch a new intensive rural employment programme for providing employment to at least one member of every family in selected 120 districts

and an amount of Rs. 500 crores have been earmarked for this new project. There is also a proposal to start 61 industrial growth centres in selected areas. These measures are really laudable and if implemented with the spirit with which they are brought forward, will go a long way in solving the twin problems of poverty and unemployment to a considerable extent.

13.00 hrs.

Another welcome proposal found in the Budget is the slight cut in the Defence expenditure. Even under the ordinary circumstances, the Defence expenditure should have gone up at least by a margin of 5%. Not only has this normal increase in Defence expenditure been contained but there is also a reduction of Rs. 200 crores in the Budget provision for Defence expenditure this year. This is really commendable and the credit, of course, goes to the hon. Prime Minister for the personal efforts he had taken and the able leadership he has given in improving our relations with our neighbouring countries. However, I add a word of caution. By reducing the expenditure on Defence, we should not simply overlook the importance of modernisation in Defence and equipping our Army and other forces and our Defence should always be kept alert to meet any urgent need.

The most striking feature of this year's Budget is its attempt to cut down firmly on deficit. The overall size of the budgetary deficit is Rs. 7337 crores which is 5% lower than the revised figure for 1988-89. There is also an attempt to bring down the revenue deficit by over one-third, i.e. from Rs. 11030 crores in 1988-89 to Rs. 7012 crores. This when achieved will certainly give a big boost in strengthening our economy. In this connection, I am sorry to say that one important sector has some how been neglected i.e. fishery sector. You will agree that traditional

fishermen is one of the most neglected and poorest of the weaker sections. I do not think any substantial provision has been made for improving their lot. In today's Question Hour, a specific question was asked about fish catching and was answered by the Food Processing Minister. In the course of the answer, he said, some of the aspects had to be considered by the Finance Ministry and some others by Shri Bhajan Lal, in-charge of Agriculture. Fishery is supposed to be under the care of Agriculture Ministry. But some of the concessions and other aspects have to be looked into by the Finance Ministry, some by Commerce Ministry and some by Food Processing Ministry. There is no coordination. There is no lobby for fishery, though there are powerful lobbies for coffee, tea, rubber, coconut, etc. I strongly plead that a Board should be constituted for taking care of the traditional fishermen who are living all along the coastal line. They are the poorest of the weaker sections. They have to face the vagaries of weather and are leading a very very uncomfortable life. I plead that this aspect may be considered and a board for fishery may be constituted.

Another thing is about Government servants belonging to the lowest slab of taxation. I am very glad to see that additional levy is being put on persons who are having income over Rs. 50,000 of taxable income. It is mostly Government servants who are in the group of Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 25,000 taxable income who are really affected. Businessmen are not bothered about it. Government servants cannot escape from the tax because they cannot give false accounts. If some concession is given to Government servants in respect of income-tax, that will be a big gesture.

In this connection, I would also point out a few disturbing factors that seriously affect our economy. The Comptroller and Auditor General, in his report for the year 1987, has stated:

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"There is scope for rigorously pruning wasteful expenditure... There is also the need to take steps to make investments in public enterprises more productive."

The Chairman of the Ninth Finance Commission has, *inter alia* pointed out that the interest burden of the Centre, between Rs. 16,000 crores and Rs. 17,000 crores is abnormally high. Despite the efforts of the Government to bring down the deficit, unless there is determined effort to cut down the expenditure and make our public enterprises more productive, we may have to face more trying situation in future. The total investment in the Public Sector is reported to be Rs. 75000 crores. But what does it actually contribute to the exchequer? On an investment of Rs. 75000 crores, the Centre should have received a dividend of Rs. 2500 crores, i.e. 10 per cent of the equity of Rs. 25000 crores. This alone would have reduced the deficit to about one-third of what it is today. Three years back the Government promised to publish a White Paper on our Public Sector Undertakings. But, thereafter there has been no follow-up in this matter. I strongly plead that this may be taken up with all the seriousness it deserves and very drastic action taken on those who are responsible for this huge loss being incurred in the Public Sector Undertakings. Urgent steps may also be taken for the publication of White Paper as promised earlier.

Another more disturbing factor is the yearly increase in public borrowing. From the chart given at pages 2-3 of the document 'Budget at a Glance', 1989, it is seen that on the receipt side 8 per cent is the deficit whereas on the expenditure side, payment of interest alone comes to 18 per cent. So, if the payment of interest alone can be reduced by 8 per cent, there would not be any deficit at all and this will have a very remarkable impact on making our economy vibrant.

It may be pointed out that since a large part of our borrowing is meant for expenditure in non-Plan, non-development areas, in the larger interest of the economy of the nation, a strenuous effort will have to be made to avoid wasteful expenditure in our administration.

About the subsidy, I would like to say that a large amount is being spent on subsidy especially for the fertilizers. I would request the hon. Minister to consider this policy of paying subsidy we are giving this benefit to the big Companies. It is doubtful whether a sizeable portion of this subsidy actually reaches the poor agriculturists. Therefore, this policy has to be reviewed. I think there should be a programme or action should be taken for the payment of subsidy direct to the agriculturists instead of giving it to the big industries.

In this connection, I would also like to point out another area where huge waste in expenditure is incurred in implementing the Anti-Poverty Programmes. Even our hon. Prime Minister has stated that according to a study made, it has been revealed that only one sixth of the total amount spent actually reaches the hands of the beneficiaries in the case of Anti-Poverty Programmes. It is really a very sad state of affairs. A major portion of the fund is being spent towards administrative expenditure. I would therefore suggest that there should be greater coordination among the NES Blocks, the Revenue Department, the Panchayats and the Health Services Department etc. Which are mainly responsible for the implementation of the above programme.

I will now come to my State. Kerala in this connection, I am compelled to bring to the notice of the hon. Finance Minister the main problems of our State. As you are aware, one of the most burning problems of Kerala is the problem of the unemployment of the educated. Kerala has got the highest

literacy rate... (*Interruptions*) There is no industry worth the name in Kerala. All the industries which are situated there are already sick. I would request that while starting the Growth Centres and implementing the one-job for each family in 120 districts, priority may be given for the revival of the sick units. Thousands of crores of rupees are invested in these sick units. Money is not being properly utilised because the industries are sick. On a former occasion, I made this request to the hon. Minister of State for Finance and he has given direction to the banks to consider this. So, I would request that earnest efforts should be made for the revival of all these sick units in our State... (*Interruptions*) Some concessions in railway freight rates are being given for the North-Eastern States for taking the raw material and bringing back the finished products. If those concessions can be extended to the State of Kerala also, I think our industrial climate can be improved. That will help for the revival of the sick units and for starting new units also.

With these words I conclude my speech. I support the Budget.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): Will you permit me? Just for the information of the hon. Member, when I was in Kerala about a month ago, then I urged the banks and they agreed to have a programme of action, a time-frame for rehabilitation of sick SSI units financed by them. They will be on a time-frame basis.

SHRI K. MOHANDAS (Mukundapuram): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I support the Budget. Although the Finance Minister will be collecting Rs. 902 crores by way of new taxes, he has spared many essential commodities like edible oil, tea, petroleum products, cotton yarn etc. This will certainly help him in controlling the prices of essential

commodities. Another very important aspect of the Budget is that the deficit is being kept at the level of Rs. 7337 crores as against Rs. 7940 crores. If it can be kept at this level, I would say, this will be a major achievement. But the Government will have to be very vigilant about the price situation. Things are not in very good shape on the price front. Although the Government has claimed that inflation has come down by more than fifty per cent, the prices have risen, causing all round misery to the commonman. It is the poor and the middle class which are hit hard by the price rise. Then, the constant rise in prices will increase the budget gap and this will in turn push up prices further. This vicious circle will go and the people will become poorer and poorer. Therefore, much greater efforts will have to be made by the Government to control prices.

Another important feature of the Budget is the 20 per cent increase in the plan outlay for this year. I find that allocations for the vital sectors like power, communication, industry etc., are greater. This will certainly increase production.

This year's Budget is significant for yet another thing. Perhaps, in many years, the Government realised the urgent need to tackle growing unemployment. This is a problem which has to be solved on a war footing. After forty years of independence and Seven Five Year Plans, we have not been able to provide employment to our boys and girls. The youth in the country is getting frustrated because of this situation. If you look at the root cause of extremism and terrorism, you will find that unemployment and the resultant frustration is a great contributory factor in the growth of terrorism in the country. The youth is losing faith in the political process, because it could not give them a sense of participation in the nation building. This will lead to disastrous consequences. I am happy that the political leadership has realised the seriousness of the

[Sh. K. Mohandas]

situation and has decided to solve this problem. I do not know how many people could be given employment with the amount of Rs. 1711 crores provided in the Budget. But it certainly is a major step forward.

Having supported the good features of the Budget, I must point out certain areas where improvement is required. The Finance Minister seems to think that the middle class and the salaried class are well off and all that is needed is to tax them. This is not a realistic approach. The middle class, the fixed income groups and so on are really suffering. The Finance Minister or the economic advisers of the Prime Minister are not really aware of the problems of this class. They are very harsh towards this class. You have not given them any relief. For the past three years, the basic exemption limit of income tax has not been raised. Do you really think that a person who is drawing a gross salary of Rs. 4000 or Rs. 5000 is very well off in the present day India? After the tax deduction and other deductions what is he left with? You have totally exempted from the income tax, income from exports. Of course, I have nothing against them. This step was perhaps necessary to boost export. The reason given was that otherwise the benefit of increase in their allowance will become illusory. I agree with this logic. But my question is, why don't you apply the same logic in the case of other salaried class which really needs relief.

Another important point I want to mention is that there is a steep decline in the price of coconut in Kerala. The price per nut has come down to Rs. 2.40 from Rs. 3.75. This has very badly affected lakhs of small coconut growers. In fact coconut is the backbone of Kerala's economy. Fall in the price of coconut is going to ruin the economy of Kerala. I would, therefore, request the Government to immediately fix a support price of

Rs. 3.50 per nut and make arrangements to procure coconut without any further delay.

I would, therefore, request the Finance Minister to be a little more sympathetic towards my State. When the new employment generation programme is implemented my State should get priority. The scheme of industrialisation sent by the State Government should be implemented without delay. There should be a permanent arrangement for helping the growers of spices in the event of a fall in prices. The pending irrigation as well as power projects should be cleared and finance should be arranged. The proposed thermal plant in Kayankulam should be completed within the time frame fixed. The restrictions imposed by the recent amendment in the immigration rules on people seeking employment in Gulf countries should be removed forthwith.

General discussion on the budget gives us an opportunity to raise some of the problems of our States. Therefore, I take this opportunity to draw the attention of the Government to some of the burning problems of my State. Kerala is a State which has not received due attention from the Centre. So, it remains undeveloped. The Central investment in Kerala has declined over a period of time whereas in other States it has gone up. Kerala has 30 lakhs of unemployed in the leave register of employment exchanges. My State contributes significantly to the foreign exchange through spices and the non-resident Indian workers. My State contributes substantially to the Railways because there is no ticketless travelling.

The people of Kerala are patriots and are second to none in protecting the unity and integrity of the country. In the context of terrorism it is often said that unemployment is the root cause. Unemployment problem is the worst in my State. But they have not taken to the path of terrorism or violence. When we are sanctioning coach factories

and other industries to States which are facing the problem of terrorism and denying the same to Kerala, what message are we sending across?

I want the Government to seriously ponder over the problems of Kerala. Kerala has sent detailed proposals to the Centre for the expansion of the existing units and for setting up new industries. But nothing has happened. The spices like cardamom, pepper, nutmeg, cloves and so on are produced in Kerala but the prices are determined by the traders of Bombay who seem to have much greater influence on the Government. Thus, the growers of Kerala lose hundreds of crores and the traders of Bombay make hundreds of crores.

When the export import policy is amended the growers complaints are not taken into account. Clever manipulation of the lists is done by officials to help the businessmen. Ultimately the growers become the losers. The Government is very responsive to the business class; but not so responsive to the poor growers in Kerala.

I hope the Finance Minister will give serious consideration to these points and help Kerala. With these words, I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA (Mirzapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the great poet Kalidasa, in his epic 'Raghuvansh,' has described a model state in the following words:—

" Prajanamevbhutyartham sa-
tabhyobalimgrahit,
Sahasragunmutsashtum adtteheer
sam ravi."

The Government realises some money from the people by way of tax and in return spends on their welfare several times more money in

the same manner as the sun draws some water from earth but returns thousand times more water to the earth. Our Finance Minister has exhibited and followed the same spirit while formulating the Budget.

Hon. Finance Minister has collected revenue from the rich people by taxing luxury goods and has allocated increased expenditure to promote the interest of the poor, which is a welcome move. These are the basic features of a welfare state that people with capacity to pay should be taxed and the amount so collected should be spent on the requirements of the needy. By doing so, the hon. Finance Minister has taken a positive step in the direction of socialism.

Hon. Prime Minister and the Finance Minister have shown their indication in favour of pro-poor economic policy enunciated by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. It is a praiseworthy step. Higher funds have been allocated for eradication of poverty and unemployment.

A new employment scheme named after Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru on the occasion of his birth centenary has been launched, which will be implemented in 150 districts. It is my submission that Mirzapur, Varanasi and backward districts of Eastern U.P. should be covered under this programme.

It is a socialist budget. Besides, the hon. Finance Minister has struck balance and discipline in the economy by reducing the anticipated deficit in the Budget and has displayed remarkable skill. Scale of deficit has been brought down after many years and deficit has been covered by imposing taxes on the rich. Cooperation of the rich has also been taken in eradicating poverty. It is a socialistic approach to the economy. I congratulate the Finance Minister for it.

The Prime Minister, while pursuing the poverty eradication programmes started by

[Sh. Umakant Mishra]

Indiraji, has decided to further intensify them. Benefits of the programmes are also reaching the people. The extent of poverty in the villages is changing. Hopes and aspirations are rising among the poor in the villages. But there is a need for close monitoring of the programmes for eradication of poverty so that the money is not misused and it reaches the poor and they are benefited.

The most serious problem is that of educated unemployment. Doctors, engineers, diploma holders, scientists, I.T.I., B. Ed., B.T.C., High School, Intermediate, B.A., M.A. Ph.D. qualified persons are unemployed in large numbers and their number is further increasing. There is a need to provide them for employment urgently. I suggest that the services of educated and trained technical unemployed persons should be utilised in implementation of rural employment schemes. Provision should be made in the Eighth Plan to engage the educated and trained unemployed persons in productive undertakings. There should be a provision to purchase the land and make it available to the landless under the Integrated Rural Development Programme. Under the Indira Awaas Yojana and the Weaker Sections Housing Scheme amount for the construction of a house should be increased from Rs. 6,000 to Rs. 10,000. Even if a lesser number of houses are constructed, they should be solid and strong.

A Farmer Welfare Centre should be opened in each 'Nyaya Panchayat' in a development Block. Besides having fertilizer, seeds and insecticides, such centres should also have tractors, crushers and pump sets available on rent. The country's industrial and agricultural sectors have made remarkable progress. But this development has created regional imbalances. For a balanced regional development the

Industrial Policy in the Eighth Plan should include industrialisation of the backward districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Bundelkhand and Bagelkhand. Mirzapur district and town and Gyanpur-Bhadohi area in my constituency are industrially backward. A big industry should be established near Mirzapur.

Sir, in the end I want to say a few words about the Opposition in my country. The way in which the Opposition has disturbed the sanctity of the House in the last two days does not augur well for democracy in this country. And all this happened in the presence of veteran leaders like hon. Shri Indrajit Gupta, hon. Shri Somnath Chatterjee, hon. Shri Madhav Reddi and hon. Shri Viswanath Pratap Singh. I deplore the attitude of the Opposition. Sir, it seems as if leaders of the Opposition are bent up on destroying the democratic structure of this country. They have lost their faith in democracy. They are dejected and frustrated. I, therefore, deplore their actions. They have insulted you and the hon. Speaker and denigrated the institution of Parliament. I hope that the people will reject such members and never allow them to enter this house in future.

In the end I shall quote the words of a sage:—

"Sarve bhavantu sukhin:
Sarve santu niramaya:
Sarve bhadrani pash-
yantu ma kashchitah
dukh bhagbhavetah"

Let everyone be happy, healthy and prosperous. Nobody should be sad and ailing. This has been the desire of our leaders, like Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and our hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi. I thank you for giving me time to speak. With these words I express my support for this Budget.

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT (Chittorgarh): Hon. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to express my support for the Budget proposals, for the year 1989-90. At a first glance it becomes evident that this Budget in which top priority has been given to National interest to achieve the socialistic structure in the country, has been prepared by a responsible and efficient Government.

There has been all-around praise for the relief envisaged in the Budget for the people living below the poverty line. That the Budget is a well-thought exercise is clear from the fact that direct and indirect taxes have been imposed on the 'high income group' only. The first provision of this Budget is that estimated deficit has been reduced to Rs. 60,012 crores which is Rs. 4,018 crores less than that of last year's amount. Hence, this is a balanced Budget.

There are three basic problems affecting our economy. First is the large Budget deficit, second is the increasing debt burden; and the third is the plan expenditure. The hon. Finance Minister may not have been successful in completely solving them but he has hinted towards providing relief in this direction.

The hon. Finance Minister has launched a direct attack on the problems of poverty and unemployment in our country. His intentions are clear from the three schemes developed for this purpose. The Jawaharlal Nehru Employment Scheme having an outlay of Rs. 500 crores shall be implemented in 120 districts. The Central Government will pay 75% of the grant of N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. and thus incurring an expenditure of Rs. 711 crores for the welfare of the poor. I request that the backward areas of Rajasthan which are generally affected by drought be included in the 120 districts where the Jawaharlal Nehru Employment Scheme will be implemented. The backward areas inhabited by Adivasis, like

Chittorgarh, must definitely be included.

A decision has been taken to provide one 'dhoti' every year to one poor woman. This will involve an expenditure of Rs. 12 crores. This is a welcome step but I would request for an increase in means of livelihood. The self-respecting Indian woman can never be content with one 'dhoti' every year. For her, contentment lies in her children receiving good education, being employed and getting irrigation and power facilities for cultivation. Attention should be paid to this aspect so that women are not compelled to ask for the 'dhoti' again in future.

I must praise the Housing Policy also. Rs. 903 crores is sought to be generated as income from direct and indirect taxes which are likely to be imposed only on the people whose lifestyle consists of travelling by air, staying in 5-star 'hotels, travelling in Maruti cars and consuming 'pan masala'. These aspects for taxation purposes will affect the rich only. The poor will not be affected as tax will not be imposed on item like sugar, tea, cloth and petroleum products. But I have two grievances against the Government. Firstly, public-sector undertakings have been registering profits of late, but by and large these organisations run into losses. This calls for a reduction in our plan expenditure which has been increased by Rs. 453.47 crores.

Secondly, the problem related to our increasing foreign debt is assuming serious dimensions. The country is facing various problems due to disturbances in its balance of payment position. We are incurring 18% of our plan expenditure on debt liabilities. The amount of debt against the country stands at Rs. 17,000 crores. If the present state of affairs continues we can expect our plan expenditure equal to the interest on foreign debt in the near future. Such a sad eventual-ity can be averted if we give serious thought to this problem. Defence expenditure has

[Prof. Nirmala Kumari Shaktawat]

been reduced by Rs. 200 crores in this Budget. Understandably, this has been done in view of India's cordial relations with her neighbours. But this should not be a reason enough for us to stop updating the weapon systems which our armed forces have.

The country had to face a lot of problems in the past decade, and among them was the worst drought of the country. Similarly there was a political crisis too. Today we are witnessing the logistics of a political deformity in the ranks of the Opposition, the proof of which is the absence of Opposition Members from the House today. This is clearly indicative of a political deformity but still the Congress (I) has tackled it firmly. Elections may come and go but it would be totally wrong to call this a election Budget, Particularly because, no hesitation has been shown in this Budget as far as imposition of taxes are concerned.

There are some issues which need to be given serious thought. For instance, the Gadgil formula which is apart of the Plan assistance is not a favourable one. In this formula, population is taken as the basis. The population of Rajasthan, which is the second largest State in India, is spread over an area of 3.42 lakh kilometres. The Gadgil formula puts Rajasthan at a disadvantage. Plan assistance should be given on the basis of area of a State and not on the basis of its population.

Only 2% of the total investment in Central public-sector undertakings in made in Rajasthan. Some time back the foundation of a Super Zinc-Smelter Plant was laid. However a lot more needs to be done for this State. Limestones are found in abundance in this area, especially in the areas spread over from Chittorgarh to Kota. A survey was also conducted by the C.C.I. for setting up a

cement plant under the public sector. But the proposal has not yet been cleared. I, therefore, would like to submit that it may kindly be approved. A number of industrial units have been lying sick in Rajasthan. For example, the cement factory is Sawai Madhopur and the Oriental Power Cable Factory in Kota. A large number of labourers working in these factories have been thrown out of job, as result of which they are facing difficulties. But the owners of these sick units are exploiting the workers. Therefore, my submission is that the Government should take over the management of such sick units in its own hands.

I would like to add that except Rajasthan, particularly South Rajasthan, we had good rains all over the country this year. But it is the misfortune of Rajasthan, especially the Southern Rajasthan that the problem of drinking water is quite grave there at present. I would like to submit especially about Chittorgarh that the problem of drinking water is worse than even last year and as per the criterion set by the Government all the villages have fallen in the category of problematic village. If attention is not paid in this direction, this area may face an acute shortage of drinking water.

I would also like to submit that electricity is the backbone of industrial development. But the problem of electricity both for industry and agriculture is very acute in Rajasthan because earlier the Singrauli station which used to supply 15 percent electricity, is now supplying only 9.5 percent electricity. Due to this, there is a lot of problem in that area. The Government rejected the proposal for setting up a Thermal Power Project submitted by the Rajasthan Government. I would like to submit that the Central Government has rejected the proposals of all the three projects viz Chittorgarh Thermal Power Project, Dhaulpur Thermal Power Project and Mandalgarh Thermal Power Project. With regard to Chittorgarh Project, I would

like to know the basis on which the Government rejected it because a broad gauge line is being laid there from 31 March and therefore there will be no problem of coal transportation there. Then what is the reason for rejecting it? (*Interruptions*)

So far as atomic power is concerned, the Government has announced to set up its unit at Rawat Bhata and is developing it as 'Annu Nagar'. But there is a terror and panic in the people there about the ill-effect of radioactivity caused by the atomic power plant proposed to be set up there. Therefore, my submission is that a seminar should be organised there to awaken the public so that the terror in the minds of the public could be removed. The people are terrified because they are being made to practise as to how to run out of the houses at the call of the alarm. Due to this the people are feeling quite panicky as to why they are being made to practise so. (*Interruptions*)

Sir, I would not like to submit that there is not an acute shortage of water in Rajasthan. Although Rajasthan constitutes 10.4 per cent area of the country and accommodates 5.3 per cent of the population yet there is only one per cent of underground water there. Therefore my submission is that all the schemes which are lying under consideration with the Government should be cleared immediately. Especially the Indira Gandhi Canal, which is also known as Rajasthan Canal is the 'Bhagirathi' of Rajasthan. However, its pace of work is very slow and therefore it should be made a Central scheme. Similarly, Rajasthan is not getting its due share in water of Ravi and Beas rivers as per provisions of the interstate agreement on water. Again, the Chambal CAD Phase-II is also lying with the Centre for approval and has not yet been finalised.

I would like to add that from the point of view of availability of natural gas, the western area of Rajasthan is quite rich but it has

not yet been harnessed fully. Only three rigs are in operation there—2 belonging to O.N.G.C. and one to the Oil India Limited. If this is speedily harnessed, gas based industries can be set up there.

(*Interruptions*)

I would like to submit only this much that the Government will have to make amendments in the Gadgil formula for Rajasthan so as to grant more funds to it.

With these words, I support the Budget proposals.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH (Jaunpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I heartily welcome the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister. This Budget has certainly benefited the poor and the unemployed and it will help to a large extent in eradicating poverty of that section. The hon. Minister has definitely given considerable thought to the needs of our country's population and presented a very balanced and good Budget. I would like to heartily congratulate the hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the hon. Finance Minister for the same. Due to the shortage of time, I would not like to go into the statistics but on viewing the long Budget speech, I find that each and every line of the speech deserves to be quoted here. However, I will not be able to fully describe the problems of my constituency, no matter how much or for how long I speak here. In this Budget, a substantial provision has been made for removal of unemployment in 120 districts where the unemployed youth are facing a lot of problem. Here I would like to submit that in the Eastern Uttar Pradesh the Government is concerned as to how to remove the backwardness of that area. When Honble. Shri Nehru was the Prime Minister, a commission was constituted by him and steps were taken for the development of Jaunpur and to remove the backwardness of that area. Thereafter a

[Sh. Kamla Prasad Singh]

number of problems got solved to an extent and this can not be denied. But today the problem of unemployment there has assumed such a serious proportion that it has become a serious malady for them as well as for their families. My submission is that there should be a provision of setting up heavy industries there. Our hon. Prime Minister has announced that one heavy industry will definitely be set up in each district which will provide employment to the educated unemployed. Through you, I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister that effort should be made to remove unemployment in Jaunpur district by setting up a heavy industry there.

Today a network of roads is certainly being constructed and a provision of link road is also being made besides the substantial progress in the field of education. Health is also being developed by the setting up of hospitals. However, I would like to submit that viewing the increase in population, the buildings of the primary schools are definitely less in number. There are many such students who get education under the shade of a tree instead of a building. My submission is that the Government should make provision for school buildings for the proper education of children. I would also like to add that there are a number of such villages of the harijans where there is no provision of electricity which is definitely a hindrance in the development. The people earn their livelihood either by means of irrigation or by setting up small industries. If there is no proper provision of electricity, they can certainly not run their business properly. I would like to submit that each village should be electrified and the 'jhonpadi' of the poor people should also be lighted.

The Government had dug a number of tubewells in the country and there is no

shortage of them. However due to technical problem or some other reasons the tubewells do not function properly. I dare say that 70-75 per cent tubewells do not function. The farmers have to face a great problem for irrigation of their Rabi crops or whenever water is required by them for irrigational purposes. Similarly, the funds allocated for the maintenance of the tubewells are reported to be inadequate. The Government should increase the funds meant for it, keeping in view the amount required for it. Otherwise there will not be any proper arrangement of irrigation. You are aware that 80 per cent of our country's population is totally dependent on agriculture for which electricity is its first requirement. Therefore, there should be a proper flow of water in the canals and the tubewells should also be energised besides making a proper arrangement of electricity.

I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister for having taken step to deal with the situation caused by drought and for having given employment to the people.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, my constituency is very backward due to which the problem of drinking water is very acute there. Efforts are being made to provide drinking water there by installing India Mark-2 hand pumps. But viewing the population there, there is an acute shortage of pipes there. A provision of more pipes on the basis of population should be made there. The present situation is such that the summer season is approaching and during this time the wells go dry due to which slush instead of water is fetched from them. Thus there is a huge problem of drinking water in my constituency. My submission is that proper arrangement should be made in this regard. Last year efforts were made to provide water in every village by constructing tanks and laying down pipelines there. Water was thus provided to a great extent in every village but

this year the Government has stopped the construction of such tanks. This has definitely created a serious problem for the people there. My submission is that if necessary, tanks should be constructed and pipelines should be laid for supplying water in every village.

My constituency includes both urban as well as rural areas. On the one hand the Jaunpur city was hit by drought but on the other some area located on either side of the Gomati river which flows through the heart of Jaunpur district are flooded which results in water logging and consequently the entire area is submerged. As a Member of State Assembly, I relentlessly raised this issue that efforts should be made to save the city from flood. Since the day I became a Member of this House, I have left not even a single opportunity to focus the problem of floods and made request to control floods there. In a reply to my question, it was stated that the Ganga Project has been shifted to Patna.

[Translation]

I would urge upon the Government to take effective measures in order to solve this problem.

Today the problem of unemployment has assumed serious dimension. I would like to submit that the youths in my district are very much frustrated, they go to even Bombay and Calcutta for seeking a job but inspite of moving from pillar to post in search of employment they fail in their objective causing anxiety to their parents. There is a large number of graduates and post-graduates in my constituency, who are unable to find any means of earning their livelihood. This is a grave situation. I would like to urge upon the hon. Finance Minister that a heavy industry should be set up in Jaunpur area in our district. Besides, financial assistance should be provided to the educated youth in order to enable them to earn their livelihood by set-

ting up small industries. I would reiterate my request to set up a heavy industry to tackle the problem of unemployment in that area.

With these words, I welcome the Budget.

CH. RAM PRAKASH (Ambala): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I would like to submit that never before such a good budget has been presented and under it relief has been provided to crores of poor people, Harijans and the common man of the country. People are extremely happy with this Budget. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance and Hon. Prime Minister for this.

Adequate funds have been provided for the upliftment of the poor and the backward areas, but the big question mark remains whether it will be utilised properly. We would definitely approve the funds allocated for these purposes in the Budget. But I am not sure whether the bureaucracy would implement the schemes effectively. Nearly 50 per cent of the total population in the country would be benefited if the provisions made in the Budget are properly utilised. But on the basis of experience of my life as an MLA, a Minister, Member of Parliament, etc. since 1952 I have to strike a note of caution that the nation can march forward at a galloping speed if Government departments work on true democratic lines and the country is doomed if the quality of democracy is poor.

I would like to urge upon the Hon. Prime Minister and his cabinet colleagues to be very strict, which will set things right. Although Government spends heavy amount of money every year on the upliftment of the poor, in reality only 25 per cent money reaches them or is spent for the specified purpose or the backward areas. It is a pointer to the prevailing situation.

The issues of development, price-rise,

[Ch. Ram Prakash]

food, clothing and shelter were raised. We grant increase in pay scales, allowances etc. within our available resources but what does the poor get. He does not even get justice. His very subsistence is threatened in the villages. He gets nothing, not even employment. The Central Government had sanctioned an amount of Rs. 93 crores to the Haryana Government as flood and drought relief. But I claim that even 25 per cent of it has not reached the people of the affected areas. They put down bogus names of recipients to fulfil all the formalities. If the Government holds an enquiry, you will come to know how much money has been bungled and how the Non-Congress (I) Government in various States misuse and misappropriate the funds.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, a non-Congress (I) Party is in power in Haryana but I regret to say that the Chief Minister of that State is more concerned about becoming Prime Minister than devoting his attention to do justice to the poor in that State. Before staking your claim to the office of Prime Minister, you must learn to administer your State, in which you have failed. Atrocities are being committed on the poor. They are not allowed to get out of their houses or to go to the fields. They are deprived of their employment. They are ruined. But when the matter is raised here in this House, we are told that it is a State subject. Is it not the responsibility of the Central Government to intervene if the State Government adopts a tyrannical attitude towards the poor people? It would become really difficult for the poor people to live if the Central Government does not check the State Government. People belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes cast their votes in favour of Congress (I). But the interests of these people suffer the most in the States governed by parties other than Congress (I). What is the remedy for this problem?

Tangri, Markanda and Ghaghar are the three rivers which flow in my constituency—Ambala in Haryana. All these three rivers play havoc in Haryana during monsoon. Fields are washed away. I had written a personal letter suggesting construction of a dam on these three rivers to save the people of Haryana from the disaster caused by floods. Apart from protection from the floods to the surroundings areas, the accumulated water could be utilised for irrigation. But I regret to say that proper consideration has not been given to my proposal.

The hon. Minister claims that power supply is available there for 24 hours for tubewells and other agricultural purposes. But on the contrary I claim that power is supplied in that State for not more than 4 hours a day. Such statements are made by the Ministers in the State. Secondly, they say that the State Government is prepared to do every thing provided the Central Government and Shri Rajiv Gandhi provides adequate assistance. But Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, inspite of knowing fully well that they are corrupt, provides financial assistance lest he may be accused of non-cooperation. But he can go thus far and no farther. He is helpless if the funds are not properly utilised. The Hon. Prime Minister is ready to sacrifice his life for the prosperity and development of the nation. Despite this his credentials are challenged. In my entire political career spread over 36 years I had not witnessed the scene that I saw here yesterday. I was stunned to see the behaviour of some people. An attempt was made to assault Shrimati Shiela Dikshit, who is a learned and a dignified lady. Such people want to make Shri V.P. Singh the Prime Minister. But we should first see whether he deserves to hold this high office. I feel greatly ashamed that the dignity of our Parliament has been lowered in the world because of acts of these people** who claim themselves to be the guardians and well-wishers of the country. I would go to the extent of saying that they should be sus-

pended for ever. I would appeal to the people of country never to cast their vote in favour of such persons and not to return them to Parliament, who tarnish its image. We would be glad to support them on the issues of fighting price-rise, unemployment and starvation but we are their enemies if they strike at the very roots of the values and principles, which we have all along cherished.

I would like to say few words about price-rise. We would be able to provide adequate facilities to the poor of our country if we succeed in checking rise in prices and removing unemployment. People can never prosper until unemployment is eradicated and price-rise is kept under control. Increase in population has been further aggravating the problems. People will feel extremely happy if Government takes effective measures to provide employment and control prices. I would urge upon the Government to pay adequate attention to these matters. The country would prosper if these major problems are solved, otherwise the country would not be able to move forward. We cannot show our face to the people. The country cannot advance if poverty is not eradicated and justice is not done to the people. In the present set up the poor are held in any case of theft or dacoity while persons responsible for bungling of crores of rupees, committing dacoities in banks, go scot free. My submission is that Government can be effective when run with an iron hand. Had I been responsible for the incidents which took place here yesterday**. They should not be allowed here. They have brought a bad name to the country.

I, again, congratulate and thank the Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance.

14.00 hrs.

SHRI KEYUR BHUSHAN (Raipur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after going through the

Budget presented by the hon. Minister, I support it not because it has the support of my party and the leader of my party but because the Government's concern for the people is reflected in it. I want to submit some of the special features of this Budget.

The world needs peace today and in order to create an atmosphere of peace, the present environment has to be changed. Today, efforts are being made all over the world to pile up the stock of defence equipment and deadly weapons in their arsenals and in this situation, India, under the leadership of hon. Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has taken the initiative to reduce defence expenditure so that peace can be established. Our basic wisdom is reflected in the Budget. When can the country become strong? The country can be strengthened only when the forces of peace are strengthened and we are the torch bearers of peace. We have made efforts to mobilise resources for the removal of poverty and we have also endeavoured to remove unemployment. It means that we have made efforts to provide employment to all which will contribute to the building of the nation. It has been resolved to provide employment to at least one member of each family under a scheme to be launched in the memory of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and it is the second most important step in the strengthening of the nation and in furthering the cause of world peace.

14.02 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Our aim of strengthening the smallest unit and the Panchayat is also a step for the establishment of world peace and for the strengthening of the country. You might be remembering the aim of Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Nation and last messiah of the world peace. The establishment of world

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Sh. Keyur Bhushan]

peace and upliftment of the poorest of the poor are our twin goals. Our country is heading towards this which is evident from the acts of our leader and which has found expression in the Budget. After going through this Budget, I would like to recite two lines in honour of my leader:

"Is Gandhi ko dekh, mujhe aati hai us
Gandhi ki yaad,
Is Gandhi ke hathon pehenegi meri
Bharat Mata
Us Gandhi ke armanon ki taaj."

This sentiment is fully reflected in the Budget. The world is looking forward to our country. I want to remind those Members of the opposition who are not present today in the House. The world is changing but these people are not keeping pace with the changing world. The thinking of the Soviet Union is influenced by the Indian way of thinking. The world remembers the teachings of Lord Budha and Mahatma Gandhi and their concept of Ahimsa is referred to time and again for the establishment of world peace. Even a superpower like U.S.A. is interested in the establishment of peace. If the Indian people are moving towards that direction, it should be supported by one and all. If our opposition brethren want to move on right direction, they should try to understand the country and the time. Today they should think about the person who is providing the leadership to the country and they should evaluate his achievements. In stead of doing so, they are moving towards a wrong direction. I want to submit yet another point in favour of this historic Budget which is going to bring radical changes in the country. If we want to change the present environment we shall have to adopt Gandhian philosophy. He was not against industrial development. Gandhiji had said at that time also that industries like Khadi should be encouraged to solve the problem of unemployment. It will provide

employment opportunities to the people. Machine should not be allowed to be encouraged to the extent that it began to dominate man. Therefore, there should be decentralization so that employment opportunities are provided to all. For Gandhiji, Khadi had a symbolic meaning. It has even more importance in the present scientific age. Therefore it should be encouraged to provide employment to all people. In this regard the villages have to be developed and decentralization has to take place an exodus in taking place from rural areas to the cities like Delhi etc. The rural areas are being ruined and if this is allowed to continue these areas will soon become like hell. If cities are to be developed, more attention should be paid to the development of villages. Attention has to be paid to agro based industries. In order to fulfil the target of providing employment to at least one member of every family, Government should concentrate on agriculture instead of large scale industries. In this connection priority has to be given to agro-based industries. It is stated that India is an agricultural country. Hence, attention has to be paid to the condition of farmers and agricultural labourers. They are at present most exploited sections of the society. In view of the state of affairs prevailing in the agriculture sector, it cannot be said that our country is an agricultural country. Therefore, Government should provide facilities to the agricultural sector on a priority basis. Accordingly, I want to submit that although Punjab is deficient in large scale industries, it is a developed state because irrigation facilities are available all over the state. A part of Chattisgarh is affected by drought conditions despite the flow of rivers there. The sources of water should be properly utilized and sufficient water should be supplied so that the development of that area can take place. Regional imbalances can also be removed by taking action on the basis of the Antodays programme. I want to request that in order to uplift the poorest of the poor, our economy should be tilted in

favour of agriculture and villages. The Hon. Prime Minister's intention of strengthening the grass root level cannot be fulfilled in the prevailing situation. If assistance is to be provided to the people through the banks, they should be decentralised. The Gram Panchayats should be converted into banks. The banks are charging 18 to 20 per cent as interest. Instead of bringing banks in to the picture, financial assistance should be provided directly. Shops under the public distribution system for making foodgrains available to the people at cheaper rates should be under the control of the Panchayat. The Panchayat is competent of running such centres and it should be given an opportunity to undertake such tasks independently. It should also participate in the expansion of industries in the rural areas.

In this way the country can become strong and it can make progress through decentralisation.

Finally, I want to submit that agriculture should not be the sole focus of attention but animal husbandry and afforestation should be equally emphasised. If agriculture, animal husbandry and afforestation are accorded equal importance for development, problems like rural industries, energy needs etc. can be solved. The way we are going towards the wrong direction at present will be checked and we will move towards progress in the real sense. This is all I have to submit.

[English]

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI (Srinagar): Mr. Chairman, special consideration should have been shown in the Budget towards backward region like Kashmir Valley. For the last 40 years, Kashmir Valley has been deprived of industrialisation, transportation, communications and

there has been no railway traffic also. The National Highway has also been suffering for the last 40 years. There has been no substitute to Srinagar-Jammu National Highway. As a result of this, developments works inside the Valley have been affected badly.

Besides this, so far as electricity is concerned, we have 10,000 MW potential in the Valley, but, unfortunately, those resources have not been tapped with the result we could not get enough energy to feed ourselves; that explains why 10-12 hours break-down has been experienced by the Kashmir Valley; the people there were the worst sufferers during winter; that also has affected our tourism and other life in toto.

As far as unemployment is concerned, nothing is being done. The Government of India is giving substantial help, but, unfortunately, because of the corruption....**.... the situation is worsening day in and day out. Thousands of young men are coming on the road side and begging for jobs. They are being hit by bullets. Dozen of young men have been killed during this current year. Their crime was nothing; they were not anti-social; they did not do anything against the interest of the country; their crime was that they wanted jobs; they wanted employment; they wanted something to survive on. That is our problem. In this connection, I would lay emphasis on the fact that the money which we are getting from the Centre, is being misused, as a result of misused, corruption in the State.....**.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: No allegations. Those remarks will be expunged.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: The money which we are getting presently is being used on non-productive schemes. For instance, there was a plan for chair lift for

[Sh. Abdul Rashid Kabuli]

tourists at Gulmorg It was no use to the people. Crores of rupees had been spent on such projects. Besides this, the hon. Governor had set up a city forest near Srinagar where tens and thousands of trees were destroyed only....**.... It was no use to the people.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Again you are making allegations.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: I am not making allegations. Your please investigate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am again warning you. You are not permitted to do so. We shall expunge all such remarks.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: This money is being misused. There had been violence in that regard. There was no crime of the people if they were agitating for a rightful cause. Most of the demonstrations were held because people did not have work as they were unemployed. Their per capita income has fallen down and poverty has stricken the people of the Valley. This is a question of national interest. If the people are deprived of their fundamental, democratic and economic rights, what will happen to the State? What will happen to the national integration of the country? This is a dangerous development and the Government should take cognisance of these things; they should be very careful while dealing with Kashmir. I would say that the democratic institutions should not be allowed to suffer; they should be allowed to function legally as ours is a democratic country; only certain people should not be allowed to play with the lives of the people, and the democrat institutions, which the people have achieved after we had thrown

the Britishers out of this country after great sacrifices.

There have been bomb blasts. For the last two years, this has become a practice. We do not know who is doing it. I would suggest that the Central Government should be very careful about it; they should be very vigilant about it. As far as I am concerned, I, as a Member of Parliament, coming from a prestigious constituency of Srinagar, have not been taken into confidence by the Government with regard to there developments. Neither the Press, nor the people not even the Congress Party, which is a partner of this coalition Government, has been taken into confidence.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please speak on the Budget.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: They have not been taken into confidence regarding these bomb explosions. Because this is a disruptive activity, if we are not going to stop this, it is going to destroy not only the democratic fabric of this country but it will also affect badly the pace of development. Therefore, I submit, we are encoutered everywhere with suspicions which need to be removed....**....

Therefore, investigation must be done by the Government of India why this is happening, because no identification of the persons who have involved in these bomb explosions has been made. Neither have we been accommodated, nor have we been consulted. We have not been taken into confidence. This is my request through you to the ruling party that they should take this matter seriously, they should make all arrangements to investigate in to the matter. For the last two years the Government has been saying that many people have been arrested, but we do not know. They have not talentified the persons (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why don't you speak on the Budget?

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: It is affecting the development. This is hitting the pace of development. Budget without peace, without tranquillity is not going to be of any use. Therefore, in this connection I would say that the Minister, the Chief Minister or the Minister whosoever it might be, from any party, (including my) any State, should not be allowed to go outside the country when the State is in strife, to go out or when there are some difficulties. Why should the Chief Minister or any other Minister have been allowed to go on a foreign visit, while we had mass upheaval in the State?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Again you are irrelevant. Your irrelevant speech will be expunged. You must speak on the Budget.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Do you mean that all the speech will be expunged? These things are connected with the development, connected with the peace and tranquillity of the State, the things which are connected with the State's integration with the rest of the country, the entire gamut of peace and the unity of the country is involved. How can you say that this is irrelevant? You can quote me, when I have done anything wrong or if I have spoken anything which is irrelevant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is irrelevant. It has nothing to do with the Budget before the House.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: You have to tell me which portion you are going to say that it is irrelevant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time also is up. Please wind up.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: First this should be made clear, whether you are going to expunge....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever is objectionable also will be expunged.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Which portion? (Interruptions)

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am again warning you. I will examine and see.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Sir, Lok Sabha should not be the place to pressurize the MPs. Their right of voice should not be curbed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In spite of my warnings you are again and again making an irrelevant speech.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: You have to show me which portion of my speech is irrelevant. Will you take me into confidence before expunging?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is up.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: You please tell me which portion—after all you are the Presiding Officer—quote the sentences I have spoken are irrelevant. Before me another hon. member spoke against the Chief Minister of Haryana and you are not allowing me to speak against the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please wind up.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Before I sit down you have to take me into confidence, and tell me which of the sentences or

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Sh. Abdul Rashid Kabuli]

portions of my speech are irrelevant. This will be injustice on your part. Kindly tell me which portion you are not allowing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not bound to discuss this with you.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: This is very unfortunate.....**..... You have to tell me if I have done anything wrong and where? Under the rules, please tell me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Irrelevant speech is not allowed.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Which portion?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Most part of your speech is irrelevant.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: You have to tell me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do not argue with the Presiding Officer. You are not to argue with the Presiding Officer.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Are you blacking out my speech *in toto*?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will go through it and I will examine your speech. You sit down now. Your time is over.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: You have to tell me. You have been listening to my speech. Kindly tell me which portion, for my sake, for the sake of democracy,...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the procedure.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: You have to tell me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat now.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: Then, it is not nice. If I have spoken some thing, in the context of the pace of development of the country, is it wrong?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That we will examine and see. Whatever is objectionable will be expunged.

SHRI ABDUL RASHID KABULI: It is your wish.

[Translation]

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR (Durg): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the general budget of the Central Government indicates the economic and social condition of the country. Generally specific problems are discussed in this Budget. Today our country is facing five major problems such as unemployment, poverty, rapidly increasing population, price-rice and fifth one relates to ensure that Government money reaches the deserving and genuine persons. What percentage of money spent by Government reaches the deserving person and how. Today I want to speak on these five problems.

As far as unemployment is concerned, no doubt our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has taken a number of steps for the removal of unemployment and even the Finance Minister has also thrown some light in his budget speech about the manner in which Government intend to tackle this problem. Provision should be made to provide employment to those unemployed educated young men and women possessing requisite qualifications of the families where nobody is employed. We can remove unemployment from our country if a sum of Rs. 500 crore allocated for this purpose is properly utilised and at least employment for 11 months in a year is ensured. At least one member from every such family should be

provided with employment in which there is no earning hand.

As regards poverty in our country, the Government have proposed number of measures to eradicate poverty. But for the past ten years I have been making this complaint particularly to the Ministry of Finance that keeping in view of the economic and uncertain monsoon situation of our country the presentation time of the Budget *viz.* 28 February is not proper. One can take stock of situation about production of crops and generation of electricity in our country after monsoon. Our budget should be presented in November-December like the business community in our country who introduce their new ledgers from Dewali. Then the money provided in this budget would be utilised properly in the construction of canals, roads and for other rural development as these works can be accomplished in the period from November to June. The funds of the budget presented in the last week of February reaches districts upto 15, 20 April and then with great effort it is spent upto June and then the remaining money is spent by the authorities on non-essential items. In my view, if the Budget is presented in November-December, we can save thousand crores of rupees of the funds allotted for this purpose as well as we can make proper utilisation of this money and can prevent corruption and misuse of funds.

With regard to the removal of poverty, my second suggestion is that the funds allocated by Central Government to every State reach the capitals of these States whether it is Hyderabad, Bombay, Ahmedabad, Patna or Lucknow. The Central Government allocates at least a sum of Rs. 10 lakhs and in certain cases it is Rs. 30 lakhs for a block but hardly a sum of Rs. one lakh out of Rs. 10 lakh reaches the block and rest of the money is misused in our State capitals in various manners. I suggest that the Central Government should remit money direct to every

block concerned instead of through State Government. My second suggestion is that the Co-operative Banks and other banks charge 15 percent, 16 percent, 17 percent, and 18 percent of interest on the loans granted to the farmers whereas Reserve Bank of India sends this money for disbursement at 7.5 percent rate of interest from Bombay and 17, 18 percent interest is charged from farmers. There was a time when middlemen were needed as Bank facility was not provided in every block but today every block is provided with Bank facility. There are lead banks also, therefore the Reserve Bank of India should send the money to be disbursed as loans to farmers direct to the districts and blocks concerned instead of through the banks of State capitals. Therefore if the Government fails to eliminate middlemen in the matter of granting loans to farmers, this is my special request to the Finance Minister to announce immediately in this budget session itself that the interest not more than 10 percent will be charged from farmers. Similarly it has been stated in the Budget that out of the total loan provided by the nationalised banks 18 paise is provided to farmers while the remaining 82 paise of a rupee is provided to other categories while the fact is that the contribution of farmers and agriculture in increasing the national wealth comes to 40 to 45 percent. On the contrary farmers are provided only 18 percent of the total banks loans which should be increased this year from 30 to 33 percent and within a period of 1-2 year it should be further increased to 45 percent. Only then farmers can get rid of other middlemen who charge very exorbitant rates of interest on loans.

Rapidly increasing population is the third problem which our country is facing today. Although family planning programme has contributed greatly in this sphere but still there are several other obstacles in tackling this problem. The Ministry of Finance should pay special attention towards this problem

[Sh. Chandulal Chandrakar]

and provide incentives to the persons having only two children while the persons having more than two children should not only be deprived of incentives but should also be punished. Perhaps you are afraid of the debacle which Congress party had to face in 1977 but I want to tell you that in order to check the increassing population of the country persons having only two children should be given incentives and others should be discouraged in order to curb the growth in population.

Price-rise is the fourth problem of our country. I want to submit this specially to the Ministry of Finance, Central Government and Shri Rajiv Gandhi that suppose taxes amounting to Rs. 850 crores have been proposed in the current year's budget but in actual practice four time taxes are charged from the people. The prices of every commodity are raised. The prices of even those commodities are increased which have actually not been increased in the budget. The price of every thing is increased after presentation of the budget. The root cause of inflation in the country lies in the presentation of budget every year. You may think it necessary but I would suggest that the budget should be presented once in five years just like Five Year Plan. The Government should present budget in the year in which elections to Lok Sabha and Vidhan are held so that every year the prices of commodities do not increase.

Secondly the Government should meet its increased expenditure from the earnings from public undertakings including Railways in which Rs. 60-70 thousand crores have been invested. The Government should increase its income like the person who increases his income if his expenditures goes up.

As far as corruption is concerned, the

Government should evolve a machinery to find out the actual income, wealth and property acquired by a salaried class employee, an industrialist and businessman during a period of 5-10 years. Such practice is very much in vogue in foreign countries. You may observe that in foreign countries the income tax officer comes and assesses the income and wealth accumulated by a person in 15 years. Such procedure is being adopted in foreign countries but as this practice is not in vogue in India, it generates corruptions.

As far as the question of augmenting irrigation facilities is concerned, I want to submit that irrigation facilities are very necessary for the development of farmers. But the Government have not adequate funds to provide irrigation facilities for the entire area. I therefore suggest that private individuals having lot of black money should be given contracts for construction of dams and canals. But the charges of water should be decided by the Government. The area in which the water should be utilised should also be decided by the Government.

I want to submit two-three more suggestions to the Government. I belong to Madhya Pradesh. This year districts namely Durg, Rajhandgaon, Raipur, Reewa, Satna, Sidhi and Shahdol in Madhya Pradesh are facing acute shortage of drinking water. I make a special request to the Central Government to provide at least Rs. 80-90 crores for these 7 districts so that their problem of drinking water is solved. Besides this Durg, Rajnadgaon and Raipur districts have rivers with ample water but Madhya Pradesh Government is not in a position to construct stop-dams on the rivers. Therefore the centre should provide funds to Madhya Pradesh for construction of stop-dams on these rivers.

Thirdly the Government had formulated an irrigation project named "Aadmabad Dam Project" in 1910 in the area near Bhilai Steel

Plant and through this project the water for irrigation purposes used to be supplied to the farmers. But now that water is supplied to the Bhilai Steel Plant.

It certainly pinches the farmers when they see that water is being diverted to the steel plant. Since the steel plant is a national project, we do not want to stop the flow of water from going to the plant. But I have a suggestion to offer in this regard. Sheonath river passes through the area. Water flows in this river during the months of July to November but due to flood, water goes waste. I would like to request Shri Chavan to ask the Ministry of Steel to construct a step dam across Sheonath river and utilise the water from the dam for the Bhilai Steel Plant during the months of July, August, September, October and November so that the farmers could get more water from the above dam.

I would like to raise one more point which is very important. Many people say that it is an Election Budget. There are no two opinions that the elections are round the corner. But I would like to particularly mention that there has been bumper crop of paddy and wheat in the country this year. The Government should procure foodgrains and much as possible. Earlier the Government used to procure 2 crore tonnes. I suggest that it should procure 3 to 4 crore tonnes this year and strengthen its public distribution system. Now a days, nothing is available at the fair price shops. A person gets one kg. of rice or one kg. of wheat per month. How can a poor man sustain with this much of cereals. This leads to price rise. I would, therefore, like to submit that more and more foodgrains may be supplied to all the Fair Price Shops in the country so that they could distribute rice and wheat to all.

With these words, I express my thanks to you for providing me time to speak.

[English]

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska): I rise to support the Budget. It is a pro-poor and a welfare Budget. It is not a populist Budget as stated by some of the Members of the opposition. Ever since this Government came to power, it has been presenting one after the other such budgets.

This Budget is meant to remove poverty, provide employment, protect and improve the conditions of agriculturists, workers, youths, students, women. As a result, it is a growth oriented Budget in all spheres—agriculture, industry, export, etc. It has taken care of the deficit finance, checked inflation, wasteful revenue expenditure and cut in Defence expenditure.

The Delhi Declaration between our Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi and President Gorbachev is not a mere paper declaration. It is meant for earnest implementation. President Gorbachev has exhibited the same in order to reduce tension in the world. In the Budget, the wish of the Prime Minister is very much reflected by cut in the Defence expenditure for the first time. We do not believe in violence as stated in the Delhi Declaration. The bilateral problems with our neighbours should be solved by negotiation and discussion. Now, it is for our neighbour countries, china and Pakistan, to rise to the occasion.

The entire rural population, majority of semi-urban and urban dwellers have been made the beneficiaries of this Budget. It is a wellconceived Budget. In brief, the Finance Minister and his Secretariat have done a commendable exercise to present such a Budget and deserve our congratulations.

Like any other nation in the Third World, we also suffer from deficit finance. The annual interest that we pay comes to Rs.

[Sh. Somnath Rath]

15,000 crores which exceeds the entire Defence Budget. To contain the deficit at Rs. 7337 crores in 1988-89 is no mean achievement. The rise in prices keep the common citizens worried. The Budget has tried to halt the price line of essential commodities. But we have yet to see how the schemes, programmes and the intention of the Government, as mentioned, are implemented at grassroot level. In spite of the best intentions of the Government if the prices are not controlled, the common man will not be benefited. And then whatever is stated in the Budget for removal of poverty, giving employment, etc. will only be a wishful thinking.

So, what is required is that the Finance Minister should see that these schemes and programmes are implemented right earnestly at the grass-root level. I agree with my predecessor that the Centre is giving money in bulk to the States but the States utilise the money as they like. The money never goes to the deserving districts or blocks. when we talk of any irrigation project, when we talk of any development project for any particular district, say, for drought or for flood, there should be directions from the Centre that for that particular purpose only the money should be spent and not otherwise. If that restriction is not there, the States will utilise the money as they like. I have got the worst experience about my constituency in Ganjam district. It is the worst drought-affected area. The Prime Minister had visited the area and enough money was given for four districts. But, for the information of the Finance Minister, I may tell that it was distributed to all the thirteen districts. Similarly, for human resource development, the UGC and the Government are giving crores of rupees but in Gajarn district of orissa, Beshampur University and the State Government are not coming forward to implement the National Education Policy. It is not the State Education Policy, it is the National Education Policy

and Education is in the Concurrent List. So, there is a responsibility on the Central Government to see that the whole policy is implemented in vight earnestness. When we bring it to the notice of the Human Resource Development Minister, he says the State will do it.

With due respect, I say it is not correct. It is for the Centre to see that the National Education Policy is implemented at all levels. So, when a Member of Parliament brings to the notice of the Government deficit in these areas in a State or in a district or in a parliamentary constituency, due attention should be paid to that.

In this Nehru Centenary Year, the Finance Minister has rightly introduced a new scheme for rural employment called Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojna. This also is just like any other poverty alleviation scheme. We have discussed in this House, on a Resolution of mine, about the implementation of the 20-point Programme and how to plug the loopholes. This was discussed at great length in three sessions. Many hon. Members gave their considered opinion that this Programme should be implemented if we want to raise the status of the poor people in the villages. But they have also given a caution to the Government saying that the money does not go to the beneficiary but it goes to the pocket of the middleman or of some officers who implement it. That is the reason why our Prime Minister has rightly said that if we were to give one rupee to a beneficiary, six rupees are spent by way of administrative expenses. He has also used to words: if 'there is no hanky-panky'. So, if there is corruption that even one rupee does not reach the common man. This is a warning to the Government. They should see that every pie meant for the poor man goes to him.

Members have spoken volumes in praise for the Budget and expressed faith in

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's policies. In this connection, I would suggest that the Budget only reflects what will be the revenue income and the revenue expenditure and in what way it is going to be spent for the benefit of the people at large. Our Budget will certainly be an eye-opener for the coming years if—pardon me for repeating—the intention is implemented in right earnestness.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to some of the important matters in my constituency and I would request him through you, Sir, that sufficient funds may be allotted for this purpose. Ganjam District in Orissa is an agricultural district and the source of livelihood of the people of that district is agriculture. Sir, there are two projects—one in Haranbhangi and the other is Bahuga project—which are being prolonged for the last 29 years and they have not yet been completed. Sufficient funds should be given for these projects. Not only sufficient funds should be given but also the Government should be cautious and see that the money allocated for these projects are spent properly and the project completed soon. Similarly, Sir, there are two major irrigation projects, that is, pipalpanka and Nuapali which should be taken up and completed. Sir, the Government of India have given clearance for one project, that is, minor project called Biluamare project. For the last four years, this has been pending and the State Government has not taken up this project so far. Sir, there is a mistake on the part of the Government in giving lumpsum to the State for implementing various projects. If the Centre has given the clearance for a particular project, then the State Government should not lag behind in implementing the project immediately.

Sir, the Opposition Members are not present here. I am very sorry to know that they want to make a political gain out of the misery of the people. They forget that there was also a growth in industry in the others

spheres in spite of the drought situation in the country. Many countries of the world suspected that the Indian Government would not be able to face the drought situation which had not occurred with such great severity during the last Century. But this Government could face it. Not only that. This Government could achieve some growth in many spheres. I would request the hon. Finance Minister to see that the non-Plan expenditure is greatly reduced and the balance of payment position is improved. In regard to Revenue expenditure, I would point out that it is an area where the Government should take stern action. Regarding deficit finance, as I have said, steps have been taken by the Government. But let there be action taken in right earnest, both in letter and in spirit.

Sir, we should now lay stress on the more production of oil seeds and pulses in our country. A huge amount by way of foreign exchange is spent for importing edible oil and pulses. Though we are self-sufficient in foodgrains, we have not yet become self-sufficient in oilseeds and pulses. I would request the hon. Finance Minister that sufficient funds should be given to agriculturists, particularly in Ganjam District of Orissa I would also request the Government to lay stress on command area development and our Prime Minister is also for the development of the Command Area and for the improvement of irrigation in the country. Rushikulaya Ganjam district is under Command Area development in Ganjam district, Orissa is an on-going project. But there is some confusion at the Centre that it is a new project. It is not a new project. I would suggest that let this Command Area Development project be taken up during the Eighth Five Year Plan and sufficient funds should be allocated by the Government for this purpose.

At the end I once again congratulate the hon. Finance Minister and the Ministry and

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I hope that all that is stated in the General Central Budget will be implemented for the benefit of the common man in the country.

[Translation]

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Shri Chavan presented the Union Budget for the first time in his political career. Shri Chavan is a very experienced politician and an able administrator. He has held a number of important positions in the past. He has been the Chief Minister of a progressive State like Maharashtra, Home Minister and Minister of Defence at the Centre and held a number of other positions. I am impressed by his abilities since long. The way he gave an account of his experience and foresightedness while presenting his maiden Budget, is indeed commendable. This Budget is commendable and significant in many respects. The tempo maintained by the Government since 1980 for alleviating poverty and providing employment to the people is praiseworthy. The efforts of the Government have resulted in an increase in these activities year after year and this too is commendable. But this year the hon. Minister has broken all previous records as he has given special impetus to the poverty alleviation programme in the Budget. The most significant among all these programmes in the Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojana under which there is a proposal to provide employment to one member in each family in 120 districts. It is in itself a revolutionary step. Our party has decided that employment must be given to at least one person in each poor family all over the country. Though details of the programme as to how this scheme will be implemented and how employment will be provided, are still to come before us, yet I would like to praise this bold decision, the benefits of which will reach lakhs and crores of people throughout the country and will provide relief to them.

A number of concessions have been given to poor people in this Budget with a view to providing them relief but at the same time, it gave a setback to the middle class. So far as I can understand, the Budget will in no way affect the rich people.

First of all, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to poverty alleviation programmes, because the Government is earmarking huge funds for these programmes. Now it becomes the duty of the Central Government to see that the money reaches the people properly. It is not to-day only but for years the hon. Members have been expressing the view that the beneficiaries do not receive the full amount of money that is earmarked for them. There could have been some difference of opinion had 70, 50, 25, or 10 per cent of the funds reached the people. But it is an acknowledge fact and the Government, even the Prime Minister, has admitted that the money released from the Centre under poverty alleviation programmes or employment programmes do not reach the people. It is all the more distressing that inspite of the fact, that we agree with this view and know every thing, but so far no effective step has been taken to ensure that the full amount reaches the people. Only two agencies are involved in this work. The Central Government allocates the money and the State Governments implement the programmes. It is the Central Government that knows the extent to which the guidelines issued by them are followed by the State Governments. One thing is certain that once the money reaches the district and block level, the Central Government has no control over it. It is said that monitoring is being done. But how and in what way it is done? So far I have not seen any representative of the Central Government going to the block level and verifying the work done or enquiring from the people and listening to them. The Central Government has not taken any steps in this regard. The Hon. Prime Minister has also been saying that out of six rupees, only one rupee

reaches the people and the remaining amount is spent on administration. I would like to cite the instance of Uttar Pradesh. In this state, there is a District Development Officer in each district to look after the development works. Now a days, all works have come to a standstill. The officers have no work to do. The D.R.D.A., a parallel agency, has its parallel office and parallel staff. But the agencies of the State Government are silent. Nobody knows what they are doing except attending to routine administrative work. Most of the State Governments do not undertake any development work out of their own resources. Construction of roads in rural areas is the primary work of the State Governments. But no State Government is utilising its resources on construction of roads in rural areas. They are undertaking this work with the funds received from the Central Government. Salaries are being paid and expenditure is being incurred, but the Department of the State Government is sitting idle with no work. Is it not possible for the concerned Department of the State Government to undertake this work? It could have been converted into D.R.D.A. What is the need of separate departments, separate bureaucrats and separate staff? The entire funds are being spent on the maintenance of staff. Hon. Minister of Finance might be aware that the State Governments do not want to mobilise resources. They are not imposing any fresh taxes. We come to know from newspapers, A.I.R. and T.V. news that such and such state passed a tax free Budget. Today no State is prepared to impose any tax. They want to undertake all the works with the funds received from the Centre. Every State, whether it is the Congress ruled or non-Congress ruled, alleges that the Central Government is discriminating against it. It has become a tendency with the State Governments not to levy any taxes. They want to depend entirely on funds given by the Centre. All State Governments, whether it is the Congress or the non-Con-

gress Government, want to avail of the credit facility.

15.00 hrs.

The Government is usurping the powers of the State Governments which should have been protected. The Centre is not prepared to leave them at their own resources. If this situation continues and if the Centre programmes do get fulfilled at some time or if it has to delay its programmes then all the activities of the State Government will get paralysed. Therefore the Centre will have to see whether the State Governments do spend the funds allocated to them by the Central Government through their own agencies. I do not say that the centre should form a separate agency for this purpose but some department of the State Government alone should spend these funds. Unless there is the participation of the people's representatives, the people can not be benefited by the funds allocated for them. We talk of delegation of powers to the panchayats but I do not know when we will do it? But as at present the District Collector is the Chairman of D.R.D.A. in every district. We are also its members. But how much responsibility can the District Collector shoulder? The Government has entrusted the District Collector responsibility for everything. The D.R.D.A. is merely a suggestion giving agency. In case suggestions given by them are not agreeable the collector can inform of it to the State Government which rejects the same. Therefore the first thing is that the Chairman of D.R.D.A. should be the representative of the people whether he is an M.P. or an M.L.A. Wherever District boards been constituted, the Chairman of such board should be the ex-officio Chairman of D.R.D.A. The blocks and the States will have a sense of involvement if any of the D.R.D.A. Chairman is elected out of the people's representatives. If there is voting on some issue in the D.R.D.A. meeting, then the

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people's representatives will be in minority and the bureaucrats will prevail upon them being in the majority. Normally there is no voting and moreover it should not be done. There are no two views about it that the Government has introduced a number of good programmes for poverty alleviation and for providing employment to people. In spite of a number of drawbacks in them the villages are being benefited by them to a great extent. The real estimation of the number of people who have been brought above the poverty line, or those who have been provided employment, the length of roads constructed in the villages and other things which have been done, can be made only when one happens to visit these villages. But had the entire funds or even 75 percent of the funds been spent up in a right manner, we would have perhaps been 10 years ahead.

Now I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to another point. The Government should adopt many such measures which may help in the development of the backward areas. Our country constitutes of both backward as well as developed areas. Regional imbalances are wide prevalent not only in the country but also in the states and districts. Infact a particular part of a district has made a lot of progress. Whereas the rest of it has remained backward. The Government alleges that this is the responsibility of the State Governments but they have political considerations in a number of matters. The State Governments view it with a political angle if some developed area is allocated less funds and the backward districts a higher amount of it. Perhaps they cannot have a different outlook. For a long period since our independence, we have been stressing and even the Planning Commission have been making recommendations to give priority to the backward areas and to take care of their

development. However, the experience shows that this is not possible in every State. Perhaps even the representatives of the backward areas would not have been able to do so. I think that our hon. Finance Minister himself has been elected from a backward area in Maharashtra and might have experienced that during his tenure as the Chief Minister of his State, he might not have been able to perform certain things which he wanted to do due to a number of problems. Therefore, it is essential that we divide the whole country into various categories and after identifying the various backward areas, formulate schemes for their development. When the State Governments are allocated funds by the Centre, the Central Government should give separate funds for the backward areas and the other areas. This work can also be done through the Five Year Plans. After all, the Government has been making special provisions for the development of desert areas, hilly areas and various other areas. But, Mr. Chairman, Sir, perhaps the hon. Finance Minister would be aware of the fact that in a number of States there are many such areas in the plains which are even in a worse condition than that of the desert areas or hilly areas. We should pay attention towards them also and look to their problems as well.

Now I would like to draw your attention to the Gadgil formula. In pursuance to it the State Governments have to provide a matching grant at par with the provision of finances as granted to them by the Centre. For this purpose there is a set formula and I feel that now this needs a change. Although the Gadgil formula provides for only 25 per cent of funds according to the extent of backwardness but I find it to be on a very low side. The funds are allocated to an area on the basis of its potentialities but besides it we should also keep in view the requirement of that area. At present, viewing the 75 percent capacity and 25 percent requirement, there is a provision of arranging the funds after

modifying the Gadgil formula. I feel that the Government should allocate the funds in the Five Year Plans by adopting the yardstick of 50 per cent capacity and 50 per cent requirement. Only then we will be able to remove the backwardness of those areas.

I would now like to draw your attention to the 15 point programme, which has been formulated by the hon. Prime Minister for the welfare of the minorities. Although this programme has got certain welcome steps which if implemented can undoubtedly be of great benefit to the minorities. A number of State Governments have even set up a number of finance corporations to enable the minorities to get employment and thereby uplifting them but it has been observed that they are not getting the proper benefit of this programme. I do not find it fitting to discuss everything concerning the 15 point programme here but I would surely like to submit that the Government should set up a minorities finance corporation at the Central level for financial matters. This will help the minorities in starting their own business. Today the minorities are not getting much benefit of the schemes which have been formulated by the Government for their upliftment. The minorities in our country are weak, poor and backward. Therefore, they need special attention.

Therefore, I would especially request the hon. Finance Minister to kindly arrange for setting up a financial corporation for the development of the minorities.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am obliged to the Central Government and on behalf of all the Muslims in our country, I would like to thank the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister for being the first country in the world to ban Salman Rushdie's "Satanic Verses". We are all thankful to you for this and besides I would like to tell the Muslims of my country that the Indian Government can not do any thing more than this. The Indian

Government unlike the Iran Government is not an Islamic Government. It is a secular Government and with due regard for the sentiments of the Muslims living here, it was the first one to ban that book. Many a Muslim countries are taking the decision to ban this book in their country now. Indonesia and Bangladesh have not yet banned this book but we were on the lead to ban this book in our country. Words fall short to appreciate this gesture of the Indian Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hope that after having presented the Budget the hon. Finance Minister will pay special attention to poverty alleviation. Besides the employment programmes for which they have allocated lot of funds should also be properly implemented to benefit the people for whom they were meant. One thing which I would like to add here is that this Budget has caused a great set back to the middle class as the Government has very boldly increased the rates of a number of indirect taxes. They have increased it by two to two-and-a-half times. Your pen did not stop in the middle anywhere. It did stop after effecting 2 to 2 1/2 times increase. This gave a setback to the middle class. The prices of steel have been increased very much. On the one hand the Government wants to encourage housing activities and on the other it goes on increasing the prices of steel. It is not a sign of encouragement. It makes no difference if someone is to construct a hut made of straw, but for a house with concrete roof, one will have to go to purchase steel. Iron bars will have to be used in that house. This price rise makes no difference for the affluent class if the cost of the house comes to Rs. 10 lakhs or Rs.20 lakhs. But it is big problem for a poor if he is asked to pay Rs. 1100 in place of Rs. 10,000.

I am particularly critical of the tax increase on cigarettes. Most of the middle class people smoke cigarettes. I want to know as to why the tax on liquor has not been

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increased. The increase in tax on molasses will in no way affect the prices of liquor. The tax increase on cigarettes has been much higher. The middle class people already waste their money on cigarette smoking and now they will have to pay more for it. I request you to re-consider it. Tax should be reduced on cigarette at least. The brand of cigarette I take used to cost Rs. 5 per pocket earlier whereas now it is Rs. 7. The hon. Minister sitting beside you also takes cigarettes.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make one more submission. The income tax limit of Rs. 18,000 is very low for the middle class. Now a time has come when this limit should be raised to Rs. 25,000, because even the hawkers and gram venders fall within this income tax limit. Of course, no tax has been imposed on this, but if we look carefully, we find that they come within this limit. They will definitely come within the incomes of Rs. 1,500 per month. I, therefore, request that this limit may please be raised to Rs. 25,000.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to briefly intervene in the discussion over this Budget. Budget is not merely the balance sheet presentation; nor is it the statement of expenditure and receipts. But it is an indicator as to whether the nation is going and striving to achieve the goals set before it; as to whether the financial strength of the nation is preserved, maintained and upgraded; and as to whether the economic viability and development of the country is conducive to the further growth and upliftment of the lot of masses. All these are the various parameters which a budget proposal has to take into consideration.

We are wedded and committed to uplift the living conditions, to better the living conditions, of the masses of this country. We have put forth before our nation the goal of equality and prosperity keeping in view the principle of socialism. In the preamble of our Constitution also, after the latest amendment, we have included socialism. Therefore, from this point of view I may submit that this Budget which is in the last year of the 7th Five Year Plan presents the Government's determined effort towards growth orientation, towards the development in industrial sector, towards relief to the middle and poor people and towards the very imperative task of having alleviation of poverty from amongst the masses of the country.

If you analyse the whole gamut of the Budget and in retrospect if you compare the achievements which we have made during the 7th Plan, then it would certainly be observed and appreciated that in the area of development which we are making through the plan process, the real term achievement between 115% to 120%. That is not a small or minor achievement particularly in the context that the economy because of various imperative factors like drought which was unprecedented and other pressures in the area of our Defence, that we should supply subsidised food and fertiliser to the farmers and poor sectors of the society, etc.; has to bear all these pressures. Despite these tremendous pressures on the economy, the achievement in the plan has exceeded the target and that shows that the economy is handled with utmost care, with utmost attention and in a proper direction, so that the nation can achieve the goal which is before it.

I am not going to dwell upon the total area. You would appreciate that people criticise. The Opposition members are unfortunately not present in the House now because they have behaved in a manner in which they have deprived themselves of

projecting the problems of the people and carrying out their responsibilities in the House. But that is a separate matter. I would say that one area that I am concerned about is the expenditure. The major criticism forthcoming in this area is that we have tailored artificially the deficit.

The main criticism is that our non-Plan expenditure and deficit is becoming uncontrollable. Our indebtedness is causing alarm and, as such, the economy is not in the safe hands. As I stated initially with achievement in real terms of the Plan to the extent of more than 115 per cent and as compared with that if I am to give you the figures the overall percentage of deficit in terms of GDP will come down to 1.76 from 2.11 which is in the current year. In the area of deficit I would not say we have achieved a very remarkable success but I would certainly say with all humility that the Government and my senior colleague, the Finance Minister has been able to at least arrest the galloping and growing deficit. It has been possible not by any other mechanism except control of expenditure in the areas where it is not very much needed and at the same time taking care that in the areas where expenditure is a must that expenditure and those projects or those areas do not suffer for want of adequate funds.

There is a criticism about the non-developmental expenditure or non-Plan expenditure as they say. What is that? In any developing country when under the Plan you create an asset then after the asset is over the asset come on the side of non-Plan because you have to run the asset and you have to maintain it. I would cite an example. Let us say an asset in the form of a hospital or a school has been created. After having it if you do not provide it with doctors, medicines, maintenance, etc. then there is no utility of that. You cannot derive any benefit of that asset created during the Plan. Therefore, in a developing country when the as-

sets are being created and when the assets are over in that case you are supposed to run them. Therefore, I would submit in the area of maintenance, services, etc. the more you go for the welfare measures, beneficial measures or educational measures there is no go but to spend on that as non-Plan expenditure. A wrong conception is being given that it is wasteful expenditure. As a matter of fact, it is the expenditure for the purposes of deriving the benefits for which an asset has been created. Therefore, it cannot be termed as wasteful expenditure.

Furthermore what are the major areas of non-Plan expenditure? when anything comes in this House about the security of our nation of Defence preparedness then with one voice we all speak that our Defence Forces should be strengthened. It may be Army, Navy or Air Force. I need not mention about the heroic deeds performed by our Defence Forces in the past and that they need all sorts of support or maintenance to upkeep their gallantry or to keep them equipped with latest and modern weaponry, etc. Therefore, in the present context of time and situation, can anyone think that we can have any dilution in the area of Defence preparedness? Then, the answer would be 'no'. Even then, it goes to the credit of my senior colleague, Mr. Chavan, that without diluting or without, in any way, affecting the Defence preparedness of this country, we have been able to contain even Defence expenditure this year as well as last year. He has also promised in his budget speech that if an occasion arises where some Defence expenditure would be needed—if the contingency so arises, God forbid—the funds would not be wanting.

The other areas, we know, are: people below the poverty line, food, clothing, subsidy on food and fertilisers. Should we not give it? Had we not given the subsidy on food and fertilisers, then what would have happened in this country in the last year when

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there was a severe drought? It is not a mean achievement that not a single man died of starvation. Not only that, even in the drought-affected or the hard-hit areas, we provided Rs. 4 per head for preservation of our cattle and Rs. 3 in other areas. Today, we say it with pride and even the international agencies also appreciate that the Indian economy is well-managed steering through the crises, like drought. Indian economy has shown a tremendous resilience. For that, the credit goes to our farmers. Despite there being poor progress for want of rains, erratic seasonal behaviour and all that, our food stocks were there. Our production in the area of foodgrains even during the drought year was right—a very minimal less than the targetted one. This year, we hope that our foodgrains production would set an all-time record.

In the area of oilseeds, as an hon. Member was saying, this year we have cut down our imports of oils because Indian economy depends upon agriculture. Lord Curzon, once upon a time, said that Indian economy is a gamble in the monsoon. We still know that this proverb is applicable. We want to get rid of that. Therefore, with a view to boost up the agricultural production in the country and to help the small and the marginal farmers and in order that a proper perspective could be had for agricultural development of this country, we have, for the first time, agro-climatic zones. Also, for the first time, the cash crop credit limit has been enhanced to Rs. 35,000. We are also giving other incentives to Adivasis, Harijans, small and marginal farmers by way of providing kits, culture, fertilisers, improved seeds, etc., etc. Therefore, I was submitting that these are the areas where we have also to incur the expenditure just termed as 'non-plan expenditure'. Can we afford to do away with this? We cannot.

Then, we have taken up eradication of

illiteracy from the country, education and all these areas. So far as our non-plan expenditure is concerned, I would say that essential items like interest charges, Defence expenditure, subsidies, pensions as well as the transfer to the States have gone up because of the recommendations of the Finance Commission. Therefore, taking all these together, including the expenditure on the Union Territories, it comes to 80.6 per cent. What remains with the Government of India? It is only 9.4 per cent. This includes the essential maintenance of assets created out of the Plan period as well as the operation of the basic services. They say that we are resorting to deficits. But for the more help we are giving to the States, we would not have deficit at all. Opposition people are always trying to impress by saying that their States must also be given more help and whatever legitimate more help we could give, we are giving. That adds to our deficit. But I would say and submit that within the overall economic environment of this country, there is nothing to worry about the production both on agriculture as well as on industrial front. There is no anxiety. There should not be any apprehension that India is going towards the debt trap. Perhaps, India is the only country or one of the countries which is standing by its commitment of repayment either nationally or internationally. And that is why, our credit abroad is very much high.

[MR. SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

15.31 hrs.

Sometimes more offers are coming to us. We know that costly borrowing also should be taken care of. High cost borrowing is not an ideal approach for a short term. Therefore, sometimes we tighten our belts without resorting to the high cost borrowings. Otherwise, we could have done so. I have initially stated that we made tailored deficit in one of the areas. They say that we

took Rs. 2300 crores from the Coal Coordination Committee account. I would say that this was also done last year but fortunately or unfortunately, nobody scrutinised it. There is nothing wrong about it. You import fertilisers, you sustain loss, you pay it from the revenue expenditure. You import any other thing where you sustain loss, you pay from the revenue expenditure. You import something on which you gain a profit, you credit it to the revenue assets. Likewise, is this fund. It was only meant for the time when some contingency arises in future. Then we can utilise this fund. With a view to subsidise petroleum products or others, we can utilise this fund. But in future, there is no such contingency likely to arise. This is the first point.

Secondly, out of the total fund of 8900, we have credited only 2300 on the revenue side which would have otherwise gone to the capital side. So, the overall effect on the deficit would not have been there at all, either on the revenue side or on the capital side. But as far as the overall deficit is concerned, it is neutralised. Therefore, there is no apprehension of ill-conceived concept. I think not this is a properly-understood area, in which criticism has been made. Debit on the capital side has been neutralised by the receipts on the revenue side. So, it has been neutralised. I would like to show you that although you cannot stop all your activities which may not be of top priority in a day, still we have resorted to a zero-based budgeting in a subtle way. America also resorted to zero-based budgeting and it also could not do it. In other countries, it was difficult. But Indian Government has resorted to the zero-based budget concept. Therefore, I would provide you with figures about non-Plan expenditure. This grew up by 17.6 per cent between 1986-87 and 1987-88. Now the growth rate has been reduced to 16.2 per cent between 1987-88 and 1988-89 and to 12.1 per cent from 16 per cent in 1988-89. Is it not our approach to control the non-Plan expenditure which everybody is crying

hoarse? My submission is that to say that this Government is not properly taking care of the revenue deficit and the non-Plan expenditure is not a valid criticism. Although they are not present, I would like to point out to them that they had given up planning when they were in power. The Plan rolled by and so rolled the economy of this country also. This was because of their rolling Plan. I do not know how rolling Plan could work. But with a view to contain deficit, we are not here to sell the gold from the coffers of the Government. We know how the economy was managed in 1977-78 and 1978-79; what was the percentage of inflation and the percentage of price rise. There was negative growth of the industry. As against that, despite drought, we have had a positive growth and a tremendous growth for which the Finance Minister has already given the figures in his Budget speech and he would also explain that in his final reply. Therefore, I do not want to say more on this.

Eighty-five per cent of the total revenue expenditure is consumed by five or six major components. Let us take for example the figures of 1986-87. The Budget Estimates were Rs. 20995 crores and the Revised Estimates were Rs. 22932 crores. Similarly in 1987-88, the Plan Budget Estimates were Rs. 23677 crores and the Revised Estimates were Rs. 24925 crores. You would appreciate that on Plan expenditure, from the Budget Estimates we went on revising which was on higher side, but on the non-Plan side, it came down. While the Revised Estimates were Rs. 30011 crores for 1985-86, the actuals came to Rs. 29705 crores. In 1986-87, the Revised Estimates were Rs. 37396 crores and the actuals came to Rs. 37192 crores. In 1987-88, the Revised Estimates were Rs. 41236 crores and the actuals were Rs. 40869 crores. When actuals came, it was less than the Revised Estimates. On the one hand, on the Plan expenditure side, it went up, on the revenue expenditure side, it came down. This shows that we have been

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able to arrest the trend. But we are not complacent and our effort is to contain this. This year but for the special help we had to provide to Punjab, our deficit would not have gone more at all. But the situation obtaining in Punjab presently is such that we have to provide help to them. It is for a national cause that we are helping Punjab. It is for the gallantry and steadfastness of the people of Punjab that we are helping them. Their contribution to the national pool of food is very high and quite praiseworthy and the entire nation appreciates that.

I would also like to submit how we are controlling the expenditure. In this Budget, the total demand for additional expenditure that we received from the various Department was to the tune of Rs. 3180 crores on non-Plan and Rs. 2980 crores on Plan account. The total was Rs. 6160. Now, this was restricted to Rs. 1031 crores only on non-Plan account. Because we could restrict it, the Budget deficit increased by only Rs. 456 crores. But for our restriction the deficit would have gone much more higher.

Sir, many criticisms are being made about the leakage and about the monitoring system. Many of the schemes which the State Governments have to implement, the Government of India is undertaking the responsibility. In respect of so many Centrally sponsored schemes the implementing agency is the State Government. We are trying to monitor it. But I would like to submit that the economy and the economic health of the nation depends upon the cumulative and collective efforts of the Central as well as State Governments. It also depends upon the will of the people to contribute towards the progress of the nation and particularly of the richer section of the society. Therefore, in our tariff of custom and excise selective increase has been made which is only affecting the small strata of the higher level. Poor

people have nothing to worry. On the contrary, poor people should feel happy because by mobilising the funds we will be in a position to provide employment to them.

We know the history and we know that Gandhiji had to cast off the apron because in Champaran district he saw a woman who was not able to come out because she did not have the cloth to wear. Therefore, if the destitute women are not provided with saris, then perhaps we will be failing in our endeavour to follow the Gandhiji's ideals. That is why for the first time in this Budget proposal there is a provision to provide a sari to destitute women.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur): Not one sari but two saris should be provided.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: This is your suggestion.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN (Padrauna): Let us also remember the destitutes of Champaran.

SHRI B.K. GADHVI: Why alone the destitutes of Champaran; we should look towards the destitutes of the nation right from Kashmir to Cambay Bay of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. We have got all sympathy for them. We have got no soft option; we don't care for the present only or for the short gains. We care for the present as well as the future generations and that is why these strenuous efforts are made.

Sir, I briefly wanted to explain the criticism which was labelled in the area of non-plan expenditure. The rest of the things will be further elucidated by my senior colleague. I wish and commend to the House that Budget may be appreciated in its right perspective.

In the end, let me say that the gentleman who is now heading the Janta Dal was

my colleague. Before I was inducted in the Council of Ministers, I had the occasion to participate in the Budget discussion. At that time, he presented the Budget. There was an intuition in my mind that perhaps the Budget was more towards the elite section of the society. When he first presented the Budget, it was appreciated by people belonging to the forum of free enterprises who had connections with the American lobby, the higher-ups and well known persons. Today, if Mr. Palkiwala and others criticise the Budget, it is a credit to the Hon. Finance Minister. It shows that his approach is in the right direction, that is towards the alleviation of poverty from the country.

With these words I thank you very much for permitting me to intervene in the discussion.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur): First of all, I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for presenting a very realistic and balanced Budget, balanced not in the sense of balancing the receipts and expenditure, but in the sense of looking after all sections of society and all aspects of the economy.

Sir, in our country, there is a group of people who call themselves high intellectuals and who always find fault with our Budget. These gentlemen every year go on writing and delivering long lectures criticising the Budget day in and day out. They always try to find loopholes in our Budget and even predict that the nation is going to face a disaster if this sort of Budget goes on. They also say that there will be a complete breakdown of the economy. This is what they have been writing every year. These prophets of doom have proved to be false. Their problem is that they are incapable of looking at the Budget from the point of view of our national philosophy or the philosophy that guides the policies of this Government. They look at it from their own angle and from their own outdated and discredited philoso-

phy. They do not realise that in spite of the eloquence in their writings and speeches, the caravan of the country's economy, overcoming all crises and difficulties, all hurdles and obstacles, moves on the path of continuous progress towards the cherished goals of this great nation. Indeed, these small and perverted minds and a great country cannot go together!

The Finance Minister has announced a new package of employment generation and anti-poverty schemes. He has given marginal income tax relief to the salaried middle class. He has also left items of mass consumption untouched and decontrolled cement and aluminium. Yet he managed to work out a fresh tax net of Rs. 1287 crores on the relatively affluent classes. For this, I do congratulate the Minister. It is true that his proposals mean a hike in the cost of things like cigarettes as my friend has pointed out just now. Maruti cars, two-wheelers, scooters, televisions, computers and so on will be dearer. But this burden falls on those who can afford to pay and those who can afford to pay should pay some amount for the benefit of the common people of this country.

Eight per cent surcharge has been levied on those who are earning above Rs. 50,000 in order to mobilise funds amounting to Rs. 500 crores for the Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojana intended to cover 120 backward districts in the country which are facing acute unemployment problem so that at least one member per family living below the poverty line may be provided gainful employment. Can any patriotic Indian object to this? Can anybody object to this from the point of view of the philosophy laid down in the Constitution itself? Actually, such a surcharge was provided in the Long Term Fiscal Policy formulated by Shri V.P. Singh himself in paragraph 5.5. This is nothing new. Yet there are some people who raise a hue and cry against this surcharge. They subscribe to a philosophy which is heading towards the

[Sh. Bipin Pal Das]

dustbin of history. Again, there are some others who say that the surcharge has been levied instead of increasing the income tax only to deprive the States of their legitimate share. This is nothing but a very narrow and parochial outlook with myopic vision. In fact, the States will get Rs. 384 crores from new excise duties and one hundred per cent assistance for externally aided projects in agriculture, irrigation and social sectors. All these things have been provided in the Budget. Therefore, the States have nothing to complain about.

The Nehru Rozgar Yojana together with NREP and RLEGP — all meant for rural employment generation — have got an impressive allocation of Rs. 1711 crores. I congratulate the Finance Minister for the same. I am also happy that NREP and RLEGP will be merged in order to decentralise its implementation and the merged programme will be funded 75 per cent by the Centre alone. But I would like to warn — as my friend Shri Basheer has said a little while ago — that all these funds meant for anti-poverty programmes or NREP or RLEGP do not reach the common people for whom they are meant. Something is lost in between. The whole mechanics of the administration of these programmes is also not quite correct. If you leave everything in the hands of the bureaucrats, you will not get the results. So, I support Mr. Basheer to say that the public representatives must be brought in and all care should be taken to see that the money spent on these programmes actually reaches the people for whom it is meant.

The other welcome proposals are supply of sarees to destitute women which is something new and it is very good and raising the freedom fighters' pension from Rs. 500 to Rs. 750. I am very happy about it.

There is a definite thrust of investment

in agro-based industries, food processing industries, incentives to Khadi and Village industries and relief to widows and heirs of deceased employees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: I get nervous. My nerves are a little weak. If you ring the bell, I feel that I should sit down. Being a teacher by profession, I want to obey the bell.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is only to stimulate you that you should conclude soon.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: Stimulation to conclude soon!

Sir, the Income Tax Act is proposed to be amended to provide standard deduction of 33.33 per cent subject to a maximum of Rs. 12,000 for the recipient of family pensions and Rs. 15,000 deduction to the physically handicapped and mentally retarded persons. These are highly laudable proposals which were made by the Finance Minister.

The allocation for Defence is Rs. 13,000 crores. It has been kept more or less at the same level. It is just reduced by only Rs. 200 crores from the revised estimate of the current year although the defence expenditure is a major factor contributing to the overall deficit. I concede that. But, I am not in favour of any drastic cut in the Defence budget. We must keep our armed forces in tip-top condition, equipped with all modern weapons and other equipments, fit and ready, to meet any eventuality, at any time from any quarter. But here I would like to make one submission. The only point that I would like to make is that the outlay for Navy should not have been reduced or cut down. Because in my view the Navy is going to play a very important role in the coming years for the defence of this country. We must not forget our long

coast line. We must not forget what is happening in the Indian Ocean. We must not forget what is happening all around. Therefore, I am not very happy that the Budget for Navy has been cut down a little.

It is quite correct that energy finds the second place in allocation. Its allocation is Rs. 11,227 crores. This is absolutely correct. Let us remember that after the Russian Revolution, the great Lenin announced that Socialism meant Soviet and Electricity. So, that was the importance given to electricity after the Revolution in Russia and certainly it deserves that much importance in our country also.

Mr. Chavan announced a variety of concessions, incentives and tax reliefs, amounting to Rs. 318.54 crores on the customs and excise side aimed at export promotion, modernisation of industry, efficient import substitution and enhanced investment in agro-based industries. All these are growth-oriented proposals; and I welcome them. How can anybody say that there is no growth-oriented programme in this Budget? Only Palkhivalas can say that, perhaps. I do not know.

Another welcome feature of the Budget is the incentives given to small savings which play a significant role in resource-mobilization. A new Savings Certificate Series VIII will carry an interest of 12%. I think this is the highest interest available for any investment in this country; and this would be eligible for tax exemption. Another proposal is the equity-linked savings scheme which will operate through the Unit Trust of India. These are very good proposals made for the purpose of resource-mobilization.

The net additional revenue from direct taxes would be Rs. 530 crores, and from indirect taxes it is Rs. 757 crores, of which

the Central share will be only Rs. 373.13 crores.

The gap between the revenues from these two sources of tax has become narrow. But it should be further narrowed down, so that the burden on the common people is progressively reduced. Looking at the Budget from other angles, I find that the revenue receipts through tax and non-tax sources have been increasing every passing year. It is encouraging. But the capital receipts have remained more or less static over the years. I do not know why. This is not a very healthy sign. A much more vigorous effort is needed to improve the situation in this regard. Why should capital receipts remain static? The revenue receipts are increasing good. Very good, welcome. But capital receipts remain static. Why? I do not know. This should be looked into.

It has also been noticed that the non-Plan expenditure estimated for 1989-90 is not far from double the estimated Plan expenditure. This is a wholly unhealthy trend. Government must make all possible efforts to cut down non-Plan expenditure, so that much more allocations can be made for the Plans, which alone will lead to development and progress.

The overall budgetary deficit continues to cause concern to Parliament, as well as to the people of the country. Personally, I am not worried. Our highest deficit so far was Rs. 8261 crores in 1986-87, when Mr. V.P. Singh was the Finance Minister; and in 1987-88, it was Rs. 5816 crores; and in the current year, Rs. 7940 crores is the revised estimate of deficit.

In spite of the high deficit budgets continuously for several years, I do not think the economy of this country has broken down. On the contrary, it has become stronger and more resilient. Therefore, the estimated

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deficit of Rs. 7337 crores need not cause any panic. The Budget deficit is not necessarily a sign of weakness of the economy. This is my opinion. It has to be assessed in the light of the overall economic situation. A country like USA always has had a deficit budget, running to the tune of thousands of millions dollars every year; and the United States is one of the strongest nations in the world. In our country it is, of course, desirable to see that the deficit is contained roundabout Rs. 5,000 crores, or so.

Inflation is another matter. (Interruptions) Sir, if you want me to sit down, I will sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I only request you to see that other members of your party are not affected.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: That is quite right. I agree. I agree I will sit down very soon.

16.00 hrs.

I will make one single point. Inflation is another matter that is engaging the attention of all. It is caused not only by deficit financing, but by several factors. Nevertheless it has been seen that inflation is under control. Last year at this time the rate of inflation just entered two digit figure. But today it still is a single digit one. Some dose of inflation is always necessary for a developing economy. Otherwise stagnation sets in. To push or pull a cart you have to bend a bit; you cannot move the cart by keeping erect. Therefore, a little dose of inflation is always necessary in order to give a push to a developing economy.

Three factors make major contribution towards the need and unavoidability of deficit financing. Firstly, the expenditure on defence. But I have already said about this

matter and I do not want to repeat. The nation has to bear it in the interest of safeguarding the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. The second factor is subsidies. It is growing every year with a threatening posture. It is gradually eating deeper into the economic system. It is more than 9 per cent today of the overall central expenditure. It cannot be done away with in one year. It has to be gradually reduced year by year. I have no ready-made solution as to how it can be reduced, because it involves many things; it has to be done by the Government. I am only pointing out.

The third factor is public debt which is also assuming serious proportions. I do not want to go into this matter because you will not give me time. It is a very serious matter and some way must be found out to contain public debt internal or external, because public debt has become a very serious problem for Budget making in this country.

I hope the hon. Finance Minister will pay some attention to these factors which I have referred to.

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Budget presented by the hon. Minister of Finance. In this context I am reminded of the words of Mahatma Gandhi when he said that if you want to assess by your innerse whether the work done by you has done any good to any section of the society, then after the day's work you recollect the face of that weak, suffering and worried person whom you met. If you feel that your work has been of some help to him and you provided some relief to him, take it for granted that you did a good work and your work will be of some help to humanity.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think that the hon. Minister of Finance while preparing the Budget had the face of that suffering, weak,

poor, needy and naked person in his mind whom we see in many forms, many languages and many States in India. The hon. Minister of Finance presented the Budget to effectively implement the policies of the Hon. Prime Minister relating to alleviation of poverty and removing unemployment in the country. We may, therefore, very conveniently term it as a Budget for removal of poverty. The hon. Minister of Finance and his Ministry deserve our congratulations for this.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, my hon. colleagues dealt with various issues, as such I would not like to waste the precious hours of the House by repeating them. As it is, the time very short. I would, therefore, like to take up some major issues. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance for the Jawaharlal Nehru Scheme he introduced us an anti-poverty programme and for providing an initial amount of Rs. 500 crores for the purpose. This scheme will be implemented in 120 district. In this connection I would like to request the hon. Minister of Finance and the Government as well that while identifying 120 districts they should accord priority to those districts where no scheme of the public sector has been working and preference should be given to those districts where the Government is not providing jobs to people through any of its schemes and where employment is not available through Public Sector Undertakings. This scheme should be implemented in those districts only. In this connection I would like to refer to the case of Satna district in Madhya Pradesh. It is distressing that despite repeated requests no development scheme has been implemented by the Central Government in this district. I want that district Satna be included in this scheme.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister of Finance deserves congratulations for merging the R.L.E.G.P. and N.R.E.P. into one programme. We are marching ahead to-

wards the very destination under the able leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi with regard to which our leader, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who was the leader of not only India but also the suffering millions on the earth, who had once lighted the candle of revolution in 1980-81 and lead the people towards a new destination, had taken steps to alleviate poverty especially in the rural areas. Let thousands of storms rock our path, let people shower blemishes on us, our steps will not falter. We will reach our destination and translate the dreams of Indiraji into action. We are committed to it.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, our hon. Minister knows Urdu well. As such I would like to read out a couplet of Urdu poet Mazruh Sultanpuri.

"Sar par hawae julm chale lakh jatan ke sath,
Apni gunah gujre usi bankpan ke sath."

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to express my thanks to the hon. Minister for providing a sum of Rs. 8652 crores in 1988-89 which is much higher than the provision made in 1980-81. Now, as has been said by my hon. colleague, the Government has to see how this increased amount could be utilised and how the benefits of this enhanced amount may be made available to the weaker sections of the society. For this purpose, it has to strengthen the functioning of its bureaucracy. It is not only this time but at the time of every Budget discussion that we deal with these shortcomings and forgot the whole things thereafter. This is what is really happening. Nothing is put into action. No change is taking place. No action is taken and all our efforts go in vain. I would like that Government should pay attention to it and take steps to implement them. I am happy to note that the amount of Rs. 8652 crores does include the amount of advances given by the Government in the form of subsidy to fertiliser and agriculture. It is also a welcome

[Sh. Aziz Qureshi]

step. I would also like to congratulate the Government for making a provision of Rs. 5173 crores in Plan and non-plan expenditure. The history will always remember you for increasing the amount of back loan by Rs. 4,000 crores for the agriculture sector as a measure towards alleviation of poverty, especially in the rural areas. But I would like to request you to see that this amount of bank loan is distributed by the banks under the direct supervision of your Ministry, because there has been no change in the modus-operandi of the banks. The banking officials have their agents. Until and unless they get a fixed amount from the farmers, they do not advance loans. They take this amount openly. The M.Ps. and M.L.As are helpless in this regard. Mr. Minister, Sir, I can prove it with full evidence. Until and unless you take stern measures in this regard, all your programmes will become useless and go waste. The real benefits of those programmes supposed to reach the farmers will not go to them.

The hon. Minister deserves our congratulations for reducing the rate of interest from 14 per cent to 12 per cent for agriculture loans upto an amount ranging between Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 25,000. But, as I have already said, the whole scheme becomes useless, meaningless and your objectives will not be fulfilled till such time this amount really reaches the weaker sections which the Government wanted to help. I fully share the views of my hon. colleague who spoke just now and also of Shri Zainul Basher who spoke earlier that the Government will have to set up a machinery at the district level may be under the control of people representative viz. M.Ps., M.L.As., in order to ensure the utility of this amount. These public representatives need not at all be involved in actual spending. The amount be spent by the Government machinery. But the control should be vested with the people's repre-

sentatives. They have to see that the amount is sent for the very purpose for which it was sanctioned. If it is not done, all our claims will prove futile and we will not be able reach our destination.

I would like to submit that the development work which the Government wants to undertake should be entrusted to the Government officials under all circumstances. Today the Government expects from the District Magistrate that he will maintain law and order and also look after the development work. But it becomes difficult to attend to both the work. Neither the law and order is maintained properly nor the development works are undertaken. That is why, I would like to make a suggestion that the Government should divide the district administration in such a manner that one wing exclusively look after the law and order problem and other take up the development work. Otherwise, it will have very adverse effects.

I would like to cite an incident in which firing took place on a procession of a minority group in Bombay a few days back. We should mourn the occasion and express our regrets to a great deal.

I would like that the Government should pay attention to it. I would like the Government to justify whether there was any need to use force. Even if it was to be used, was it in proportion to the gravity of the situation? Number of innocent people who were in their houses or were looking out of their windows were shot dead. I would like the Government to pay attention towards it. If you do not, then all the promises of providing protection to weaker sections, will prove absolutely useless. Firing at Bombay is a big question mark which is troubling every mind in the country. I would like the Government to pay full attention towards it.

With these words, I support this Budget and would like to urge the Government that

if attention is not paid towards these things, if benefits do not reach the weaker sections and if we continue to play in the hands of bureaucrats then we will not be able to achieve our aim. In the end, I conclude by recalling what Mahatma Gandhi had said. He had said that the naked and hungry people will not accept God in any other shape except in the form of bread. There will be a revolution for bread in this country and nobody will be able to stop that revolution.

[English]

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central): I rise to support the Budget placed before this House by the hon. Finance Minister.

Our development objectives have been made clear in this Budget, which are growth, modernisation, self-reliance and social justice. For want of time it is difficult to recapitulate the economic progress made during the last one year.

Coming to the tax proposals straightaway, even the objectives of the tax proposals have been very clearly stated in the Budget. They are promoting productive employment, consumption standards of the poor, discouraging non-essential luxury consumption particularly when it is import intensive, providing some relief to middle class income-tax payers and containing the Budget deficit for the year 1989-90. If we go through all these Budget proposals, they are meeting all these objectives which have been placed by the Government before us.

Firstly, I must congratulate the Finance Minister for proving wrong the prophecies that till being the election year, he will be tempted to have populism and he will give reliefs everywhere without caring for the economy of this country. I am very happy that he has not fallen to that temptation and he has recognised the fiscal prudence which

cannot be delayed any more in this country. From this point of view, he has no doubt hit the problem of unemployment and has undertaken the Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojna. But while doing so, he has at the same time, raised additional resources of Rs. 500 crores for this new scheme by providing surcharge of 8 per cent on those who can pay i.e. those who have income of more than Rs. 50,000. Therefore, this is a very welcome scheme which is being placed before this House by the Government. The only thing which I would like to know in this case is whether putting money for these schemes would give employment. Employment does not mean mere funds.

So, I would like the Finance Minister to give some indication about the details of the scheme as, according to me, merely providing funds will not give employment. There will have to be a detailed scheme by which employment will be generated in due course of time and it will be available for those who are below the poverty line. Then, he has also not fallen prey to other temptations but only provided for distribution of sarees to destitute women and some child development service. Therefore, in this case also he has not merely followed the popular slogans and made this Budget merely popular in the election year.

Then, Sir, giving proper response to the requests of the State Governments, the Finance Minister has raised by fifty per cent the specific rates of duty under the Medicinal and Toilet Preparation Act and this will entirely accrue to the States. He has also given deductions in the income chargeable with tax, by giving deduction for Professional Tax that may be paid by the taxpayer. That also will give relief to the States in a particular manner.

The Employment Surcharge, through it will accrue only to the Centre, but really speaking, it will be used through the States

[Sh. Sharad Dighe]

and, therefore, the States will have all the benefits as far as this also is concerned.

No new cesses on Excise Duty are levied, but receipts from external assistance for projects in the social service sector and for the anti-poverty programme, will now be transferred to the States to the extent of hundred per cent. So, in this way, he has also made available several resources to the States and has helped the States.

The other point on which I would like to get clarification is regarding housing. For housing, some detailed proposals have been made. A comprehensive National Housing Policy has also been announced by the Government. The Reserve Bank of India has liberalised the terms and conditions of housing loans. LIC has launched a 'Bima Niwas Yojna' so that the policy holders receive financial assistance for purchase and construction of flats. But the most important scheme is the 'Home Loan Account Scheme', under which minimum contribution is Rs. 30 per month, with ten per cent interest, and any individual not owning a house will be eligible to join this scheme. It is also provided that he will be eligible for a loan equal to the amount with multiples of savings and interest. If we calculate it at the minimum rate of Rs. 30 per month, I do not think this amount will, in any way be of practical use for the purpose of housing because it will be such a meagre amount.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): The amount of loan will be in multiples.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: I do not know whether with multiples also, he will get more than twice or thrice the amount at his credit. Even calculating like that, it will come hardly to nearly Rs. 3,600 or to Rs. 5,400 at the most, and, according to me, considering the

present housing situation in the whole country, it will not be possible to make use of this House Loan Account Scheme. Therefore, I will urge upon the Finance Minister to go into the details of this Scheme and revise it in such a manner that it will be of some practical use and will be attractive even to the rural people who may be interested in getting advantage of this Home Loan Account Scheme.

Then, Sir, even though many persons have made that suggestion, as an M.P. coming from Bombay, I will also make that suggestion, namely, that even though several reasons are available to the Finance Minister for not raising the income-tax limit from Rs. 18,000, I submit that this limit was fixed long time back and considering the inflationary trend and the price-rise, this has become a very very small limit and most of the urban population will come within the net of this ceiling. Even though the Finance Minister may say that he has provided several savings schemes whereby after taking advantage of those schemes, in fact many people would not come within this net of Rs. 18,000, even then I will urge upon the Finance Minister that it is high time that this limit should have been raised in this Budget itself. Then, Sir, excise also from the point of view of urban area, connecting with TV ought not to have been made today. There is some increase or some excise duty on the TV. So, in the present situation TV has become very popular not only in the urban cities but even in rural areas also and especially when "Mahabharat" and 'Ramayan' are screened, everybody is interested in watching the TV, at least twice a week. Therefore, Sir, no burden of excise duties should have been put even as far as ordinary TV is concerned and a very heavy burden has been put on the colour TV.

SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: On ordinary TV, that is Black and white TV sets of screen size upto 36 crores there is exemption.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: But on the tube, you have put excise duty. So, that will ultimately go to the price of the TV and therefore that should not have been done. With these words, I support the Budget.

[*Translation*]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Budget is an instrument through which economic disparities are removed in a society. It is not only an account of income and expenditure but reflects the attitude and policies of the Government also. I do not want to repeat the things already mentioned, but I would like to put forward two or three suggestions.

What I mean to say is that you must do something which may remove regional imbalance. Today, some parts of the country are flourishing whereas some parts are becoming increasing backward. You would have to think over it very seriously as to why it is happening and how long will it continue. While participating on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address I had stated that the hon. President has also mentioned about the rising naxalite movement in Bihar. Today, I again want to repeat the same thing very humbly. I want you to think why resentment and agitation is increasing in Bihar. North Bihar has almost turned into a desert. Rivers originating in Nepal cause flood havoc in this area every year and spread sand over the fertile land. It has been happening for the last fifty years and this has increased over the last ten years. We shall have to think over it and find a way out. We shall have to negotiate with Nepal in this regard and will have to construct dams on the rivers originating from Nepal so that these do not cause havoc in North Bihar. The land of North Bihar is very fertile but it is turning into a desert. The Government is not paying attention to it, serious thought should be given to it. Lakhs of uprooted people from there are migrating to Delhi, Ghaziabad,

Faridabad and Balabharh etc., eking out a living as labourers and are living under inhuman conditions. They are not to be blamed for it. Do something so that they can earn their livelihood there only. Naxalite movement is increasing in South Bihar. Jharkhand movement is also on the increase. You should do something to quell the resentment in the area. All the necessary infrastructure exists in Bihar. You can develop agro-based industries in South Bihar and you should also open industries in South Bihar. You must do something so that people of Bihar may feel that centre is sympathetic towards their problems.

I will say one thing more. I visited China last year. China has achieved great success in the field of family planning. Earlier, there was compulsory family planning and nobody could have more than one child.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think the hon. Member already visited China.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: I have already visited China, Sir.

[*Translation*]

If anybody had more than one child earlier, strict action was taken against him. They have become some what liberal during the last 3-4 years. The family which limits itself to one child is given greater incentives and there is disincentives in case of those families having more than one child. For example, if someone produces a certificate from a doctor or the concerned authority that he has got himself sterilised and has limited his family to one child, he gets 4 to 5 promotions or gets 4-5 increments and if some one has more than one child, he loses 10 increments. Those who have one child are given four uniforms instead of two and are given preference in other things too. Some such

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

things can be thought of. This is not a matter to be laughed at. We can think over it seriously.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Housing facilities and educational facilities for children.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Yes.

[Translation]

What I mean to say is that solution can be found after due thoughts. No amount of economic development would serve the purpose. If the population is not controlled and it continues to increase, the way it is increasing, it will create great problem for us and we will not be able to tackle it. Therefore, family planning or population control should be given top priority.

I want to say one thing more. There is vulgar display of wealth in our country. People have lot of black money. Whether you impose more taxes, direct or indirect, do what ever you like but the need is to defame the people who indulge in vulgar display of wealth. You should expose them and tell the people how they are exploiting the society. You should publish the names of those people in the newspapers on whom income-tax raids are conducted and they should also be shown on the T.V., so that the people come know that they are enemies of the society. For this, some thing or other must be done.

In the end, I will say one thing more. You have brought forward a very good budget and such a good budget has not been brought during the last many years. Deficit has been contained and defence expenditure has also been checked. It is good that you have merged R.L.E.G.P and N.R.E.P

into one programme. The real benefits were not reaching the people. I have stated many times that you should monitor it so that people may get the benefits.

Lastly, I would like to submit that the *Rozgar Yojana* at a cost of Rs. 500 crores will be implemented in only 120 districts. Whether you impose more taxes or take some other steps, but this scheme should be implemented in all the districts. The criteria set for backward districts will create confusion. The amount of money set aside for this purpose may be increased but the scheme should be implemented in all districts. Implementation should not be limited to a few districts alone.

Although our export is increasing but our balance of payment position is not satisfactory. This is creating a serious problem. As the hon. Prime Minister said yesterday, the country needs to boost its exports. Big industrial houses in the country do not pay due attention towards increasing exports. This problem should be viewed in all seriousness.

The economy should be viewed in totality so that the poor do not get poorer and India becomes a welfare state in the truest sense.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur): Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views. I rise to express my support for this Budget. I congratulate hon. Shri Chavan and his colleagues for making efforts to strengthen our economy. I shall not repeat what has already been stated in the House about the Budget. But I want to draw hon. Shri Chavan's attention towards 2-3 important points.

In this Budget the hon. Finance Minister has raised the pension of freedom fighters, merged the I.R.D.P and the N.R.E.P. and provided tax relief to the common man. I

want to throw light on 2-4 points which have not been included in the Budget. In our country, freight equalisation policy is not uniform. This is preventing the growth of industry in Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa and Tripura. I have raised this matter 2-4 times before. The Government referred it to the Pandey Committee and the Committee in its report recommended the same thing. But a uniform policy for freight equalisation has not been placed before Parliament till now. There is an urgent need to look into this problem since it is causing regional imbalances.

There is no large-scale industry in my State. There is one Haldia Petro-Chemical Complex. You may recall that the hon. Minister of Industry said in the House that the Haldia Petrochemical Complex is ready but that is not so. We had learnt in the previous year that a project is pending for approval in the Finance Ministry. I request for its clearance at the earliest. The C.P.I.(M) in our State is complaining of the Centre's indifference to the State's problems. I know this is not true. But the Government should do something in this respect and clear the project quickly.

I want to raise an important point. The Government should have created a fund in this budget for the survival of sick industries. Sir, it is certainly not possible for the Government to take-over every sick industry. I myself do not support this view. The Government had set up a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. An industry is registered in this Board.

[English]

Instead of survival, this industry is going for liquidation.

[Translation]

Since the industry goes into liquidation.

[English]

The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has become Board for Industrial and Financial liquidation.

[Translation]

Sir, let me explain why this happens. We had sent in a request for N.T.C. units in our State and submitted a list also. The hon. Minister gave us a sympathetic hearing and is making efforts in that direction M.M.C. was included in the list of 90 industries to be revived by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction. M.M.C. was liquidated on the recommendation of the Bombay High Court. Why does this happen? According to the B.I.F.R. it does not have any power to revive industries. It does not have financial power so it cannot ever ask financial institutions to take some steps. As its hands are tied, the B.I.F.R. has no alternative but to recommend liquidation. If this be the case, what is the necessity of having a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction? M.M.C. industry has been subjected to a lot of injustice, affecting the lives of 4000 workers in my constituency. If a meeting of Mr. Keshav Mahindra and the I.D.B.I. Chairman is arranged, ways can be found to revive this industry. But what happens in financial institutions like I.D.B.I., I.F.C.I. and the I.R.B.I. when a case is sent in the Meeting no one knows as to what should or should not be done. When a financial institution provides financial assistance to an industry, the proprietor diverts the finances to set up a new industry declaring the original, for which the assistance was received as sick. Why does a financial institution like I.F.C.I., I.R.B.I., I.D.B.I. financial aid in such cases? Closing down of old industries is a punishment to the workers employed in them while their managements go away scot-free. Just because managements have cordial relations with financial institutions, because managements gener-

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

ate money and set up new industries. The hon. Minister is very efficient and his Ministry is willing to put in the required efforts. What needed is a vision that goes down to the grass-root level.

The Metal Box Company is one of the best units in India. One and a half years back it was registered under the B.F.I.R. But no decision has been taken till now. A meeting is held two years after an industry is registered. It takes 5 years to take a decision. This creates problems for workers. The Government should discuss the matter with the B.I.F.R. as to why it takes such a long time to arrive at a decision after an industry is declared sick. And the decision taken is never constructive, but one which always favours liquidation.

A number of industries have been closed down in my State as well as in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu. In this context I suggest that the money given under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme of the Central Government should be exempted from income-tax. For a jobless worker, income-tax on this amount can mean a loss of Rs. 20,000- Rs. 30,000 if he gets, say, an amount of Rs. 1 lakh. So the amount must be exempted from income-tax. This is very important. In the 20 point Programme there are a number of schemes for the poor. But the Opposition has a one-point programme—to criticize the Congress (I). There is a feeling among the general public that officers of nationalised banks do not behave properly in dealing with them. The officers should be liberal and behave nicely with similarly Central Government provide funds under I.R.D.P., N.R. E.P., R.L.E.G.P. and in order to monitor the implementation of these programmes a State-wise Monitoring Committee should be set up. This Monitoring Committee should consist of public representative, State Government representa-

tive and Central Government representative. A statement of expenditure account should be submitted to see how funds are being spent. Under the D.R.D.A., a person gets Rs. 9,000 of which Rs. 3,000 is subsidy. Only Rs. 3,000 out of the remaining Rs. 6,000 has to be paid. But the C.P.I. (M) in my State do things in a different way. They give only Rs. 3,000 to the person, pay Rs. 3,000 to the bank and keep the remaining Rs. 3,000 in the party fund. The Audit Report of each State should be checked before disbursement of funds. This is because funds are being used for electioneering purposes.

The Jawaharlal Nehru Employment Scheme is a very useful one. The Government has allotted Rs. 500 crores for it. There are 30 crore people living below the poverty line. This money is not sufficient for every family as only 5-6 crore families will be able to get the money. There should be separate programmes for unemployed youth in rural and urban belts. This could solve the unemployment problem. There is a ban on recruitment since 1983. There are plenty of opportunities in the Railways, Coal India Limited and the banking sector. These vacancies should be offered to unemployed youth. A young man applying for a job has to submit a postal order of Rs. 25-Rs. 50 as fees. Candidates from a poor family can hardly afford to shell out as much money in fees. The system of paying fees in the formal postal order along with applications should be done away with as has been done in the cause of Scheduled Caste candidates. There should not be any discrimination among candidates in this respect. A number of young persons have written to me in this regard. I have forwarded their grievances to the Petition Committee. But the response from hon. Shri Chidambaram is the same every time.

[English]

The matter is being looked into.... the

matter is being examined.....

[*Translation*]

This should not happen. I request the hon. Minister to abolish postal order fees. The youth of this country will be very grateful to him. The Hooghly river in my State has caused erosion in Murshidabad district. A large area of land in the Uluberia Howrah district has be-come part of Bangladesh. Erosion creates a lot of problems. A Central Team should be sent to solve this problem. It is important matter and it must be enquired into this matter.

[*English*]

Sir, the situation is very alarming. One industry is in West Bengal.

[*Translation*]

Discussion on sick industries has made us sick. The Government is prepared to give Rs. 12 crore to Bengal Potteries. This industry can be revived. with an amount of Rs. 15 crores. I have written to the hon. Prime Minister, Shrimati Sheila and Shrimati Sarla Grewal about the Metal Box and M.M.C. industries. All of them gave their approval for the Metal Box Plant. But the hon. Minister of Industry does nothing. He is not Vengal Rao, he is....**

SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA (Motihari): This word should be withdrawn as it is unparliamentary.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record.

[*Translation*]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE: I am not have proficiency in Hindi language. So I withdraw these words. What I wanted to say is that the hon. Industry Minister has done little in this matter. Some thing should be done in this matter as it will not only benefit West Bengal but Tamil Nadu and other States also.

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I rise to give my whole-hearted support to the Budget proposal of the hon. Minister of Finance for the year 1989-90. This is a poor man's Budget. In spite of all odds, the hon. Finance Minister has not taxed the poor people and he does not like to put any more excise duty or other taxes on essential commodities which are mainly used by the poor people.

While coming to the deficit, Members from the opposition, who are not in the House, have criticised the Budget as a deficit Budget. But I may mention that in 1988-89, the deficit was of the order of Rs. 7940 crores whereas in this year's Budget proposal, hon. Minister has proposed a deficit of Rs. 7337 crores. Unless we have a deficit Budget, we cannot expect more development and more progress in the country. It depends on the income and the revenue. About two-third of income is proposed through indirect taxes and one-third of income is proposed through direct taxes. It is really a matter on which I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister. In the case of persons who are in the income slab of Rs. 18,000 to 25,000, it has been proposed to reduce the tax from 25 per cent to 20 per cent. (*Interruptions*)

[Sh. Chintamani Jena]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why don't you come near the mike? Please come near the mike.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Besides the direct tax, five per cent surcharge levied on account of drought is proposed to be abolished. This is a very good and a welcome step taken by the hon. Finance Minister. In place of that, he has proposed only eight per cent excess tax on incomes fifty thousand and more by which Rs. 500 crores would be generated which would be spent on Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojna. It is a very welcome step. In the case of indirect taxes, it has been proposed to increase the levy on steel material, cigarettes, pig iron, colour T.V., computers, radio, tap-recorder etc., which are mainly used by rich people. The tax proposed by the Minister is really praiseworthy. I would mention that this is a pro-poor budget.

You are well aware that our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had announced a 20 point programme before the nation to eradicate poverty. Our present beloved Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has now modified it and announced a new 20 point programme. As mentioned by the Hon. Finance Minister, Rs. 10000 crores have been spent by now by which 25 million families are benefited. That means about three million families are benefited per year till today. If we take the average expenditure, it would be about Rs. 4000 per family which is in my humble opinion—because of price rise and inflation—not sufficient to bring them above the poverty line.

I must congratulate our Hon. Finance Minister on his announcement for decontrol of cement and aluminium. In this connection, I would like to point out here that in some States like Orissa after the budget was presented, on the same night, all the levy cement which was in the Government store

was disbursed by getting a telephone message by some VIP's or so. The entire cement of the Government stock has gone to some middlemen who are now benefited and actually the poor people could not get the benefit. I should not blame the Finance Minister for this; but the State Governments should have given due attention to it so that the cement which was in the Government stock was provided to the people who were actually needing it.

I must also congratulate the Hon. Finance Minister that inspite of price rise and hike in the prices of arms and ammunition, he has made efforts to minimise the Defence budget and also assured this House and the nation that if it is necessary he is ready to provide more funds for the Defence. It is a welcome step.

We know agriculture is playing a major role in our national economy. I must congratulate our Hon. Finance Minister that he has proposed to continue the food and fertiliser subsidy which will be a major help to boost the production in the field of agriculture in our country. In this connection, I would like to point out to the Finance Minister that in agriculture two major factors are necessary—more bank loan with less interest is one. Of course, the Hon. Minister has proposed that on the agriculture loan between Rs. 15000 and Rs. 25000 the rate of interest would be reduced to 12% whereas it was 12.5% to 14%. This is a very good proposal.

17.00 hrs.

Bank loan rate for agricultural purposes was 18% in 1987-88. In 1988-89 it was 17% and now the Finance Minister has proposed to increase it to 18% in 1989-90. Though agriculture is a major factor to boost our national economy yet I am sorry to say that till today 25% of the total investment from the banks could not come to agriculture. If it had happened our agricultural economy would

have improved much more. So I request the hon. Minister to look to this aspect also.

Now I would like to point out about the harassment by the bank employees to the loanes and especially to poorer classes of people for the upliftment of whom our party is committed. To boost agricultural production irrigation has a major role to play but in this connection we are depending on State Governments for the implementation of irrigation schemes. Besides Centre has no responsibility in respect of minor and lift irrigation.

While coming to my State the State Government of Orissa has no funds to even repair and maintain the existing lift irrigation projects. The hon. Minister may kindly come to the rescue of the State Government. Besides flood control and saline inundation the State Government of Orissa has submitted some proposals about Subernarekha and other project. Those should be looked into for easy clearance.

Sir, there were about 64 million families below the poverty line and by the end of the Seventh Plan about 55-56% families would be brought above the poverty line. If we proceed in this way then by the end of Eighth Plan we would be able to bring 67% of the poorer people above the poverty line. So if we proceed in this way we cannot achieve our goal even by the end of Eighth Plan. Our Plan was to bring 90% of the families above the poverty line but this goal will remain unfulfilled to the extent of 33%. I request the hon. Minister to look into this aspect also.

With these few words I support the budget proposals.

[Translation]

SHRI GANGA RAM (Ferozabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I support the Central Budget for the year 1989-90. This budget reflects a

balanced thinking. I would call it a socialist Budget. The Budget presented by Shri T.T. Krisnamachari in 1956 was a socialist Budget in the real sense. The present Budget is also a socialist Budget and the hon. Minister, after though consideration has levied taxes on the high income groups and the money thus collected, he proposes to spend it on the welfare works for the weaker sections. In this connection, I can recollect a couplet of a poet and I quote:

“ Phool is Tareh Tor ae bagwan shakh
hilne an paye ne awaz ho
Verna gulshan me raunak na phir aaegi,
gar dil har kali ka dahal jayega”

The hon. Minister of Finance has also not made anyone to suffer. At the same time, the taxes have been levied in a manner to ensure that the weaker sections are not affected.

Along with it, I would like to repeat what hon. Kumari Mamata Bannerji and hon. Shri G.S. Rajhans have submitted that until we are able to control our population growth, howsoever much efforts we may make through our Budget and make allocations of crores of rupees, it will not benefit the people in any way and the hon. Finance Minister can do little in this regard. All the people of this country and the hon. Members of Parliament as well should make joint efforts to implement the Family Planning programme vigorously and effectively. When we have small families and the population is limited, it will be easier for the Finance Minister to prepare the Budget and make proper distribution of funds. suppose 30 people are invited to dinner and 60 people arrive. The hostess will obviously not be able to make arrangements for the additional guests. Similarly, the hon. Minister of Finance makes provisions for 30 people but 60 come forward to take the benefits with the result that he is not able to provide proper assistance to all. I, therefore, think that the Family Planning Programme is

[Sh. Ganga Ram]

especially needed in this country on which the intellectuals and the thinkers should pay their attention.

Different kind of facilities were provided to the farmers in the last Budget. In view of it, more attention has been paid to the employment programmes in the current Budget. All the hon. Members have spoken on the employment schemes but I agree with Dr. G.S. Rajhans that the employment schemes should not be confined to only 120 districts but should be extended to other districts as well so that the maximum number of people may be benefited.

The target of expenditure is Rs. 1711 crores for these schemes and it has been proposed to provide employment to at least one member of every family. Unemployment is a severe problem today. Therefore, efforts made in this Budget are praiseworthy. I am in all appreciation for it. This has been our long-standing demand. The hon. Minister has rectified the error which was being repeated in the past Budgets. NREP and RLEGP have been merged into one programme. It is a good step which will enable the Government to implement this programme effectively.

I have one request to make. It relates to a matter which I have raised in this House before. The Government has undertaken a programme to provide loan to the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections at a differential rate of interest (D.R.I.) of 4 per cent. Under this programme the loan amount was fixed at Rs. 6,000/- long ago keeping in view the steep rise in prices. This limit should be raised to Rs. 10,000/- so that the poor, unemployed people are able to get actual benefits. It is a well known fact and the Hon. Prime Minister had also stated that full benefits do not reach the people. If Re. 1 is

allocated by the Centre only 15 paise reaches the beneficiaries. The middlemen pocket most of the funds. Everyone is aware as to how the administrative machinery is exploiting the poor people. Therefore, the limit of Rs. 6 thousand should be increased to Rs. 10 under the D.R.I. scheme.

In the last Budget, a provision was made for the establishment of Financial Corporation in order to improve the financial position of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Rs. 100 crores were also earmarked for this purpose. Although one year has passed since then, this corporation has not been set up so far. This is very unfortunate. Provisions have been made in the Budget but they are not being implemented. As such, not much time is left for the year to end and whatever funds are extended at this point of time cannot be utilised. However, if the hon. Minister by keeping in view the prevailing situation, makes efforts to set up this corporation during the current year, it will benefit the people.

A provision has been made to distribute sarees to the poor and destitute women. This is a welcome measure. When I toured Bundelkhand and Eastern Uttar Pradesh area, I found that the women there used saree continuously for 6 years and which was usually of blue colour. When I asked them as to why did they prefer this colour they said that it did not get dirty quickly and did not require frequent washing. Frequent washing damages clothes which they cannot afford. This situation is very serious. The fact that the Government has paid attention in this direction and given it due consideration is praiseworthy.

The Musahar Community resides in Mirzapur. When I was in service, a scheme was formulated for their welfare. The name of this community is derived from their habit of eating rats. I remember that when one or two of my socialist friends had gone to that

area with the purpose of electioneering these poor people had made arrangements for their dinner even though they did not have ample stocks of atta, pulses and other food items and they had to manage somehow by borrowing them. While the food was being prepared, an old lady was to stand on the lane as a guard. When my two friends enquired about it while taking dinner, it was said that she was standing there for the protection of the women who were preparing the dinner. It so happened that these women who possessed only one saree to cover themselves up had decided to take a bath before preparing the dinner. When they went into the pond to take their bath, their sarees got wet. As a result, they had nothing to wear while cooking the food for their guests for they had put their sarees for drying. Therefore, that old lady was positioned there so that no male could pass by that side. This heart rendering situation shows the extent of poverty in our country and highlights the imbalances between the rich and the poor existing here. You have obliged us by making a provision for distributing sarees to the destitute women.

I can see that the middle class and Government servants have not been provided with any relief in this Budget. All the Government servants are not high-ranking officers. There is only a small number of I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers. The rest of the Government employees belong to either the lower middle class or to the upper middle class. The hon. Members have suggested and I also agree that exemption limit for income-tax should be raised from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 25,000. If this is not possible it should at least be raised to Rs. 20,000. The amount of standard deduction which is Rs. 12,000 at the moment should be raised to at least Rs. 15,000 which will provide some relief to these classes. I had submitted last

year also that a Secretary of the Government of India who gets a gross salary of Rs. 8,000 actually gets Rs. 4,000 after all deductions are made which is equivalent to the salary of a Section Officer. Therefore, it is necessary to increase the limit of standard deductions.

I want to submit one point about my constituency. A new attitude has been adopted with regard to setting up industries in backward areas and it is proposed to select 61 development units on which an amount of Rs. 20 crores will be spent. I would like to request that the rural areas of Kheragarh, Bah, Fatehabad, Shikohabad of my constituency, which are backward areas should be covered under this Scheme. They should be declared as industrially backward areas and no industry areas.

I am very grateful to you providing me an opportunity to speak. I support this Budget whole heartedly.

*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikabalapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate the honourable Finance Minister Shri S.B. Chavan for presenting an excellent and pro-poor Budget for the year 1989-90.

The deficit is only 7337 crores of rupees which is less than the previous years. I urge upon the Hon. Minister to contain it and not to allow it to go up.

There is 9% of industrial growth which is a bright sign of our future industrial growth. I request the Hon. Finance Minister to contain the trade deficit and not to allow it to increase. For this it is very essential to reduce the imports to the minimum and to increase the exports. I draw the attention of the centre towards sick industries. These sick industries and small scale industries need the maximum help from the Centre.

[Sh. V. Krishna Rao]

Regarding agriculture I am happy to state that we have achieved self sufficiency in foodgrains. Our late lamented leader Indiraji should us the path in this direction. Under the able administration of our youthful leader Rajivji we are crossing target of 170 million tonnes in the production of foodgrains. In fact we can export foodgrains to the whole world if our farmers are given the proper guidance and assistance.

Income tax exemption limit should be extended upto Rs. 25,000/-. This would give a great relief to the government employees.

In some of the foreign countries there is feeling that India is a poor country. We have to work hard and take the country towards progress and prosperity. RLEGP, IRDP, NREP and other progressive schemes have to be implemented strictly. The money that is being sent for these Schemes is not reaching the poor farmers. Hence it is the responsibility of the Centre to see that this allocation goes to the concerned persons directly. In villages the life is not very easy. They have too many problems. Food, clothing, shelter are some of the problems which are still prevailing in the remote villages of our country. If the centre's allotment reaches these remote parts then there would be no problem. Therefore we should eliminate the middle man forthwith.

In Karnataka the above-said schemes are not being implemented properly. The allotted money is being diverted to other programmes and the poor farmers are not getting it. In my Constituency there was an unprecedented flood last year. 1500 houses collapsed in Madhugiri area and in Cowribinur area also the effect of flood was devastating. Some people lost their lives while others lost their cattle and property. The

relief fund of the centre has not reached the affected people. I, therefore, urge upon the hon'ble Minister to take this matter seriously and to help the flood affected people of my Constituency.

Vishweswaraiah Iron and Steels Limited is in a crisis today. Both the Centre and the State should come forward to rescue Vishweswaraiah Iron and Steels Limited, from the crisis. Vijayanagar Steel Plant is like a dream in the minds of the people of Karnataka. This has to be taken up early. Mine workers of Kolar Gold fields are also in jeopardy. The centre should help these workers immediately. We may achieve progress in all the fields like agriculture, industry etc. But, it will become worthless if there is no family planning in the country. Family Planning Schemes have to be implemented strictly throughout the country. It should be compulsory to all people of the country. Strict adherence to family planning alone can lead our country to a bright future and a prosperous 21st Century.

Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI (Amravati): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in his Budget, the Hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi had envisaged to bring about decentralisation and end regional imbalance. Budget for the current financial year has also been prepared on the same lines. So the Finance Minister Shri S.B. Chavan while trying to be realistic has introduced the provision to levy taxes on the richer section of society in order to provide benefits to the backward sections. This Budget can be called result oriented and objective Budget. Though we have not attained our goal fully, yet we made efforts through this Budget. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister and other members of the cabinet for this.

17.23 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

In his speech, the hon. Minister of Finance cited the example of Gandhiji. He covered his body partially because he had seen thousands in this country without clothes and womenfolk in torn clothes. The Budget has been formulated within a framework of basic objectives which the hon. Minister has mentioned in the beginning of the Budget speech. But I would like to urge upon the Government to follow the path shown to us by Gandhiji. For achieving social justice we want to provide employment to at least one member in each family, introduce more women development schemes and provide more employment schemes in rural areas. Due to the constant increase in population, more and more projects have to be implemented, which in turn require more and more money. But wherefrom will the money come. Just as the Government wants to lift people above the poverty line similarly, steps will have to be taken to check the flow of unrestricted income and acquisition of urban wealth by a handful of people. The Government will have to find out a way to provide employment to the unemployed youths. Money will not come from heaven above nor can services be created out of the thin air. Effective measures will have to be taken to create employment and incur expenditure for the required purposes. The Government will have to impose restrictions on richer sections for this purpose. You will have to take something from those who possess more in order to provide to those who possess nothing. There are families where even 10 persons are employed or they own 10 industrial licences whereas there are others who do not have anything. I welcome the provision of allocating adequate funds for the welfare of poor, and curtail the wasteful expenditure. But I would like to submit that all the wasteful expenditure done at the official level or by bureau-

crats should be curtailed. You should provide relief to the poor by curtailing this extravagance.

Secondly, how will the Government manage to achieve the targets. Some of the essential commodities have been exempted from tax and some of them have nominal tax. Similarly, heavy taxes has been imposed on the luxury goods which are bought by rich people. I whole-heartedly welcome this.

I would like to discuss the selected issues, for the time is short and most of the issues have already been discussed. You have referred to *Jawahar Rozgar Yojana*. During my visit to rural areas, I found that people have whole-heartedly welcomed the scheme in the rural areas. I am a rural worker and belong to an agricultural family. My submission is that the implementation of IRDP and NREP schemes have proved quite effective in rural areas. Late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had executed the scheme to provide Rs. 25 thousand to Rs. 35 thousand loans to the poor and unemployed youth. They have been really benefitted by this and thus the condition of rural areas has improved a lot. We are grateful to the present Government that it has formulated a new scheme by merging the previous ones and allocated adequate funds for its implementation. Some Members have been asserting to include their constituencies in the new scheme which is supposed to be implemented under *Jawahar Rozgar Yojana*. My submission is that more and more development projects are launched in the constituencies of influential political leaders because of political pressure. I would like to challenge this practice openly. Hence I would urge upon the Government to implement these schemes in the industrially backward and tribal areas. Melghat area in Amravati is a tribal dominated area. One third of the area is inhabited by Adivasis. There are a number of districts which can be declared backward at block level, if the entire district

[Shrimati Usha Choudhari]

cannot be declared backward. The Government does not possess enough resources to establish industries everywhere and thus no industry can be established in the particular area so long it is declared backward. So I would urge upon the hon. Minister and the Government to declare at least Taluka or the tribal area as backward and industry should be set up there.

I am also the director of Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank and here I am speaking in the capacity of a Member of the House. You are the Minister of Finance and you have been the Chief Minister of Maharashtra in the recent past. You are well aware of the conditions of the farmers. You should take certain effective measures to improve the condition of those areas which have been hit by drought successively for the last 6-7 years. Something should be done for these areas and attention should be paid in this direction. Does the Government not want to establish industry in backward areas? Does it not want IRDP to be implemented effectively? The Government wants to increase the industrial out put and wants industrial development. It wants to spend crores of rupees for providing education to the children, encouraging schemes for the welfare of women and raising the living standard of tribal and poor people. The Government cannot succeed to fulfil these targets if the development activities remain confined only to urban areas. It is essential to develop rural areas for this.

The Government of Maharashtra sanctioned interest free loans and subsidy to the farmers through State Cooperative Banks and district banks. Efforts of Maharashtra Government in this direction are commendable. But I would like to submit to the hon. Minister that though the Reserve Bank of India has warned the authorities of NABARD and allocated adequate funds to the farm-

ers, but it would be of no use. We will have to declare agriculture as industry in order to eradicate poverty. The Government should direct the Banks to include the agro-industries in the list of industries with them. Crop Insurance Scheme should also be implemented.

The Reserve Bank should be instructed to provide more funds and facilities to State Co-operative Banks, district Banks and similar institutions which help the farmers. I hope that these things shall be clarified.

With these words, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI I. RAMA RAI (Kasaragod): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I take this opportunity to support the bold and balanced Budget which is before us with major allocations and concessions being extended to the poor, the farm sector and the urban middle class. The Jawaharlal Nehru Employment Scheme which seeks to provide at least one job to every family which is below the poverty line and which has been allocated Rs. 500 crores in the first year of its operation is a major step in the right direction.

This is a deficit Budget, the net deficit being Rs. 7,307 crores. We should understand the situation of our country, particularly the growing population and the extent of natural calamities. The main problem in our country is provision of employment to rural people and youngsters. Since there is not much time at my disposal, I would just mention a few points about agricultural and industrial sectors. For the farm sector, the Minister has announced duty relief for a variety of processed foods as well as food processing machinery. Fertilizer subsidy in there. The rate of interest on crop loan has been lowered.

I would like to draw the attention of our hon. Finance Minister that the farmers in India are always between the devil and the deep sea, the vagaries of nature like drought and floods on the one side and the fluctuation of prices on the other side. Even if there is a bumper crop, the prices will not be upto the expectation. I will be a mere pittance.

Sir, I want to draw your attention to your own State. Recently I had been to Nilgiris. In Ooty I met some farmers. They said they produce plenty of cabbage. When they transport the cabbage in the lorries at Mettupalayam or Coimbatore, they are not able to pay the rent for the lorries out of the sale proceeds of the cabbage.

You know very well. This is the situation in our country for the poor farmers.

Today morning only we were discussing about coconut. The Minister could not give a satisfactory reply for the steep fall in the price of the coconut. It is all because there is no concrete policy to cover the fluctuation in the price of the agricultural produce in this country.

I would like to draw the attention of our hon. Finance Minister about the Crop Insurance Scheme which has to cover this price fluctuation also.

A sufficient allotment should have been made to that sector also. Though we have provided more financial credit and other things, the Budget allotment for the Ministry of Agriculture is much less this year.

I am reminded of the words of Cicero. I quote:

"The budget should be balanced, the treasury should be re-filled, public debt should be reduced, the arrogance of officialdom should be tempered and controlled, and the people should be forced to work and not depend on Government for subsistence."

These were the words spoken about 2,000

years ago. But they still continue to be valid for our country, because ours is a poor country with, so to say, a rich Government, too rich for a country where the average income of a citizen is about Rs. 10 per day. That is what they say.

I recollect a few words of our hon. Minister of State who had intervened and explained things about non-Plan expenditure. I was really satisfied with his answer. I was worrying about why non-Plan expenditure could not be cut short. He explained about school buildings, hospitals and others. But when we think about the top jobs, see that there are so many IGS., so many General Managers, so many Additional General Managers etc. In our political parties, we know that there are so many leaders, and how we fight with each other and spoil everything. That is our experience: too many cooks spoil the dish. That is what is happening. By creating top jobs unnecessarily, we are incurring non-Plan expenditure. I cannot understand this. Probably the Finance Minister will cover this point also in his reply.

Similarly, about sick industries, the Budget has nothing to say. There are about 1,39,346 non-viable small scale industries in this country. I also belong to one backward district, backward as far as industries are concerned. There are people who purchase land at exorbitant prices in such districts, just to get subsidy and some benefits. Then they run away with such amounts and declare that the industry is sick. Some methods must be evolved to study these things. Creating a sick industry should not be an industry hereafter in this country, because we have to pay a high cost for all these things.

About other benefits given in the Budget now: I want to commend the pension for freedom fighters which has been raised to Rs. 750 or so, now. I was not clear on one point. It is about the Gold Control Act. It is to be modified, to retain control only over primary gold, benefiting a large number of goldsmiths and artisans. The Indian housewife and the Indian families are putting their savings in Jewellery. We know that. Every-

[Sh.] Rama Rai]

body invests his small savings in this way, because in difficult times he can pledge the jewellery in a bank and get some money, without anybody standing surety etc.

Recently, when I went to Bombay, I went to a factory where diamond-polishing and cutting is done. I was surprised to see about 60 deaf and dumb persons getting a reasonable salary in that factory. We have to discover where we can export things made by our skilled labour. Our jewellery is hailed to other countries. Diamonds are brought from other countries, and are polished and cut here, in many places like Surat, and in Rajasthan. I do not know exactly about other places. I saw only that place in Bombay. We can create a lot of employment in this sphere, especially for disabled persons. These areas must be identified, and proper encouragement should be given in that direction.

My last point: Most of the projects in this country which are planned, are left without being completed in due time. The cost escalation has gone up 200% to 300%. Just imagine: how can we balance our budget when this is so? We make provision for one project, and its cost goes up 200% or 300%. So, our entire calculations will naturally go wrong.

This is what is happening in this country. From the layman's point of view, I have touched these points. I hope the Minister will not be disturbed by these points but will be encouraged to see that his attempt to wipe out tears from the eyes of the poorest among the poor will meet with success.

[Translation]

SHRI JAGANNATH CHOUDHARY (Ballia): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am highly grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on the Ministry of Finance. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance that he has presented a very balanced and effective Budget for the poor

and weaker section, which form 80 percent of the population. A provision has been made to provide employment to at least one person in each family. The proposal of providing houses to the poor people and Harijans and increasing the pensions of the freedom fighters are commendable steps. I would also like to give certain suggestions. The railway passes issued to the freedom fighters expire after one year and then they have to travel by second class or third class coaches and face a lot of inconvenience. I would urge you that since the number of freedom fighters is not much, they should be allowed to avail the facilities throughout their life. You should not deprive them of the facility which they have been availing. It is like asking a person sitting on a horse to alight and sit on a donkey. I hope adequate attention would be paid to the matter. Ballia district is at the extreme northern end of Uttar Pradesh. Irrigation facilities are almost negligible there. More than half the districts are not irrigated even today. When I was the Minister of State for Irrigation, in Uttar Pradesh in 1975-76, I had laid the foundation stone of a project which was to get water from Sharda Canal. But the Ministers who succeeded me, have not taken effective measures to provide irrigation facilities in Ballia. Water of Sharda Canal is not adequate to fulfil the requirements of the people of even half the district. I have been calling the attention towards this matter repeatedly in the meeting convened to discuss irrigation. I would urge upon the Central Government to compel the Government of Uttar Pradesh to complete the Sharda Canal project in order to meet the irrigation requirements of the whole district. During the last visit of Ballia district, Shrimati Gandhi had laid the foundation stone of an educational institution in Garhwal. In fact, the proposal was for a university. The land was donated by the local residents. But unfortunately, the university was shifted to Jaunpur and the foundation stone is lying there as before. If opening of a University is not possible, the Government should take measures to open at least one engineering college in the name of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The students of Ballia and eastern parts of the State who

want to study Engineering as a subject have to face a number of hardships as they have to go to Maharashtra and Southern parts of the country. I would urge upon the Government to open an Engineering College in the name of Shrimati Indira Gandhi to silence those people who are making mockery of the foundation stone laid by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. They say that the Government has been totally negligent towards it because Shrimati Gandhi is no more alive. It is a matter of great shame for me and the Government. The Government should take immediate measures to open an Engineering College there. Health service at Varanasi and Patna are inadequate. There is only one medical college situated in Varanasi and then the whole area towards Patna is devoid of medical services. I would like the Government to open a medical college in Ballia where land is easily available. I hope adequate attention would be paid to this matter. The Budget, you have presented in the House is a balanced Budget. People in all walks of life have appreciated it. Without taking more time, I welcome and support the Budget and congratulate you whole-heartedly.

PROF. M.R. HALDER (Mathurapur)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I would like to congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for presenting a Budget to this august House which contains mostly anti-poverty programmes. That is why I support this Budget and I suggest a few points for the consideration of the Finance Minister.

The main objective of this Budget is on growth, modernization, self-reliance and social justice. Regarding self-reliance, what I feel is, as is clear from the provisions made this year, the Budget for Defence is brought down. It is nothing but a clear instance of how our country is progressing towards self-reliance due to the initiatives taken by our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi. We are now in a position to establish friendly relations with the neighbouring countries. As a matter of fact, due to this reason, the Budget for Defence has been brought down and special emphasis is laid on rural people with some

anti-poverty programmes.

So far as our food production is concerned, the country has reached self-reliance, because if it is an open fact that though for the last few years our country has been facing too much trouble on the food front especially due to unprecedented drought, floods and to some extent cyclones, yet the fact remains that due to the intervention of the Government of India as well as proper help to the food cultivators from the different parts of the country, we are in a position to achieve a target of 166 million tonnes of foodgrains. I have got no figures with me, but my knowledge is confined to what is drawn from some booklets of the Ministry of Agriculture. It is a fact that the total amount of land available for cultivation has not yet been fully utilised. I think, not more than sixty percent of the total amount of land available for cultivation is utilised by the farmers, and within this sixty per cent, not more than fifty per cent of the land is utilised for double cropping or triple cropping. With this utilisation, totally we are in a position to achieve the target of 166 million tonnes of food. That is why, I would like to urge the Hon'ble Finance Minister to negotiate with the Agriculture Ministries of the various State Governments so that in near future, in consultation with the State Governments, special planning may be made for utilising the total amount of land available for cultivation fully and our country may become more self-reliant so far as food production is concerned.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, it is very clearly stated that the main objective of this Budget is modernisation. In this regard, I will have to highlight the interesting matters relating to various parts of the country, particularly in West Bengal. I am very much sorry to say about one unit, namely BIFR, which has been created to find out the cause of the sickness of the industries to see whether by proper financing they can be revitalised. Many times we had a meeting with BIFR along with the MPs of Bengal. We have seen that the activities and the role of BIFR are only to close the units and I do not know for what purpose BIFR has been installed under

[Prof. M.R. Halder]

the instruction of the Prime Minister.

Secondly, I am very much thankful to the hon'ble Finance Minister for giving special attention for social justice to the freedom fighters. You are aware that today's cost of living is very high. Smt. Indira Gandhi started giving pension to the freedom fighters. It was Rs. 250/- in the year 1984-85, when we came here as a Member of Parliament. Now it has been enhanced to Rs. 750/- by this Government. It is a nice achievement, I must say. What are the difficulties in giving pension to the widows of the departed freedom fighter pension holders? I am very sorry to point out that hundreds of widow pension cases are pending with the Government. We had written several letters to the Home Ministry in this regard. We are writing and writing, but with no results. Lastly we got reply from the Minister of State for Home Affairs that the matter is under process, it has been computerised and the result will be seen within two months. I am sorry to say that for the last three years, they have not been provided with pension, for which they are eligible as per the legislation of the Government of India. I do not understand the difficulties in implementing this legislation.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, you are aware that this Government is trying to do its best under the leadership of our Prime Minister and brought anti poverty programmes like IRDP, DRDA, RLEGP. I do not know how things are going on in other States. I am concerned with my State of West Bengal. There under IRDP and DRDA a serious type of injustice and favouritism is going on. The Government of India has given clear directions to the State Government to first of all locate those persons who are below the poverty line. But I may bring to the notice of the House that Government of West Bengal is not implementing the policy which is laid down by the Government of India so far as these programmes are concerned. Under these programmes what we see is that, to a particular beneficiary whose income is below the poverty line i.e. Rs. 4800 per year, a

certificate is issued by the Gram Panchayat Pradhan, Zila Parishad, Panchayat Samiti or MLA or MP and on that basis the cases of beneficiaries are sent to the banks. There do you know what is going on? Supposing, a sum of Rs. 9000 is sanctioned under that programme. In that amount, the share of the bank is Rs. 6000 and Rs. 3000 is subsidy. This subsidy amount is given to the beneficiary, but the amount sanctioned by the bank is deposited with the bank immediately after the date of disbursement. With the result, this programme merely remains on paper and its actual implementation is not there perfectly at all. On the basis of that, some persons are given the subsidy and that money is totally misused. I request the hon. Minister to look into this and do something in order to see that the programme is implemented in right spirits.

On 29.11.88 there was a severe cyclone in Sundarbans area of West Bengal. There are some IRDP, DRDA and direct loan cases. As a matter of fact, their agricultural produce has totally been damaged and they have no capacity to re-pay the loan. I am very much grateful to the hon. Agriculture Minister that he has sent his Minister of State, Shri Shyam Lal Yadav, to visit the affected areas. He has assured that exemption will be given to the affected borrowers. I request the Government to give relief to the cyclone affected people from the loan which they have taken from the banks directly and under IRDP and DRDA programmes.

[Translation]

SHRI BHISHMA DEO DUBE (Banda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister and express my thanks to him as he has presented a well-balanced and fine Budget in view of the demand of present times.

Last year the country was in the grip of severe drought and as it has been seen that the after effects of drought permeate even in the next year. Moreover there are several such places in the country which are still reclining under drought. I view of all these

circumstances and the condition of poor people and that of the farmers, the present Budget is really in the interest and welfare of the general public and the poor people. The Budget has a hope for the farmers. Therefore, I appreciate it and give him thanks for it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, when we visit our constituencies, we hear that people are satisfied there. Here, I recall the words of a very prominent physician of my district who used to say that if you need 1 kg of flesh, it can be taken from the body of an elephant and he will not even feel it but if you intend to take the same quantity of it from the body of the ants, you will have to kill a large number of ants. Similarly, the deficit of Budget is proposed to be made up by charging taxes on those sections of people who can afford to pay it. Thus a relief has been given to the poor people. Under the socialistic pattern of society and in the democratic form of Government, the Government proposes to assist the needy ones out of the funds collected by them from those who can afford to pay it. Our budget reflects these policies. For all this I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister and the Government.

As the time is short, therefore, not going in further details I would like to say only this much that 80 percent population of India resides in villages and in this Budget relief has been given to these 80 percent people. Therefore, it is a matter of appreciation and satisfaction because a relief to the 80 percent of people means relief to the whole country. Being it just the reverse, it will not be a relief in the real sense.

Growing population is one of the major problems our country is facing today. During the period of last 40 years our Government have accomplished a number of developmental activities which would have changed the face of the country, had there not been this problem. Hence in order to make the measures being taken up for development, effective it is necessary that growing population is kept under check and Government should not hesitate in taking even some strict steps in this regard as it will be in the public

interest. Although it is correct that we are scared of the experience we had in this regard in 1977 but it is also evident that since then there has been a great change in the thinking of the people. Now the people themselves come forward for sterilisation. They are not attracted by incentives. But there is social consciousness among the people who are not moved now by a sense of greed in the matter of keeping the population under control. Without that it won't be in the national interest. This will also help people to realise the need of the country.

My second point is regarding the migration of rural population towards the cities in search of means of livelihood and other facilities which are not available to them in villages. Therefore in order to check this migration the facilities such as electricity, schools and roads should be provided in villages itself. Then there will be no need for the rural people to migrate to the cities and live there in a polluted atmosphere. And if these are not provided in the villages, the life in the cities will turn increasingly worse.

I have also been raising the issue of irrigation problem of my constituency in this house since I was elected as an M.P.

I hail from Banda district of Bundelkhand region of U.P. As per the official figures, the irrigation percentage of district Banda is 17 percent whereas according to my estimation it is only 13 percent which is quite inadequate from the development point of view of the region.

A scheme was formulated under United Nations Development Programme which was approved by the governing body of the U.N.D.P. and the U.P. Government but it is still lying pending with the Ministry of irrigation. The five districts of Bundelkhand namely Jhansi, Lalitpur, Jalaun, Banda and Hamirpur and rocky areas of Allahabad, Varanasi and Mirzapur are proposed to be concerned under this scheme. This scheme was to be launched with the assistance of United Nations Development Programme for providing irrigation facilities by boring

[Sh. Bhishma Deo Dube]

deep tubewells and recently a remote sensing survey was conducted which has proved it that in the entire Bundelkhand region there is large quantity of underground water in the form of oxcwells, artisan wells and underground currents which need to be exploited. No action has been taken in this regard so far and the scheme is lying pending. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Finance Minister to revive the scheme by using his good offices. I can say it with full certainty that the land of Bundelkhand is so fertile and productive that if it gets adequate supply of water it can cater the requirement of foodgrains of the entire Uttar Pradesh. Whereas, to our surprise, per acre yield average at present in Bundelkhand is only one quintal. Therefore, it can be easily realised how difficult it is to live there in Bundelkhand with such a minimal output. Therefore, I request you to use your influence and get the scheme implemented. The regional imbalances have gripped this region of which I had made a mention in my speech on the Motion of Thanks on the President address. I had stated that these imbalances have been causing dissatisfaction among people which may culminate in the emergence of disruptive tendencies. They have been raising their demand for a Separate Bundelkhand. Thus one more movement is gaining momentum for division of the State. I request you to take some steps to remove these regional imbalances. The President had also stated in this address that these will be removed. I have seen the Budget and the annual plan but no such provision has been made in them for the development of Bundelkhand.

I would like to say a few words on electrification also. According to the officers if electricity is provided in the some adjoining areas of a village, it means that they had done the electrification of that village. It is a strange definition of electrification. Particularly in my district Banda last year not a single village was electrified and the situation even during the next year is not going to change. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to take a special note of this problem

and ask the Minister concerned to look into this matter.

There are a number of problems. I am grateful to you as you have given me the opportunity to speak. I would like to request the hon. Minister to pay special attention, so as to remove the regional imbalances. I would look to his budget reply to have an assurance from him regarding these regional imbalances in my area.

[English]

SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN (Nanded): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister. Sir, as rightly pointed out by the hon. Prime Minister, it is a good budget which would help the poor in the country, bring social justice and solve the problem of deficit. It may also be pointed out that a serious effort has been made in bringing down the deficit, which clearly shows that the effort has been towards reversing the trend of the deficit. The budget also indicates the Prime Minister's serious concern for the poor people of the country, the masses, his serious concern towards growing unemployment and that is why an effort has been made to generate more employment especially for the people below the poverty line by introducing the Jawaharlal Nehru Rozgar Yojana. Priority has also been given to the housing sector today housing being an acute problem throughout the country it is very difficult for the common man to build a house of his own. So, promotion of a healthy financial system is necessary keeping in view the requirement of the common man, the effort which is being made to see that the National Housing Bank works for the poor and the down-trodden. The farmers have also been taken care of through the flow of credit to the agricultural sector through banks, the amount has been raised to Rs. 400 crores for the year 1989-90 and the rate of interest on crop loan has been reduced from 14 percent to 12 percent. All these, I feel, are the major highlights of the budget which definitely speaks of the Prime Minister's clear-cut intentions to help the

poor and downtrodden people of the country, to give them all the relief, whatever is possible.

As far as employment generation is concerned, 120 backward districts in the country are to be selected in which among the people below the poverty line, every person in the family is to be given a job. I would request that while doing so the Marathwada region of Maharashtra should definitely be taken care of. Our region has been a backward region of Maharashtra where we do not have a National Highway, we have one metre gauge railway line which was laid during the time Nizam. So, having no National Highway, no proper railway system, the industrial development of the entire area has been rather very slow and due to this we can understand the reason why there is so much of unemployment in this region. So, I would request that the Marathwada region should be definitely taken into consideration while the districts are selected for employment generation. At the same time I would thank the Finance Ministry, for I have just received a letter from the hon. Railway Minister, Madhavrao Scindiaji in which he has indicated that the proposal of the Government of Maharashtra to raise the debentures for the laying of railway lines for conversion of metre gauge to broad gauge has been accepted in principle by the Finance Ministry, and I am sure by this major decision being taken, the railway work there would be expedited which ultimately would result in the industrial development and employment generation. I am also thankful to the Finance Minister who has in principle agreed and also the Railway Minister who has expedited the proposal of the Finance Ministry. At the same time, now I would request the Government of Maharashtra to send a specific proposal to the Finance Ministry and the Railway Ministry to see that the gauge conversion which would go a long way in the development of the region is done as early as possible. At the same time, I would here bring to the notice of the Finance Minister that so far as backwardness of a region is concerned, especially in the Marathwada-Vidarbha-Konkan region, due to

constraint of funds there is always a problem there. Every effort has been made from the State Government and the Central Government to see that the development of this region is at par with the other parts of the State.

I would request that the principle of raising debentures or bonds should be taken into consideration because unless a time-bound programme is made for the development of areas, the cost of all the works is going to escalate further. If this is not taken care of, in due course, the people will become restless as they would feel that their areas are neglected. Rightly so, I feel wherever State Governments have been requesting for development of a region and where finance is a major constraint, raising of bonds or debentures should be agreed in principle in order to see that those areas are developed at par with other areas.

As far as housing loans are concerned, you have given proper direction to the banks to see that priority is given to housing, specially low-cost housing. But you will appreciate that it is not easy to procure land. The cost of land is escalating day by day. Even if we are giving a helping hand to the poor to build houses by giving them loans, something should be done to see that the cost of the land is kept at the minimum or at least, appropriate cost is maintained. Major black money generation takes place through the land transactions, and poor people are severely affected and it is not possible for them to buy their own plot of land. Some measure will have to be taken by the Finance Ministry to see that illegal transactions of land are stopped and the cost of land which today is appreciating like anything, is kept as low as possible so that the poor may get proper land at the proper cost. That would be an additional step which would definitely help the poor people, in addition to the help you are going to provide through the banks.

I would like to bring out another point about the income-tax rate in the entry slab between Rs. 18,000 and Rs. 25,000. The rate has been reduced from 25% to 20% for

[Sh. Ashok Shankarrao Chavan]

them. But even today, an UDC also has to pay income-tax and as such, the working class will not be fully benefited by the provision. I would urge upon the hon. Minister that the income-tax exemption limit should be increased from Rs. 18,000 to Rs. 25,000.

For so many years, the film industry has not been given any benefit. But for the first time, in this Budget, an effort has been made and rightly so, the benefit has been given to exempt the first 30 prints from excise duty. At the same time, I would like to point out the problem of the Marathi Film industry which needs your kind attention. You know that the income-tax is being levied on the financial assistance which is granted by the State Government to the Marathi film industry. You may recall that you as Chief Minister of Maharashtra, in 1975, had evolved a scheme for release of grant of financial assistance to Marathi film producers which they were required to invest in their further films which they were going to make. This is a sort of helping hand the Government of Maharashtra had given to help the Marathi film industry because of the severe competition it was facing from Hindi, Gujarati and other regional films. But this assistance which is given by the State Government is being taxed today by the Income-tax Department. I feel this is an injustice which is being done to the Marathi Film industry which is now reviving and is producing a good number of films, despite severe competition. I request that this aspect may be considered and this assistance which is given by the State Government may definitely not be taxed so that in the true sense, we have the satisfaction that we really give them proper help.

I would like to emphasise another point. Salaries class and working class are definitely going to benefit due to decontrolling of cement, aluminium, coupled with housing loan schemes which you have introduced. At the same time, I feel, attention should be given to mini cement plant in the country which are facing some sort of difficulty be-

cause of certain budget provisions. You may recall that in order to exploit small and marginal limestone deposits scattered throughout the country, especially in backward areas which have zero infrastructure because of the remoteness, the Government of India gave some incentives to the mini-cement plants to achieve rapid manufacture of cement production. The choice of the technology was left to them as to what sort of technology they should adopt for manufacture of cement. Cement is manufactured today mainly by two methods. One is rotary method and the other is vertical method and the choice was left to them to adopt different methods. While we find that large-sized plants and medium size plants of vertical type technology have been given excise relief, the plants manufacturing cement by rotary method are given no exemption and they are badly affected. The medium scale plants using vertical method are benefited whereas the plants using rotary technology are being affected which is going to be very harmful and each unit which costs Rs. 15 to 16 crores is likely to suffer and there are 13 mini-cement plants which ultimately will be closed down if this provision is not taken care of. They should be given the benefit as is given to the other plants

As regards the 10% inland air travel tax which you have introduced, there should be more allocation to the Civil Aviation Department. We find that a number of new airports are being opened and new airfields are being constructed. In order to bring many more districts in the country into the mainstream, more support should be given to the Civil Aviation Department whereby all these airports and air-strips can get more benefit out of it.

My colleague, Kumari Mamata Banerjee, has raised the point regarding the working of nationalised banks. A number of schemes are being sponsored by the DIC through the nationalised banks. We see that even though DIC recommends the scheme as feasible, it is turned down by many financial institutions, saying that it is not feasible. We are speaking of single window clearance

for permitting our entrepreneurs so that they are not unnecessarily harassed and they need not go 10 to 15 times to get sanction. I would urge that there should be one authority which should recommend the feasibility of the scheme and once the authority suggests that the scheme is feasible, then it should be acceptable to the IDBI and IFCI and others. If various agencies are involved unnecessarily to say whether this is feasible or not, it amounts to harassment. I would suggest that amendment should be made where feasibility is to be decided.

We observe that a number of banks are enjoying certain deposits from Government Departments. They are not at all participating in the disbursement to the needy sector. Some sort of rule should be made by which these deposits of the Government Departments should go to the banks only if their performance has been as per the target which has been given to them and not simply because it has been as a precedent that the Department has to give a deposit to a certain bank only. It is important because unless this is done, there will be no competition among the banks and unless there is competition, there would not be equality.

I would request that these points should be taken into account and taken care of.

With these words, I support the Budget.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K.J. ABBASI (Domariaganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak. I rise to support the budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister. I would not like to go into the details of the points which have been raised here. I welcome it that the rate of pension for freedom fighters has been increased to Rs. 750. I am grateful to you for covering even the rest of them who had been so far left out.

There is great satisfaction among people due to relief provided to the agriculturists. In this Budget defence allocations

have been reduced which has received world-wide acclamation. This is a good beginning that defence allocations have been reduced and it will be a right step if the other adjoining countries which are the source of impending danger for us, also follow suit in this regard. Otherwise we will always have to be cautious in this regard. We may effect a cut in the allocation for some other item, but we should not reduce it in case of our defence.

I welcome the Nehru Employment Scheme for which a sum of Rs. 500 crore has been allocated in the budget. Under this Scheme in the beginning one member from each family will be provided employment. It has been generally welcomed by all the Sections of the Society. There are several other features of this Budget which have been welcomed by all except the members of the opposition.

Generally it is said that people of every village have been demanding the facilities of electricity, water and road. Every village wants to be connected by road and the provision of electricity for it to get the tubewells installed there.

A number of efforts have been made by the Government in this regard but these facilities are not provided in the rural areas just due to the fault of our officers and scarcity of funds.

Sir, I would also like to submit that in my district the construction work of a hospital with a capacity of 62 beds was started in 1984 and now even after its completion, it has not started functioning. This year we are going to polls but the work on the project is not being completed. It has been stated about it that the funds earmarked for executing the project have fallen short because of increase in prices of commodities. I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister to get all the ongoing schemes completed before elections are held, otherwise we have to cut a very sorry figure before the public.

It is reiterated time and again that

[Sh. K.J. Abbasi]

measures would be taken to remove the bottlenecks that people have to face in getting loans from banks. The hon. Minister should see to it and ensure that the public do not face any difficulties in getting loans.

It has also been demanded time and again that the limit for income-tax exemption should be raised from present Rs. 18,000/- to Rs. 25,000/-. Today, even a peon gets a minimum salary of one thousand rupees a month. People grudge that on the one hand their salaries were increased, on the other a substantial amount is being deducted from their salaries by way of income tax. I hope the hon. Minister would rise this limit to Rs. 25000/-.

In my own constituency, a new district named Sidharthnagar comprising 12 to 13 blocks has been carved out from old Basti district. Basti itself was considered to be a way very backward district, but this new district carved out from it is the most backward. This area is hit either by floods or drought almost every year. No industry has been set up there. This new district has come into being on the 29th December. There is neither any industry nor any sugar mill in the district though it is a sugar-cane producing area. Sugar-canes from my area are taken to a sugar mill located near Gorakhpur due to which farmers are put to a lot of inconvenience. There is only one metre-gauge line in this area and rest of the areas of the district is lacking railway facilities. I elaborated this issue in detail during discussion on Rail Budget.

Raw material for manufacturing of paper is available in this area as paddy is produced in abundance. Therefore, a paper mill can be set up there. As this area is also a sugarcane growing area, a sugar mill is required to be set up. Though a sugar mill was there but it was closed fifteen years ago and since then local people have been longing for a sugar mill. Previously, it was stated that possibility of sinking tubewells in Naugarh area of the district is very remote. But

later on it could be made possible with the help of heavy rig machines and in fact some tubewells were sunk. But the number of tubewells sunk in the area are is still inadequate. So adequate number of tubewells are required to be sunk. Rock-salt (Kala namak) is found in abundance there. If proper irrigation facilities are made available to this area, it can be a very prosperous area. Fine quality of rice is also grown there and its production can increase considerably, provided irrigation facilities are made available there. This is the place where Gautam Buddha was born. That is why this district has been named Sidhartha. After an archeological studies about Kapilavastu, which was made 8-10 years ago, it was revealed that Gautam Buddha was born in Basti district. That is why this district has been named after him. This district has a good prospect of development as a tourist centre as tourists from far flung countries may be attracted to pay a visit to this place. So the Government should pay adequate attention to the matter. Before I conclude, I would like to make yet another point that muslims are at present feeling very much agitated and the Government is also well aware of this fact, yet no measure have been taken to solve the problem. Who is to solve the problem? It is the Government who is to find out a solution to this. I wouldn't like to go in details, but just want to say that it is the responsibility of the Government to protect the life and property of the people belonging to the Muslim Community. You may not provide food to them, the Almighty will provide food to them, but as a Congress man it is our bounden duty to provide protection to their life and property. The incidents which took place in Bombay were quite regrettable. At the same time, I would also like to make an appeal to our Muslim brethren to think as to what they wanted to do. They should have greeted and sent greeting telegrams to Shri Rajiv Gandhi for banning the publication of the book. Public meetings should have been organised by them in his praise. It is in this country that the book was first banned and the publishers refused to publish it. What else is expected from the Government. If our muslim brothers take any action in this country on instigation of Iran, it is not wise on their

part. It doesn't behove that we indulge in unlawful activities to malign the administration, which may even lead to loss of lives too. This can not be a good step. I humbly request our Muslim brothers that we people should not waste our energy in destructive activities rather we should contribute to promote the feeling of brotherhood and unity among various sections of the society. I would urge upon the Government to take full responsibility of protecting the life and property of these people. Only then we will be able to fulfil the dreams of Jawaharlal Nehru and Gandhiji. I hope the Government would pay proper heed to the development of Sidharth Nagar. With these words, I conclude.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR (Kutch): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I convey my thanks to the hon. Minister of Finance for presenting a balanced Budget for the year 1989-90. Measures have been taken to provide employment to the rural youths under 'Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojana' announced in the Budget. Employment must be created for the youths. I convey my thanks for launching an employment scheme during the Nehru Centenary year. This will enable our youths to use their energy in constructive work, otherwise the nation will have to suffer a heavy loss. Initially, this self-employment scheme is proposed to be launched in selected 120 districts, this is a wise step because employment opportunities cannot be created for everybody during a given time. This can be provided gradually. So I extend my thanks to the Government. Provision has been made in the Budget to provide financial assistance for constructing houses under Housing Loan Account Scheme. Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been taking effective measures to provide the three basic necessities of life i.e. food, clothing and shelter, the idea for which was conceived by late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. More and more schemes are being formulated to fulfil the basic necessities of people. A lot of work has been done to promote family planning and a number of suggestions have come from the Members in this regard also. I would

also like to submit that the couples who adopt family planning after having one male child or two female children should be rewarded suitably either by way of giving hard cash or by way of providing concession in railway or air fares. Special Medical facilities can also be provided to them. In case of Government employees, they should be promoted or given priority. The Central Government or the State Government should issue some sort of a special card to such persons. I am not saying this to lure them. They would feel proud to have such cards and others would also be impressed to see that they have adopted family planning norms after having one male child or two female children. Our society gives preference to a male child. Being a woman, I know very well that in most of the cases, people do not adopt family planning even though they get 3-4 female children.

My submission is that a card should be issued to the couple which adopts family planning after one or two children. This card should enable them to get concessions in the railways, air travel and priority in health services. If the person concerned is a Government employee, he should be given increment also so that he may proudly say that he possesses such a card. My constituency Kutch is a very backward area. Most of the people from this area have gone to foreign countries and have deposits as high as Rs. 500 crores in the banks in their own country. But the rate of interest paid by the banks is 14.84 per cent. I do not know about the rate of interest in other States of the country but in Gujarat, interest even upto 64-65 per cent is paid. My submission is that the Government should take some steps to enable the people of Kutch to utilise this money. The hon. Minister is present here and I would like to give a few suggestions to him with regard to utilisation of this money in my constituency. Cattle rearing and handicrafts are two main occupations in my area. There is a place called Bunny in my constituency where a fine variety of grass is grown. The Gujarat Government has appointed a Committee to conduct studies in that area. The committee has submitted an estimate of

[Smt. Usha Thakkar]

Rs. 200 crores for the development of that area. The money lying in the banks in Kutch may be utilised for this purpose. I would like to submit a few points about handicrafts. Our hon. Prime Minister had visited Kutch during drought. With regard to handicrafts, he had said that no matter how much funds were spent, the drought affected women should get their livelihood at home itself and, thus maximum financial assistance was given to them. Since that area is a border area and is quite backward, I would like to submit that the Centre should provide funds for handicrafts in accordance with the announcement made by the hon. Prime Minister so that the women could earn their livelihood at home itself. I hope that the Government will take some steps in this direction. Kutch is a backward and coastal district. Before the formation of Pakistan, that area was contiguous to Sind. A number of small ports there are virtually out of use. Shri Nehru and Sardar Patel had paid attention to this area and had got a major port built at Kandla. On the other hand, the people in Lakhpat, Mundera, Mandvi and Jakhuu are totally disappointed. They say that they did not get any benefit even after independence. Earlier they could earn their livelihood but after Sind got separated from India, the people living around that port are left with no means of livelihood. Therefore, these ports should also be developed. In this regard, I would like to submit that quality fish is found in the port named Jakhau. According to the report of a high-powered committee of the Central Government, the port is an ideal spot for constructing a deep fishing harbour.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to submit to the hon. Finance Minister that the recommendations made by the high-powered committee regarding the Jakhau port in my constituency should be considered sympathetically before taking any decision. This would be extremely beneficial for my area. Since time at my disposal is very short, I would like to reiterate once again that my constituency Kutch is a very backward area. I would like the Government

to set up a few growth centres there which are badly needed in that area. Earlier also, I had drawn your attention to this point on a few occasions. With these words I am grateful to you for having given me the opportunity to speak.

SHRI BHARAT SINGH (Outer Delhi):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the 1989-90 General Budget. The size of Delhi's budget last year was Rs. 1227 crores which has been raised to Rs. 1325 crores this year. Last year, the Delhi Administration had distributed a number of plots free of cost to the landless through Panchayats and one acre of land each was also allocated for cultivation. Tubewells were also sunk in the drought-affected areas last year as a relief measure besides providing means of irrigation. As a result of these efforts, the harvest has been very good. As my other colleagues have said today, the Government has made a provision of Rs. 500 crores in the Budget under the Nehru Rojgar Yojana to provide jobs to the unemployed in rural areas. The RLEGP and NREP have been merged into one. I think, this step will yield maximum benefits to the poor and pave way of for the progress of the rural areas in general.

Now I would like to draw your attention to the economically backward women for whom a provision of supplying two sarees has been made. Since they are poor, two sarees must be provided to them but at the same time, I would suggest that the Government should also grant them a pension of Rs. 100 per month so that they could make a proper living. You would be glad to know that when I visit the villages, the people term this Budget as Budget of the farmers and villagers. During the drought last year, the Government had helped the villagers in everyway. The farmers owning upto 5 acres of land were helped in a number of ways, such as supply of fertilizers, seeds and fodder to them. The farmers worked hard and produced foodgrains. The Government gives grants, plots, one acre of land and many other facilities to those families whose income is Rs. 750. Similarly, Government also helps the farmers owning 2.5 acres or

one hectare of land. My submission is that the Government should raise the income limit to Rs.1500 and help the farmer owning upto two hectares of land, because even a peon in Delhi is earning Rs.1250 and thus the deserving people are deprived of the assistance given by the Government. On the other hand, the villagers are misusing the assistance granted by the Government by misreporting to the Panchayat or the Pradhan. Therefore, my submission is that the Government should raise this limit to Rs.1500.

As such the Government is distributing thousands of plots and helping the people in many other ways, but as many of our colleagues have said and I also support them, that keeping in view the price rise, the Government should raise the present limit of income for the purpose of income tax from Rs. 18000 to Rs. 25000 so that the burden on the middle class Government employees could be reduced. Today, they have started feeling as if the Government is withdrawing their increased salary in the form of income tax. Therefore, it is appropriate that the Government should raise that limit to Rs. 25000.

Now, I would like to draw your attention to the farmers. It has become very essential to extend Laldora in every village of Delhi because at some place it was fixed as back as in 1880 and at other places in 1908 whereas today the population in villages has increased many times. People have to build houses out of village boundry by they do not get any amenities. My submission is that Laldora should be extended in 50 villages of Delhi every year so that the families which have grown in size in the villages over the years are able to construct their own houses there.

The Government is aware that our farmers work hard to grow foodgrains. They have to irrigate the fields, take loans, use quality fertilizers and seeds in order to raise crops.

I want to say that wherever we go we hear only one thing from the farmers that they

do not get the price for their agricultural produce worth the layout put in by them. Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Finance Minister to pay attention to this. The farmer works very hard day and night and shifts his produce to this barn. Sometimes his crop is destroyed in the fields by hail storm or by fire in the barn or sometimes by drought. Therefore, crop insurance scheme should be introduced. There are 5 blocks in the rural areas of Delhi consisting of 60 villages. My submission is that there should be a fire fighter engine in each block so that in case of fire these vans may rush to the site of the accident at the earliest.

Now I would like to draw your attention towards the unauthorised colonies. Government is supplying electricity to colonies built upto 1981. My submission is that water should also be made available and roads should also be constructed there. 15 lakh people live in these colonies. I suggest that the colonies built upto 1984 should be regularised so that the fear lurking in their minds may be removed.

As you know number of bridges are constructed in the cities for easy flow of traffic but in the villages traffic is blocked in the absence of bridges. Therefore, I request that maximum number of bridges should be constructed over the railway lines. In various places like Sultanpuri, Seemapuri etc. there is traffic blockade for long time due to railway lines there. Even on the roads traffic is blocked due to increase in number of vehicles. Therefore, my submission is that bridges should be constructed in the rural areas so that no problem is faced due to increased traffic.

Sir, Najafgarh drain is full of dirty water. Last year its water was diverted into the Mangaspur drain, which raised the level of water in the tubewells. This helped the farmers very much. But this year it is not being done. Earlier the flood water used to be diverted into the Mangaspur drain but since the DESU authorities do not give connection, they are not getting water and their crop is being affected.

[Sh. Bharat Singh]

Sir, it was at the instance of Indiraji that resettlement colonies were built. Commendable work has been done but some colonies suffer for want of sewer facilities and some lack in respect of school buildings. My submission is that maximum funds should be provided for these services in these colonies. I also want to draw the attention to the fact that the land of the farmers is acquired under the supervision of the administration but they are not paid compensation in time. They have to undergo lot of suffering and have to run from pillar to post, still they do not get compensation for their land. Besides, the rate of compensation paid to them is very low and on top of it that too is not paid in time. They have to pursue the matter for 2 years or so. I would request the hon. Finance Minister that some such arrangement should be made that the farmers get the compensation within 15 days. They should be handed over the voucher for compensation within 15 days so that they have not to suffer. I thank you for giving me time to speak. I also thank the hon. Finance Minister for presenting a good Budget and hope that the next Budget will be still better. Further, he will kindly sanction funds for the construction of bridges in Delhi and for other development works in the resettlement colonies.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I welcome the Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister. The Budget is well balanced and I feel that a rural oriented Budget has been presented for the first time after many years. During the pre-Budget days people had apprehended that the hon. Finance Minister will present a highly deficit Budget. However, these apprehension proved to be mere conjectures. The Budget presented by the hon. Finance Minister has given relief to the poor and contrary to the expectation of the rich, who hoped to get relief since this is an election year, he has made an attempt to muster some revenue from the rich and spend it on the poor. This is a commendable step.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, on going

through the Economic survey we find that despite many problems the targets in the field of agriculture production has been almost achieved and we are also going to achieve this year's target of 1660 lakh metric tonnes. Similarly efforts have been made to bring down the rate of inflation which was more than 10 percent last year. This is a good step. The Government has taken a number of effective measures to check inflation.

The production in the field of industry, electricity, steel, cement, fertilizers has also recorded increase, which signifies that the Government of India has succeeded in implementing the programmes in accordance with its policy. This Budget is meant to especially help the people in the rural areas. Special attention has been paid to position in regard to employment and the statement assuring employment to at least one member of each family living below poverty line is welcome. This will remove the discontent amongst the rural masses. Similarly efforts have also been made to provide help to the destitute women.

The extension of I.C.D.C. programme to another 500 blocks will benefit the children living rural areas. I feel that this is very essential. This is a good step to provide additional funds to 120 districts.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister towards planning and policies. Whatever research has been made so far in the field of agriculture, it has been confined to fertile areas with irrigation facilities. There are hilly areas, forest areas or areas inhabited by tribals. The soil conditions in these areas depend on the landscape and rainfall. Therefore research should be made in respect of such areas also.

If Government wants to check the migration of people from the rural areas, it will have to improve the agricultural methods. Whatever research has yet been made in these areas, it is in respect of traditional crops. My submission is that research

should be made regarding coarse grain also so that their production may also increase since the poor in the backward areas sustain on it.

Till now vocation has been the main thrust in the tribal areas under the I.R.D.P. All the avenues of employment, viability and feasibility have almost been exhausted under this programme. I would like that under I.R.D.P., the marginal farmers should get maximum vocational opportunities in the agricultural field. Besides help should be extended to boost the production from forestry, horticulture, sericulture, poultry, dairy development, piggery, medicinal plants etc. in the tribal areas. Besides helping the people living in the forest areas, there is suitable atmosphere also for these programmes.

So far as industrial policy is concerned, especially in respect of backward and tribal areas, I totally disagree with the general contention that these areas can be developed by setting up big industries. There should be a separate industrial policy for the tribal areas. If you see southern Bihar you will find that discontent is brewing there because of Government's industrial policy. My submission is that there should be a separate policy for tribal areas because all the natural resources are located in tribal areas and big factories are coming up there making landless the landowners of the yester years and reducing them to the status of wage earners.

19.00 hrs.

75 percent of the agricultural labourer in Punjab and Haryana are from the tribal areas. This denotes that somewhere or the other there is some lacuna in our policy since Government is making the people homeless, displacing or deserting them with the industrialisation, we will have to reconsider this policy at some point. Similarly big dams are being constructed displacing and deserting the people. In the absence of their proper rehabilitation there is discontent among them. Similarly in regard to the forest pro-

duce, the State Government is extending some help in respect of nationalised items through the corporations in securing reasonable price but exploitation is rampant even today in respect of non-nationalised items. In this regard I suggest that Government should help in respect of overhead cost and grant subsidy. Since Government is spending today large funds on a number of programmes, you may provide some money for this programme too. If the cost of transportation of forest products and overhead cost are subsidised to a certain extent, I feel that tribal economy in those areas will get a boost. This will enable the people to get a fair price and I want that the Government should try to increase it.

The Government has fixed the income ceiling of Rs. 12 thousand as the criterion for grant of scholarship to the *harijans* and the *adivasis*. This limit should be raised. Government should think about the administrative set up in tribal areas because the naxalite problem is assuming serious proportion in many areas. The Government should think over it seriously and should not leave it to the State Government only. It is time now that steps are taken after re-examining the administrative system. If a Committee needs to be set up, the Government of India should not hesitate to do so with a view to counter the nexalite problem. Only then tribal areas can progress.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is now Seven O'Clock. The time is already over. I have received requests from 12 Members who are yet to speak and who are present here now. We cannot accommodate them tomorrow. Anyhow, all the twelve Members are here now. If you all want to speak today, you can do so because tomorrow you will not have a chance to speak. If you all agree, we can extend the time for discussion till all the 12 Members finish their speeches. If you all take 5 to 6 minutes each, we can finish. You only put forward certain points. I give the opportunity to all the Members who are sitting here. We can extend the time by one-

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

and-a-half hours, up to 8.30 p.m. I think the House agrees.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: So, the time is extended by one-and-a-half hours.

Now, Mr. Madan Pandey may speak.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY (Gorakhpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance for presenting a highly balanced and socialistic budget but it seems that he will receive our congratulations through hon. Shri Namgyal.

The points which I am going to raise today are going to be different from what I have been submitting so far. We are going to complete 43 years of independence this year and perhaps the present Budget shall be considered as the biggest Budget presented in the Lok Sabha so far. It is gratifying to note that this budget is a socialistic budget. There is a saying and I quote:

[English]

"From a man according to his capacity to a man according to his necessity."

[Translation]

This maxim has been put into practice. The Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister of Finance deserve to be congratulated for this. However, the way we are formulating our plans and budgets at present will have to be changed. Instead of patch work, some major decision should be taken so that we are able to join the ranks of advanced countries. Even today, rivers like Barri Gandak, Kosi, Brahmaputra and other rivers continue to cause havoc in the country. If devastating rivers like Mississippi and Missouri in U.S.A. and Huang Ho in China

could be tamed and turned into constructive rivers by constructing dams on them, why are we not able to control Brahmaputra and check inundation? This Budget, of course, reflects our efforts in this direction but our efforts should be more meaningful and result oriented. I would like to request the hon. Minister of Finance to give thought to this matter as well. The former Minister of Irrigation and previous Governments had paid attention to this matter. They had thought of forming a grid comprising of all the rivers from North to South. This scheme should not be put into the cold storage but should be revived. I thank you for adopting a new approach in this budget for the removal of industrial backwardness. I welcome the announcement of establishment of 61 growth centres and I think all the hon. Members will also welcome this move. Efforts should be made for the rapid extension of such centres so that they are set up in every backward area of the country and industrial backwardness is removed. To illustrate my suggestion regarding giving up patch work approach, I cite the case of my constituency, which has to face the fury of flood in the Rapti river even if it rains 200 to 300 kms away. Normally, drought conditions prevail here while other rivers overflow. Therefore, instead of constructing minor dams for the protection of limited areas, as patch work solutions, large multi-purpose projects covering the entire region should be prepared. You regulate the water of rivers by constructing dams on them and generate power as also provide water for irrigation. When the national water grid is formed and Brahmaputra is connected with Ganga and Kaveri is also connected with Ganga and Narmada and Tapti are connected, then our dreams will be realised.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as agriculture is the mainstay of our country, attention has to be paid to these things for ensuring its progress. In regard to the industrial field, I want to submit that our industrial policy is very good but the method of implementation is not effective with the result that the new entrepreneurs are discouraged. I want that there should be single window system for

clearance of all such applications. At present, the applications remain pending for 6 months and the industrialists have to run from pillar to post to get clearance.

The Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister have taken a very bold step by establishing the Food Processing Ministry. Through this action they have tried to give a new dimension to our primarily agricultural country. In this connection, I want to submit that clearance should be given speedily to projects and units to be set up for food processing.

Thirdly, education is the field which produces and shapes our future citizens and it is here that we can mould them into ideal citizens of the future. However, in order to realise this dream, special attention has got to be paid to education. *Navodaya Vidyalayas* have been established under the New Education Policy but I want to request that as long as the public schools continue, which provide education through the medium of English language to the children of the elite members of society such as Collectors, Commissioners, Ministers etc., so long the children of the ordinary citizens cannot expect to receive education of the same standard in these schools. It is impossible. Therefore, in order to implement the New Education Policy effectively, Government should review the public school system and steps should be taken to close them down and facilities available there should be provided in the *Navodaya* schools.

As regards roads, I would like to submit that from the Defence point of view, parts of Gorakhpur border should be surveyed for construction of roads and railway lines.

[English]

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK (Jagatsinghpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget proposals. I consider it as one of the soft Budgets on rural middle class. The Budget is growth-oriented. By introducing this Budget, the Government of India is going in for a higher rate

of growth. And that is the objective before the Government.

Our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has aimed at fulfilling the commitments made by the All India Congress Committee which passed a Revolution at Madras recently, by implementing the *Bekari Hatao* programme in the present Budget.

The important aspect of the Budget is that due emphasis has been laid on eradication of unemployment. This Budget caters for the benefit of young people.

Our late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi, believed in *Garibi Hatao*. She fought for this task. But this policy of the Government is exchanged with the programme of eradication of unemployment in the country as indicated in the present Budget. Such programme is essential for avoiding any frustration among the youth.

We are celebrating the Centenary of our great late leader Pandit Nehruji who laid the foundation of our nation's economy. The Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojana will generate employment in the rural areas and it is a tribute to our great leader Panditji. In this scheme, at least one member of each family living below the poverty line will be benefited in addition to other employment schemes.

Sir, credit is the major input for agricultural production. The poor and marginal farmers will get loans for agricultural purposes. During natural calamities, the farmers were the worst sufferers. I would urge upon the Government that while converting the soft loan into medium term loan, they should exempt and waive the repayment of soft loan.

In the Budget, high priority has been given to the housing schemes. The Home Loan Account Scheme which is to be launched by the National Housing Bank with the Schedule Banks is a good step and will cover all segments of the community, especially in the rural areas and will be useful for the people. It would be useful for the poor

[Sh. Lakshman Mallick]

Adivasis who are living in the rural areas. They have no piece of land or constructing a house.

Before I go to the Housing loan, I will urge upon the Government to provide housing sites to all the poor people.

I congratulate the Finance Minister for giving some relief on family pension, for starting a new Savings Scheme for retiring Government servants and for raising pension for freedom fighters in the Nehru Centenary Year. To meet this huge expenditure on developmental programmes, adequate measure has been taken to mobilise the resources without affecting any section of the people.

Removal of poverty is the principal aim of our Prime Minister. The special thrust of the Government has been for employment generation. This has been reflected in this Budget. NREP and RLEGP is proposed to be merged into a single programme and it has been thought to decentralise its implementation. This merged programme will operate all over the country and will be funded 75 percent by the Centre. I recall my earlier submission to the Government wherein I had suggested for such a merger for better monitoring and implementation. I thank the Government for having accepted this proposal.

I am happy on the announcement of the Government for decontrolling pricing and distribution of cement. A suitable subsidy scheme to ensure the availability of cement on reasonable prices in the remote hilly areas is most welcome. From the overall point of view, the approach of the Government in the present Budget is satisfactory. I urge upon the Government to ensure the timely implementation of the programmes and effective monitoring.

Lastly, I request the Government to make a liberal provision for economically-backward States like Orissa, for solving

regional imbalances. You know that Orissa has been a frequent victim of natural calamities like flood, drought and cyclone. More funds should be provided for irrigation facilities, and for the development of railway infrastructure. There should be a higher provision for establishing industries. Though the State is rich in mineral resources, it is still very backward. More than 60% of its population lives below the poverty line. To solve the acute economic problems of Orissa, I would request the Government to give a special consideration to it, by a special category status to Orissa.

Lastly, I make certain demands in respect of my constituency: You know that the corporate office of Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. is now in Delhi. The plant is in Paradeep. You know the difficulties arising because of this in correlating the functions between the two offices. I urge upon the Government that the corporate office of Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. should be shifted to Bhubaneswar, since the plant is situated at Paradeep. There by, coordination and liaison work would also proceed smoothly.

You know that the Paradeep Port is a major port. You also know that Messrs. Hyndan Corporation of South Korea has offered its assistance for deepening the Paradeep port to accomodate heavy vessels, to export iron ore. The proposal is now pending before the Government for clearance. I hope that for the betterment of Orissa and for the betterment of the economic conditions of the poor scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and mining workers, Government will approve the proposal of Messrs. Hyndan Corporation immediately.

One more point: Orissa has got a coastal belt of 485 Kms. The State abounds in marine, inland and brackish water fishery resources, the development of which can contribute substantially to the socio-economic conditions of the poor fishermen of the State. So, adequate fishing harbour facilities should be established in Orissa.

I request the Government for the estab-

lishment of the Paradeep Harbour, Paradeep Fishing Harbour and also the Astrana fishing harbour, very soon.

[Translation]

*SHRI R. JEEVARATHINAM (Arakkonam): Hon'ble Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to say a few words in support of the budget presented by our hon. Finance Minister. I humbly request him to raise the Income tax exemption limit from Rs. 18,000/- to Rs. 25,000/-. The reduction in the rate of tax from 25% to 20% on taxable income is somewhat confusing. 18000/- is not a big income. It comes to around Rs. 1,500/- a month. In these hard days of price rise the raising of the limit from 18000/- to 25000/- is going to benefit a large section of the people.

I would also like to make a few more demands in respect of the implementation of the IRDP programme. Presently, the IRDP loans are being distributed through banks. Applications are processed by a Committee, that is, by the District Development Council. Whether the Members of Parliament have been made Members of the District Development Councils (which scrutinises the applications for IRDP loans) or not by the Government which has recently taken over in Tamil Nadu is a question. When Dr. M.G. Ramachandran was the Chief Minister there was a directive from the Centre that the Members of Parliament must be made members of the District Development Councils. But the present Government has given a tacit signal to District Development Councils to administer the IRDP Programme without the approval of the Members of Parliament. Therefore, I feel there are going to be many malpractices in the implementation of the programme. Hon. Minister may kindly look into these malpractices. I urge upon the Minister to see that the loans under IRDP programmes are distributed to the rural poor through the banks under the supervision of the Member of Parliament concerned.

Hon'ble Finance Minister announced in

his budget speech that the Government will provide employment to one person in one family. This commitment should be adhered to. NREP and RIEGP programmes should also be monitored properly. This I am saying out of my own experience. Presently the Panchayat Unions have the powers to administer these programmes. The Heads of the Panchayat have enormous powers under these programmes. But they are misusing the power. A separate Board must be established to monitor the implementation of these programmes.

Next is about the Jeevan Dhara Programme. We are distributing 30 to 40 thousand under this programme. We give this money to people who hold 2 1/2 acres of land. I know very well that in a particular Panchayat the head of the Panchayat transferred 2 1/2 acres of land in the name of his servant and allocated Rs. 40,000/- under the programme in favour of that servant. I called that servant and asked him what has actually happened in this case. He confessed the malpractice committed by the head of the Panchayat but pleaded helplessness. Even this programme also needs a thorough revamping.

Next is the afforestation programme. A plant sapling is sold at 4-paise or 5 paise and there is not proper monitoring whether these saplings grow into forests, or not. That is how Government's money is being wasted. This programme also requires monitoring.

Tamil Nadu is an industrially backward State and there are many industrially backward districts in the State. Industries in the Centre as well as in the State Sectors should be set up in these industrially backward Districts. In Pallipattu in my Arakkonam Constituency, there is no industry. That is an industrially backward area. An industry must be set up. For the past 3 years to say correctly for a long time since I entered Parliament I had been demanding that in Tamil Nadu a Mint for minting coins should be set up. I requested that this Mint must be set

[Sh. R. Jeevarathinam]

up in Pallipattu. There was a proposal to set up a Mint in Tamil Nadu but the former Finance Minister Shri V.P. Singh shifted the Mint from Tamil Nadu to his own State Uttar Pradesh. This decision should be reconsidered. An industry in any area in the central sector must be set up in the immediate future in Tamil Nadu.

The Government used to provide subsidies for setting up industries. This has been stopped for the past few months. If the Central Government is seriously concerned about the industrial development of Tamil Nadu, then they must resume providing this subsidy for setting up industries. This would help in industries springing up in the industrial backward state of Tamil Nadu.

Lastly I would like to draw the attention of the Government to a fact regarding provision of financial assistance to Sri Lanka. The North Eastern Provincial Council Chief Minister Shri Vardharaja Perumal has sought, during his recent visit to India, an assistance of Rs. 150 crores for building a city in his province in Sri Lanka on the lines of Chandigarh. When our budget deficit is growing and when we are unable to feed the millions in our country I do not think it is advisable to accede to this request. We have to exercise caution in being kind to the Chief Minister's request. There are many cities in our own country which require attention for their growth. Villages require greater attention. Therefore, this financial assistance should not be extended to Sri Lanka. Hon. Prime Minister may kindly note this. I would like to refer to the Sales Tax rates which differ from one State to another. Finance Minister must evolve a formula by which the Sales tax structure is rationalised so that a uniform rate of sales tax is levied all over the country.

Lastly let me request the Government to set up Sugar Mills and Spinning Mills in Tamil Nadu in a widespread manner and particularly in Pallipattu in my Arakkonam

Constituency. In Pallipattu the Sugar Mills and the Spinning Mills may be set up in the cooperative sector.

I thank the hon. Deputy-Speaker for giving me this opportunity to speak. With these words, I conclude.

*SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU (Tumkur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, today all sections of our society are applauding the General Budget 1989-90 presented by our honourable Finance Minister in this august House.

It is gratifying to note that the deficit has come down considerably. The deficit of Rs. 7,337 crores is much less than the previous years. The Budget has made all people to feel happy, especially, the poor and the middle class.

Another good aspect of the Budget is that there are no new taxes on essential commodities. It is a balanced budget and I congratulate our Government for bringing forward such a balanced budget.

Coffee powder is free from excise duty. Similarly chickory powder is also free from excise duty. But excise duty has to be paid to the mixture of Coffee powder and Chickory powder. Hence I urge upon the Hon. Minister to exempt excise duty on this mixture. If complete exemption is not possible then atleast upto Rs. 1 crore this exemption should be given.

I have gone through the Economic Survey and the consistent growth in the fields of agriculture and industry is made very clear in it.

The allocation of Rs. 4,000/- crores for agricultural Sector is not at all sufficient. About 80% of our people are agriculturists and hence we have to give top priority to agriculture.

One of my friends has mentioned that Ganga and Cauvery rivers should be linked.

I support this view and request the Hon. Minister to give his utmost attention to this matter.

Dastur's Grand canal plan and K.L. Rao's plan should also be given proper attention by the Centre. In Karnataka various irrigation projects are still pending. There is no progress in the Netravati diversion Scheme and upper Bhadra project. About 60 lakh acres of land would come under irrigation, if these projects and Krishna Project are completed. Farmers should be provided with good seeds, fertilizers and pesticides. They should get water and electricity freely. There is an acute shortage of electricity in Karnataka and the power cut is about 25 to 30%. Hence the Centre should help the State to get electricity from the neighbouring States like Kerala and Maharashtra.

There are some fraud industries in the country. These are coming up only to get subsidy from the Centre. They prepare some project report and get the money sanctioned from the concerned authorities. For example there is one such industry by name Chamundi Moped in my Constituency. They have succeeded in getting Rs. 15 crores from Mysore Bank. They further got another amount of Rs. 4 crores. It is very essential to check such malpractices in the field of industry. Encouragement can be given by giving concessions on the parts manufactured but not on the whole industry. Hence I plead that the system of subsidy should be abandoned.

RLEGP, NREP, IRDP and other programmes are not being implemented properly. The middleman must be avoided and the Centre should send the amount directly to the needy people.

Nehru Rojgar Yojana is a comprehensive and progressive programme. The centre and States should join hands and make this programme a grand success.

The production of milk and silk should be encouraged in a big way. Silk worth 1500 crores can be produced within a period of three years if proper facilities are provided. A

farmer can earn Rs. 1500/- per month in 10 guntas if he gets irrigational facilities.

There are some small schemes in some States like giving sarees etc. I do not approve such schemes. Instead of such schemes it is better to provide jobs to the poor masses and encourage them to work hard. It is this hard work of the poor farmers in the villages which can lead our country towards a better tomorrow.

Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY (Sagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Finance for presenting a very good Budget. It will provide a lot of relief to the poor and the common man in the country. Sagar district is very backward from the irrigation point of view. That is why I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards this regional imbalance. Hon. Shri Dubey was saying that irrigation facilities were available to 13 percent areas in his constituency but in case of my area, this figure is only 3 percent. It is unfortunate that so meagre irrigation facilities are available even after so many years of independence. Survey for Bina river project is being conducted for the last 15 to 20 years but it has not been given final approval so far. Clearance should be given to this project at the earliest so that irrigation facilities can be provided and agricultural production can be increased. My district is basically an agricultural district. Demands for setting up of an agricultural college there have been pending for a long time. An agricultural college must be opened there. There has been a long standing demand for the establishment of an agricultural research centre in my area but I fail to understand the reason for delay since an assurance was given. An Agricultural college in Sagar district is badly needed. Madhya Pradesh particularly the Sagar district has been facing severe drought for the last 4 or 5 years.

[Sh. Nandal Choudhary]

In the absence of rains and seasonal rains during winter months, the situation has become miserable there. The farmers and everyone else are undergoing great hardship due to acute shortage of water so much so even drinking water is not available. I would request the hon. Minister to provide maximum funds for our State so that irrigation and drinking water facilities are made available in Madhya Pradesh and in Sagar district in particular. There has been a long-standing demand for setting up of a Defence Factory in this district and for which survey has been already conducted but it has not been sanctioned so far. Similarly, survey has been conducted for setting up of an Engine Factory of Bharat Earth Movers Limited but it has also not been sanctioned so far. Sagar district is located in the middle of the country and it is a very suitable place from security angle. Hence, such a defence factory can be set up there. The land belonging to the Defence Department in my area is being cultivated by the local people for the last 100 years. The Defence authorities issue notices to them every year for withdrawing the lease of land. Thousands of families are engaged in cultivating that land. Demonstrations have been held several times in this regard and a delegation also visited the capital to represent their case. They demanded that either this land should be leased out to them permanently or they should be allotted alternative land elsewhere so that they are not harassed in future. The hon. Finance Minister should also use his good offices to secure allotment of this land to them. They have been cultivating it for the last 100 years and lease has to be renewed every year.

Sagar district has one university. A former Member of Parliament, hon. Dr. Hari Singh Gaur donated crores for setting up of this university and he had appealed for establishing a medical college here in the pre-independence days. This demand was also made to the Central Government, which found a mention in the University Bulletin also and agitations were also held in this

regard. There is no medical college in close or far off vicinity of Sagar. Therefore, it is urgently needed. Next, I want to refer to *bidi* workers. Their condition is miserable and there are no hospitals for them. Their wages should be enhanced. Similarly, the lot of agricultural labour should also be improved. An Agricultural Labour Welfare fund should be created on the lines of *Bidi Workers Welfare Fund*. A contribution based on a specified rate per bag of foodgrain may be made to this fund and Government should also contribute its share to the fund. It will provide them relief.

There is an acute shortage of housing accommodation for the poor in Sagar district because the urban limits are advancing. There Centre should direct the Madhya Pradesh Government to acquire land for distribution among the poor at cheap rates for construction of houses. 1991 is the birth centenary year of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar. Steps should be initiated in right earnest to celebrate it on a grand scale and funds should be allocated in this Budget for this purpose. His birth centenary day should be declared as a national holiday. A refinery should be set up at Bina.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilhaur):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank the hon. Minister of Finance for the Budget for the year 1988-89 presented by him. The salient features of this Budget include upliftment of the families living below poverty line by providing employment to at least one member of such family, selection of 120 backward districts, launching of the Nehru Rozat Yojna and allocation of Rs. 500 crores for that purpose, better facilities for providing loans to farmers and expansion of the subsidy scheme for the agricultural sector. I would like to thank you for all these provisions in the Budget. At the same time, I want to submit that the rural areas of Kanpur which fall under the category of no-industry districts should be included in the list of districts to be covered under the Nehru Rojgar Yojna so that the unemployed people of this area may also get jobs. One of the major problems facing the poor people is

that of housing. Of course, you have prepared a housing scheme giving priority but I would like to stress that it is implemented properly.

I want to thank you for enhancing the pension of the Freedom Fighters to Rs. 750. However, I would like to appeal to you that you may please make a recommendation to the Minister of Home Affairs to convert the Railway passes provided to them for travelling free of cost for one or two years into a life long facility since very few freedom fighters are left now. I think that every hon. Member will agree with this opinion that the freedom fighters should be granted life long passes for free railway travel.

Prices are increasing day by day. Although the Government is taking steps for checking price-rise, these continue to rise. Due to inflation, our schemes are not giving as many benefits as we expected of them. The first step towards checking inflation is to control black-money and black marketeers. We cannot hope to check inflation until such a step is taken. Another way could be to have fixed prices for all essential commodities. Mere increase in salaries with the increase in prices will not do. The Government should fix the prices of essential commodities once and for all.

The increasing unemployment problem in our country has assumed gigantic proportions. Although a number of schemes have been formulated to solve this problem they have not had much effect. Now the time has come for the Government to tackle this problem on a war footing and formulate a scheme that will ensure employment to the educated unemployed youth of India. The Government has implemented 20-point programme to remove poverty and the assistance is being given to the States but it has not shown any positive results. I suggest that a system be evolved for supervising and monitoring the progress of implementation of the poverty alleviation programme and the 20-Point Programme.

Today we hear of corruption in every

sphere of life. It is regrettable that on one hand the Government makes efforts to check corruption and on the other in banks nobody can get a loan without paying commission. All our complaints fall on deaf ears so we too have to be patient. The Government should take strict measures to check corruption rampant in nationalised banks which give loans to unemployed persons to start their own business. Only then can the Government win the confidence of the people.

The problem of inflation in our country is becoming very complicated. Effective steps need to be taken to control it. There is need for improvement in the balance of payments situation. Commodities which are not necessary should not be imported at all. Otherwise our foreign exchange reserves will go in a precarious position. The Government should pay attention in this direction. Our country has very talented technicians. The Government can exploit their talent by emphasising on indigenous production of goods which were hitherto procured from abroad. In this way we can save valuable foreign exchange. We can also set right our balance of payments position. The hon. Finance Minister deserves to be congratulated he has succeeded in maintaining the rate of industrial and agricultural development as well as the economic growth at the rate of 7 percent despite adverse circumstances like drought etc. This Budget is all the more important because it is reflective of the survival even in the most adverse of conditions.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, the limit for exemption from income tax should be raised from Rs. 18,000 per annum to Rs. 25,000 per annum. This was said last year and is again being repeated this year as it is extremely necessary.

The subsidy given for various commodities is not being used properly. What is needed today is a monitoring process. This subsidy can be likened to a leech which sticks on to the body and sucks blood. Likewise, subsidies have become a drain on the

[sh. jagdish Awasthi]

national economy. So I would request for a control on subsidies. Money obtained through levying taxes on commodities is given as subsidy, but this money is being misused. I request that the Government should give subsidy at the block level so that industries may be set up there. This will provide livelihood to the poor and also prevent the misuse of subsidy. I hope the Government considers the suggestions that I have given. In the end I once again express my support for the Budget and thank you.

[English]

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is undoubtedly a very brilliant budget. Being the last year of the 8th Lok Sabha and also, as people say this is the election year, the hon. Finance Minister has displayed full control on his conviction and also on his maturity and experience in disappointing the Opposition who always like to say that the budgets are election budgets. In fact, this is a very pragmatic and progressive budget. Sir, good points have been made by my hon. friends, relevant points, and the hon. Finance Minister has drawn the attention of the House in his budget speech to the basic issues being raised in this Budget. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Finance Minister to one very important aspect that is, the regional imbalances are still continuing in the country. Sir, the people who are under the poverty line are being lifted up. This is a very successful programme so far. But with all these things, there are regions untouched by anyone else, untouched by any big industries, even medium industries, untouched by any public undertakings, which can provide employment generation facilities. Sir, regarding the removal of the regional imbalance, particularly I would like to refer to the North Eastern Region. Sir after the presentation of so many budgets, after the passage of so many years, we would like to see whether our yardstick of a good budget or bad budget is for the elimination of the pov-

erty and also for the removal of the regional imbalance.

Now, the industries, the development facilities and the infrastructures are concentrated in certain regions. This is to be recognised and therefore the North-Eastern area has to be given special attention. I remember that during the life-time of our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, when she inaugurated the North Eastern Conference in the national capital itself, she had mentioned that she could understand the anger of the young people in the North Eastern region. She had mentioned and I quote her words:

"I can understand the anger of the young people because they have seen what is going on outside and they do not see their own share, their own share in the happenings in other parts of the country."

So, that way Indiraji had appreciated, she was not angry with the angry people there, she was rather appreciating the anger, the agitation and the insurgency of the young people who are unemployed. In order to remove this regional imbalance, provision for employment of these educated people and uneducated people has to be emphasized. The working of the North Eastern Council which looks after even States of the North Eastern part of the country has to be reviewed. The time has now come to review its working, since the development pattern of these States cannot be in the manner we have seen in the other big States. What are the special programmes in the field of industry? All items do not suit. The Food Processing Ministry has started its work and the items before it for food processing can suit some of the North Eastern States, particularly my State. Some items of fruit are abundant in the season there and there is no provision for processing them. In order to provide employment and provide for maximum utilisation of the potential there, we can just increase the number of industries, maybe small-scale, but then the seasonal fruits should be preserved in order to make

them available in the domestic market and also for exports. They are very much abundant. For example, pineapples are so abundant in the season in Tripura and in Manipur and in some of the North Eastern States that they are not sold by weight or by count, but by big heaps — so much of quantity in heaps for so many rupees. They do not even count. These fruits which are abundant there have to be utilised.

I will just give one more instance — electronics. The other day I had been to one State undertaking, Manitron producing Television sets and transistors. They have shown good progress and the local people, young boys and girls, are working with natural adherence and a natural kind of proficiency there, which I like very much. There I saw the Head of the undertaking and he assured me that with some financial support from the State, they can increase the annual turnover by hundredfold. Of course, they have to get support from the Centre because these are all Centrally sponsored. The turnover which is now Rs. one or two crores annually will be hundredfold because the talents are there, the people are very much used to this kind of precision industries. That way we can increase the employment facilities in these areas in this field and this will also eliminate the factor of regional imbalance.

The Finance Minister has very rightly pointed out that one area of concern is the implementation of irrigation projects. Some irrigation projects are pending and are just awaiting completion there. Our area is one such area where floods are quickly followed by droughts because the topography is such that water comes quickly and it is a heavy rainy area, but water is not available soon after the monsoon either for drinking or for irrigation. Even now there is a very serious drought and the problem is not only for water for irrigation but for drinking also. Even in the State Capital they have to buy a bucket of water. In the city itself the VIPs and the Ministers who are supposed to get at least their own supplies on priority, they are also purchasing at Re. 1/- per bucket. This is

happening in the Capital, at Imphal itself. This shows that the pending projects meant for irrigation, water supply and power have to be given priority. I know of certain projects where in spite of repeated escalations of the cost, things are not progressing because there is a lot of gap between payment and the actual requirements by the contractors.

So, a project which was scheduled to be commissioned in 1979 has to be dragged on till 2,000 A.D. because whatever is given is only spoon-feeding and the project does not get near to any target.

We would like to draw to attention of the Government, particularly in respect of the fields of industry, irrigation and other areas. We request that our area should have special attention.

With these words, I support the Budget.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I rise to support the Budget. First of all I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister who spoke in favour of the poor in the A.I.C.C. session. We are sure to see the unemployment problem being solved in the near future. Under the leadership of the hon. Prime Minister the Finance Minister hon. Shri Chavan has prepared a very praiseworthy Budget. This Budget is aimed at upliftment of the poor, welfare of farmers, providing unemployment opportunities and envisages industrial development. In this Budget the Government has made a pay provision of 75% assistance for both the N.R.E.P. and the R.L.E.G.P. combined. This will benefit 120 districts in the country. I demand that District Jhunjhunu should be included in these 120 districts. As it is a backward district its inclusion under the Jawaharlal Nehru Employment Scheme shall be most welcome. I request that the number of districts be increased to more than 120. I suggest that taxes levied on shops be doubled and the services of the tax-collecting officials be terminated. This will be of benefit to the

[Sh. Mohd. Ayubkhan]

Government because today's shopkeepers are scared of these officials and this gives rise to corruption. Shopkeepers will happily pay double the amount of the present tax if the checking system, which hangs like the sword of Damocles over their heads, is done away with. If a fixed amount of tax is levied per annum, shopkeepers will work honestly and refrain from maintaining false accounts.

Secondly, I want to say that I am not in favour of cutting down on defence expenditure. Our defence forces protect the borders of our country. Cutting down on defence expenditure would mean lesser facilities to officers and Jawans of the armed forces and inadequate and unsophisticated weapons for the country's security. There is a problem related to ex-servicemen also. A recruit into the defense services is discharged after serving till the age of 30, 35 or 40. In other fields a person serves till he has attained the age of 58 years. A person leaving the defense services at 40 finds it difficult to earn his livelihood in the subsequent period. So a parallel service should be created so that they are not put at a disadvantage as compared to their counterparts in other services. So I suggest that expenditure should not be cut down and funds be spent on modernising weapons, welfare of ex-servicemen and overall development of the armed forces.

Now I shall speak about my constituency. I come from Jhunjhunu which is a backward area. Despite this, the people of the area consider it their duty to serve the nation. Farmers over there work as hard as possible. I shall demand an industry growth centre for my district. Besides this, there is need to re-start the milk dairy plant which is lying closed. To end the agitation of the State Government employees their payscales should be brought at par with Central Government pay scales. I congratulate the hon. Minister of Agriculture who, under the hon. Prime Minister's directive, provided an Agricultural Science Centre at Jhunjhunu. Farmer of the area are highly indebted to him. A wind-plant and a solar-plant is

needed at Jhunjhunu. The development of Khetri and the hilly area of Udaipur is possible with the setting up of these two plants as these areas lack water and road facility.

Our area is renowned for sports. If a Sports Institute is set up there, many good sportsmen can be produced. The aerodrome in my constituency was built when ours was a 'princely state.' With some financial assistance the aerodrome can be developed for use at present. There is also a place of religious importance dating back to the time of the Pandavas which is frequented by thousand of visitors everyday. An aerodrome in the area shall be of immense benefit to travellers. Being a border area there is demand for a radio station over there. Maximum number of servicemen hail from Jhunjhunu. So there should be military cantonment over there.

The subsidy given of farmers should be adjusted in their electricity bills. This will check corruption in such cases. Electricity supplied to farmers is not adequate. More electricity should be supplied so that they are able to increase their yield. Fertilizer and other agricultural inputs should also be supplied to them. The Indira Gandhi Canal is a boon to Rajasthan but the State Government will never be able to complete this project in totality. I request the Centre to take the responsibility of completing this project. And water from the Jawaharlal Canal be supplied to Jhunjhunu. I am grateful to you for giving me time to speak.

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for providing me time to speak. I support the Budget for 1989-90, presented by the hon. Minister of Finance. I express my thanks to the hon. Minister for presenting such a nice Budget which is tilted in favour of the poor. I also express my thanks to the Hon. Prime Minister under whose leadership such a nice Budget has been presented in the House. There are a number of public welfare schemes in the Budget. This Budget provides for concessions in income tax and a scheme for providing shelter to poor

people. The N.R.E.P. is a commendable step for the farmers. Similarly, proposals to increase the rates of wages for weavers and daily rated labourers and to give pension to old people and widows are also good steps. Among the new programmes to be launched, the Jawaharlal Nehru Employment Scheme is a very good programme for un-employed persons. I would like to request the Government that the scheme of providing free education to poor children upto class VIII may please be extended upto class X. It will benefit lakhs of children belonging to poor classes. The amount of pension of Rs. 60 payable to old persons and widows is too meagre. I shall be glad if this amount is raised to Rs. 100, so that the poor people could be benefited. Some schemes of this nature may please be formulated for the farmers also so that they could get remunerative prices for their produce. For example, more and more sugar mills should be set up in the sugarcane producing areas. Likewise, the number of spinning and weaving mills should be set up in the cotton growing areas. There are not sufficient number of sugar-mills in my constituency to meet the requirements of the sugar canes growers. It will be in the fitness of things if two or three more sugar mills are set up at Mujaffar Nagar. Camps at the national level should be set up to impart training to the farmers. It will be a very good thing if the farmers are given training and provided opportunity to see and know the benefits of new technology.

I would like to make one more submission. The Member of Parliament has to say in implementation of the district schemes, though funds are allocated to the States by the Centre. As a result of which, the persons who vote for the Member of Parliament are deprived of benefits of facilities such roads, hospitals, and school etc. because there are scores of people who might have cast their vote in favour of the M.P., but not the M.L.A. The Member of Parliament has to cut a very sorry figure when no welfare work, like construction of a road or a hospital or a school, is done for the benefits of the voters who voted for him. People think that a Parliamen-

tary Constituency comprises of 5 Assembly segments and the M.P. has more say in development work to be launched. But when he reaches the villages, and the district, he has no standing before the M.L.As. It causes a lot of problems. I, therefore, suggest that half of the discretionary funds given to each M.L.A. should be placed at the disposal of the M.P. I am of the view that it will be a good thing if you are kind enough to do so.

I express my thanks to you for providing me time to speak.

SHRI HAFIZ MOHD.SIDDIQ (Moradabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on the General Budget and I would also like to thank the hon. Minister of Parliament Affairs for this.

My colleagues who spoke before me termed this General Budget as a mixed Budget. It has also been said that in the year of the election the Budget has not been as good as people expected it to be. A number of schemes have been provided in the Budget for giving incentives to poor people such as Jawaharlal Nehru Rojgar Yojana and other programmes like N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. etc. In addition to that, it also guarantees to provide jute and yarn to poor handloom weavers. Similarly, there is a provision to advance crop loans to farmers to the extent of Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 25,000 in this Budget. At the same time, incentives have also been given to poultry farming. The poor people will be advanced loans to build their own houses. There is no doubt that these schemes are very good. But let us see what is the out come of these schemes. The people whom the Government and our hon. Prime Minister want to raise about the poverty line fall victim of corruption. When the schemes reach district levels, the people do not get as much benefits as they are supposed to get. I would, therefore, like to point out that though there are proposals to launch various schemes, yet the labourers, the farmers, the destitute persons do not get the benefits of these schemes. As has just now been said by one of our hon. Members that

[Sh. Hafiz Mohd. Siddiq]

when people approach the banks for loan, they do not receive good treatment from bank officials. It has been a matter of discussion in the House for last so many days. The Government should look into the matter as to why this state of affair is going on. It has been provided in the Budget that sarees will be distributed to the widows, who are destitute. There is no doubt that it is a good scheme. But what will be the criteria for selection for this. It would have been a very good thing had there been a proposal to provide some employment or give pension to this category so that they could get some regular income from it and could be able to give proper education to their children.

There is a proposal to impose tax on foreign travels. In this connection I would like to request that no such tax should be imposed on Haj Pilgrims. Similarly, it is also a matter of pleasure that the amount of pension to the freedom fighters has been increased. The hon. Minister deserves our thanks for this. In this connection I would like to request the hon. Minister to provide free railway passes to the widows of those freedom fighters who have since expired but their widows are still alive and are drawing pension.

Similarly, there is a greater regional imbalance in setting up industry. We find that the influential persons get the industries set up in their own areas and take advantage of the various concessions given by the Government in this regard. Where there is no influential person, there is no proposal to set up any industry in that area. This type of imbalance must be removed.

I come from Moradabad where utensils are manufactured on a large scale. Export of utensils is also made from here. Earlier, the utensil manufacturers used to get raw material from the Ministry of Defence, but now it has been stopped. Now the Government of Uttar Pradesh has set up the Brass Corporation which provides raw material to poor people at cheaper rates so that they could be

benefited. At present, raw material is being supplied to them at the rate of Rs. 50 a kg. The monopoly adopted by raw material traders puts adverse effect on employment.

I would like to add that there is a proposal to set up a Sugar mill in Moradabad. I would like that the proposed sugar mill may be set up in my locality.

Today the population is rising and various diseases are also spreading at the same proportion. We find that destitute and poor people face enormous difficulties when they come to Delhi for medical treatment. Keeping in view the fact that people all over the country suffer from one or the other diseases, I would like to request the Government to open an institute on the pattern of All India Institute of Medical Sciences at all the district headquarters or divisional headquarters and make all facilities available in these institutions as are available in Delhi. An institute of this type should also be set up in my district in order to provide medical facilities to the area.

There are proposals to extend various facilities to children in 600 blocks. I would like to request, in this connection, that this scheme should be implemented in all the blocks in my constituency. At the same time our district may also be included among the 120 districts in the country which will be identified for the Jawaharlal Nehru Employment Scheme.

With these words I support this Budget.

CH. LACHGHI RAM (Jalaun): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my gratitude and thanks to the hon. Minister of Finance for presenting such a commendable Budget for the year 1989-90. Discussions on the Budget are taking place all around and it is evident from the views expressed by the Members of different sections that 80 percent people have been provided relief in the Budget. I will also provide relief to the middle class. But so far as the question of taxation is concerned, Shri Zainul Basher has already drawn your atten-

tion to it and to price rise. The farmers and people belonging to weaker sections make bricks in their own hands while constructing houses for their use. They make walls with their own hands. They need iron-bars and girders for the roof but the Government have increased the tax rates on these items which will increase the burden of the common man. Hence I would like to submit that since these items i.e. iron-bars and girders are purchased even by the common man, these should be exempted from tax. This exemption should be given at once.

Sir, they have made a mention of the increase in agricultural production. There is no two opinion about it that people used to starve even when our population was only 32-33 crores, and now after 40 years of independence when our population has touched the mark of 80 crores it is evident that we have made much progress in the field of agriculture and inspite of our increased population and spell of drought during the last year no body was allowed to die of starvation.

There are still such vast stretches of land in our country where farmers owing even 1-2 bighas of land can earn their livelihood if the supply of water for the same can be arranged. There is only 23 percent irrigated land in my constituency. Our present Chief Minister had managed to supply water to this region and had made the provision of a Panchnad dam for which he had given his sanction and money. But after his term was over, the work on the dam was stopped and the project was kept pending. Now, I would like to urge upon the Finance Minister to provide money for this project because the irrigation Minister of the State have expressed their inability to provide funds for the same as they were short of money. But as regards the Central Government, if it can provide money for the Rajghat Project, it can also provide funds for 'Panchnad' dam. It will increase irrigation facilities by 10 per cent in our area and it will also provide relief to our neighbouring district Etawah.

I would also like to say that the Govern-

ment has helped the weaker sections of our area by making them educated but a large number of these educated people are not able to get employment because of the narrow mindedness of the employers who do not provide employment to them for one or the other reason. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to set up public enterprises in those small districts wherever it is possible for them.

Bijapur-Hazira-Jagdishpur gas pipe line passes through our area. Two outlets have been provided there. Our Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Brahma Dutt had gone there to address the farmers' rally and he had promised that some Gas based industry would be set up there. I would like to submit in this regard that Government should provide assistance for setting up such a Gas based industrial unit so as to give relief particularly to the poor people of that area. The children of the farmers and land less labourers inspite of their education are without employment, which is causing resentment among them. Our hon. Members of the opposition misguide them and create various anti-national feelings among them. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the Government to set up a gas based industrial unit in that area to provide relief to the unemployed in that area. Weaker sections of the people worked as bounded labour under zamindari system. That system has now gone out after independence but the same practice is being adopted by the department of police because as soon as they come to know that the particular individual belongs to the weaker sections or scheduled castes, he is abused, beaten and exploited by them. I would request the centre to issue instructions to the State Government to provide relief to the weaker sections, to improve their standard of living and to get the inhuman treatment against them stopped.

I am grateful to you that you gave me the opportunity to speak.

SHRI BIRBAL (Ganganagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Budget for 1989-90. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our

[Sh. Birbal]

Prime Minister and the Finance Minister deserve thanks for Nehru Employment Scheme meant to provide the people above the poverty line employment opportunities at least to one Member of each such family.

I would like to draw your attention to some of the problems of my district and region. Pacca water-courses have been constructed under the first stage of the Indira Gandhi canal project and the farmers were being charged separately for the same. Why is an extra money being charged in case of this project which involves an expenditure of billions of rupees whereas this facility is being provided free of cost in the neighbouring states of Punjab and Haryana. Similarly in these States money is not being taken from the farmers for water courses even in the second stage of the scheme. Therefore, I urge upon the Government not to charge from the farmers for the supply of water even in the first stage itself. The farmers are sitting on hunger strike. The Finance Minister should take it seriously.

There are two tehsils named Bahadra and Nohra in my constituency where land is without irrigation facilities. Survey has been completed for Sindhumukh canal and Nohra canal in this area but the projects have not been cleared as yet. For conducting a survey in regard to this project a new division was set up about 4 years ago and its headquarters has been shifted from the project site to Jaipur. For the purpose of these projects Sindhumukh division has been operating at Jaipur which had sought clarifications in regard to the objections raised by the Central Water Commission in respect of Nohra Project and Sindhumukh project in the months of June 1987 and July 1987 respectively but the State Government have not yet sent their replies. As regards the cost of these projects, Nohar project will cost Rs. 27 crores with its irrigated area of 72,000 acres and Sindrumukh project will cost Rs. 80 crores with its irrigation capacity of 1,75,000 acres.

Thus these are the two ambitious projects of Ganga Nagar district which will irrigate 48,000 acres of land and will benefit about 400 villages of this district and Churu district as well. It will also be the permanent solution of the menace of drought. The State Government has already spent up a lot of money on these projects under drought relief programme which will go waste if these projects are not taken up. The Haryana Government have submitted their estimates for these works to the Central Water Commission in January 1988.

Therefore, I would like to urge the Central Government to include these projects in the Eighth Five Year Plan and to take concrete steps to start the work of these projects at their earliest.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Sir, I thank you for calling me - although at the last stage - to participate in the discussion on the General Budget for 1989-90. I think, I am the last speaker but I am not supposed to speak the least.

At the outset, I congratulate the Government for having managed the economy quite well during the outgoing financial year. In spite of bad monsoon in some parts and a very very severe drought in the preceding year, the economy of the country has performed well.

This budget is a good budget with a direction. What is the direction? The direction is certainly there to fight out poverty and to take the country forward along the path of progress and prosperity. This budget is a step forward along the path of socialism. It can be called a people's budget with emphasis on employment - to fight out unemployment. As you know it, I am not going into the details. The time is also not there. This has been dealt with at length by the previous speakers. More jobs are to be generated. The very hedartening feature of the budget is that at least one person from every family

below the poverty line will be provided a job. The budget thus holds a very bright of hope for the poor community of the country. There are features in the budget to help the farmer and the poor people. Some relief is there for the middle-income group people also. There is also a provision of taxing the rich. In that way, it is a socialistic budget. The industrial growth also will be sustained and further advanced.

As you know, we have accepted 'socialism' as our goal. Socialism naturally aims at bringing in parity among different sections - between one person and another, or between one area and another. It is to fight out all sorts of backwardness and imbalance.

Since independence, we have made a lot of progress in different directions - in the field of agriculture, industry and so on. I am not going to enumerate. The per capita income has gone up. The country has been reckoned as one among the 10 most advanced countries in the world in the field of industry. The country has gained prominence in the international *darbar* in many other areas. Still a large chunk of people are below the poverty line. There are also areas suffering from backwardness.

For instance, Orissa is a state which in spite of the best efforts of the Government is not making rapid progress on the expected lines. There are several historical factors for it. The conclusion is that unless there is a special type of treatment meted out to States like Bihar, Orissa etc., which are below the national average in terms of *per capita* income etc., those States cannot be brought at par with other States. The accepted modified Gadgil formula is not going to improve the situation. I am constrained to observe that the current Finance Commission, in its interim report, has not taken cognizance of this fact and has not done justice to the backward States. Therefore, I plead that State like Orissa etc. should be put in the list of special category States and they should get more of grants and less of loans. Those States which always face natural calamities, which experience very bad type of calami-

ties like floods, drought and cyclone should be placed in this category. Funds which are given to such States to meet those calamities should be given in the form of grants; there should be special treatment for them.

We have been pressing that for extending certain concessions, the criterion should not be the only social considerations. Certain concessions are given to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes because of social considerations, but apart from these social considerations, economic considerations should weigh for this. There are people belonging to so many other castes; they are very poor; they cannot even give education to their children. There are so many difficulties for them. Economic condition should be the basis together with social considerations.

We have been painfully observing that the disparity between various sections has been growing as far as their economic condition is concerned. There is disparity between the salaries of the Central Government employees and the State Government employees; there is disparity between the employees of the various State Governments and there is disparity between the employees of the State Government and those of the local self Government etc. There should be a comprehensive wage policy in the country.

The country has made a lot of progress, but still there is a lot of poverty. The reason is that there is fantastic growth of population and that has got to be curtailed in a big way. We have to go for family welfare and family planning in a big way. I suggest that the Government should take initiative to convene a conference of the world religious leaders. Why? Some communities are not as responsive as they should be towards the family planning programme. There is some superstition. The other day, there was a Parliamentary Delegation from Indonesia to our country. Indonesia is a Mohammedan-dominated country. I think, Sir, you were also present when we had a meeting with them. There the religious leaders are openly advo-

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

cating in favour of family planning. I suggest that such leaders should come here and they should meet their counterparts in India. Naturally, this will go a long way to promote family planning among those sections which are traditionally opposed to this much-needed programme in India. I earnestly request the Government that it is the time to involve the communities in the family planning programme and also have a relook at their personal laws etc. to see how these could be a uniform personal law in the country.

Then, I come to irrigation and power. They hold the key to our progress and prosperity. So, more emphasis should be given to irrigation and power.

Now, I will come to the problems of Orissa.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please wind up.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Just a minute, Sir, Don't get yourself impatient. You have maintained so much patience. You have admirable patience. At the fag end of the day, just for five minutes, why are you getting yourself impatient?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You finish immediately, Don't waste the time by going on praising me.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Regarding irrigation. I would say, dams have been constructed. Capital worth hundreds of crores of rupees has been invested. But, there is not canal. Water is impounded in many dams. You take for example Rangali and Suvarnarekha Irrigation Projects of Orissa. So, there is a national wastage. There should be coordination between the two and more money should be provided, as a special case to Orissa, for completing these projects.

The work at Talcher Super Thermal

Power Plant and 1b Thermal Power Plant is going on a snail's pace.

They have financial and other difficulties. Anyway, that should be looked into. There should be a subsidiary coal company under Coal India Limited (CIL) in Orissa. Orissa has very rich and enormous coal deposits. Paradeep Port should be developed. Hundai Corporation has offered some schemes. They should be cleared.

In the field of Railways also, Orissa is lagging behind. It is far below the national average in terms of route kilometre.

Regarding environment also I would say because environmental clearance has not been given, many projects although sanctioned, are not being implemented. I would request the Finance Ministry to look into this matter and sort out this problem with the Environment Ministry.

In the highway between Talcher and Rourkela work is stopped in some parts owing to such a difficulty. They should be looked into from the point of view of environment.

On the field of agriculture I would say that Crop Insurance Policy should be reviewed in order to make it more realistic so that the poor farmers can get the benefit.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You can raise this point when the Demands of the Agriculture Ministry are discussed.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I understand Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, that you are a well wisher of farmers. The Government had given instructions that interest and principal cannot be more than double the principal amount. But it is not applicable to the loans which are given by banks or the Government. Why there is a discrimination. So this principle should be made uniformly applicable to all cases.

Then Sir, there should not be any overlapping of banks. This is a very famous year.

We are celebrating the Birth Centenary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. We are having a Rojgar Scheme also. It is a very welcome scheme. We are using his sacred name. It should not be confined only to 120 districts. It should cover more districts this year. Particularly in Orissa all districts should be covered.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You conclude. What is this?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: I am concluding. I will just finish it. Sir, housing plots should be given to all those people who do not have any house during this Centenary year.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You raise this point when the Demands are discussed.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Wast-

age of public money and vehicles is going on increasing very rampantly everywhere. We have called for a new work culture in the public undertakings, it is high time to go for a sort of an administrative reform. There are also several other challenges ahead of the Finance Ministry and the Government regarding control of prices and also deficits. This gap should be bridged as best as possible so that the position regarding foreign exchange reserve also may be improved.

With these few words, I give my full support to the Budget and I request the Government to consider my suggestions.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to re-assemble tomorrow at 11.00 A.M.

20.39 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the Clock on Friday, March 17, 1989/Phalguna 26, 1910 (Saka)