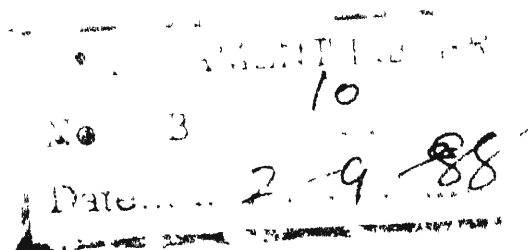


LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Tenth Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XXXV contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, March 1, 1988/
Phalgun 11, 1909 (SAKA)*

*The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the chair].

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Power generation Target in North Eastern States

+

*101. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be
pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for power genera-
tion in North Eastern States for the year
1987-88;

(b) the quantum of power generated
during the first eight months of the year
as per the target fixed; and

(c) whether Government have provided
adequate assistance to the State Govern-
ments concerned for achieving power
generation targets ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The
requisite information is given in the
Statement below.

(c) Assistance is provided to State
Electricity Boards in matters such as
training of personnel, procuring of spare
parts from foreign and indigenous sources,
and supply of requisite quality and quan-
tity of coal, fuel oil and gas. Roving
Teams and Task Forces of senior engineers
from the Central Electricity Authority,
M/s. BHEL and M/s. Instrumentation
Ltd., Kota visit power stations and render
requisite assistance in matters relating to
their operation and maintenance. A
renovation and modernisation scheme is
being implemented at the Namrup thermal
power station to improve its performance.

Statement

Energy generation target for 1987-88 and the actual generation during April,
1987—Nov., 1987 vis-a-vis the programme in the North-Eastern States

(Figures in million Units)

State	Generation target for 1987-88	Generation during April 1987-Nov. 1987	
		Programme	Achievement
Assam	1705	1095	777
Meghalaya	595	415	353
(including NEEPCO)			
Tripura	105	66	55
Manipur	448	327	256
Total :	2853	1903	1441

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : My first objection is that while mentioning the names of North-Eastern region, the hon. Minister has mentioned the names of Mizoram and Nagaland in the List. Anyhow, from the data provided by the hon. Minister, it is clear that there is shortage of electricity in the North-Eastern region despite the demand being very low. A major attempt should be made for renovation and modernisation. Even the hon. Minister has mentioned that for the purpose of renovation and modernisation of the plants and to meet the power generation targets, certain steps are required to be taken by the States with the assistance of the Central Government. What special measures are being taken by the Government of India to boost the power generation in this region?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : There are actually four parts to the main question. First and foremost, I would like to say that though these two States, Nagaland and Mizoram have not been mentioned here, we are happy to provide all the details about these two States to the hon. Member here. The second part of the question is about the renovation and modernisation. This is just now a Centrally-sponsored scheme and steps have been taken and the Government of India has released quite a large amount of money for renovation and modernisation. This should be speeded up so that the results will be available more easily.

As regards the latter part of the question about the boosting of power generation, we have taken a number of steps and I am happy to say that by the end of the Seventh Plan this particular region will have a surplus of 783 million units.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : My Supplementary question is that even regarding the overall situation of power generation, in a report published in a newspaper, it has been stated that Smt. Sushila Rohtagi, while addressing the Engineers from 15 countries, admitted that the hydel generation is going to experience a downward trend from 45 per

cent to 30% in the Seventh Plan. Another report of the Planning Commission has predicted serious power shortages in the Eighth Five Year Plan as no advance action has been taken on the projects approved in the Seventh Plan period and slated to fructify during the Eighth Plan period. Taking into account that statement of the hon. Minister of State in the Department of Power in the Ministry of Energy and the reported apprehension of the Planning Commission, should we construe that the country is heading towards a serious power shortage in the future.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : The hydel and thermal mix ratio has been going down and by the end of the Seventh Plan, for the hydels mix it may be only about 30 per cent with the country having a capacity of about 85000 megawatts potential of hydel power with us. We are very keen that the thermal and hydel mix should be more rational so that we tap more power from water and bring it to a balanced level. About the other part of question regarding our country heading for the alarming situation, I think we are going ahead with all the schemes that have been taken up on-going schemes and the new schemes which are to be commissioned. I do not see any reason to agree with the hon. Member that we are heading for a serious power crisis in the future.

PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : We are very grateful to the Government of India for the fact that generation of electricity in Jammu & Kashmir is receiving very good attention. (Interruptions) My Supplementary to Shri Ramoowalia's question would be that your reserves of coal may get depleted. Already there are some mines where we have reached rock-bottom level. There is no scope for getting coal. It is a costlier proposition. Jammu & Kashmir has a very rich and very vast potential for hydro-electric power generation. Would the Government of India consider to tap the resources and harness the vast resources not only for the Jammu & Kashmir State but for others also? We have resources to the tune of 20000 megawatts. Would the hon. Minister prepare a long-term plan to tap the resources for the benefit of the entire country and see

that sizable portion according to the needs of Jammu & Kashmir goes there ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, I am happy that the hon. Member agrees that there has been better monitoring this year and that has led to better augmentation and better PLF. In fact, it was also stated yesterday, during the Budget Speech that the PLF this year is the highest ever in the last 10 years. Regarding the second part of the question about depletion of coal of course we are also trying to focus attention on the non-conventional sources of energy in which hydel power also will be playing a very big part. We have the tidal project coming up in Kutch the project report for which was reported to be ready by the next month. Also, there are other sources of energy like bio-gas and other things which are very much interesting. Jammu & Kashmir has a very good potential for hydel power generation, during the Seventh Plan itself where about six or seven major schemes are there. We hope to complete them and by that we will not only help Jammu & Kashmir but also other parts of the Northern States.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Sultanpuri, you may put your supplementary.

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, several areas have been surveyed for setting up hydel power projects in Himachal Pradesh. In this connection, my specific supplementary to Shri Ramoovalia's question is as to how much funds have been provided for Nathpa-Jhakri, Kol dam and other hydel power schemes as per the blueprint prepared in this regard ? Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is aware of the depletion of our coal reserves Prof. Soz has also pointed out this thing and has said that under such circumstances hydel power projects will become useful.

MR. SPEAKER : Put your question.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is enough water in Himachal Pradesh to generate 20,000 mega-

watts of power. Adequate reserves of water are available. Therefore, will the hon. Minister kindly enlighten us about the projects that are to be set up there and the funds that would be made available for this purpose ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, though this supplementary does not arise out of the main question, yet it is true that there are huge reserves of water in Himachal Pradesh and efforts are being made to tap it to the maximum extent. We have received proposals from the chief Minister also in this regard. I do not have the exact figures at the moment regarding the allocations for these schemes—particularly the Nathpa-Jhakri Scheme—but it is certain that all out efforts are being made to tap the available water resources in the State. Several schemes are being examined and once they are approved, it would definitely increase the ratio of hydel power in the State.

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, first of all I want to thank Shri Sathe for the efforts being made by Government in this direction. A survey of Kandla Tidal project, has already been conducted. I would like to know as to when will the actual work begin, how much will be the estimated cost of the project, and how much power will be generated there by ? Similarly, is there any proposal for setting up a solar energy centre in Chhota Rann area of Rann of Kutch ?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI : Sir, we expect the project report to be ready in March. This centre will generate 840 megawatts of power. We are working out the estimated cost also.

[*English*]

World Bank loan for Gas Production

+

*102 **SHRI S. G. GHOLAP :**

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has announced 295 million dollar loan to improve natural gas production in India;

(b) if so, the details there of and how it is likely to be spent; and

(c) what are the terms of agreement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) The proposed world bank loan is likely to be available for ONGC's Western Onshore and Off shore Gas Development Projects. The exact details about the question of loan and terms and conditions of the agreement can be known only after the agreement is finalised.

SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : Sir, my question was : "whether the World Bank has announced 295 million dollar loan ?" Now the reply is given that it is likely to be available. If so, to what extent ? What is the present production of the natural gas and what is the proposal given by the ONGC to the World Bank ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, negotiation about this loan was held in Washington from November 27 to November 23. The scope of this loan agreement is : (a) Development of South Bassain Fields; (b) Development of Gandhar Fields; (c) Construction of gas pipeline from Heera Offshore fields to Uran; (d) Seismic surveys for Tapti and Hazira fields and studies for identifying low costs investment for development transmission of infrastructure for Western region and utilisation of gas. This is the scope of the whole agreement. But we are discussing with them when the discussion is over, I will inform the House.

SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : My second supplementary is that when is this amount likely to be available ? And negotiation is at what stage ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Negotiation is at what stage ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : We have made an appraisal of the whole project and I think, within two to three months something should be finalised.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Sir, has the 295 million dollar announcement been made by the World Bank ? That has not been answered. Has the quantum of loan assistance specified, and have the terms of loan, that is, the interest rate been specified? We are interested to know that and for that, there is no answer. Then, I would like to know whether ONGC has asked for loan in general of whether it has asked for loan for a specific project, that is, the Western Shore Project, both Onshore and Offshore ? If that is so, why is that the Eastern Offshore and Onshore Projects not included in this ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I would like to answer the latter part of the question first. The ONGC has asked for a specific project for Western Onshore and Offshore development. As far as quantum of loan and other things are there, quantum will be fixed after the appraisal of the project.

The interest and all that depend on the cost of borrowing made from the World Bank from time to time. Exactly when the agreement is finalised these things will be known. We have asked for this loan because we want to develop this basin. For other basins, we have got the existing loan arrangements.

Oil reserves in Bay of Bengal

*104 DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether new oil reserves have been discovered in the offshore areas of the Bay of Bengal:

(b) if so, which are these offshore areas;

(c) the approximate quantity of oil reserves discovered in these areas; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir, Oil has been discovered in GS-16 structure in Krishna-Godavari offshore during July, 1987.

(c) and (d) The exact potential will be known only after the structure is fully delineated.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I am very much frustrated from this rhetoric answer formulated by the bureaucrats of this Hon. Minister's Department from a magnanimous posture. I want to be enlightened by the Minister whether other geological formation than the tertiary formation and sedimentary basin has been identified for off-shore drilling of Bay of Bengal nearer to Paradip Port and Mahandi basin. If so, whether it is a fact that in 1975 and 1980 the Carlsberg Ltd. of USA and the Carnivelselva of France had done detailed production oriented exploratory drilling in this area and whether they had found that more than 5000 sq. kms. of oil and hydrocarbon is floating over this basin. What are the details thereof ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : In the Bay of Bengal sedimentary basins are there; firstly Andamans, secondly Bengal, thirdly Mahanadi fourthly Krishna-Godavari basin and fifthly Cauveri basin. In Andamans I can only say that they have found gas in one well and it is not commercially viable to bring it to the main and unless we locate four-five more wells.

Of course, everybody says that Bengal is floating on oil. But we don't want to float on oil; want to swim on oil... (*Interruptions*). Therefore, we have asked the Soviets. (*Interruptions*) If Bengal floats on oil, it won't help us.

Upto this time our efforts have not yielded any fruits although we have drilled on-shore and off-shore but they are of very high expectations. About Mahanadi also we have not been able to get any success. In Krishna-Godavari Basin and Cauveri Basin we have got some success

and we have put the wells on early production system.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Still I am unhappy.

MR. SPEAKER : Has the Minister made you uneasy ? I don't want my members to be made uneasy !

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I said I am unhappy.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : If the Hon. Member wants to know more about Bengal, I will give the whole detail.

MR. SPEAKER : You can send it.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I will lay it on the Table of the House.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : According to my information, Carlsberg Ltd. and Carnivelselva have opined that the time of production oriented exploratory drilling, the rigs which were available for exploration could not sustain more than 300 lbs of pressure and they were found to be not suitable for detailed exploratory cum production oriented exploratory drilling. Only the ONGC has got the expertise in our country which can have liaison with the foreign expertise and can drill in the Mahanadi and the Bay of Bengal. I would like to know whether the Minister will consider my proposal and re-examine it.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The firm Carlsberg Natomas Groups of USA had conducted seismic survey in off-shore and drilled two wells without any success in 1976. The ONGC, during 1979 to 1981 acquired 2756 line kms. of seismic data in shallow marine areas and identified six locations for drilling. In this basin presently the ONGC are drilling one well viz., SMM-Since June 1987 which has reached a depth of 4565 metres. I have seen this drilling myself. Of course, there is indication of some object there but it has not yet been found. As regards on-shore in Bengal basin we have reached an agreement with the Soviet Union and we are working out the programme to explore oil in South of Calcutta in the Sunderbans,

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : With the exploration in Krishna and Godavari basin apart from the availability of oil there is availability of huge quantity of natural gas which has already been proved. I would like to know what steps the ONGC or the Government is proposing to make available this gas for the domestic cooking purpose to the towns and cities located near the Krishna Godavari basin where these explorations are going on ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I came back from that basin three days back. It is a very prospective basin but first of all we have to lay the pipelines to connect the sources of oil and gas. On on-land we have located oil in Bhimanapalli and gas in Kaza, 2 wells of gas in Narsapur and one well of gas in Pasarapudi, 3 wells of gas in Rozole and two wells in Tatipaka and one oil and one gas in Kaikalur. At present we are connecting them by the pipe lines and our main difficulty is crossing the river Vashishta. We have given 50 per cent of the total cost of the bridge over the river Vashishta to the Andhra Pradesh Government and the foundation stone has been laid. Now we are trying to cross Vashishta by boring a tunnel under it.

We have already identified consumers and entered into agreement with eight firms and ten other firms have also come up. Regarding supply of cooking gas to the towns it is a very costly affair, we can supply at one point then the whole infra-structure has to be laid down by the State Government. We offered to Ferozabad one ABJ pipeline. Ferozabad is a glass industry area like Venice of Italy. Our cost will be only Rs. 32 crores but the infrastructure has to be there. We made a similar offer to Bombay. As and when gas is available and as and when Andhra Pradesh Government is able to put up the infra-structure we will consider it.

SHRI R. P. Das : The Minister has already said that South of Calcutta has been identified as one of the spots for drilling of oil. I think the Minister is aware of the fact that Bay of Bengal is a

big big bag stretching from Naokhali to Car Nicobar. So I would like to know the exact place that has been identified and also whether any agency has been selected for drilling the oil ? I would particularly like to know the agency that has been entrusted with the job of drilling in Bay of Bengal, South of Calcutta.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : As regards South of Calcutta the drilling and survey will be done by the Soviet Union experts. As regards off-shore we ourselves are doing the drilling. We are drilling one well off-shore.

Speed post service

*107. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any private sector involvement in the functioning of the speed post service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of private courier services functioning in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) This Ministry has no direct information about the details of private courier services functioning in the country. The Reserve Bank of India have however, intimated through the Ministry of Finance that 13 courier companies have been given permission to operate International Courier Services. Only 9 courier companies are however, actually operating International Courier Services under this permission.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Sir, the Indian postal service is renowned the world over for

its efficiency and excellent service. Whatever may the Minister state in reply to my question, it is sad to say that the Indian postal system has been totally over-shadowed by certain private courier services as if our postal system cannot deliver goods at the same grade of service as the private courier system like Skypak or the Bluedart.

Why does the Ministry not take steps to ban the parallel postal system which is eating up the revenue of the postal department? If the hon. Minister expresses his helplessness in banning the private courier system, will he come forward and ensure this august House that the postal system puts up a stiff competition by joining Vayudoot, Indian Airlines and also Air India in offering better services to the service-conscious people of this country.

MR. SPEAKER : Why should it not do ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As the law stands today we can't ban these private courier services who carry documents other than letters. Under the postal law, we can only deal with letters. There is a ban on others for carrying letters. Therefore, the courier services, like Skypak, are operating.

I do not agree that they are operating more efficiently than the postal services. In fact, our speed post service is doing the best in the country. But as far as private couriers are concerned, who deal only with business people and carry their documents or packages, they are able to do it better because they are restricting only to big metropolitan houses and financial deals. Therefore, to compare postal service, which serves the remotest man in the village, with these few services, which are commercially run, will not be fair. We are doing a better job.

I agree that we must improve the efficiency. This competition will help us to improve our efficiency. I hope our services will be able to improve our efficiency.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : I understand that the Indian Banks Association is running a parallel courier service of its own and the IBA has given specific instructions to its member-banks to fully utilise the service. In fact, even before the courier system came into vogue in the banking sector, the IBA directed its member-banks to prefer the private courier service to the speed post.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister why our banks, which were nationalised to help the public sector reach the commanding heights of our economy, are indulging in activities which are detrimental to the interests of the postal department.

I would also like to know from the hon. Minister what action the Ministry proposes to take against the courier system which is prevalent in the banking sector.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : To be very honest, I cannot blame the banks—which are also public sector undertakings—if they were to prefer someone who gives better service. You see, ultimately in this country—this is my personal view—unless there is an element of competition and we go in for excellence, we will not improve our efficiency. Unless you are efficient, even public sector undertakings will not achieve commanding heights. Public sector undertaking must try to be efficient. That is the only way of achieving the commanding heights there. I would very much wish that all our public sector undertakings, like Indian Airlines, should cooperate with the postal services. For example, the night air mail was doing very well at one time, coming to one place and taking the posts to all other corners of the country. This cooperation must grow among the public sectors but ultimately their service must be competitive and efficient. That is the only answer.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : They are helping the private sector.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Where is the private sector here ? Banks are public sectors.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : It is competing with the postal service.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No discussion.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Ultimately the banks have to decide. Can I force the banks ?

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I never expected such a reply from the hon. Minister. Probably, it is his famous love for the private sector.

MR. SPEAKER : No question of private or public sector. They must excel in everything.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Private agencies are eating into the revenue of postal departments.

MR. SPEAKER : If they excel, automatically the people will come to them. You cannot monopolise with inefficiency.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : According to the Postal Act, as the Minister himself has pointed out, it is the exclusive privilege of the Government of India to carry letters inside India. This private courier service are carrying documents and all that but everyday thousands of letters are being carried across the country by these private courier service. Even the Minister himself and the officials of the Department of Posts are receiving letters from the private courier service. I would like to know what action the Government intend to take against those people when they carry letters violating the Indian Postal Act.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : When violation comes to our notice, under the Act, we can take action. We are therefore trying to amend the Act. The Bill has already been passed and it is pending for

the President's assent. Many things are there. As far as search and all powers are concerned, it is much more than that. Unless we have many more powers to prevent it, we are helpless. I am on a larger issue. I do not mind having a discussion in this House as to whether you should try to achieve efficiency and excellence in public sector or not. If you want them to have a commanding height—this is the issue which I want to discuss.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : What is the use of the Act ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Where is the lacuna ?

PROF. N.G. RANGA : I do not wish to go into the debate of the private sector or the public sector of the postal service. I am all in favour of only public sector so far as the public management and ownership and servicing of posts is concerned. What is happening today ? Postal service itself is becoming more and more inefficient. I do not know why. There is something wrong with the Government's management. May I know whether Government has taken any steps in order to avoid delayed deliveries. They say now that they have got speed post service. There is no speed at all in the present service. The letter which used to reach from Simla to my village within three or four days in the past, now takes six to seven days and from Delhi it takes five to six days now. I would like my hon. friend, who has become in-charge Minister of this and is a very efficient Minister to assure us that he would pay special attention in order to see that the efficiency of the postal service is improved, at least it is to be brought back as it was previously.

MR. SPEAKER : Can monopoly be the licence for incompetence ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I agree with you. I entirely agree with our most revered hon. Member but inefficient department does not help me. It is our utmost anxiety that our public sector services, in crucial areas, like postal

service, telephone service should become very efficient and give consumer satisfaction. We are trying to do our best and our employees and workers in the services are willing to cooperate and we can do our best. I can assure you to improve our efficiency. But as you said, there are certain inherent requirements if you want to achieve excellence. Even in running when does a man achieve excellence? It is only when there is a target and competition with someone else. Unless there is a mark to be reached, the excellence will not be achieved. I want to introduce this element of competition in our country so that we can achieve excellence. That is our effort.

Implementation of the Consumer Protection Act

***108. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "Government going slow on consumer protection" appearing in the Hindustan Times of 9 December 1987;

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

(c) what concrete steps are contemplated by Union Government to secure effective implementation of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) :
(a) to (c) A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government accords a high priority to the programme of consumer protection. To provide better protection to consumers and for speedy and inexpensive redressal of consumer grievances, the Government has brought into force the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Several steps have been taken to ensure that the statutory institutions envisaged in the Act are set up on priority basis. In this connection, meetings have been held with the Food Ministers and senior officers of States and UTs. Matter has been pursued vigorously through several letters, telex, telegrams, etc. The Central Government has constituted the Central Consumer Protection Council and is in process of setting up the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission. Most of the States have already set up State level Consumer Protection Councils. Some States have already finalised actions for establishing the redressal machinery under the Act. The implementation is being closely pursued, co-ordinated and monitored.

[Translation]

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, the consumers are being badly exploited continuously in various ways in India. In view of that, the consumer Protection Act was passed in 1986. Two years have passed since then, but it seems as if Government has not taken any effective step in this regard. I want to know from the hon. Minister in how many States and in how many districts has the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, which was to be constituted in three tiers, been set up so far? According to the proposal, the entire network should have been completed within two years. I would like the hon. Minister to kindly enlighten us about this matter.

SHRI SUKH RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it will not be appropriate to say that the Government has not taken any suitable step for implementing this law. After this Act was passed, rules were framed on 15-4-87 and thereafter the Central Consumers Protection Council was constituted on 1-6-87. It held its first meeting in Sept. and will hold its second meeting on 16th March. The Food Ministers of different States met in February, 1987 and thereafter in July 1987. Later sent several letters, telex messages etc to the States to set up Consumer Protection Councils at the earliest. So far, these councils

have been constituted in 20 States. If you want to know the names of those States, I can read out the names but it will take time. However, I can provide you a list of those names.

MR. SPEAKER : You may do so later on.

SHRI SUKH RAM : The Central Government has taken necessary steps for its implementation.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : What about the network ? Kindly give a complete answer.

SHRI SUKH RAM : I have already stated that Consumer Protection Councils have been set up in 20 States so far. The Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission and the forum have been set up in Bihar. As regards the other States, I have a list which indicates the action taken by each State in this regard and I can read it out if you so desire.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : This is an important question and therefore, it requires careful planning. It is true that the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission is proposed and you have asked the States to set up such Commissions and some of them have even done it but has the Centre taken a lead in this matter which is well within its jurisdiction ? If such bodies are not set up at the Central level, where shall the States send their grievances ? We are aware that the Centre must have issued guidelines to the States regarding the people to be included in the Redressal Commissions that have been set up in those 20 States. For example, in West Bengal, the industry people have been included in this Commission. How can they protect the interests of the consumers ? I feel that journalists and social workers should also be included in these councils. I would like to know what are the guidelines in this regard and whether the State Governments are following them ? This Commission was set up at the Centre and in the States according to those guidelines and I would like to know how much time will it take to establish the same at the district level ?

SHRI SUKH RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as Centre is concerned, we have already set up the Consumer Protection Council here and as I have stated, the council had its first meeting in September last and guidelines have been issued to the State Governments in this regard which recommended that the consumers should be given maximum representation in these bodies. So far as West Bengal is concerned, I have noted your complaint. We will take up the matter with the State Government as per our guidelines. In case, the consumers are not given proper representation, we shall write to them.

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : As far as protection to the consumer goes, the private sector is usually the culprit. But, Sir what does the Government propose to do with certain public sector companies which advertise their products but do not keep their products up to the mark. I would like to give an example because this leads to confusion amongst the consumers. Some companies have been floating shares to the public and they advertise in newspapers where they say that they are already in production. The example will have to be given otherwise I will not be able to clarify my point. Uptron, a Uttar Pradesh Public Sector Company, recently advertised for the manufacture of colour picture tubes and in the advertisement it said that it is already in production. However, in the small print where there the shares were advertised, it had shown as to how many colour picture tubes were yet to be imported from Japan. The entire colour picture tubes are being imported whereas the advertisement said that uptron is already in production. So, what does the Government propose to do with the erring public sector companies which are under the guidance and control of Government of India ? Does the Government propose to take some action against companies like this as this will lead to confidence among the consumers when action is taken against their own public sector, advertising wrongly ?

SHRI SUKH RAM : Sir, I may inform

the hon. Members that this Act applies to all the consumer goods and services and it covers all public, private, joint and cooperative sector organisations. Under the provision of this Act, there are quasi judicial forums right from the district level up to the Central level. We are trying our best that these institutions are set up as early as possible so that when the complaint comes, whether it relates to the public sector or the private sector, those quasi judicial forums will have every right to take cognizance of all the complaints. So, the moment these commissions come into existence, then action will be taken against all the defaulters.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Sir, I think the Hon. Minister has not given the clear picture. Sir, when this Bill was discussed and the Act was passed in the House, it was said that there will be two bodies, one is the prosecuting agency and the other is the quasi judicial courts. His question is whether it is implemented or not. The Prosecuting Agency which was to be constituted under the Companies Act and the voluntary organisations which were to be registered, I would like to know how many of them have been registered in India so far and also how many courts, as on today, are functioning since this Act came into force.

Also, I would like to tell my learned friend that the Food Corporation of India supplies sub-standard goods in various parts of the country. What action has been taken in this regard? I would like to have a categorical answer instead of beating about the bush.

SHRI SUKH RAM : Sir, as I said earlier, under this Act redressal machinery have to be constituted at the Central, State and the district level. So far they have not been constituted. We are trying our best and persuading the State governments to constitute these quasi-judicial bodies.

As far as the other protection to the consumer is concerned, there are certain other acts which are punitive in nature. But this is the only Act which is compensatory in nature. So, whenever the com-

plaints come and these forums or Commissions are constituted, then, they will start taking actions against the defaulters whether they are public sector companies or in the private sector.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : The hon. Member and I have asked a specific question whether any action has been taken by the Government? What will he do with the public sector companies of the Central Government?

MR. SPEAKER : Whenever it comes, it will be done.

Newsprint prices

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*109. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :**
DR. A.K. PATEL :

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the newsprint prices of public sector newsprint plants have been raised early this year;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the effect of price rise on medium and small newspapers and magazines;

(d) whether the Associations of Newspapers have opposed this price rise; and

(e) whether any studies have been conducted into the cost structure of the newsprint industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) A Statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b) There are five units in the country manufacturing newsprint. Two of them are Central Government Enterprises, two are State Government Enter-

prises and one a Joint Sector Enterprise. All the five units have been permitted on 27.1.1988 to revise their ex-factory price of newsprint on account of the following reasons :—

- (i) Increase in the cost of inputs that have taken place since the last revision allowed in December, 1985.
- (ii) The price that was being charged by indigenous newsprint mills was not sufficient to absorb the escalations in the cost of inputs.
- (iii) Majority of newsprint mills are incurring substantial losses in their operations, in spite of high capacity utilisation.
- (iv) It is essential to maintain steady growth of newsprint production in the wake of increasing demand.

(c) The revision of the price indigenous newsprint will not have any significant impact on the existing small and medium newspapers whose annual entitlement is less than 300 tonnes, as they have the option to get their entire requirement in imported variety.

(d) The Indian Newspaper Society and the Indian Languages Newspapers Association have represented against the revision.

(e) Yes, Sir. The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) had undertaken a study in 1981 to recommend fair prices for domestically produced newsprint. In March, 1984, a Committee on Newsprint Pricing headed by the Chairman, B.I.C.P. had gone into the impact of the escalations in the cost of inputs for production of newsprint. Again in October, 1985, BICP had examined the impact of the increase in the input prices on indigenous newsprint.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it a fact that the Government had given an assurance to that Newsprint Advisory Committee before allowing

increase in the prices. If so was the Committee consulted before permitting increase in the prices in January, 1988 ?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : There was an assurance which was given to the Committee. This is an ad hoc increase. We have asked the BICP to go into it. As soon as the BICP completes its study, we will ask those concerns to discuss with them.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : In Part 'e' of the reply, it is stated the BICP the Bureau of Industrial Cost and Prices has carried out a study on the impact of the increase in the input prices on indigenous newsprint. May I know the findings of this study and whether any suggestion has been made for reducing the cost of production ?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : On the basis of the study by BICP, we have increased the prices in 1988. If the hon. Member wants the entire detail, I will pass it on to her.

DR. A. K. PALL : The hon. Minister has tried to give the explanation for raising the prices of newsprints. As such the prices in India is maximum as far as newsprint is concerned compared other countries. Today, the people are losing faith in TV and Radio. The only agency left to the common people, who constitute a large section of the society, is newsprint.

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether he will revise this policy of raising prices of newsprints ?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : It is a good suggestion. We will take into consideration This suggestion.

Monitoring cell for price decontrolled medicines

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*110. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI.
SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH.

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of price decontrolled medicines have gone up from 50 per cent to 200 per cent during the last one month or so;

(b) whether his Ministry have started a monitoring cell to monitor the price of price decontrolled medicines as per measures announced in 1986; and

(c) the names of the medicines along

with the percentage increase in prices which have come to the notice of his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (c) The required information, to the extent available, is given below in the Statements I and II.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Statement-I

Details of Price Revisions of Non-Scheduled Formulations

Sl. No.	Formulation	Pack Size	Earlier Price	Revised Price	%age change
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
1. M/S. Serdia Pharmaceuticals					
1.	Ponderax 60mg	10's strip	22.18	28.18	27.1
2.	Ponderax 20mg	10x10's	73.90	87.49	18.39
2. M/S. Indian Explosives Ltd.					
1.	Mysoline Tabs	10's	N.A.	9.29	—
2.	Atromid-s Cap.	100's	90.11	110.00	22.1
3.	Tetmosol Soap	75 gm.	5.95	8.88	49.2
4.	Fluothane	50ml Bottle	52.70	120.62	128.9
5.	—do—	250ml Bottle			
6.	Inderal 80mg	10's	4.27	7.76	81.7
7.	Inderal 40mg	10's	3.34	4.12	23.4
8.	Inderal 10mg	10's	1.44	1.42	(—) 1.4
3. M/S. Dey's Medical Stores					
1.	Telepaque tabs.	6's Strip	25.38	33.36	31.4
2.	Prednisolone tabs,	10's	1.92	2.83	47.4
3.	Pethidine Hcl .00mg	2ml x100 Amp.	147.13	280.95	91.0

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Pethidine Hcl 50mg	1mlx100 Amp.	184.82	.82.76	74.4
5.	Morphine Inj. 30mg.	2mlx100 Amp.	N.A.	180.66	—
6.	Moxphine Inj. 15mg.	1mlx100 Amp.	N.A.	126.24	—
7.	Decitron Liquid	110ml Bottle	N.A.	10.00	—
8.	Copomide tabs. 250mg	10x10's	15.58	19.46	24.9
4. M/S. S. G. Pharmaceuticals					
1.	Clothalton Tabs.	10x10's	12.50	30.00	140.0
2.	Zolandin 5% Cream	20gm Tube	3.83	6.48	67.1
5. M/S. Abbott Laboratories					
1.	Cecon 500 Tabs.	10's Strip	n. a.	8.01	—
2.	Citrosods Sachets	3x4gm	n. a.	7.75	—
3.	Kaltin Plain Liquid	90ml Bottle	n. a.	8.75	—
4.	Selsun Suspension	60ml Bottle	8.77	11.40	30.0
5.	Kaltin with Neomycin Sulphate Liquid	60ml Bottle	5.20	6.76	30.0
6.	Cecon Drops	30ml Bottle	7.90	9.88	25.1
7.	—do—	15ml Bottle	5.39	6.74	25.1
8.	Pentothal Sod. 1gm.	40ml Vial	12.86	15.68	30.0
9.	—do— 0.5gm.	20ml Vial	6.93	9.01	30.0
10.	Nilcid Mps Susp.	150ml Bottle	10.87	13.59	25.6
11.	—do— Tabs.	10's Strip	2.03	2.54	25.0
6. M/S. May & Baker					
1.	Ascabiol	50ml Bottle	3.60	4.65	29.2
2.	—do—	125ml Bottle	6.67	9.90	48.4
3.	Intraval Sod. 0.5gm	Vial	6.93	9.01	30.0
4.	—do— 1gm	Vial	8.52	11.08	30.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	Sulphadiazine Tabs. 0.5gm	10's Strip	2.82	5.34	82.9
6.	Vallergan Tabs. 10mg	10's Strip	1.47	2.00	36.1
7.	Vallergen Forte Syrup	50ml Bottle	5.45	9.02	65.5
8.	Thalazol Tabs.	10's Strip	2.53	3.07	21.34
9.	Sectral Tabs. 200mg	10's Strip	16.57	18.00	8.63
10.	—do— 400mg	10's Strip	32.86	34 83	8.6
7. M/S. Burreughs Wellcome					
1.	Aminophylline Tabs.	1000's	5.74	147.50	185.1
2.	—do— Inj.	25x10ml	38.61	65.97	70.9
3.	Piperazine Elixir	30ml Bottle	2.53	4.41	74.3
4	—do—	115ml Bottle	6.70	10.50	56.7
5.	—do—	455ml Bottle	22.01	33 84	53.8
6.	—do— Tabs.	8's	1.16	1.85	59.5
7.	Quinidine Sulph. Tab.	100's	73.54	107.68	46.4
8.	Actidil Tabs.	10's	2.51	4.85	93.2
9.	Neosporin Oint	5gm Tube	3-29	4.99	51.7
10.	—do— Powder	10gm Bottle	5.14	10.71	108.4
11.	—do— Eye Drops	10ml Vial	4.98	10.89	102.6
12.	Zyloric Tabs.	10x10's Strip	58.36	87 02	49.1
8. M/S. Khundelwal Labs.					
1.	Honvan Inj.	5mlx10 Amp.	82.80	181.32	118.9
2.	Robinex Tabs.	10's Strip	n. a.	10.00	—
3.	Lonol 50mg Tabs.	10's Strip	4.32	6.12	41.7
4.	Lonol 100mg Tabs.	10's Strip	8.02	11.31	41.0
5.	Holoxan Inj.	1gm Vial	41.10	82.40	100.7

1	2	3	4	5	6
6. Mesna Inj.	3x2ml Amp.	23.83	37.71	58.3	
7. Honvan Tabs.	20 Tabs.	50.83	119.31	134.7	
9. M/S. I. D. P. L.					
1. Analgin Tabs.	1000's	224.83	295.96	31.6	
2. Sulphadimidins Tab.	50's	106.59	160.76	50.8	
3. —do— 5gm VETC	1000's tin	220.07	335.96	52.7	
4. Benzylpenicillin 5 lac	25 Vial	56.50	81.16	43.7	
5. Phenobarbitone 60mg.	25's	3.27	4.32	32.1	
6. —do—	1000's	75.10	93.42	24.4	
7. —do— 30mg.	25's	2.41	3.28	36.1	
8. —do—	1000's	41.06	51.64	25.8	
9. —do— 60mg.	500's	n. a.	48.98	—	
10. M/S. Hoechst (India) Ltd.					
1. Rastinon 0 5gm	10x.0's	16.99	25.00	47.2	
2. Haemaccel	500ml Bottle with Infusion Set	40.04	52.00	29.9	
11. M/S. Serum Institute of India					
1. Tetanus Antitoxin 50000 IU in 20ml Vial	1 vial	89.30	312.74	250 2	
2. —do—2000 IU in 5ml Vial	1 vial	36.27	127.60	251.8	
3. —do—10000 IU in 5ml Vial	1 vial	18.62	65.26	250.5	
4. —do—1500 IU in 1ml	50x1ml	176.92	608.50	243 9	
5. Tetanus Antitoxin	1 amp,	3.54	12.42	250.8	
6. —do— 750 IU 1ml Amp.	50x1ml	111.96	341.90	205.4	
7. —do—	1 amp.	2.24	7.26	224.1	
8. Anti Snake Serum 10ml in 20ml vial with 10ml empoule of water for lin.	1 Vial	41.45	126.02	204.0	

1	2	3	4	5	6
12. M/S. German Remedies					
1. Alupent Tabs.	10x10's Strip	17.43	33.90	94.5	
2. Duoluton Tabs.	21 Tabs.	12.00	13.00	8.3	
3. Primovlar 30 Tabs.	21 Tabs.	5.03	6.06	20.5	
4. Proluton Depot 250mg	10x1ml	195.0	198.00	1.54	
5. Testoviron Amps. 100mg	10x1ml	160.0	175.00	9.4	
6. —do— 250mg	10x1ml	310.00	330.00	6.5	
7. Ultrane Oint.	5gm Tube	10.95	14.39	31.4	
8. Testoviran 25mg	10x1ml	35.00	38.00	8.6	
9. Sulfune Tabs.	10 x 10's	37.57	48.88	29.9	
10. Selvigon Tabs.	10 x 10's	41.97	69.60	65.8	
11. Prolution Depot 500 mg amp.	5 x 2 ml	169.00	175.00	3.6	
12. Progynon Depot amp.	10 x 1 ml	88.00	188.00	10.0	
13. Primovlar 50 Tabs.	21's Strip	5.03	8.52	69.4	
14. Catapress Tabs.	10 x 10's	9.71	15.00	54.5	
15. Buscopan amp.	20 x 1 ml	35.91	42.60	18.6	
16. Alupent Syrup	120 ml Bottle	8.65	12.53	44.9	
17. Alupent amp.	10 x 1 ml	11.06	13.00	17.5	
13. M/S. Cyanamid (I) Ltd.					
1. Cyban Liquid	15 ml B	n.a.	6.71	—	
2. Ledercort Oint	15 gm tube	n.a.	8.50	—	
3. Ledercort Cream with Neomycin	15 gm tube	n.a.	8.94	—	
4. Delphicol Solution	175 ml B	n.a.	30.83	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6
14. M/S. Parke Davis					
1. Adrody tabs.		100's Bottle	100.37	120.46	20.0
2. Benelyn Lozenges		8's Strip	New Product	3.41	—
3. Caladryl Lotion		57 ml. B.	3.79	5.48	44.6
4. Neko Special		75 gm cake	New Product	8.50	—
5. Ponstan Kapseals 250 mg		10's Strip	New Pack	5.76	—
6. —do— 500 mg		10's Strip	..	8.78	—
7. —do— Susp. 50 mg/5ml		60 ml B	4.70	6.62	40.9
8. Takazyme		57 gm Tin	13.15	14.47	10.0
9. Benadryl Syrup		114 ml B	6.08	7.36	21.1
10. —do—		456 ml B.	19.30	22.51	16.6
11. —do— Caps, 25 mg.		10's Strip	2.18	2.55	17.0
12. —do—		100's Bottle	16.90	19.73	16.8
13. —do— Expt.		114 ml B	6.36	9.00	52.8
14. —do—		456 ml. B.	18.55	24.02	29.5
15. Bardase Tablets		20's strip	2.26	3.60	59.3
16. Benadryl Caps, 50 mg.		50's Bottle	10.46	12.22	16.8
17. Ketalar Inj.		20 ml. vial	22.43	32.38	44.4
18. —do—		10 ml. vial	51.66	74.58	44.4
19. Taka Diastase tabs.		100's B.	19.35	23.25	20.2
20. Caladryl Lotion		171 ml. B.	7.59	11.00	44.9
15. M/S. Fairdeal Corporation					
1. Cotaryl Cream (Skin)		50 gm tube	8.35	9.95	19.2
2. Molazyme Tabs.		45 tabs.	14.47	15.60	7.8
3. Ulcekon tabs.		10's Strip	n.a.	13.6	—

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Moisol Eye Drops	10 ml. vial	2.83	4.90	73.1
16. M/S. Bengal Immunity Ltd.					
1.	Dinoquin tabs.	1000's Bottle	113.57	252.76	122.6
2.	—do—	10's Strip	1.54	2.86	85.7
3.	B.I. Agar Oil	340 ml. B.	25.10	31.40	25.1
4.	—do—	170 ml. B.	15.10	16.85	11.6
5.	Acriment Oint	30 gm. tube	6.63	8.07	21.7
6.	—do—	500 gm. Jar	57.34	88.85	54.1
7.	Megaffin	170 ml. B.	11.77	14.03	26.8
8.	Cyanocobalamin Inj.	10 ml. vial	3.07	6.42	109.1
9.	Sedolor Oint.	30 gm tube	8.24	8.25	0.1
10.	Neostigmine Inj.	12 x 1 ml Amp.	8.77	12.67	44.5
11.	Normal Saline Solution for Injection	50 x 25 ml.	105.42	114.46	8.6
12.	Sodium Bicarbonate Inj.	50 x 10 ml	89.32	89.63	0.3
13.	—do—	50 x 25 ml	118.64	126.66	6.8
14.	Dextrose Inj. 50%	25 x 25 ml	66.33	71.56	7.4
15.	—do— 25%	25 x 25 ml	59.78	64.90	8.6
16.	Sodium Chloride Dextrose Inj.	50 x 25 ml	118.42	127.58	7.7
17.	Ascorbic Acid Inj.	25 x 5 ml	50.29	57.92	15.2
18.	Asacid 100 mg. tabs.	1000's B.	64.78	116.35	79.6
19.	—do—	100's B.	7.64	12.98	69.9
17. M/S. Haffdine Bio-Pharmaceutical corporation Ltd.					
1.	Ampicillin Cap. 250 mg	1000's	1067.55	1358.10	27.2
2.	Analgin Tabs.	10 x 10's Strip	26.63	29.08	9.2
3.	—do—	1000's	23.81	27.14	14.0
4.	—do—	1000's	224.33	264.94	18.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Aspirin Tabs.		100's	6.28	6.90	11.1
6. —do—		1000's	46.54	52.66	13.1
7. Dexamethazene Tabs.		100's	7.35	10.26	39.6
8. —do—		1000's	73.96	84.72	14.5
9. Frusemide Tabs.		100's	11.95	15.22	27.4
10. —do—		1000's	108.12	135.00	24.9
11. Iodochlorohydroxy-quinoline tabs.		100's	7.88	18.18	130.7
12. —do—		1000's	70.8	163.96	131.5
13. Metronidazole Tabs.		100's	17.78	24.16	89.9
14. —do—		500's	85.78	113.52	32.3
15. —do—		1000's	166.85	224.72	31.7
16. Phenobarbitone Tabs. 30.mg.		100's	5.95	6.40	7.6
17. —do—		1000's	34.0	67.64	39.7
18. —do—		100's	10.15	10.16	0.1
19. —do—		1000's	50.91	85.20	39.9
20. Piperazine Citrate Tabs.		100's	6.42	9.64	50.2
21. —do—		500's	27.55	40.62	47.4
22. —do—		1000's	48.15	78.76	63.6
23. Prednisolone Tabs.		100's	19.22	21.72	13.0
24. —do—		1000's	173.77	199.08	14.6
25. Sulphadimidine Tabs.		1000's	221.05	260.40	17.8
26. Tetracycline Caps, 250 mg.		100's	49.51	168.88	37.7
27. —do—		1000's	409.94	654.12	59.6
28. Vit. C. 100 mg. Tabs.		100's	9.38	9.76	8.1
29. —do—		1000's	77.49	79.34	2.4
30. —do— 500 mg. tabs.		100's	25.76	30.54	18.6
31. —do—		1000's	180.32	289.74	60.7

1	2	3	4	5	6
32.	Dextrose & Sod. Chloride Injection	540 ml Glass Bottle	14.06	16.52	17.9
33.	Barbitone Hcl.	100's	4.80	5.58	16.3
34.	—do—	500's	17.84	20.42	14.5
35.	—do—	1000's	32.87	38.48	17.1
36.	Chlorpropamide 250 mg. tabs.	100's	11.76	15.32	30.8
37.	—do—	1000's	102.90	131.95	28.2
38.	Di-Iodo-hydroxyquinoline Tabs. 0.3 gm.	100's	12.24	21.92	79.1
39.	—do—	1000's	113.57	202.88	78.2
40.	Diazepam 5 mg. tabs.	10's New Product	4.94	—	—
41.	—do—	100's	„	3.48	—
42.	—do—	1000's	„	18.26	—
43.	Adrenaline Tartarate Inj.	1 ml x 25 amp.	11.76	22.20	88.8
44.	—do—	1 ml x 100 amp.	44.56	82.44	85.0
45.	Atropine Sulph. Inj. 0.6 mg.	1 ml x 10 amp.	7.65	10.87	112.1
46.	—do—	1 ml x 100 amp.	76.35	98.05	28.4
47.	Phenobarbitone Sodm. Inj.	1 ml amp.	1.01	1.38	36.6
48.	—do—	1 ml x 10 amp.	9.39	12.46	32.7
49.	Reserpiline Inj.	2 ml x 10 amp.	1.11	1.65	48.6
50.	—do—	2 ml x 25 amp.	2.29	4.19	83.0
51.	—do—	2 ml x 10 x 1339	9.87	14.63	48.2
52.	—do—	2 ml x 25 x 7200	20.35	37.03	82.0
53.	Furosemide Inj.	2 ml x 10 amp.	9.37	12.20	30.2
54.	—do—	2 ml x 100 amp.	83.31	114.15	37.0
55.	Diazepam Inj. 10 mg/2ml	2 ml x 25 amp. New prod.	28.52	—	—
56.	—do—	2 ml x 100 amp.	„	106.38	—
57.	Lignocaine Inj.	30 ml. vial	„	5.16	—
58.	Sod. Bicarbonate Inj.	10 ml. amp.	„	1.82	—
59.	Sod. Lactate Inj.	540 ml B.	9.01	16.98	88.5
60.	Sod. Chloride Inj.	540 ml B.	10.20	15.32	50.2
61.	Dextrose & Sodium Chloride Injection	540 ml B.	14.06	16.52	17.5

1	2	3	4	5	6
62.	Dextrese Inj.	540 ml B.	13.96	16.24	16.3
18.	M/S. Glindia				
1.	Derobln Ointment 25 G	25 gm. tube	4.78	8.60	79.9
2.	Dilosyn Tablets 250's	250's	1.39	2.51	80.6
3.	Dilosyn Syrup	120 ml	6.04	10.44	72.8
4.	Dilosyn Expectorant	120 ml	5.03	9.53	89.5
5.	—do—	450 ml	13.61	27.74	103.8
6.	Kapillin Tablets	100's	4.86	8.20	68.7
7.	Kapilin Injection	6 x 1 ml	5.19	12.00	131.2
8.	Prepalin Capsules	100's	17.68	30.75	73.9
9.	Viteolln 100 mg. caps.	100's	21.06	40.00	89.9
10.	Berin Tablets 100 mg IP	500's	155.67	211.97	36.2
11.	Berin 100 mg Inj.	5 x 10 ml	6.07	9.49	56.3
12.	Celin Tablets 100 mg	1000's	87.37	110.50	26.5
13.	—do— 500 mg.	50 x 10's	4.15	5.20	25.3
14.	Piperazine Tablets	500's	32.92	57.90	75.9
15.	Piperazine Syrup	30 ml.	2.16	3.83	77.3
16.	Macrabin 500 MCG Inj.	5 x 5 ml	3.90	6.00	53.8
17.	Macrabin 1000 MCG Inj.	5 x 5 ml	4.71	7.85	66.7
18.	Tetanus Toxoid	20 x 0.5 ml	1.04	1.20	15.4
19.	Trip!e Antigen	20 x 0.5 ml	1.88	2.18	16.0
20.	Ferselate Tablets	500's	12.56	25.37	102.0
21.	Setagard 40 mg. tabs.	10 x 10's		10.43	—
22.	Sotagard 80 mg. tabs.	10 x 10's		19.67	—
23.	Piperazine Liquid Vet.	500 ml.	40.88	68.00	66.3
24.	Piperazine Liquid	115 ml.	11.87	20.00	68.5
25.	Prepalin Forte Inj.	6 x 2 ml.	16.22	43.98	171.1

Statement-II

Sl. No.	Name of the Bulk Drug	Name of the Company	Earlier Price	Current Price	% increase
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Vitamin A Acetate (D. 5 MIU/Gm) 1000 MIU	M/s. Roche	1297.87	2400.00	84.92
		M/s. KSDPL	1297.87	2600.00	100.33
2.	Vitamin A Palmitate (1.0 MIU/gm) 1000 MIU	M/s. Roche & M/s- KSDPL	990.55	1500.00	51.43
3.	Vitamin A Palmitate (1.7 MIU/gm) 1000 MIU	M/s. Roche	1020.67	1500.00	46.96
			Rs./Kg.	Rs./Kg.	
4.	Vitamin E	M/s. Roche	552.01	No Revision	31.88
		M/s. Merck (I) Ltd.	552.01	728.00	
5.	Vitamin C	M/s. Ambalal Sarabhai	219.50	320.00	45.79
6.	Caffeine	M/s. Bakul Aromatics & Chemicals	241.00	275.00	14.11
7.	Calcium Lactate	M/s. Tamil Nadu Badha	13.85	29.75	114.80
8.	Tetmasei	M/s. IEL Ltd.	166.56	497.57	198.73
9.	Clofibrate	M/s. IEL Ltd.	223.76	880.19	293.36

1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	Niacinamide		157.00	190.00	21.82
11.	Emitine Di-Hydrochloride	M/s. Rallis (I) Ltd.	11867.62	35000.00	194.92
12.	Nescapine Compheuphenate	M/s. France Indian	892.00	6235.00	598.99
13.	Magnesium Hydroxide Cake	M/s. Dey's Medical Store	7.47	16.49	120.75
14.	Magnesium Hydroxide (Gr) NF	—do—	24.56	70.90	188.68
15.	Leptazel	M/s. Boehringer Knoll	347.00	560.92	61.65
16.	Multifungin	—do—	840.00	1121.10	33.46
17.	Octinum D Mucate	—do—	1085.00	2938.43	170.82
18.	Octinum D Amidosulphonate	—do—	1331.00	2431.70	82.70
19.	Octinum Base	—do—	360.00	1087.70	202.14
20.	Sovental Salicylate	—do—	1386.22	3405.14	145.64
21.	Octinum D Base	—do—	1331.00	2617.64	96.67
22.	Octinum Mucate	—do—	970.00	1922.05	98.15
23.	Pyridine-D-Carboxylic-Acid-Hydroxyonethylance	M/s. Ethnor	235.32	377.05	60.23
24.	Ferrous Calcium Citrate	—do—	107.16	156.60	46.14

25.	Halothene	M/s. IEL	255.17	548.36	114.90
26.	Primidione	—do—	598.24	1325.54	121.57
27.	Propranolol	—do—	2415.00	3858.89	59.79
28.	NN Dihydroxy Methyl Carbamide	M/s. Ethnor	135.34	1116.64	725.06
29.	Chlorpropamide	M/s. Pfizer Ltd.	169.81	430.49	153.51
30.	Protein Hydrolyeate	—do—	42.65	46.40	8.79

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have seen the answer given by the hon Minister. On seeing it, I was astonished to know that after announcement of Drugs Price Control Order in 1987 and the guidelines for implementation of the Drugs Price Control Order, the prices of medicines have gone up substantially, i.e. from 50% to 280%. It was meant to benefit the consumers, but this order has brought miseries to the poor population of the country. The Government has decontrolled the prices of medicines arbitrarily, against the announced policy-i.e., the measures of 1986. In the measures announced in 1986, it was categorically stated that all those medicines which were required for National Health Programme would be covered under Drug Prices Control Order. The Department of Chemicals decontrolled the prices of vitamin-A which is required for the control of blindness, vaccines such as tetanus, diphtheria and triple-antigen required for the immunisation programme, iron preparations required for.....
(Interruptions) I am not reading; I am quoting the reasons and showing how the the prices have gone up from 50% to 280%. After all these quotations, I would like to know this from the Minister : Since the prices of vaccines, vitamins and iron preparations have been decontrolled, whereas the Ministry of Health had recommended price control, what action has been taken against the persons responsible for such anti-consumer and anti-people steps ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Yesterday, in the Budget speech, the Finance Minister has completely exempted category-I. For the de-controlled drugs also, there are a lot of concessions. We are examining it. There is a monitoring cell. If there are any such measures taken, we will certainly bring them under the Control Order. We have got the power now, under DPCO also. About vitamin-C, we have already referred it to the DPCO immediately to take action.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : There is a clear violation of the orders of the Ministry concerned. Why has it been violated ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : There is no question of any violation. If there is a violation, we will take action. We have got powers under the DPCO.

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : This is a very important issue and it should not be rushed through. To have a proper control on the prices of drugs, the Government had appointed the Kelkar Committee, and that Committee had made certain recommendations. Among them, two were very important. First, the Kelkar Committee had said that the medicines whose turnover was more than Rs. 50 lakhs should be kept under the Price Control Order; and second, the drugs which are being manufactured under monopoly trends should also be kept under the Price Control Order. But I do not understand why the Ministry has decontrolled the prices of those drugs whose annual turnover is more than Rs. 10 crores per annum. What is the rationale behind it ? On the other hand, on the floor of this House, Government has repeatedly said that the Kelkar Committee's recommendations have been enforced and implemented *in toto*.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Government had accepted Kelkar Committee's recommendations *in toto*. Only according to that Committee's report, were the remaining drugs decontrolled. If prices are going up, we have got powers again to revert them to the DPCO; and we can bring them under the Control Order.

Natural gas grid for North-East region

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*111. **SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :**
SHRI R.P. DAS :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for a natural gas grid for the North-East region for proper utilisation of gas as multi-purpose feedstock in the region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b) GAIL have prepared a port on linking of ONGC's and OIL's gas fields in the North-East to form a grid which would give flexibility in supply of gas for production of fertilizer, power and use by other industries.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : The answer is not exhaustive and comprehensive. For the proper utilisation of the vast oil and natural gas deposits for multi-purpose industries in the north-eastern region, it is necessary to have a concrete utilisation plan which should go hand in hand with exploration and exploitation. Vast resources of gas deposits are scattered all over the north-eastern region; but they are being wasted, due to want of proper infrastructure and godown facilities. If it is properly utilized, it would help develop a large number of gas-based industries in the north-eastern region. Therefore, I would like to know whether the government would consider the matter regarding this.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Exactly this project report prepared by GAIL is meant for this purpose. It has got three main components: construction of a pipe line; then setting up a power plant and development of free gas field. The consumers are being identified. At present, the Assam Government wants that it should be associated with the trunk pipe line, but our suggestion is, our practice is that trunk pipe lines are constructed by us and spur lines are constructed by the State agency. This matter is pending with them. I myself have written to them. About the proposed power plant which should utilise this gas the Assam Government is preparing a feasibility report and we are taking simultaneously all action. The first necessity is that they must allow us a free flow of island gas; without that, it would be very difficult to go ahead with any project.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : It is estimated that 15 billion cubic meter of natural gas may be produced at the end

of the Seventh Five Year Plan. But it seems that there is no proper plan for its proper utilisation. I would like to know whether government would think over the matter and have a concrete plan to utilise such vast resources of the natural gas.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I have already submitted that it is under consideration and we are in active dialogue with the Assam Government; we are still considering; we are actively considering it in consultation with the Assam Government.

SHRI R.P. DAS : Gas was found in the north eastern region in Tripura, Manipur, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam; Assam is an old area where gas was found long before. Now the gas areas have been scattered over a big area & the infrastructural facilities were as bad as anything in this region, and a substantial quantity of gas is being flared up.

In view of this, I understand GAIL was asked to prepare a report so that this gas could be properly utilised. Now the question is whether any report has been prepared for that. But the Minister has kindly said that there is a report. I would like to know details of that report. But, Sir, he has not given any details by which we could understand what has been done for the utilisation of gas in the north eastern region ? How could this gas be utilised ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : The project prepared by GAIL is around Rs. 400 crores. If gas will be utilised for power plant and some industries which have been identified, the power plant will have to be constructed by the Assam Electricity Board. We are all to help them.

SHRI R.P. DAS : I want to know whether GAIL has prepared any report for carrying up the gas to the doorsteps of the consumers. You just let us know the contents of the report and the recommendations of the report, not what the Assam Government has done about it.

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : I have already submitted that they have prepared

a preliminary report for Rs. 400 crores for three components : construction of a pipe-line; setting up of a power plant and development of a free gas field. After all these formalities are over, a detailed project report will have to be prepared.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, only yesterday the hon. Minister of Finance had stated that gas cylinders will be supplied at cheaper rates not only to the North Eastern States and to Himachal Pradesh but to all the hilly areas in the country. But the present position is that lakhs of people are in the waiting list for getting a gas connection. Will the hon. Minister assure the House whether the production of gas will also simultaneously increase to meet the present L.P.G. demand in the country? What is your proposal in this regard? Do you have any plans to produce more gas through domestic resources? What steps are being taken to fulfill the assurance given by the hon. Minister of Finance about L.P.G. supply?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : This supplementary does not arise out of the main question but I want to say that we are making all out efforts in this direction. We have a 25 year plan under operation. The plant at Hajira has already started production. We are trying to increase the availability of gas. In order to bring it from remote areas, we shall have to cover the entire Bangladesh and for that, we shall have to negotiate with the Bangladesh Government. But so far as the assurance of the hon. Minister of Finance is concerned we shall try our best to fulfill it.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Revitalisation of public sector

*103. **SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :**

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to revitalise to public sector to make it an effective instrument of generating the wealth of the nation; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps are contemplated by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to make the public sector an effective instrument for generating wealth for the nation.

(b) There are about 225 public sector enterprises in diverse fields and various long term and short term measures have been taken to continuously improve the performance of the public sector enterprises appropriate to individual enterprises. Some of the more important steps are indicated below :

- (i) Close monitoring of the performance of these enterprises by the concerned administrative Departments/Ministries;
- (ii) Organisational restructuring wherever considered necessary including formation of holding companies;
- (iii) Streamlining the procedure for timely completion of major projects with a view to avoiding cost and time over-runs;
- (iv) Modernisation and technological upgradation;
- (v) Improved maintenance and management practices;
- (vi) Delegation of increased financial powers for incurring capital expenditure;
- (vii) Signing of Memorandum of Understanding between Government and Public Sector Enterprises;
- (viii) Improving the system of selection of Top management personnel;

as well as timely filling up top vacancies and giving longer tenure to Board level appointees.

- (ix) Adopting participative style of management;
- (x) Provision of captive power facilities.
- (xi) Diversification of product-mix.
- (xii) Adoption of methods of Energy Conservation and Pollution control.

Setting up of new thermal plants in Northern States

*105. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether new thermal plants are being set up in Northern States; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The following thermal plants are under implementation in the States of the Northern Region :—

S. No.	Name of the Project	Capacity (MW)
1	2	3
Haryana		
1.	Panipat St. III	210
2.	Yamunanagar St. I	420
Punjab		
1.	Ropar St. II	420
Rajasthan		
1.	Kota St. II	420
2.	Ramgarh Gas Turbine	3
N.T.P.C. Project		
3.	Anta Combined Cycle Gas Trubine	430
Delhi		
1.	Rajghat Replacement	135
Uttar Pradesh		
1.	Anapara 'A' (Unit 3)	210
2.	Anapara 'B'	1000
3.	Tanda	440
4.	Feroz Gandhi TPS, Unchabar	420

1

2

3

N.T.P.C. Projects

5.	Rihand STPS	1000
6.	National Capital TPP	840
7.	Auriya Combined Cycle Gas Turbines & S.T.	600

Jammu & Kashmir

1.	Pampore Gas Turbines	75
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Power schemes sanctioned in Karnataka

*106. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any power schemes have been sanctioned in Karnataka in the last two years upto-date; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) A Statement is given below.

Statement

Power schemes sanctioned in Karnataka in the last two years (upto 20.2.1988).)

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Capacity (MW)
1.	Diesel Generation Sets at Kolar, Bidar, Jamakhandi and Indi.	77.76
2.	Sharavathy Tail Race Project	240
3.	Raichur Thermal Power Station Unit 4.	210

Lucknow unit of Scooters India Limited

*112. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to hand over the Scooters India Limited (Lucknow) to a private company;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the agreement arrived at for the purpose;

(c) whether the employees and workers of the Scooters India Limited are very much agitated on this decision;

(d) If so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(e) whether any other company in the private sector offered better terms than the one in whose favour Government decided ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b) For the optimum utilisation of the skills and capacities created in Scooters India Limited, which has been suffering losses since its inception, it has been decided to transfer the agreed assets and equivalent liabilities of the Lucknow Unit of Scooters India Limited to a private manufacturer of 2 wheelers and 3 wheelers.

(c) and (d) Some representations from workers & employees on this subject have been received. Government have carefully considered various options and kept the interests of the employees and workers in view, to the extent possible, in arriving at this decision in the overall interest of the economy.

(e) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Singarauli coal for Dams and Thermal power projects of Madhya Pradesh

*113. SHRI KEYUR BHUSHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal is not being allotted to dams and thermal power projects in Madhya Pradesh by Singrauli Coal Mines;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, since when the allotment of coal was started and the quantity of coal allotted so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIFF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Vindhyachal Power Station in Madhya Pradesh has been sanctioned a linkage of 25000 tonnes per month with effect from August, 1987 which was increased to 50000 tonnes per month with effect from October, 1987. The power station has, however, not availed the linkages sanctioned so far, but has been drawing its coal requirement from the stocks of Singrauli STPS.

[English]

Loss in Postal Services

*114. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government sustained loss from the sale of post cards, registered articles, money orders, letters and parcels during 1984-85 and 1985-86; and

(b) if so, to what extent, item-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) A Statement is given below.

Statement

The Profit/Loss sustained on these services during 1984-85 and 1985-86 is as follows :

Gain (+)/Loss (—) in Crores of Rupees

	1984-85	1985-86
1. Post Cards	(—) 38.72	(—) 44.41
2. Registration	(—) 43.48	(—) 57.04
3. Money Orders	(—) 29.05	(—) 31.68
4. Letters	(+) 00.73	(—) 08.21
5. Parcels	(—) 05.73	(+) 00.23

[Translation]

Fair Price Shops in Delhi

***115. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to open more Fair Price Shops in Delhi;

(b) If so, the number thereof and their location;

(c) whether some Fair Price Shops are reported to be indulging in malpractices in the distribution of essential commodities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) :

(a) to (d) The entire Union Territory of Delhi is covered under the Public Distribution System. New Fair Price Shops are opened whenever the situation so warrants due to increase of population in a particular locality or resignation/cancellation of a fair price shop. It is not possible, therefore, to give the exact number of new fair price shops to be opened and their location, in advance.

Fair Price Shops are required to adhere to the terms and conditions of the Authorisation letter issued to them and other instructions/directions given by the Administration from time to time. Constant vigilance is maintained to see that FPS owners follow these instructions. Whenever irregularities are detected in distribution, appropriate action is taken against the defaulters. During 1987-88, the Administration conducted raids/checkings of 2087 fair price shops resulting in the detection of irregularities, such as variation in stocks discrepancies in the Accounts books, irregular functioning, misbehaviour with public, non-adherence to payment schedule etc., committed by fair price shop owners. As a result,

departmental action was taken against the defaulters. Stern action resulting in suspension or cancellation of licences was taken in 51 cases and FIRs were lodged in 56 cases.

[English]

Guidelines for fixing productive capacity

***116. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has issued revised guidelines for fixing productive capacity of industries covered by specific notifications issued during the period ranging from 1975 to 1978;

(b) if so, the new guidelines issued;

(c) to what extent they are different from those of 1975-78;

(d) to what extent these new guidelines have helped in achieving more productive capacity in the industries; and

(e) how many industries were benefited by the guidelines ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) No fresh or revised guidelines to fix productive capacity in respect of industries have been issued recently. However, attention of the drugs and pharmaceuticals industry was invited recently through a Press Note to the notifications issued in the past in this regard.

(b) to (e) Do not arise as no fresh or revised guidelines have been issued recently.

Plan to connect all block headquarters with telex

***117. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a plan to connect all the block headquarters with the telex network in future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the future plans for the telecommunications system in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The telex connections are required by the business, industry and administrative offices having large amount of information to be transferred on teleprinters. As per the present policy, the Telex Exchanges are being opened at any place where there is a demand of minimum of 6 telex connections.

In regard to the block headquarters, the policy has been to provide at least a public telephone at every block headquarters. By 1.4.1987, out of a total of 4201 block headquarters, 4077 have been provided with public telephones. 124 block headquarters in remote and areas of difficult terrain are still to be provided with public telephones. These will be covered progressively during the remaining part of 7th and early part of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Pottery units in Uttar Pradesh

*118. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have sanctioned a pottery unit in Uttar Pradesh recently; and

(b) if so, the details of the said unit ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b) M/s. Indian Rayon and Industries Ltd. (Unit : Royal Ceramics) have recently been granted registration by the Directorate General of Technical Development

for the manufacture of Vitreous and Bone China Tablewares for a capacity of 6000 M.T. per annum at Musafirkhana, Distt. Sultanpur in Uttar Pradesh—a No Industry District.

Proposal to lease out sick public sector enterprises

*119. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to lease out sick public sector enterprises on a management contract to professional management consultants still continues to be under consideration of Govt; and

(b) if so, when a final decision is to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) There has been no proposal under consideration of the Government to lease out sick public sector units on a management contract to professional management consultants.

(b) Does not arise.

Assets, turnover and profit by BIG industrial houses

*120. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has recently been a steep rise in the assets of the various large industrial houses in the country;

(b) if so, the latest annual turnover and profits of each of the first 20 large industrial houses; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to prevent the concentration of economic power of the country in the hands of some of the industrial houses ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b) The assets of large industrial houses

increased by 9.6 per cent and 9.9 per cent during 1985 and 1986 respectively over the preceding year. A statement showing turn-over and profit before tax in 1986 for each of the first 20 large industrial houses is given below.

(c) The Government, through the operation of the MRTP Act ensures that the operation of the economic system does not result in the concentration of economic power to the common detriment.

Statement

Turnover and profit before tax for the accounting periods ended during 1986 of companies registered under section 26 of the MRTP Act and belonging to the top 20 Industrial Houses ranked according to their assets in 1986.

(Rs. in crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Industrial House	Turnover	Profit before tax
1.	Birla	4266.09	346.30
2.	Tata	4515.16	287.64
3.	Reliance	951.22	14.50
4.	J.K. Singhania	1073.36	64.37
5.	Thapar	1060.36	25.47
6.	Mafatlal	1167.79	50.82
7.	Modi	1104.55	4.02
8.	Larsen & Toubro	560.23	38.58
9.	M.A. Chidambaram	433.27	5.53
10.	Bajaj	847.45	97.96
11.	A.C.C.	805.86	(—) 8.90
12.	Bangur	726.86	1.68
13.	Walchand	525.28	9.44
14.	Shri Ram	806.94	9.44
15.	T.V.S. Iyenger	648.82	33.88
16.	I.T.C.	1314.52	16.50
17.	Kirloskar	591.92	21.85
18.	Hindustan Lever	1037.89	76.97
19.	Mahindra & Mahindra	554.25	15.44
20.	I.C.I.	659.67	37.50

Reports submitted by MRTP Commission

1112. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of various reports including administrative reports submitted to Government by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission during 1986-87;

(b) the names of big industrial houses and individuals that had figured in those reports; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the basis of the M.R.T.P. Commission reports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) to (c) During the period April, 1986 to March 1987, the MRTP Commission had submitted only two administrative reports, one on the working of the MRTP Commission for inclusion in the 15th Annual Report pertaining to the execution of the provisions of MRTP Act, 1969 for the year 1985; and the other relating to the provisions of the monopolistic, restrictive and unfair trade practices as contained in the MRTP Act for the purpose of the Annual Report of the Department of Company Affairs for the year 1986-87. While the Annual Report pertaining to the execution of the provisions of the MRTP Act, 1969 for the year 1985 was laid on the Table of the House on 25th August, 1987, the Annual Report 1986-87 of the Department of Company Affairs was circulated amongst the Members of the House on 7th April, 1987.

Supply of power equipment in BHEL

1113. CH. RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "BHEL Blamed for delaying

equipment" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' of 25th January, 1988;

(b) if so, whether the shortage of power is due to late or slow supply of equipment by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken for timely supply of equipment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The present shortage of power is mainly due to shortfall in hydel generation as a result of low reservoir levels and increase in demand from the agricultural sector. Delays in completion of power projects also contribute to loss of generation. Such delays are due to several factors which include delay in supply of equipment by the suppliers including BHEL. The supply of equipment by BHEL to various power projects is being regularly monitored by the Central Electricity Authority and the Department of Power. Wherever there are delays, they are brought to the notice of BHEL from time to time to expedite the supplies. The concerned Department is also appraised of the matter.

Production of formed coke

1114. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Fuel Research Institute, Dhanbad has produced formed coke for use in steel mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to manufacture formed coke for economic use in the steel mills;

(d) if so, when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (e) Formed coke produced on the basis of Central Fuel Research Institute technology was tested in low shaft blast furnace at Kalinga Iron Works, Barbil (Orissa) and Indian Iron and Steel Company at Kulti. As the volatile content of formed coke was higher than the desired level, the process of making formed coke was modified. However, the technology has yet to be upgraded to an economically viable commercial venture.

Development of coal industry

1115. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have succeeded in planning the development of the coal industry to suit the requirements of the Indian economy;

(b) if not, whether Government have reviewed their policy; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The development of the coal industry is planned with a view to meeting the demand for coal by major consumers like thermal power projects, steel plants, railways, cement plants etc. Based on the demand assessment by the Planning Commission, coal production targets are fixed for each plan period and reviewed on a year to year basis in the light of changes in demand and availability of resources for coal mining projects. During the first three years of the 7th Plan, actual production of raw coal as compared to the annual targets is shown below :

Year	Target (million tonnes)	Actual production (million tonnes)
1985-86	154.5	154.2
1986-87	166.8	165.8
1987-88	183.3	182.0 (estimated)

(b) and (c) As shown above, production targets have substantially been achieved and no change is considered necessary in the existing policy for development of the coal industry.

Sugar Import

1116. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: SHRI H.B. PATIL :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sugar imported during the period April-December, 1987 and the amount involved;

(b) the agency through which sugar is being imported and at what rates;

(c) the criteria adopted for distribution of sugar to States and at what rates; and

(d) the quantity proposed to be imported and from which country alongwith the terms of agreement, if any, reached with any country ?

THE MINISTER DEPUTY IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) During the period April-December, 1987, 6.13 lakh tonnes (Provisional) of sugar have been imported at a total cost of Rs. 178.45 crores (CIF value) provisional.

(b) The State Trading Corporation of India is the canalising agency for import of sugar. The average C.I.F. price of imported sugar for the imports made during April-December, 1987 works out to Rs. 2919/- (Approx.) per metric tonne,

(c) Allocation of imported sugar to State Governments is regulated taking into account requests received and past consumption trends etc. State Governments are supplied imported sugar at Rs. 540/- per quintal so as to enable them to distribute the same to consumers through controlled channels at prices below Rs. 6/- per kg.

(d) The import policy is decided taking into consideration indigenous sugar production, adequate availability for meeting internal requirements, trend of international prices etc. The State Trading Corporation have informed that they have not entered into agreement with any country for import of sugar.

Subsidy to small scale industries

1117. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 15% subsidy which was available for the small scale industries in the backward Ratnagiri district of the Konkan region of Maharashtra has been discontinued;

(b) if so, whether this decision has created grave discontent in the backward district of Ratnagiri due to further threat to its development; and

(c) if so, whether the subsidy is to be restored ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme, 1971, District Ratnagiri in Maharashtra has been classified as a 'B' category backward district eligible for 15% Central Investment Subsidy. The Scheme, as extended from time to time, was valid upto 31.1.1988. Government have not yet decided about its continuance beyond 31.1.1988.

Import of Telex Machines

1118- SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telex machines are being imported, if so, the names of the countries from where imported; and

(b) the salient features of the policy of installation of telex machines with the consumers ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per the requirement of the subscriber, the Department of Telecommunications provides the telex machines with the telex connections. Subscribers are permitted to connect their own TP machines if the same are compatible with the telex network.

Export performance of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

1119. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and location of industries established by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited in the country and the details of items being manufactured in those units;

(b) what has been the export performance of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited during the last three years;

(c) whether there is decline in the export performance of BHEL; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to increase the export by BHEL during the coming years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) BHEL has 13 manufacturing units in the country. The location and the items manufactured by these units is given in the Statement below.

(b) The export performance of BHEL including deemed exports during the last three years is as follows :

Year	(Rs. crores)
1984-85	217.5
1985-86	298.0
1986-87	263.7

(c) The value of exports in 1986-87 was less than in 1985-86.

(d) The reasons for decline in the export performance of BHEL are as under :

(i) There is severe competition in the power generation equipment market as the production capacity of power plant equipment in the world is far in excess of demand.

(ii) Developed countries offer floor level prices and soft financial packages, thereby gaining advantage.

In order to increase exports, BHEL is working closely with MMTC and STC to offer equipment against counter-trade.

Statement

Location of BHEL's manufacturing units and the items manufactured by them

S. No.	Name of Unit & its location	Items of manufactures
1	2	3
1.	Heavy Electricals Plant, Bhopal (M.P.)	Thermal & Hydro Turbine and Generator Sets, Traction & Industrial Machines, Large Electrical Machines, Transformers, Switchgears & Control Gears.
2.	Transformer Plant, Jhansi (U.P.)	Transformers, Bus Ducts, Diesel Electric Shunting Locomotives.
3.	Heavy Electrical Equipment Plant Hardwar (UP)	Thermal & Hydro Turbine & Generator Sets, Electrical Machines.
4.	Central Foundry Forge Plant, Hardwar (UP)	Steel, C.I. & non-ferrous castings, Steel Forgings, Billets & Blooms.
5.	Heavy Power Equipment Plant, Hyderabad (AP)	Oil Rigs, Thermal Sets, Industrial Turbo Sets, Gas Turbines, Compressors, Bowl Mills, Pumps, Circuit Breakers.
6.	High Pressure Boiler Plant, Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu)	Thermal & Nuclear Steam Generators and Valves.
7.	Seamless Steel Tubes Plant Tiruchirapalli (Tamil Nadu)	Seamless Steel Tubes.

1	2	3
8. Boiler Auxiliaries Plant Ranipet, (Tamil Nadu)	Boiler Auxiliaries.	
9. Electronics Division Bangalore (Karnataka)	Control Equipments, Energy & Water Meters, Power Devices, Photovoltaics Panels, Capacitors.	
10. Electro-Porcelain Division Bangalore (Karnataka)	Insulators & Bushings.	
11. Insulator Plant, Jagdishpur (UP)	Insulators.	
12. Industrial Valves Plant, Goindwal (Punjab)	Industrial Valves.	
13. Component Fabrication Plant, (Rudrapur). UP	Wind mills, Bio-gas Generating Sets, Solar Heating Systems.	

Delhi Telephone Directory

1120. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state when the new telephone directory is likely to be issued in Delhi as the same has become outdated due to large number of changes in it ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : The new telephone directory for Delhi has been published and its distribution to subscriber will commence shortly.

Setting up of gas based industries in North-East Region

1121. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the

Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up gas-based industries in North-East region;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps so far taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Natural gas has been committed for various gas based projects in the North-Eastern Region as indicated belows :—

Assam	Million Cubic metres/day
1	2
1. Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation, Namrup	2.21

1	2
2. Assam State Electricity Board	5.45
3. Kathalguri Power Plant	1.00
4. Tea Estates	0.30
5. Indian Oil Company (Refineries)	0.22
6. Assam Petrochemicals Nagaland	0.14
7. National Paper & Pulp Corporation, Tuli Tripura	0.22
8. Tripura State Electricity Board, Baramura	0.13
9. Tripura State Electricity Board, Rokhia	0.75
10. Domestic Supply (Agartala)	0.02

Further commitments can be made as and when additional gas becomes available.

Apart from these there is also a proposal from AIDC for the setting up of a petrochemical complex based on gas. Decision on this will be taken based on techno economic considerations.

Training Programme by Rural Electrification Corporation

1122. CH. RAM PARKASH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a training programme is being organised through the Rural Electrification Corporation for officers of the State Electricity Boards, State Governments and Banks to guide farmers in choosing and installing properly matched and efficient pumping system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The

Government of India has sanctioned a training programme at a cost of Rs. 11 lakhs to impart training to officers of the State Electricity Boards, State Governments and Bank in installation of efficient irrigation pumping system. The programme envisages to train about 800 field level officers and 100 supervisory level officers in batches. The programme will be of 3 days duration for the field level officers and two days duration for the supervisory level officers and is being conducted by the Rural Electrification Corporation Limited at the Central Institute for Rural Electrification, Hyderabad and at the institutes of State Electricity Boards, State Governments etc. Training programmes for one batch of 27 supervisory level officers and 3 batches of 30, 36 and 25 field level officers have already been held. The officers so trained will not only give training to their own colleagues but would also render advice and guidance to the farmers in the selection and installation of efficient pumping system.

Setting up of Industrial units

1123. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposals submitted by different State Governments which are pending with Union Government for setting up new industrial units in their respective States, State-wise;

(b) when those proposals were received; and

(c) The action taken by Union Governments to clear these cases and the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DE-

VELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA. CHALAM) : (a) A Statement is given below.

(b) and (c) Out of the 63 Industrial Licence applications indicated in the Statement attached, 37 have been received only during January and February 1988. 21 applications were received during 1987 and the remaining 5 during the years 1985 and 1986. Applications which are not disposed of within the prescribed time limit are reviewed and placed before the approval committees for taking appropriate decision.

Statement

State-wise number of Industrial licence applications received from State Govt. Undertakings (Including SIDC'S) which are at various stages of processing as on 23.2.88

S. No.	Name of the State/Union Territory	Number of Application
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2
2.	Assam	2
3.	Bihar	9
4.	Goa	1
5.	Gujarat	4
6.	Haryana	2
7.	Himachal Pradesh	6
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
9.	Karnataka	2
10.	Kerala	1
11.	Maharashtra	1
12.	Manipur	1
13.	Orissa	4
14.	Punjab	

1	2	3
15.	Rajasthan	4
16.	Tamil Nadu	4
17.	Uttar Pradesh	6
18.	West Bengal	3
Total		63

* SIDC— State Industrial Development Corporation.

Coal production target of Central Coalfields Ltd.

1124. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Coalfields Limited has fixed higher target for the production of coal during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the production of coal by the Central Coalfields Limited by the end of the above Plan period;

(c) the achievement made in the production of coal as per the target; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the production in order to achieve the Seventh Five Year Plan target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) Some of the areas and coal mines under the control of the Central Coalfields Limited (CCL) at the beginning of the Seventh Plan period i.e. on 1st April, 1985 were transferred to the new coal companies, Northern Coalfields Limited and South Eastern Coalfields Limited with effects from 1st April, 1986. From the areas and mines which remain under the operational control of CCL the production in the last year

of the 6th Plan period and expected production during the 7th Plan period is indicated below :

Year	Million tonnes
1984-85	24.85
1985-86	24.13
1986-87	25.11
1987-88	25.01 (estimated)
1988-89	27.53 (estimated)
1989-90	27.82 (estimated)

(d) The above indicated increase in the production is planned to be achieved by taking up new projects.

Report of IDBI on reopening of A.C.C. Babcock Ltd.

1125. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government directed the Industrial Development Bank of India to update its report for reopening the A.C.C Babcock Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the salient features of the said report;

(e) the reaction of Union Government thereon; and

(f) the action taken on the said report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (f) ACC Babcock Ltd. a company in the private sector engaged in the manufacture of boilers for the power sector, filed a petition before the Bombay High Court in October, 1986 winding up of the affairs of the company. The two units of the company in West Bengal and Karnataka are lying closed since then. IDBI had prepared a package for the rehabilitation of the company. On examination, this was found to be non-bankable. IDBI has submitted a revised package for the revival of the company recently. The proposal has worked out the minimum financial requirements and orders in addition to various reliefs and concessions on the part of the Government of Karnataka and West Bengal, financial institutions, banks and the promoters, which are essential for the re-opening of the company. No final decision has been taken on the package. The company has also made a reference to the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the provisions of Section 15 (1) of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985.

Use of Foreign Trade Marks

1126. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the restrictions on use of foreign trade mark while clearing foreign collaborations;

(b) whether it is a fact that many companies are using foreign trade marks, even though they are specifically forbidden to use them; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against erring companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) While approving foreign collaboration agreements, a condition is laid down that the use of foreign brand names will not be allowed on products meant for internal sales.

(b) Under the existing law, there is no restriction on the use of foreign trade marks, if it does not involve any direct or indirect consideration in foreign exchange. Further, trade marks can be used without registration or before or after the expiry of registration without the protection afforded by the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act.

(c) In case of violation of any condition of approval of foreign collaboration, the agreement is liable to be cancelled.

Gas for combined cycle power station, Andhra Pradesh

1127. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has decided to provide required gas for 6x25 megawatt combined cycle power station based on natural gas in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said proposal was lying with the Central Electricity Authority;

(d) if so, since when it was lying; and

(e) when it is likely to be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The availability of about 0.4 MMCMD of gas for a 3x33 MW combined cycle gas turbine power station at Narsapur—Razole

in Andhra Pradesh, in lieu of the earlier proposal for 6x25 MW combined cycle gas turbine power station, has been confirmed to the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The gas would be made available by the end of 1989-90.

(c) to (e) The revised proposal in respect of a 3x33 MW combined cycle gas turbine power station, which was received from the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board in January 1988, has been techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority and investment approval has also been accorded.

Allocation of molasses to Orissa

1128. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of molasses supplied to Orissa in 1987-88;

(b) whether there is a need to increase the allocation of molasses to Orissa; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to increase the allocation of molasses to Orissa in 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) The alcohol year is reckoned from 1st December to 30th November. Inter-state allocation of molasses is made keeping in view the sur-

pluses declared by the surplus States. Accordingly, during the alcohol year 1986-87 (December, 1986, November, 1987) an allocation of 12,000 MT of molasses was made to Orissa.

(b) and (c) For the current alcohol year (December, 1987-November, 1988) the shortfall has been estimated at 13,000 MT against which an allocation of 6,000 MT has already been made to Orissa for the first six months of the year.

Industries established in backward areas

1129. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of industries established in backward areas during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the number of persons employed in those industries, State-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A Statement is given below.

(b) Details regarding number of persons employed in the licenced industrial projects are not centrally maintained in the Ministry of Industry.

Statement

Year-wise and state-wise break-up of number of industrial licences issued for backward areas during the last three years.

State/Union Territory		1985	1986	1987
1		2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	2	1	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	37	22	22
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	1	1
4.	Assam	12	3	3

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Bihar	3	3	—
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	1	2
7.	Goa Daman & Diu	4	2	8
8.	Gujarat	34	46	26
9.	Haryana	13	11	5
10.	Himachal Pradesh	12	9	3
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	6	4	5
12.	Karnataka	23	18	14
13.	Kerala	15	8	3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	29	25	12
15.	Maharashtra	43	28	20
16.	Manipur	—	—	—
17.	Meghalaya	—	2	—
18.	Mizoram	—	—	—
19.	Nagaland	—	—	1
20.	Orissa	6	3	4
21.	Pondicherry	12	2	1
22.	Punjab	15	6	2
23.	Rajasthan	25	12	7
24.	Sikkim	—	—	1
25.	Tamil Nadu	68	23	14
26.	Tripura	—	—	—
27.	Uttar Pradesh	44	34	23
28.	West Bengal	15	9	9
29.	State not indicated/ More than one State	1	3	6
Total :		427	278	192

**Super thermal power plant at Bankura,
West Bengal**

1130. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn any scheme to construct a Super Power plant in Bankura district, West Bengal;

(b) whether the required land for the purpose has been secured;

(c) if not, when it is expected to be secured;

(d) the year-wise amount Government propose to spend for the construction of the plant; and

(e) when it is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Government have approved the setting up of a Thermal Power Station of 3x210 MW capacity by Damodar Valley Corporation at Mejia in Bankura district of West Bengal.

(b) and (c) 90% of the land has been acquired, and the rest is under various stages of processing.

(d) The approved cost of this project is Rs. 506 crores out of which a sum of Rs. 217 crores has been provided during the Seventh Plan.

(e) The project is scheduled to be completed 1992-93.

**Improvement in quality of stamps and
seals**

1131. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up a committee for the purpose of recom-

mending measures to be taken to improve the quality of stamps and seals;

(b) if so, when the said committee was appointed and the terms of reference of the committee;

(c) whether the committee has given its reports; and

(d) if so, the essential features of its recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee was appointed on 25-8-1986. The broad terms of reference were to review and suggest improvements in the procedures.

(i) To exercise quality control about the raw materials with special reference to percentage of carbon contents in steel used.

(ii) To effectively ensure quality control in the supply of steel by the Supdt. for ensuring uniform quality of stamps and seals and generally improve manufacturing techniques by adopting scientific procedures.

(iv) To study the pricing pattern of all stamps and seals.

(vi) To review the system of payment of overhead charges including acceptance of some of the Society's liabilities like Employees Provident Fund, Sales Tax, etc., for past periods.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Committee has made the following recommendations :

1. To ensure quality control, the department should supply the raw material for production of stamps and seals;

2. To improve quality of the stamps, the present obsolete technology should be replaced by more suitable technology particularly w.r.t. hardening and tempering of final product.
3. Some modern machines like lathe machines and electric furnace should be installed.
4. The Department should take over the more vital part of the production which has important bearing upon the quality of the stamps.
5. A new pricing structure and formula for overhead charges have been made.
6. A more comprehensive agreement has been drafted to ensure greater control over the affairs of the Society.
7. Acceptance of portion of the present liability of the society has been suggested.

Schemes taken up by KVIC in tribal belt

1132. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes taken by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the tribal belt of the country during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons benefited by these schemes, year-wise and State-wise; and

(c) the schemes which would be taken up during 1988-89 with State-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) to (c) Information is

being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Introduction of electronic mail service through INTELSAT

1133. SHRI JITENDRA PRASADA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government contemplate to introduce electronic mail service through INTELSAT in seven main cities of the country;

(b) whether the technology of electronic mail service will also be introduced for serving more need regions like mountainous hilly and remotest areas of the country which receive the postal articles in a long time ranging from one to two weeks; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such a service will be introduced in these regions ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is contemplated to introduce as a Pilot Scheme, Electronic Mail between selected cities, in the first instance.

(b) and (c) No time limit can be fixed and announced at this stage. A number of technical, technological and operational factors, as they emerge from time to time, have to be taken into account before introducing this service at any new station. No assurance is therefore possible, in this area of rapid technological changes.

Supply of Naphtha to industries

1134. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the rate at which the naphtha is being supplied to petro-chemical and fertilizer industries;

(b) whether it is a fact that the

plastic manufacturers have urged the Government to supply naphtha to them at the same price as supplied to fertilizer industry; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government to save plastic industry ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The ex-storage point price of naphtha for fertilizer use is Rs. 1982/31 MT. For general use including Petro-Chemical use the ex-storage point price is Rs. 3211.00/MT. This is exclusive of applicable excise duty.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No decision has been taken in the matter so far.

Accumulated loss of Scooters India Ltd.

1135. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA :

SHRI M.V. CHANDRA-SEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total accumulated loss of the Scooters India Limited, Lucknow as on 31 January, 1988;

(b) whether the Company has never earned any profit and is unable to cope with the competition posed by the private sector industry;

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

(d) the action proposed to be taken to overhaul the management with result oriented persons and to bring fruitful results to the company ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : The total accumulated loss

of Scooters India Limited as on 31.1.1988 is about Rs. 128. crores.

(b) and (c) The Scooters India Ltd. has been incurring losses since inception mainly on account of the following reasons :—

(i) The consumer preference for other makes of scooters.

(ii) Sub-optimal scale of production and low capacity utilisation.

(iii) Poor liquidity due to continuing losses.

(iv) Old plant & machinery and inadequate technical support.

(d) On careful consideration of various options, Govt. have decided to transfer agreed assets and equivalent liabilities of Lucknow unit of Scooters India Limited to a leading two-wheeler manufacturer.

Foreign collaborations

1136. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign collaborations approved during the last three years;

(b) whether there has been any decline;

(c) if so, to what extent; and

(d) the details regarding the progress of these collaborations, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) 2834 proposals for foreign collaboration were approved during the period 1985 to 1987.

(b) to (d) Government approved 1024,

957 and 853 foreign collaboration proposals in the years 1985, 1986 & 1987 respectively. The details of approved foreign collaboration showing the names of the Indian and foreign firms, items of manufacture and nature of foreign collaboration are published on a monthly basis by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its monthly news letter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

Foreign Collaboration Projects

1137. SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased state :

(a) the names and details of these countries with whom foreign collaboration projects were approved for implementation during 1987; and

(b) the total investment in each of these projects and estimated period when these projects are to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) During 1987, 853 foreign collaboration proposals were approved by the Government. The details of approved foreign collaboration showing the names of the Indian and foreign firms, items of manufacture and nature of foreign collaboration are published on a monthly basis by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its monthly news letter. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

(b) Out of 853 proposals approved, 242 involved financial participation by the foreign companies amounting to Rs. 10, 770.575 lakhs. As a matter of policy specific information relating to individual companies, particularly in relation to financial details are not revealed in the public interest. It generally takes two years or more an approval to reach the stage of production. Follow up of the approvals and watching the implementation thereof is the responsibility of the Administrative Ministries.

STD facility in Varkala Telephone Exchange in Trivandrum District.

1138. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the present capacity of Varkala telephone exchange in Trivandrum district;

(b) the number of applications on the waiting list for telephone connections;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce STD facility at Varkala; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Varkala is 400 lines MAX-II exchange having 340 working connections and 312 on the waiting list.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Varkala is planned to be connected to Trivandrum TAX for STD facility which is likely to be introduced before the end of 7th Plan.

Palmolein oil to States

1139. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Palmolein edible oil is available in plenty to the Delhi residents and the citizens in rest of the States and Union Territories have to wait for months together;

(b) what is policy in distributing this oil to the States;

(c) the demand and supply for each State/Union Territory for the last three years; and

(d) the reasons for not meeting the requirements of the States in full ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) & (b) The allocation of imported edible oils to State Governments/Union Territories is made by Central Government from month to month on the basis of the demand, prices of indigenous edible oils in the open market, availability of oils with State Trading Corporation, festival season and pace of lifting by States/Union Territories. It is not correct to say that States/Union Territories other than Delhi have to wait

for months together.

(c) A Statement indicating the demand and supply of imported palmolein to the palmolein consuming States/UTs is given below.

(d) The allocation of imported edible oils under PDS is meant to supplement the availability of indigenous edible oils in the open market and not to meet the total demand of State Government/UT Administration.

Statement

Demand, Allocations/Lifting of Rbd Palmolein under Pds including small packs during the oil year (Nov.-Oct.) 1984-85, 1985-86 & 1986-87

(Qty. in M. Tonnes)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	1984-85			1985-86			1986-87		
		Demand	Allocation	Lifting	Demand	Allocation	Lifting	Demand	Allocation	Lifting
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	175000	103500	101247	195000	102400	90929	201000	116000	110072
2.	A & N Islands	60	—	—	600	360	221	1200	1150	910
3.	Delhi	27500	4500	1230	30000	6750	2401	35000	10300	7923
4.	D & N Haveli	600	375	250	600	465	346	1080	750	613
5.	Goa	7200	6410	4957	7200	4500	4764	5640	7200	6320
6.	Gujarat	112000	64500	66756	136800	124300	97918	208000	144340	132085
7.	Himachal Pradesh	15400	—	—	24000	—	—	12000	1200	96
8.	Kerala	90000	57000	53552	120000	24450	11454	57000	45500	40295
9.	Karnataka	65000	39000	42573	65000	48100	42116	112500	61400	60465
10.	Lakshadweep	200	195	147	180	255	150	200	520	328
11.	Madhya Pradesh	62000	22160	12176	62000	6000	6006	—	24100	11995

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12. Maharashtra		230000	122600	128033	230000	165798	166313	230000	176500	159549
13. Orissa		10000	6750	3314	28800	17650	11139	72000	23000	17900
14. Pondicherry		6000	4050	3649	6000	3550	3649	7200	7800	6283
15. Rajasthan		30000	800	83	30000	750	—	14500	5650	410
16. Tamil Nadu		130000	80750	85048	132000	65500	64821	132000	80100	78886
17. Uttar Pradesh		78000	—	—	15600	2800	—	19200	9700	4505
18. Bihar		30000	1600	482	30000	—	—	17000	—	—
19. Chandigarh		2400	240	10	720	150	—	1200	550	96
20. Haryana		30000	210	21	28800	855	572	30000	3700	1401

*Note : The demand is received from the States/U.Ts. on yearly basis for all edible oils and not oil-wise.

**Increase in power rates to wipe out losses
of State Electricity boards**

1140. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased
to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission
has suggested that the Power rates be
pushed up by 3 per cent to 178 per cent if
the recurring losses of State Electricity
boards are to be wiped out; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to
ensure that both the farmers and the
industries who consume substantial power
are made to pay appropriate charges
which will enable the State Electricity
boards to prevent such recurring losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The Planning
Commission have generally been emphasising
the need for the State Electricity
Boards improving their operational
efficiency and for suitable revision and
rationalisation in their rates so as to earn,
as envisaged in the Electricity (Supply)
Act, 1948, a net 3% rate of return.

(b) Under the Electricity (Supply)
Act, 1948, the power to fix tariffs for
consumption of electricity by different
categories of consumers vests in the State
Governments/State Electricity Boards.

**Purchase of homoeopathic medicines by
National Thermal Power Corporation**

1141. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD
SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY
be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity and cost of the
homoeopathic medicines purchased by the
National Thermal Power Corporation for
the treatment of its staff during last three
years; and

(b) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). The
information is being collected and will be
laid on the Table of the House.

**Cost overrun in ongoing central power
projects**

1142. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased
to refer to the reply given to Unstarred
Question No. 48 on 10th November, 1987
regarding cost overrun in ongoing central
power projects and state :

(a) the cost overrun in each of the
20 projects listed in the above reply;

(b) the total number of ongoing
central power projects; and

(c) the estimated time-lag in the com-
pletion of each of these 20 projects as
compared to the original target date for
completion ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (c) The
information is given in the Statement
below.

(b) Twenty-eight (28) Central Sector
Power Projects under the Department of
Power are currently under implementation.

Statement

Details of original sanctioned cost and latest sanctioned/estimated cost and original/present commissioning schedule in respect of the 20 ongoing Central power projects under the Department of Power.

Sl. No.	Project	Cost (Rs. in Crs.)		Commissioning Schedule	
		Originally approved	Latest sanctioned/estimated	Original	Present
1.	Singrauli STPP with Associated Trans. System	947.08	1466.82	3/86	12/87(A)
2.	Korba STPP with Associated Trans. System	1057.42	1843.41	3/89	8/89
3.	Ramagundam STPP with Associated Trans. System	1125.26	2030.69	3/90	7/90
4.	Farakka STPP with Associated Trans. System	1324.25	1837.48	7/91	6/92
5.	Central Trans. Project-I	354.85	388.85	3/89	3/92
6.	Bokaro 'B' Thermal Project	69.76	206.44	4/82	3/86 (A)
7.	Bokaro 'B' Ext. T.P.	186.93	298.92	8-6-87	\$
8.	Gas Turbine Project, Maitihon.	44.57	53.18	3/88	8/88
9.	Mejia Thermal Project.	566.00	857.50	92-93	9/92
10.	Garo Hills Thermal Project	43.20	115.00	6/88	*

11. Salal Hydel Project	55.15	583.26	6/79	11/87 (A)
12. Chamara Hydel Project	809.29	Under revision	3/90	1990-92
13. Dulhasti Hydel Project	183.45	673.00	1/91	+
14. Tanakpur Hydel Project	178.75	Under revision	6/89	3/90
15. Panchet Hill Hydel Project	16.83	46.96	3/83	8/88
16. Koel Kare HEP with Associated Trans. system.	439.91	1100.68	**	**
17. Kopili Hydel Project with Additional Trans. Line.	56.77	8232.70	12/82	3/88
18. Doyang Hydel Project	96.31	149.52	7/92	9th Plan
19. Chukha Trans. Lines Project	74.83	129.81	12/85	6/87 (A)
20. Jaypore-Talcher Single Circuit Trans. Line	84.49	106.41	3/87	3/87

Note :—

A— Project completed.

§— Commissioning schedule not specified due to closure of M/s. ABL.

*— Commissioning schedule will be determined on re-appraisal of the project.

+— 57 months from the date of finalisation of bilateral agreement.

**— The project is expected to be completed in 8 years from the date of availability of land/expenditure sanction, whichever is later.

Installation of 25 lines small automatic exchanges in Himachal Pradesh

1143. PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been issued by the Directorate of Telecom for the installation of 25 line small automatic exchanges in such a manner that the projects in respect of which at least 10 final payments have been made are taken up in a chronological order;

(b) if so, the date on which the instructions have been issued to the Telecom Circles and the exact instructions issued;

(c) the names of the projects in Himachal Pradesh for each of the Telecom Engineering Divisions where atleast 10 final payments have been made for such exchanges as on date, along with the date of completion of final payments, in each

case;

(d) whether the installations for the projects have been taken up in the chronological order of payments; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 9th February, 1988 According to these instructions the inter-sepilotity between the new exchanges to be opened should be established on basis of the date of payment of the 10th application.

(c) Details are given in the Statement below.

(d) Yes, Sir. Chronological order is followed in each secondary switching area.

(e) Not applicable in view of (d) above.

Statement

Details of Projects

Name of Engineering Division	Name of Station	No. of Project Sanctioned
1	2	3
1. Dharamsala	1. Mair	08/04/87/TDEDMA
	2. S.P. Terrace	30/6/87 ..
	3. Rishikesh	8/10/87 ..
	4. Patlandar	14/7/87 ..
	5. Ladrar	21/7/87 ..
	6. Bharoli-Kalan	24/11/87 ..
	7. Bharari	26/12/87 ..
	8. Dulehar	28/12/87 ..
	9. Salooni	31/12/87 ..
	10. Uhal	12/1/88 ..

I	2	3
	11. Jangleberi	18/1/88 „
	12. Rakh	20/1/88 „
	13. Harchakian	10/2/88 „
2. Shimla	1. Jounaji	26/11/87/TDESM
	2. Baghi	16/7/88 „
	3. CBA	3/2/88 „
3. Mandi	1. Makriri	8/2/88 TDEMND

Exploitation of new coal reserves in Andhra Pradesh

1144. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Coalfields Ltd. have drawn up a plan to exploit new coal reserves in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and the amount to be spent thereon;

(c) the State-wise area that will be exploited under the scheme and expected amount to be incurred on each of them; and

(d) the places in Andhra Pradesh to be exploited and the amount reserved therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to the plan drawn up, Central Coalfields Limited is expected to produce about 20 million tonnes of coal by 1989-90 and 49 million tonnes by 1994-95. This will be achieved by production from existing mines, opening of new mines and reorganisation of existing mines. A provision of Rs. 122 crores has been made for Central Coalfields Limited in the Revised Estimates for 1987-88 and for Budget Estimates 1988-89 the provision proposed is Rs. 180 crores for this purpose. Some of the major projects for which project

reports have been formulated and their likely investment is given below :

Anticipated Investment (Rs. in crores)	
1. Piparwar Opencast	450.00
2. K.D. Hesalong Opencast Expansion	150.00
3. Jharkhand Opencast Reorganisation	50.00
4. Ashok Opencast	250.00
5. Urimari Opencast Expansion	80.00

All these coal projects are located in Bihar.

(d) Coal mining activities in Andhra Pradesh are being carried out by Singareni Collieries Company Limited. Some of the major projects which have been formulated and their likely investment are indicated below :—

Project	Capacity (mty)	Anticipated Investment (Rs. in crores)
I	2	3
1. Ramagundam Opencast III	2.75	256.94

1	2	3
2. Ravindra Khani New Tech.	1.00	70.00
3. Goletl - Longwall	0.76	60.00
4. Chinnur 1 & 1A Incline	0.90	60.00

[Translation]

Setting up of polyester staple fibre factory in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh

1145. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a polyester staple fibre factory at Meghnagar in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if not, whether agriculture land acquired for this purpose from the tribal people is to be restored to them; and

(c) if not, whether Government will consider to establish some other industry in the public sector at this site ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) M/s. Madhya Pradesh Fibres Ltd. a joint sector undertaking of the Madhya Pradesh State Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., were granted an industrial licence for establishment of a new undertaking in Dist. Jhabua in the State of Madhya Pradesh for the manufacture of Polyester Staple Fibre for a capacity of 15,000 tonnes/annum with permission to expand the capacity to 30,000 tonnes/annum.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Commissioning of Hydel Power Projects

1146. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are going to

lay down more stress on the generation of power from hydel sources during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether efforts are being made to commission some of the hydel projects in the current Seventh Five Year Plan Period; and

(c) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Every effort is being made to promote hydel generation along with other sources of power and this policy will continue during the Eighth Five Year Plan also.

(b) and (c) Out of a capacity addition of 22,245 MW envisaged during the Seventh Plan period, a capacity of 5541 MW (25%) is planned from hydel sources.

Setting up of Technology Units by NRIs

1147. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to encourage Non-Resident Indians to set up units with latest technology from abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the result achieved has been satisfactory; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The non-resident Indians are welcome to set up industrial units in India in accordance with the Industrial policy as amended from time to time. They can set up these units with their own technology. They can also seek foreign collaboration, if required, to implement the project.

The non-resident Indians have been given the benefit of repatriation of capital invested and income earned thereon upto 40% of the total capital to set up new industrial projects or substantial expansion of the existing units. In export oriented industries, priority industries, Hotels of 3, 4 or 5 star category, Hospitals with large capital outlays, the benefits of repatriation on NRI investment can be upto 74% of the total capital.

(c) and (d) Since November, 1983 when the Special Approvals Committee was set up to consider proposal from NRIs, and upto the end of 1987, Govt. have approved 193 proposals from non-resident Indians for setting up industrial units in India.

Rise in prices of edible oils

1148. SHRI JAGANNATH PAT-
NAIK :

SHRI R.M. BHOYE :

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALL-
ICK :

SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

SHRI S. M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of edible oils have flared up despite a modest increase in production of oilseeds during 1987.

(b) whether the widespread drought in major oilseeds producing States coupled with restricted availability jacked up the prices to unprecedented levels causing grave concern to the trade and industry; and

(c) if so, the effective steps taken by Government to improve the availability of edible oils and control the rising prices ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) During the past 12 months ending December, 1987, the wholesale price index in respect of edible oils has moved by 22.7%.

(b) There was unprecedented drought

in the country during Kharif, 1987, which affected oilseeds production. In the past 6 months ending December, 1987, the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers moved up by 5.2% while in the same 6 months last years, it had moved up by 4.6%.

(c) (i) States have been advised repeatedly even at Chief Ministers level to take stringent action against speculators, hoarders and other anti-social elements. Inspection of Vanaspathi Unit was intensified to ensure that all edible oils are properly used and adequate vanaspathi is despatched for sale.

(ii) The allocation of imported edible oils under Public Distribution System as well as vanaspathi industry has been substantially increased.

(iii) Voluntary price agreement with vanaspathi industry and discussions with oil industry.

(iv) Credit control for edible oilseeds/ oil has been tightened with effect from 15.7.87.

(v) Stock limit of edible oils and oilseeds has been reduced under Storage Control Order.

Import of sugar opposed by sugar industry

1149. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the sugar industry has opposed the import of sugar;

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

(c) what concrete steps Government propose to take to ensure stability of sugar prices in case sugar is not imported ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES : (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) The sugar industry is not in favour

of import of sugar. The Government is also working towards phasing out import of sugar completely. The policy is decided taking into consideration indigenous sugar production, adequate availability for meeting internal requirements, trend of international prices etc. The interest of the consumer and sugarcane growers as well as those of the producers of sugar are always kept in mind while evolving the policy.

(c) With the sufficient carryover stocks in the beginning of the season, the production during the current season and planned arrival of imported sugar, if any, there would be sufficient availability of sugar to meet the domestic requirement. Government had already initiated the following measures for maintaining the sugar prices at reasonable levels :

- (i) Increased level of levy and free-sale release.
- (ii) 10 days turn-over period of stocks by wholesale sugar licence dealers was reduced to 7 days.
- (iii) Wholesales to wholesalers transaction accompanied by physical delivery of sugar restricted to one transaction only.

Import of raw sugar

1150. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of raw as well as white sugar imported during 1987; and

(b) whether it is proposed to import only raw sugar which is cheaper than the white sugar and process it domestically ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Only refined White Sugar is being imported. A quantity of 8.16 lakh tonnes (Provisional) was imported during the calendar year 1987.

(b) There is no proposal to import raw sugar in the country.

Availability of life saving drugs at subsidised rates

1151. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the President of Indian Medical Association has urged Government to exempt all life saving drugs from all types of taxation and also to make them available to the needy poor at subsidised rates; and

(b) the reaction of Government thereto and steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Such request/recommendations are examined by the Finance Ministry in consultation with this Department.

Vana spati Policy

1152. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has prepared a new vanaspati policy;

(b) if so, what are its main features;

(c) whether Government propose to scrap the vanaspati price control; and

(d) if so, the main reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a)

and (b) There has been no change in the vanaspati policy.

(c) and (d) The voluntary price discipline by the vanaspati industry is continuing.

Loss in N.C.C.F.

1153. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Consumer Co-operative Federation of India Limited is running in loss; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to improve its working ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of losses suffered by NCCF, year-wise, are as under :—

(Rs. in lakhs)

1 83-84	120.12
1984-85	254.34
1985-86	271.47
1986-87	257.36

03.29

The following steps have been taken to improve the working of the NCCF :—

- (i) The Board of Directors has been superseded by the Central Registrar of Cooperative societies vide his order dated 15.10.1987 and Secretary, Civil Supplies, has been appointed as its Administrator.
- (ii) Management Information System has been introduced. The working of the Branches is being monitored closely and necessary

guidelines have been issued to improve their functioning.

(iii) Due to a reduction in the allotment of controlled cloth as per the Government of India Policy, there has been a loss of income which is being gradually reduced by handling additional consumer items.

(iv) Certain economy measures have been introduced and a Special Cell has been created to expedite recoveries of sundry debts.

Rise in prices of cough syrups.

1154. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :
SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the prices of all cough syrups have gone up during the last two months between 60 per cent to 300 per cent;

(b) whether the major selling cough syrups have been exempted from Drugs Prices Control Order, 1987;

(c) whether all cough syrups were under price control as per Drugs Prices Control Order, 1979; and

(d) if so, the reasons for decontrolling the prices of cough syrups from price control ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) Prices of some cough syrups based on price decontrolled bulk drugs have gone up.

(b) Those cough syrups which contain bulk drugs coming under categories I or II. of DPCO, 1987 come under price control.

(c) Most of the cough syrups were price controlled under the DPCO, 1979.

(d) : All cough syrups not containing

any of the bulk drugs recommended for price control by the Kelkar Committee have been exempted from price control.

Guidelines for manufacture of alcohol

1155. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are no set norms or guidelines for setting up new capacities for the manufacture of alcohol for potable purposes from raw material;

(b) whether there are guidelines for the manufacture of alcohol from molasses;

(c) whether Government have received any request for issuing guidelines on new alcohol units :

(d) whether Government have taken any decision on the request; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (e) There is ban on new capacities/expansion of capacities for manufacture of alcohol from molasses for potable purposes, except in the case of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units. Recently, the Government of India has decided to relax the ban on manufacture of alcoholic drinks from raw-materials other than molasses. Guidelines for sanctioning new licences under this policy will be issued shortly.

Need for alternative source of energy

1156. SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are working on alternative source of energy like compressed natural gas in view of the growing prices of petrol, diesel etc;

(b) if so, what is the stage of development made by the Research and Development Wing, if any, and what are the difficulties faced by the scientists ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) The usage of compressed natural gas (CNG), as an automotive fuel for the substitution of diesel/petrol has been taken up by ONGC on an experimental basis at various operational centres namely, Bombay, Rajamundry (A.P.), Gujarat and Tripura to examine the suitability and economic viability of this alternative in Indian conditions.

Cost study of production of man-made fibres and yarns

1157. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had asked the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices to conduct a study on the cost of production of the man-made fibres and yarns so as to determine the fair selling price;

(b) if so, the results of the study and steps taken to check imports of man-made fibre or yarn or fabric when the fair prices are determined; and

(c) the details of Government's policy in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) The Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) has been asked to conduct a cost study of polyester staple fibre and polyester filament yarn industries.

(b) and (c) The BICP has not finalised the cost study report yet.

Quality of BHEL Equipment

1158. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Electricity

Boards have been complaining about the inferior quality of BHEL equipment, high prices, especially for spares and other conditions prescribed by it, which have been eroding their resources;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have critically examined the complaints of the State Electricity Boards; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof stating the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Some initial problems like hydrogen leakage were noticed during the process of technology absorption. BHEL has systematically overcome these problems. Generation targets set by the CEA for BHEL sets have been consistently exceeded over the last three years. Pricing of BHEL equipment, including spares, was reviewed by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices and found reasonable. The terms and conditions for sale of BHEL equipment are based on the model contract evolved by the Central Electricity Authority. The losses suffered by State Electricity Boards are due to a variety of reasons, including problems with the equipment.

(c) and (d) Regular review meetings are held by CEA and State Electricity Boards with Bharat Heavy electricals Ltd. on the performance of BHEL sets and remedial actions are taken by BHEL for resolving the problems noticed.

Foodgrains to Orissa for employment programmes etc.

1159. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of foodgrains supplied to Orissa for employment programmes

scheme during the year 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto 31 January, 1988) and what was the demand of State Government;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains supplied to Orissa for schemes in tribal areas at special concessional prices during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto 31 January, 1988);

(c) the demand of the State for the purpose; and

(d) whether any review of the implementation of these projects is being done by the Food Corporation of India or by any central agency; if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) A Statement showing the quantities of foodgrains received by the Government of Orissa during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (so far) under the National Rural Employment Programme and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme is given below.

(b) The quantities of wheat and rice issued by FCI to the Government of Orissa under the scheme for supply of foodgrains at specially subsidised prices to people living in Integrated Tribal Development Project areas during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto 31 January, 1988) are as under :

(In thousand tonnes)

	Wheat	Rice
1985-86 (from Dec, 1985-March 1986)	3.0	1.9
1986-87	12.2	40.6
1987-88(upto January 31, 1988)	19.0	83.0

(c) Issues of foodgrains under the scheme for supply of wheat and rice at specially subsidised prices in the ITDP areas are made out of the allocations for the Public Distribution System. No separate allocations are made for the purpose.

(d) The scheme has been reviewed in the light of the observations and recommendations of the reports of Central official teams which visited the ITDP areas in various States and the evaluation studies conducted by some private agencies.

Statement

Quantities of foodgrains received by the Government of Orissa under the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (so far) :

(In metric tonnes)

Year	N.R.E.P.	R.L.E.G.P.
1985-86	22028	8641
1986-87	43848	36186
1987-88 (so far)	33527	31435

Violation cases under Weights and Measures Act and Essential Commodities Act in Delhi

1160. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases registered against the traders in Delhi for the violation of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Weights and Measures Act during 1985, 1986 and 1987 and how does it compare with the last three years;

(b) the action taken against the defaulters; and

(c) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of the consumers and to streng-

then the above said Acts and Rules made thereunder ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) The number of cases registered against the traders in Delhi under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, Weights and Measures Act, 1958 and the Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977 during the last three years, viz, 1985 to 1987 are given below :-

	1985	1986	1987
Essential Commodities Act, 1955	1253	1610	1825
Weights and Measures Act, 1958	2358	3576	6114
The Standards of Weights and Measures (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 1977.	256	270	195

(b) and (c) Legal and departmental action has been taken against defaulters. Relevant Act and rules are also amended from time to time to safeguard the interests of the consumers.

The Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, 1981 has been extended for a further period of five years w. e. f. 1.9.87. The Central Government has also enacted a comprehensive legislation, namely, the consumer Protection Act, 1986 which applies to all goods and services to protect the interests of the consumers.

Agreement with vanaspati manufacturers

1161. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the agreement with vanaspati manufacturers to hold the price line of vanaspati in exchange for supply of

Imported edible oils upto 85 per cent has worked successfully;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to extend this agreement for the next six months when pressure on edible oil prices is likely to be the maximum; and

(c) if not, what other steps are proposed to be taken to hold the price line of vanaspati ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) to (c) : Voluntary price discipline which was earlier agreed upto November 1987, still continues successfully. However, the total percentage of allocation of imported edible oils to vanaspati units has been brought down to eighty.

[Translation]

Development of sources of energy

1162. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent in various States since First Plan for the development of sources of energy;

(b) whether it is a fact that less amount has been spent in Uttar Pradesh as compared to its population and energy requirements; and

(c) If so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to provide more funds for the development of energy in

this State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The total expenditure incurred for power sector in all the States/UTs and the share of Uttar Pradesh in it since the First Five Year Plan is indicated in the Statement below. Uttar Pradesh accounts for about 16% of the total population of the country and its share in the investments made in power sector has been about 14.9%, on an average. In addition, expenditure has also been incurred in the central sector on the setting up of power stations and associated transmission systems in Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the Northern Region for the benefit of all the States/UTs in the Region. Allocation of funds for power projects implemented in the State Sector is made in the States' Annual Plans by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State authorities. Depending on the availability of resources, efforts are always made to provide adequate funds for all the States including Uttar Pradesh.

The expenditure on the development of other major sources of energy, namely, coal, petroleum and natural gas, which are site specific, is incurred with reference to the availability of deposits reserves, on a national basis. Apart from this, Investments are also being made in the central sector as well as the state sector for the development and exploitation of non-conventional sources of energy such as biogas, solar energy, wind energy and improved chulhas.

Statement

Expenditure Incurred for Power Sector

(Rs. in lakhs)

Plan	States	UT's	Total (States+ UT's)	of which share of Uttar Pradesh %	
1	2	3	4	5	6
I Plan (1951-56)*	17849.7	13	17862.7	2341.8	13.1

1	2	3	4	5	6
II Plan (1956-61)	42631	203	42834	5691	13.3
III Plan (1961-66)	113865	2796	116661	15619	13.4
Annual Plan (1966-1967)	31515	1439.9	32954.9	5802	17.6
Annual Plan (1967-1968)	32789	1395.2	34184.2	6345	18.6
Annual Plan (1968-1969)	34660	1563.8	36223.8	5389	14.9
IV Plan (1969-74)	249577	5639.2	255216.2	44624	17.5
V Plan (1974-79)	650780	12008.3	662788.3	111458	16.8
Annual Plan (1979-1980)	181711	4165.1	185876.1	25047	13.5
VI Plan (1980-85)	1298551	27363.5	1325914.5	186935	14.1
VII Plan (1985-90)*	2268676	53516	2322192	339500	14.6
	4922604.7	1710103	5032707.7	748751.8	14.88

* Outlay

[English]

Selling of equity shares of public sector undertaking to its employees

1163. **SHRIMATI GEETA MUHKERJEE** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal mooted by the chief executives of public sector undertakings to sell 25 per cent of the equity shares of the public sector undertakings to their employees; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALM) : (a) and (b) One of the recommendation of the Conference of Chief Executives of Public Sector Undertakings held in January, 1988 is that, where possible, the successful public sector undertaking should be able to offload upto

25% of the shares to their employees and general public at market value. The recommendations of the Conference are under consideration of the Government.

Upper Kolab hydel project in Orissa

1164. **SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL** : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the first unit of the Upper Kolab Hydel Project in Orissa has been further delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is due to the snag in the equipment supplied by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL); and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to remove the bottleneck and see that the project is executed without further delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The first unit

of Upper Kolab hydel project in Orissa was rolled on 18th December, 1987.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of answer to (a) above.

[Translation]

Communication facilities in villages

1165. SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages with a population of about 1500 provided communication facilities during the past three years; and

(b) the State-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Price increase of essential commodities

1166. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether prices of various essential commodities under the Public Distribution System have been increased from January 1988;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) to (c) There has been no change in the central issue prices of essential commodities supplied through the Public Distribution System w.e.f. 1.1.1988 except in the case of levy sugar the price of which has been revised upward from Rs. 4.85 per kg. to Rs. 5.10 per kg. consequent upon an increase in the statutory minimum

price of sugarcane for the 1987-88 season from Rs. 17/- to Rs. 18.50 per quintal linked to 8.5% recovery and higher manufacturing cost of sugar determined for the production of the sugar year 1987-88.

Uniform slab rate on electricity consumed by agriculturists

1167. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to determine uniform slab rate on electricity consumed by the agriculturists throughout the country by taking the electricity operation systems existing in the country under the control of the Union Government; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the power to fix tariff for supply of electricity to various categories of consumers vests in the State Electricity Board/State Government.

Production target of coal

1168. SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the target of production of coal during the current financial year;

(b) whether the target is expected to be fulfilled or there will be shortfall;

(c) whether coal shortage has been hitting production in thermal power units; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) The overall target for coal production during the current financial year (1987-88) was fixed at 183.50 m.t. as per the following break-up :

Coal India Ltd.	158.00 m.t.
Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd.	20.00 m.t.
Captive Collieries (TISCO/IISCO/DVC)	5.50 m.t.

	183.50 m.t.

(b) During first 10 months of the current financial year (April 1987—Jan 1988) total production of coal has been 142.87 m.t. While Coal India Ltd. is expected to fulfil its target of production of 158 m.t., there will be shortfall in production in SCCL and also in the captive collieries of TISCO/IISCO and DVC.

(c) and (d) During the period April '87—Jan., '88, thermal power stations received 14% more coal than during the

same period in 1986-87. By close monitoring and prompt remedial action, the requirement of coal thermal power stations are being met on top priority.

New hydro-electric power projects

1169. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA-SEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised some new hydro-electric power projects for different parts of the country;

(b) whether the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Limited, a public sector undertaking has been entrusted with the jobs for execution;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the modes and sources of finance for the proposed power projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI-MATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The details of new projects entrusted to National Hydro-electric Power Corporation are as under :—

Sl. No.	Name of the Project	Installed Capacity (MW)	Area of location
1	2	3	4
1.	Salal Hydro-electric Project (Stage-II)	3x115 MW	District Udhampur, J&K.
2.	Chamera Hydro-electric Project (Stage-II)	3x100 MW	District Chamba, Himachal Pradesh.
3.	Uri Hydro-electric Project	4x120 MW	District Baramulla, J&K.
4.	Rangit Hydro-electric Project	3x20 MW	District South Sikkim Sikkim.
5.	Baglihar Hydro-electric Project	3x150 MW	District Doda, J&K.

1	2	3	4
6.	Sawalkot Hydro-electric Project	3x200 MW	District Doda, J&K.
7.	Dhauliganga Hydro-electric Project (Stage-I)	4x70 MW	District Pithoragarh, Uttar Pradesh

These projects will be funded through Central Plan allocations and some of resource gap is envisaged to be bridged by external/financial assistance.

World Bank credit for power schemes of U.P.

expected to commence shortly; further details would be known after conclusion of the Agreements with the Bank.

1170. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 7 crore credit is likely to be received from World Bank in 1988-89 for power schemes of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Union Government for the construction of power projects and to renovate the existing projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The World Bank are likely to extend assistance of about US \$ 300 million for the U.P. Power Project in the State Sector, for which negotiations are

Refund deposits for Appollo Scooters

1171. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7332 on 21 April, 1987 regarding refund of deposits for Appollo Scooters and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected about the claim applications for the refund of deposits made for allotment of Appollo Scooter and the number of claims settled so far; and

(b) if so, the details thereof f

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Statement is given below.

Statement

M/s. Sehkari Udyog Bharatpur Ltd. is not registered under the Companies Act, 1956 and is a cooperative society registered with the Assistant Registrar of Societies, Bharatpur. The said authority has furnished the following information :

Question	Answer
(a) the total number of claim applications received so far by the Liquidator of the Praja Sehkari Udyog Bharatpur Ltd., Bharatpur seeking return of their deposits for allotment of Appollo Scooters;	Nil
(b) whether any claim out of them has so far been settled and the amount refunded to the claimant; and	Nil
(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in settling these claims ?	Does not arise,

[Translation]

**LPG agencies at Chambal division in
Madhya Pradesh**

1172. SHRI KAMMODI LAL JATAV : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tehsils in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh where LPG agencies are proposed to be opened;

(b) the number of gas agencies, out of them to be allotted to Harijans and Adivasis, separately; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and further action being taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) Oil industry has planned to introduce LPG facility in the following Tehsils in Chambal Division of Madhya Pradesh; the selection process in respect of them has been initiated :

S. No.	Name of the Tehsil	Name of the District	Category
1.	Ambah	Morena	SC
2.	Sabalgarh	Morena	Open

(c) Does not arise.

[Drilling by ONGC in Bihar

1173. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some years ago the Oil and Natural Gas Commission had drilled upto the depth of 5400 feet in Betia district of Bihar to explore oil reserves and drilling was stopped thereafter due to development of cracks;

(b) whether Government have already spent about Rs. 40 crores on this project; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to extract oil from the oil reserves at the depth of six thousand feet in Betia ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, ONGC had drilled one well 'Gandak-1' upto 5314 metres near Betiah in West Champaran district of Bihar. This was a parametric well and drilling was terminated on achieving the geological objective. The cost of the well was about Rs. 15 crores.

(c) As no oil reserves have been established in the area, the question of extraction of oil does not arise. However, further exploration in the basin is continuing.

[English]

**Pooyamkutty Hydro Electric Project,
Kerala**

1174. PROF. K.V. THOMAS :
SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the project report of Pooyamkutty Hydro-electric Project submitted by Kerala Government has been rejected;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this project is being reconsidered ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The

Pooyamkutty Hydro-electric Project has been approved by the Planning Commission in August, 1986. However, clearance from the forest angle has not been accorded by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Performance of public sector companies

1175. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the present financial performance of public sector industries both under direct control of Government and public corporations;

(b) whether the generation of resources of public sector is as envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A detailed report on the financial and physical performance of all public sector companies and corporations for the year 1986-87 has been laid on the Table of the House on 25.2.1988.

(b) and (c) During the Seventh Five Year Plan, Central Public Sector Enterprises were expected to generate internal resources of Rs. 23013 crores. In addition, they were expected to contribute Rs. 11490 crores towards additional resource mobilisation during the Plan period. During the first two years of the Plan, the details of year-wise targets and actuals are as follow :—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Target	Actual
1985-86	3438.64	3185.32
1986-87	3785.57	3790.51

Expenditure on foodgrain subsidy

1176. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the subsidy provided in respect of foodgrains supplies during the current financial year;

(b) whether the amount is expected to be exceeded as a result of drought in different States; and

(c) if so, the estimated excess amount, if any ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) Rs. 2000 Crores.

(b) and (c) The amount of food subsidy depends upon the level of procurement, off-take, food stocks and other factors. Due to drought, off-take of foodgrains may increase this year and may affect the food subsidy.

Modern Rice Mill at Palghat, Kerala

1177. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Modern Rice Mill at Palghat, Kerala is lying closed for the past four years;

(b) whether the workers have demanded re-opening of the mill; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) The Modern Rice Mill at Palghat, Kerala has not been operated for the past two years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Food Corporation of India have decided to dispose of 14 uneconomic Modern Rice Mills. The mill at Palghat in Kerala is one of these mills. However, the matter is being contested by the Employees Union in the High Court of Kerala and is subjudice.

Recommendations of Baijal Committee

1178. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJEWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the States have expressed their opposition to some major recommendations of the Baijal Committee in respect of central subsidies for industrialisation of backward areas in the country;

(b) if so, the States which have expressed their opposition;

(c) the other States which have accepted the proposal in full; and

(d) by what time the recommendations of the Baijal Committee report are likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) The Baijal Committee had taken into account the differing views of the State Governments while preparing its report on revision of the scheme for industrialisation of backward areas. The report of the Committee is still under consideration of the Government.

[Translation]

S.T.D. facility in district headquarters of Rajasthan

1179. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the district headquar-

ters in Rajasthan where S.T.D. facility is proposed to be provided:

(b) the definite date by which STD facility is likely to be provided at these headquarters; and

(c) the reasons for not providing this facility at these headquarters so far ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The names of district headquarters in Rajasthan where STD facility is proposed to be provided are given below :—

Banswara Barmer, Bhilwara, Bundi Chittorgarh, Churu, Dungarpur, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Pali, Swaimadhopur, Sikar, Sirohi, Sriganganagar and Tonk.

(b) The year-wise programme is indicated below :

1988	1989	1990
Bundi Sriganganagar	Bhilwara Dungarpur Pali	Banswara, Barmer, Churu, Chittorgarh Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jhalawar, Sikar, Sirohi Swaimadhopur, Tonk and Jhunjhunu

(c) Within the available resources, progressively all these headquarters are being provided with this facility.

[English]

Legislation for distribution of molasses from sugar factories to distilleries

1180. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Union Government are considering adopting central legislation to control distribution of molasses directly from sugar factories to distilleries;

(b) if so, when and the broad outlines of such a legislation; and

(c) whether Government have invited the views of the surplus molasses States ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (c) Considering the problems being faced by the deficit States in obtaining molasses from surplus States, suggestions for a Central legislation for distribution of molasses from sugar factories to distilleries have been received, which are at a preliminary stage of consideration.

Setting up of industries with central assistance in Uttar Pradesh (U.P.)

1181. SHRI SALEEM I. SHERVANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of industries set up with central assistance in Uttar Pradesh till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : Information with regard to the Central Industrial Projects in U.P. is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Commissioning of Panki Power Station

1182. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 284-M.W. Panki Power Station has completely stopped generation; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to start commissioning of the above power station ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) There are 4 units at Panki Thermal Power Station, two of 32MW each were imported and two of 110MW each were supplied by

BHEL. All the 4 units are, at present under repair. The two imported units which were installed more than 20 years back are under repair from Sept., 1986 and May, 1986 respectively. The repair work on the first unit is almost over and the unit is expected to be back in operation by March, 1988. The second unit which was damaged severely in a blast in 1981 was re-commissioned in Fed., 1985 after repairs. The turbine again suffered damage on 6.5.1986, and the turbine rotor required replacement, for which UPSEB have placed a Letter of intent with M/s. KWU, West Germany. The unit is likely to be re-commissioned by the end of 1989. The third unit is shut down since 24.10.1987 due to damage to the generator transformer, which is under repair. During the shut down period, the renovation and modernisation of the unit is also being carried out. The unit is likely to be back in operation by the end of April, 1988. The fourth unit has been under shut down since 22.6.1987 due to a furnace explosion which caused extensive damage to the boiler. The unit is under repair. Simultaneously, renovation and modernisation of this unit is also being undertaken. The unit is likely to come back in operation in March, 1988.

Leather Industry in Orissa

1183. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a need to set up more units of Leather Industry in Orissa;

(b) whether any formal proposal has come from the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the action taken by Government thereon; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There is scope for setting up leather units in Orissa.

(b) No formal proposal has been received from the State Government in this regard.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Financial assistance to users of gobar gas plants

1184. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether financial assistance is being given to the users of gobar gas plants in villages;

(b) if so, whether such assistance is given directly or through employees;

(c) whether Government have come to know of instances of bungling in giving such financial assistance through employees resulting in denial of assistance to users ;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon ; and

(e) whether Government propose to give such assistance directly to the users ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Central subsidy is being given to beneficiaries for setting up family size biogas (gobar gas) plants under the National Project for Biogas Development. The subsidy is not given directly by the Central Government or through its employees. It is routed through the State

Governments and Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Raid conducted on hoarders and black marketeers

1185. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the concrete steps taken by Union Government to arrest hoarders and black-marketeters of essential commodities exploiting the situation caused due to the scarcity followed by unprecedented drought in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of raids conducted during 1987, the persons arrested and prosecutions launched, statewide ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) Action against unscrupulous persons indulging in malpractices in the trade of essential commodities such as hoarding and blackmarketing is being taken continuously by the States/Union Territories under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. In view of the drought situation prevailing in large parts of the country, the States/UTs were asked to intensify the drive against hoarders, blackmarketeters etc. A Statement indicating the results of such a drive launched by the States/UTs is given below.

Statement

Progress of dehoarding drive launched in States/U.Ts. from 1.8.1987 to 31.12.1987

S. No.	State/UTs.	No. of raids conducted	No. of persons arrested	No. of prosecutions launched
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—	548	566

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Assam	951	12	71
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—
4.	Bihar	128	81	55
5.	Gujarat	985	11	—
6.	Goa	1180	1	1
7.	Haryana	215	18	20
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	—
10.	Karnataka	522	66	38
11.	Kerala	1424	—	5
12.	Madhya Pradesh	492	14	29
13.	Maharashtra	16521	359	356
14.	Manipur	—	—	—
15.	Meghalaya	54	—	—
16.	Mizoram	3	—	4
17.	Nagaland	—	—	—
18.	Orissa	698	1	7
19.	Punjab	3139	—	2
20.	Rajasthan	308	90	—
21.	Sikkim	1	1	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	590	40	7
23.	Tripura	—	—	—
24.	Uttar Pradesh	13508	361	550
25.	West Bengal	—	271	260
26.	A & N Islands	1495	7	5
27.	Chandigarh UT.	99	—	—
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4	—	—
29.	Delhi	1291	75	65
30.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
31. Pondicherry		584	38	50
32. Daman & Diu		—	—	—
Total :		44192	1994	2091

[Translation]

Delay in supply of LPG cylinder refills

1186. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :

DR. PHULRENU GUHA :

SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cooking gas cylinders are not being supplied in time to the consumers in a large number of cities and towns;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is sufficient stock of cooking gas in the country;

(c) if so, the reasons for inordinate delay in the supply of cooking gas by the concerned agencies in places like Delhi and Rajasthan State; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to remove the difficulties faced by the consumers at all the places ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c) Backlogs in supply of LPG refills have developed in recent months in several parts of the country including Rajasthan and Delhi mainly on account of overall shortfall in the bulk availability of LPG, apart from movement, industrial relations and other operational constraints;

(d) Efforts are being made to maximise indigenous LPG production and also augment supplies through imports to the

extent feasible. The situation is being closely monitored by the oil industry with a view to ensuring regular LPG supplies to the consumers.

Production of Cement

1187. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand of cement has increased to a great extent in the country;

(b) whether the production of cement was less than the estimated demand in the year 1987;

(c) whether Government propose to set up a cement factory at Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh to meet the increasing demand of cement; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The production of cement in the country has increased from 18.56 million tonnes in the year 1980-81 to 36.50 million tonnes during 1986-87. The growth of demand during this period is quite evident from the fact that despite the increase in indigenous production, the import of cement has also come down from a level of 19.74 lakh tonnes during the year 1980-81 to 1.76 lakh tonnes in 1986-87. The production of cement in the country is, by and large, sufficient to meet the demand of the country and there is no report of shortage,

except in packets, where difficulty has arisen mainly because of transportation problems.

(c) and (d) Government have already issued industrial Licences to Cement Corporation of India Limited and M/s. Raymond Woollen Mills for setting up factories in Bilaspur in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Electrification of villages in West Bengal

1188. DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages electrified so far in West Bengal;

(b) whether Government have any plan to electrify all villages of West Bengal by the end of the Seventh Plan period and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) 22,722 villages are reported to have been electrified in West Bengal by the end of January, 1988.

(b) and (c) There are 38,074 villages (1971 census) in West Bengal, out of which 19,201 villages had been electrified by the end of the Sixth Plan. The Seventh Plan envisages electrification of 14,918 villages thereby leaving 3,955 villages for electrification beyond 7th Plan. All the remaining villages are expected to be electrified by the end of the 8th Plan, subject to the availability of resources and inputs.

Electrification of villages in Punjab

1189. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages, district.

wise, in Punjab electrified till December, 1987;

(b) the number of villages, particularly in the district of Hoshiarpur, and also in other districts of Punjab proposed to be electrified during the current Five Year Plan; and

(c) the time by which all the villages in Punjab, particularly in Hoshiarpur district are likely to be electrified ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) (a) to (c) All the inhabited villages in Punjab have been electrified.

World Energy Conference

1190. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether three day meeting of the World Energy Conference was held in January in Jodhpur;

(b) if so, the main topics discussed during the meeting;

(c) the outcome of the meeting;

(d) whether Government are considering their suggestions; and

(e) if so, how many of them have been accepted by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) A meeting of the Committee on "Energy Problems of Developing Countries" of the World Energy Conference was held at Jodhpur from 23rd to 25th January, 1988;

(b) to (e) In the meeting, the Committee deliberated on the strategy to be followed in organising material/information in respect of the following topics identified for study as part of its work programme for 1986-89 :

1. Regional studies on household energy demands and trends in inter-fuel substitution.
2. Strategy for the development of human resources in the energy sector of developing countries.
3. Energy technology case studies for developing countries (from both industrialised countries and developing countries sources).

The Committee is an ad-hoc forum within the World Energy Conference and it will present the final outcome of the studies organised by it at the next congress of the World Energy Conference to be held in Montreal (Canada) in 1989.

Reopening of closed small paper mills

1191. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of small paper mills closed down during the current financial year;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the All India Small Paper Mills Association has urged Government to take immediate steps to re-open these small units; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHLAM) : (a) and (b) The performance of the small paper mills in general has not been satisfactory mainly on account of the following factors:—

- (i) Installation of inferior, inadequate and inappropriate equipment.
- (ii) Fluctuations in the availability

and price of raw material used by the mills.

- (iii) Management deficiencies and skilled labour scarcity.
- (iv) Absence of technically and economically sound recovery systems.
- (v) Time and cost over-runs at the project implementation stage resulting in higher financial burden.
- (vi) Inadequate availability of power and also good quality coal suited for the boilers installed in the mills.

67 units manufacturing paper and paper board borne on the rolls of Directorate General of Technical Development have not reported production in the last two years. Most of these are small paper mills using mainly non-conventional raw materials, such as waste paper and agricultural residues.

(c) and (d) Representations have been received from time to time from the All India Small Paper Mills Association for the growth and health of small paper mills. Various reliefs and concessions have been extended by Government from time to time to enable the paper industry in general to improve its capacity utilisation and financial viability. Among them, the following reliefs and concessions are expected to directly benefit the small paper mills to a large extent :—

- (i) Import of pulp and waste paper have been placed on OGL. Import of pulp is allowed free of customs levies.
- (ii) Manufacture of writing, printing and kraft paper containing not less than 75% by weight of pulp made from bagasse is exempted from payment of excise duty.
- (iii) Paper and paper board manufactured by small paper mills out of pulp containing not less than

50% by weight made from non-conventional raw materials are charged concessional rates of excise duty.

- (iv) The facility of payment of excise duty on incremental basis for successive slabs has been extended to small paper mills from 1.4.1986.
- (v) Flexibility allowed to the industry to manufacture all varieties of paper and paper grade pulp including paper board/straw board within the overall licensed capacity.
- (vi) Requirement of Industrial Licence has been dispensed with in the case of manufacture of writing, printing and wrapping paper from agricultural residues, wastes and bagasse.
- (vii) Restrictions on export of paper and paper board have been removed.

[Translation]

Constitution of telephone advisory committee.

11-2. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts and the States where Telephone Advisory Committees have not been constituted so far; and

(b) the time by which the advisory Committees for the aforesaid places will be constituted ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Telecom / Telephone Advisory Committees of all the Telecom, Circles and Telephone Districts have been formed except for Amritsar Telephone District whose term has expired on 29.02.1988.

(b) Action has been initiated to re-constitute the Amritsar Telephone Advisory Committee.

[English]

Self sufficiency in oil

1193. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is yet far from achieving self-sufficiency in oil; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) Self sufficiency in crude oil at present is about 66% because the rate of growth of consumption of petroleum products has been far more than the rate of growth of domestic crude oil production.

Employment potential under Punjab Agro-Pepsico proposal

1194. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) how many plants will be located in Punjab and how many outside Punjab for the manufacture of snack foods under Punjab Agro-Pepsico joint ventures proposal; and

(b) how much employment is likely to be created from these plants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) M/s. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation have stated that they propose to set up only one plant initially for snack foods in Punjab.

(b) M/s Punjab Agro Industries Corporation have informed that their proposed

plant in Punjab will provide direct employment to 500 persons and indirect employment opportunities to a substantial number of people in agriculture, ancillaries, retail and distribution systems, etc.

Power projects receiving World Bank credit

1195. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and name of power projects at present receiving World Bank credit or other external assistance in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any proposal has been received from Government of Tamil Nadu for external assistance for any new power scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (d) The desired information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Criteria for issue of Industrial Licences

1196. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted while giving industrial licences to entrepreneurs; and

(b) whether a single big industrialist can be granted several industrial licences?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) : The criteria adopted while examining industrial licence appli-

cations include priority of the industry as outlined in the Five Year Plans, the scope for further licensing taking into account the projected demand and availability, the net effect on balance of payments having regard to export possibilities, locational aspects, employment potential possibility of sub-contracting to small scale and ancillary units, competence of entrepreneurs, and techno-economic feasibility of the project.

(b) Industrial licences are granted against individual applications received and as such one undertaking can apply for more than one industrial licence.

[English]

Conversion of Satna telephone exchange into electronic exchange.

1197. SHRI AZIZ QURESHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to replace the existing Satna Telephone Exchange (Madhya Pradesh) by an electronic one;

(b) if so, the time by which it will be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Land for construction of a new telephone exchange building is not available.

Setting up of rubber based industries in Kerala

1199. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any research has been made on the possibility of setting up rubber-based industries in the major rubber growing districts of Kerala;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have considered any proposal to set up such industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no need to conduct research on the possibility of setting up Rubber Based Industries in the major rubber growing Districts of Kerala, as any rubber based industry can be set up in that State.

(c) and (d) The Government have not considered any such proposal. Proposals if any, will be considered on merits as per the existing policy.

Shut down of polyester staple fibre plant by Reliance Industries Ltd.

1200. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Reliance Industries Ltd. has shut down its polyester staple fibre plant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that two other polyester staple fibre manufacturers, Oriassa Synthetics Ltd. and India polyfibres Ltd, have been working at less than 30 percent capacity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for poor performance of these units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENKALA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Polyester Staple Fibre plant of M/s.

Reliance Industries Ltd. has been closed since December 1987.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. M/s. Orissa Synthetics Ltd. had been working at an average rate of 45%. However, the plant has been shut down since 12.1.1988. M/s. India Polyfibres Ltd. worked their plant during 1987 at the average rate of 61%. This plant has also stopped production from 26th February 1988.

At present more productive capacity is available as against the indigenous demand. Hence, these units have reduced their production or closed down their plants.

Setting up of Kerala-Bhavani hydel project in Kerala

1201. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for setting up of Kerala-Bhavani Hydel Project in the State of Kerala;

(b) whether Karnataka and Tamil Nadu Governments have also consented to this proposal; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal for setting up of Kerala-Bhavani Hydel Project in Kerala is in abeyance as Karnataka and Kerala have not reached a consensus on the interstate aspects of the project.

Increase in import of sugar

1202. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have increased the import of sugar from 1st January, 1988;

(b) If so, the details of import of sugar permitted by Government since 1st January, 1988;

(c) the comparative figures showing price of imported and domestic sugar respectively; and

(d) the effect of import of sugar by the State Trading Corporation on the price of domestic sugar ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) : The quantity of sugar to be imported is decided taking into consideration indigenous sugar production, adequate availability for meeting internal demand, trend of international sugar prices etc. The Government is also working towards phasing out import of sugar completely.

The quantities already imported are partly delivered to the State Governments for distribution through controlled channels at prices less than Rs. 6/- per Kg. and part of the sugar is auctioned by the FCI, at important consumption centres. Open market sugar prices have tended to stabilise as a result and the possibility of any runaway increase in sugar prices has been effectively checked. The imported sugar is selling in the open market at a price around Rs. 6/-per Kg. and the price of indigenous sugar ranges between Rs. 6.30 and Rs. 6.80 per Kg.

Establishment of electronic telephone exchanges

1203. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic automatic telephone exchanges established in the country so far and the names of the

cities which are having this facility;

(b) the number of electronic automatic telephone exchanges likely to be established during the year 1988 and the names of places;

(c) the number of such exchanges manufactured in the country annually; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase the production of such exchanges in the country or to import them to meet the increasing demand ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) (i) 130 electronic automatic telephone exchanges have been established so far in the country.

(ii) Following cities have been provided with the facility of electronic telephone exchanges.

Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Kanpur, Pathankot, Sriganaganagar, Sirsa, Gandhidham, Kurnool, Varaval, Dibrugarh, Imphal, Karur, Gurgaon, Gauilberga, Changancherry, Parliharwar, Udipi, Porbandar, Tinsukhia, Beawar, Mehsana, Gaya, Khanna, Margo, Kalam-bali, Alwar, Jorhat, Srinagar, Gandhinagar, Abohar, Silchar, Armoor, Kothagudam, Ramachandrapuram, Rajpe, Yelwal, Kalpetta, Mannar, Dhar, Balaghat, Guna, Shivpuri, Half-long, Lungleh, Hamirpur, Mandla, Shajapur, Ambikapur, Bhind, Manmed, Bilaspur, Nahan, Baripada, Swai Madhopur, Swai Madhopur (RS), Sirohi Fatehpur, Pauri, Kulu, Keonjhar, Dhenkannal, Chatturpur, Dungarpur, Tonk, Jhunjhunu, Pithoragarh, Orai, Sultanpur, Ranikhet, Sainthia, Tambaram, Nainital, Vrindavan, Sadabad, Goverdhan, Rudarpur, Churhat,

Kitoor, Udayamperoor, Habba-guddi, Training Centre (NOTDA) Cochin (FTZ), Noida (Surajpur FTZ), Kashipur, Vaikon, Ujhani, Kosikalan, Almora.

(b) 410 number of local Main/Expansion electronic automatic telephone exchanges are likely to be established at the places shown in the Statement below during the year 1988-89.

(c) (i) The Mankapur unit of ITI has manufactured 28,000 lines and 1,20,000 lines of E-10 B exchange equipment during 1985-86 and 1986-87 respectively. The unit is targetted to produce 1,90,000 lines during 1987-88 and has manufactured 94,496 lines till January, 1988.

(ii) Palghat unit of ITI is targetted to produce 15 000 lines of 512 Port ILT switch in 1987-88. It has produced 8900 lines from April, 1987 to January, 1988.

(d) (i) The Mankapur unit has planned to produce 4,00,000 lines during 1988-89 and 5,00,000 lines during 1989-90 of E-10B equipment.

(ii) The Palghat unit has plans to produce 25,000 lines of ILT equipment during 1988-89,

(iii) ITI, Bangalore has plans to produce 1,00,000 lines of C-DOT equipment during 1988-89.

(iv) 33,200 lines of NEAX electronic exchange equipment is proposed to be imported.

(v) 20,000 lines of FETEX electronic exchange equipment is proposed to be imported for metropolitan cities.

Statement

Names of places where automatic

electronic telephone exchanges are likely to be established during 1988-89.

Calcutta, Visakhapatnam, Madras, Bombay, Delhi, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Amritsar, Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Badarpur, Gazabad, Noida, Pune, Port Blair, Bhadrachalam, Tadipatri, Gulabnagar, Sitamarhi, Dumka, Hajipur, Madhubani, Parnera, Kathua, Jamkhandi, Kumta, Tiprur, Jhabua, Rewa, Sidhi, Pechampur (Dhar) Chindwara, Jagdalpur, Betul, Datia, Khargone, Tikamgarh, Prabarangan, Mahad, Dhatav, Mangaon, Aizwal, Karimganj, Hailakandy, Diphu, Etanagar, Goraya, Palwal, Samalkha, Sanewal, Una, Chamba, Makrana, Nagpur, Jalore, Jaiselmer, Jhalawar, Bundi, Guddalpor, Gumdiipoondi, Maraimalinnagar, Ranipet Tuticorin-Port Trust, Sivaganga, Baraut, Khurja, Sikandrabad, Gazipur, Lalitpur, Banda, Koraput, Phulbani, Sundargarh, Alipurwar, Kitcha, Ram Nagar, Barmer, Baytu, Panchpadra, Samdhari, Sindhri, Siwana, Bicholim, Chikodi, Neelamangalam, Kishenganj, Rajula, Naraingarh, Savdhaura, Karjat, Sivardhan, Roha, Bhawanigarh, Lehregaga, Mertacity, Deedwana, Kuchaman city.

In addition to the above places :

1. Five stations are being identified for the installation of 512 Port ILT Switches.
2. Stations where 300 C-DOT exchanges are to come are being identified.

Projects of soft drinks companies in foreign countries

1204. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Indian Soft Drinks companies which are having their projects in foreign countries;

(b) the steps being taken to encourage Indian soft drinks companies to boost their trade and locate more market in foreign countries; and

(c) the Government's policy to allow foreign companies to have their projects in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) M/s. Pacle (Exports) Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Campa Beverages, Pvt. Ltd. and M/s. Bialeri Beverages Pvt. Ltd. are having joint venture projects abroad.

b) To encourage exports of 'non-alcoholic beverage bases' C.C.S. at 5% is granted and import replenishment at 4%. Besides this, for market development in foreign countries, market development assistance can be granted.

(c) Foreign collaboration, financial or technical, for manufacture of consumer products is considered on merits if such collaboration is justified taking into consideration factors such as nature of the technology to be imported, availability of indigenous technology potential for export earnings and the like.

[Translation]

Approval of Thermal Power Plants of Madhya Pradesh

1205. **SHRI KEYUR BHUSHAN :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether many project reports such as Bandhav, Mand, Vishrampur and Pench sent by Madhya Pradesh Government are pending with Union Government for approval; and

(b) whether Government have taken a decision that in future thermal power plants will be set up in central sector alone i.e. by the National Thermal Power Corporation and the project reports sent by States will not be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The Madhya Pradesh Electricity Board (MPEB) have forwarded project reports in respect of the Bandhav, Mand and Pench thermal power stations, the Sanjay Gandhi thermal power station extension and a gas turbine station near Gwalior. These schemes are in various stages of examination in the Central Electricity Authority (CEA), in consultation with appraising agencies, and could be considered for techno-economic clearance after all inputs such as coal linkage, availability of gas, etc., have been tied up and necessary clearances, including those from the environmental angle, have been obtained.

In May, 1982, the MPEB had forwarded a project feasibility report in respect of a thermal power station at Bishrampur (2x210 MW). The proposal was examined by the CEA in consultation with the MPEB and was not pursued further in the absence of coal linkage and lack of adequate funds.

(b) No, Sir.

[English]

Production capacity of LPG cylinder manufacturing units

1206. **SHRI GADADHAR SAHA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number and location of L.P.G. Cylinder manufacturing units which are presently in production; and

(b) the production capacity of each of these units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) and (b) A statement is given below :

Statement

Sl. No.	Names of the Manufacturing units	Location	Capacity in lakhs (Approved)
1	2	3	4
1.	The Hyderabad Allwyn Metal Works Ltd., Hyderabad, AP	Rangareddy	10.00
2.	Indian Gas Cyl. Faridabad	Ballabgarh	5.00
3.	Gaunon Pressure Vessels Ltd., Bombay, Maharashtra	Mahul	1.00
4.	Universal Cyl. Ltd., Alwar Rajasthan	Alwar	3.00
5.	Kosan Metal Products (P) Ltd., Kamleshwar, Nagpur	Kamleshwar	1.20
6.	Kosan Metal Products (P) Ltd., Bombay	Mahul	1.60
7.	Hindustan Genl. Inds. Ltd., Delhi	Delhi	1.00
8.	Midco Containers Ltd., Ahmedabad	Vatva	1.80
9.	BPCL, Allahabad, UP	Naini	1.00
10.	Jay Cyls, Sikanderabad, AP	Sikanderabad	1.00
11.	Standard Cyls. Gurgaon, Haryana	Gurgaon	1.50
12.	Apeejay Structural (P) Ltd., Burdwan, Orissa (Thomas Mouget & Co. India Ltd.)	Burdwan	6.62
13.	Muller Cyls. (P) Ltd., Belgaon	Belgaon	3.25
14.	Hindustan Wires Inds., Faridabad, Haryana	Faridabad	2.50
15.	Larswin Engg. (P) Ltd., Hyderabad	Rangareddy	5.00
16.	Larswin Appliances (P) Ltd., Hyderabad	Hyderabad	6.00
17.	Sahuwala Cyls. Ltd., Visakhapatnam A.P.	Visakhapatnam	3.00

1	2	3	4
18.	Industrial Oxygen Co. Ltd., Govindgarh, Punjab	Gobindgarh, Patiala	2.40
19.	BTP Structural (P) Ltd., Belgaon Karnataka	Belgaon	2.50
20.	Punjab Gas Cyls. Ludhiana	Ludhiana	2.10
21.	Indian Kitchen Equipment Pvt., Ltd., Ghaziabad UP	Ghaziabad	8.00
22.	Sahu Cyl. & Udyog Pvt. Ltd., Tamilnadu	Chingleput	1.00
23.	Suburban Ind. Pvt. Ltd., Bhuba- neshwar, Orissa	Bhubaneswar	1.00
24.	Qurera Gas Cyl. (P) Ltd., Faridabad	Hissar	1.00
25.	Prashnath Cyl. (P) Ltd., Benga- lore, Karnataka	Bengalore	1.80
26.	Expo Gas Containers (P) Ltd., Bombay	Aurangabad	1 00
27.	Nagpur Fabri Forge (P) Ltd., Nagpur	Nagpur	3.00
28.	Bharat Wagon & Engg , Muzzaffarpur	Bela Ind. Area	1.00
29.	ANS Container, Medak, AP	Medak	6.00
30.	Rajasthan Cyl. & Containers Ltd. Jaipur	Jaipur	2.50
31.	Prestige Fabricators (P) Ltd., Dewas MP	Dewas	1.00
32.	Bharat Brakes & Valves, Calcutta	Calcutta	1.00
33.	Konark Cyl. & Containers (P) Ltd., Bhubaneswar, Orissa	Bhubaneswar	3.00
34.	Malav Metals, Dhar, MP	Dhar	2.00
35.	Punkaj Gas Cyl. Ltd., Ghaziabad	Sahibabad	8 00
36.	Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd. Mathura	Mathura	2.50
37.	Supreme Cyl. Ltd., Bhiwadi	Alwar	1.00

1	2	3	4
38.	Mauria Udyog Ltd., New Delhi	Faridabad	1.00 Est.
39.	Verney Containers P. Ltd., AP	Rangareddy	1.00
40.	Him. Cyl. P. Ltd. Una, H.P	Una	1.20
41.	Sreenidhi Engg. Ltd., Hyderabad	Madgonda	1.00
42.	Tungabhadra Machinery & Tools Ltd., Kurnool	Kurnool	2.00
43.	Sanmati Metals Ltd., Bhopal	Mandesar	1.00
44.	AKMN Cyl. P. Ltd., Musiri P.O. Trichy District	Musiri, Trichy	1.00
45.	Bengal Tools Ltd., Burdwan, Calcutta	Burdwan	1.50
46.	Samarat Cyl. & (Heavy Engg. Co. P. Ltd. Jalna (Maharashtra)	Jalna	2.00
47.	Associated Cyl. & Accessories (P) Limited, Madras	Pondicherry	3.00

Import of crude oil from USSR

1208. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to import crude oil and some other petroleum products from the USSR;

(b) if so, the total quantum of crude oil and petroleum products proposed to be imported from the USSR during 1988-89;

(c) the steps taken in this direction;

(d) the value of import bill; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (e) A quantity of 4

million tonnes of crude oil and 2.5 million tonnes of petroleum products is proposed to be imported from USSR during 1988 under the Indo-Soviet Trade Plan. A contract to this effect has been concluded by the Indian Oil Corporation with the concerned Soviet organisation. It is not possible to precisely indicate at this stage value of the import on account of the uncertainties in the oil market.

Allocation of foodgrains to Orissa

1209. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the total allocation of different kinds of foodgrains made to Orissa till the last quarter of 1987 against the demand; and

(b) the allocation of foodgrains proposed for 1988 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a)

The allocation and demand of wheat and rice under public distribution system during 1987 in respect of Orissa was as under :

	(In '000 tonnes)	
	Demand	Allotment
Rice	315	255
Wheat	286	276
Total	601	531

(b) The allotments are made to the various States on a month to month basis, taking into account the overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool, relative needs of the various States, market availability and other related factors. For the period January, 88 to March, 88, the State Government has already been allotted 70,000 tonnes of rice and 69,000 tonnes of wheat.

Waiting list for telephone connections
in States

1210. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-

NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have undertaken to clear the waiting list for telephone connections in different States;

(b) if so, how many applications for telephone connections were pending in Orissa and other States as on 31.12.1987;

(c) the telephone connections provided in each State during the year 1987; and

(d) the present waiting list position in different States ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir,
progressively in due course.

(b) to (d) The informations is given in the Statement below.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Union Territory	Waiting list as on 31.12.87 (b) & (d)	Telephone connections provided during the year 1987 (c)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	65,918	13,604
2.	Assam	8,767	2,008
3.	Bihar	16,076	4,319
4.	Gujarat	1,01,040	37,442
5.	Haryana	26,653	6,472
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4,140	2,883
7.	J & K	9,236	2,740
8.	Karnataka	67,276	21,105

1	2	3	4
9.	(a) Kerala	1,00,189	13,994
	(b) Lakshdweep (U.T.)	116	84
10.	Madhya Pradesh	46,677	10,331
11.	Maharashtra	3,31,300	58,960
12.	Goa	5,673	416
13.	North East (comprising States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram Nagaland and Tripura)	4,131	711
14.	Orissa	6,157	3,839
15.	Punjab (including Chandigarh-UT)	65,207	9,961
16.	Rajasthan	50,196	4,937
17.	Tamil Nadu (including Pondicherry (UT)	90,370	27,410
18.	Uttar Pradesh	57,001	17,847
19.	West Bengal (including U.T. of Andaman and Nicobar and State of Sikkim)	46,854	11,230
20.	Delhi (UT)	2,00,450	42,744

Classification of backward areas in West Bengal

1211. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has classified the industrially backward areas in West Bengal;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Union

Government for industries in those areas; and

(d) how far the classification as backward areas have helped the industrial development of those areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) The following districts of West Bengal have been identified by the Central Govt. as industrially backward districts and are eligible for graded rates of central subsidy :—

Category 'A'

Name of District	Rate of Subsidy
1. Bankura	25% (subject to a maximum of Rs. 25 lakhs, enhanced to Rs. 50 lakhs in the case of electronic units being set up in Hill Districts)
2. Cooch Behar	
3. Jalpaiguri	
4. Malda	
5. Darjeeling	

Category 'B'

1. Purulia	15% (Subject to a maximum of Rs. 15 lakhs)
2. Midnapur	
3. Nadia	

Category 'C'

1. Birbhum	10% (Subject to a maximum of Rs. 10 lakhs)
2. Burdwan	
3. Hoogly	
4. Murshidabad	
5. West Dinajpur	

Besides they are also eligible for concessional finance etc.

The following Blocks in 'B' and 'C' category backward districts of West Bengal are not eligible for subsidy as investments in these blocks have exceeded Rs. 30 crores as on 31.3.1983 :

Name of the Block	District
1. Serampore-Uttarpara block	Hooghly
2. Chinsurah-Mogra block	Hooghly
3. ChandanNagar-Bhadreswarsingur block	Hooghly
4. Chakdo block	Nadia
5. Sutahata I block	Midnapur
6. Durgapur-Faridpur block	Burdwan
7. Hirapur block	Burdwan
8. Salampur block	Burdwan

The following number of Letters of Intent (LOIs), Industrial Licences (ILs), SIA Registrations and DQTD Registrations have been issued to backward districts of the State :

Year	LOI	IL	SIA Regns.	DGTD Regns.
1985	31	15	29	51
1986	25	9	73	24
1987	25	9	59	18

Central public sector investment in West Bengal

1212. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total central public sector investment in West Bengal as on 31.3.1987;

(b) the annual turnover of these undertakings, their profits and losses and the number of their permanent and temporary employees;

(c) the new investment proposed in the public sector by Union Government in West Bengal;

(d) whether any new projects would be set up;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) The total gross block created in West Bengal by all the public sector enterprises stood at Rs. 4524.94 crores as on 31.3.1987.

(b) The annual turnover and profit/loss for 1986-87 by all the public sector enterprises with their head offices located in West Bengal were Rs. 4097.60 crores and Rs. (-) 382.11 crores respectively. The number of employees engaged in all the public sector units located in West Bengal was 4.22 lakhs on 31.3.1987. Their break-up into permanent and temporary is not available.

(c) During the 7th Plan period, a new investment of the order of Rs. 1240 crores has been envisaged in West Bengal in the Industries and Minerals Sector.

(d) to (f) Details of new projects for which outlay has been earmarked in the 7th Plan are given below :

Sl. No.	Enterprises	Projects	Allocation envisaged in the 7th Plan (Rs. in crores)
1.	Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd.	Ductile iron spun pipe project, Burnpur Works modernisation etc.	25.00
2.	Jessop & Co. Ltd.	Hydraulic component, oil rigs, field equipment and mining equipment projects.	7.75

Long-range plan for petrochemicals

1213. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any long-range plan has been drawn up for meeting the growing demands for petrochemicals in the country both in the private and public sectors; and

(b) if so, its broad outlines and the targets set down for the manufacture and marketing of the various products ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b) A long-term perspective plan for development of petrochemicals industry has been prepared by a High Level Committee. This Committee has projected demand estimates for various petro-chemical items. For meeting the demand-supply gaps, Government have received various proposals for setting up of petrochemical complexes, which are considered on the basis of techno-economic viability.

Exploration of remote hydrocarbons finds by ONGC

1214. DR. B L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has chalked out a phased programme of deep water exploration and sub-sea completion system to exploit remote hydrocarbon finds; and

(b) if so, its broad outlines, the capital outlay involved and steps envisaged for the optimisation of offshore designs to reduce cost ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Levy on coconut husk

1215. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-ACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any new proposal from Government of Kerala to modify the levy scheme for coconut husk to increase procurement of husk in the State; and

(b) if so, what is the decision of Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal of the Government of Kerala for introduction of three point levy on coconut husk has been approved by the Central Government.

Rigs owned by ONGC

1216. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAM-ACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rigs owned by Oil and Natural Gas Commission for offshore drilling; and

(b) from which dates, which countries and at what cost were each of them acquired ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Nine.

(b) The details are as under :—

Rig	Type	Make/Country	Rs/Crore Approx. Cost	Date of Delivery
1. Sagar Samrat	Jackup	Mitsubishi, Japan	12.70	Oct. 72
2. Sagar Pragti	Jackup	CFEM, FRANCE	27.79	Oct. 81
3. Sagar Shakti	Jackup	Robin Shipyard, Singapore	35.97	Oct. 82
4. Sagar Gaurav	Jackup	Robin Shipyard, Singapore	35.97	Dec. 82
5. Sagar Prabhat	Drillship	RDS & Paul Lindencan Kiel W. Germany	48.33	Feb. 83
6. Sagar Jyoti	Jackup	Hitachi Zosen, Japan	45.69	April. 83
7. Sagar Ratna	Jackup	Hitachi Zosen, Japan	39.06	Jan. 85
8. Sagar Vijay	Drillship	Hitachi Zosen, Japan	58.01	Jan. 85
9. Sagar Bhushan	Drillship	HSL, India	70.70	Oct. 87

Review of import and export policy of cement

1217. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) when was the policy of import and export of cement last reviewed; and

(b) the details of the present policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The Government decided to import cement in 1978 in order to meet the gap between the demand and supply of cement, and promulgated a special order called the Imported Cement Control Order. The imports between January 1978 and February 1982 were on Government account. After the introduction of partial decontrol of cement with effect from 28th February 1982, imported cement is treated at par with non-levy cement, i.e., imported cement is not sub-

jected to the price and distribution controls, and import of cement is canalised through the STC under OGL. Imports and distribution are made by STC as per the policy of the Government.

As per the existing policy applicable for the period 1985-86 to 1987-88 import of cement except oil well cement required by ONGC/Oil India Ltd., is canalised through STC only under OGL on authorisation by the Government. In view of easy availability of cement, no import has been authorised since the financial year 1986-87 except for certain special varieties of cement to meet specific demand from particular and users. As regards exports, these are permitted only to Nepal and Bhutan.

Telephone system in Goa

1218. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to improve the telephone system in Goa; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Telephone services in Goa are generally satisfactory. However, for further improvement, following action have been initiated under Mission Better Communication programme of the Department.

- (i) Replacement of worn out electro-mechanical exchanges to improve the working of internal equipment.
- (ii) Dressing up and fitting of DPs and provision of drop wires for improvement of external plants.
- (iii) Replacement of heavy overhead alignments by small size underground cables.
- (iv) Expansion of exchanges.
- (v) Customer oriented training to the staff.
- (vi) Replacement of manual exchanges by automatic exchanges.
- (vii) Introduction of National subscriber dialling.
- (viii) Commissioning of UHF Hnks.
- (ix) Replacement of small capacity electro-mechanical exchanges by 128 Port C-DOT Electronic Exchange Equipment.

Hydro-electric power plants under execution of National Hydro-electric Corporation Limited

1219. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the hydro-electric power projects that have been finalised for

installation in different parts of the country;

(b) the details of the hydro-electric power plants which are under execution by the National Hydro-electric Corporation Ltd.;

(c) the sources of finance of new power projects and their areas of location;

(d) the present share of power generation by the hydroelectric power plants in the total power generation of the country as on date; and

(e) the action being taken to expedite the projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The details of hydro-electric power projects techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority during the 7th Plan period (upto 31.1.88) for installation of different parts of the country are given in the Statement below.

(b) The details of the hydro-electric power projects under execution by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation are as under :—

1. Chamera Hydro-electric Project (3 x 180 MW) in Himachal Pradesh.
2. Dul-Hasti H.E. Project (3 x 130 MW) in Jammu & Kashmir.
3. Tanakpur H.E. Project (3 x 40 MW) in Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The Projects sanctioned for implementations by the State Governments are funded under State plan allocations and the projects approved for execution by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation in the Central Sector are being funded through Central Plan allocations. The resource gap is bridged to some extent by internal and external borrowings.

(d) The share of power generation by hydro-electric power projects in the total power generation of the country as on 24.2.88 is indicated below :—

	Program- med genera- tion (MU)	Actual genera- tion (MU)	Percentage of actual generation
Thermal	399.79	471.76	78.57%
Nuclear	14.97	14.30	2.38%
Hydro	131.83	114.35	19.05%
	546.89	600.41	100.00

(e) The action taken to expedite the projects includes close and regular monitoring of the various activities in the implementation of the projects and coordinating activities of the project authorities and other concerned agencies and Departments.

Name of the Project	Installed Capacity (MW)
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1

2

Northern Region

Jammu & Kashmir

1. Chenani Stage II & III. 2 x 1 + 2 x 2

Himachal Pradesh

1. Larji 3 x 42
2. Bhava (SVP) Aug. —
3. Ganvi 3 x 7.5
4. Uhl Stage III 4 x 17.5

Uttar Pradesh

1. Sobla 3 x 2
2. Shrinagar 6 x 55

Punjab

1. S.Y.L. 2 x 18 + 2 x 7

Central Sector

1. Salal Stage II (J & K) 3 x 115
2. Chamara Stage II (H.P.) 3 x 100
3. Dhauliganga Stage I (U.P.) 4 x 70

Joint Sector (Government of India and concerned State Government)

1. Nathpa Jhakri (H.P.) 6 x 250

West Region

1. Rajghat (UP/MP) 3 x 15
2. Birsinghpur 1 x 20

Maharashtra

1. Manikdoh 1 x 6
2. Koyna Stage IV 6 x 125
3. Warna 2 x 8
4. Dudhganga 2 x 12
5. Ghatghar 2 x 125

Southern Region

Karnataka

1. Sharavati Modernisation —

Tamil Nadu

1. Pykara Ultimate Stage 3 x 50
2. Sathanur Dam 2 x 75
3. Lower Bhavani 2 x 4

Kerala

1. Chalakudy Stage II, 2 x 40 + 2 x 60

1	2
Andhra Pradesh	
1. Srisailem LBPH	9 x 110
Eastern Region	
Bihar	
1. Chandil L B.C.	2 x 4
Sikkim	
Myangchu	4 x 1
Upper Rongnachu	4 x 2
North Eastern Region	
Tripura	
1. Gumti (Uprating)	—
Arunachal Pradesh	
1. Sessa Nallah	3 x 0.5

Stagnation in crude oil production

1220. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the stagnation in the country's crude oil production is likely to continue this year also; and

(b) if so, reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) Production of crude oil in the country since 1984-85, is as under:—

Year	Production in Million Tonnes
1984-85	28.99
1985-86	30.17
1986-87	30.50
1987-88 (Target)	30.46

With the Bombay High field having reached plateau level of production and reduced flow of oil from ageing oil fields of Assam, the current year's target is marginally lower than previous year's production.

Import of Penicillin-V

1221. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question N. 4664 on 8.12.1987 regarding use of Penicillin-G 1st crystals for production of 6-APA and state :

(a) whether import of Penicillin-V has been allowed to a unit which had also imported Penicillin-G;

(b) whether same treatment has been denied to other units which had imported both Penicillin-G and Penicillin-V in the past; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) (a) to (c) The present policy of the Government is to allow import of Penicillin-V to those companies who had been allowed to import the same in the past. No new company are being encouraged to base their production on Penicillin-V.

Urban Consumer Cooperative Stores in States

1222. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some State Governments have sent any proposals to his Ministry for development of Urban Consumer Co-operative Stores under the centrally sponsored schemes;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received from different States; and

(c) the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Under the centrally sponsored scheme of development of consumer cooperatives in urban areas, assistance is given to the States on a project basis for opening of department stores, large sized retail outlets, small branches and mobile van shops by the wholesale stores, primary stores and state federations. In addition, financial assistance is given for rehabilitation of weak and sick consumer cooperative stores, for the setting up of consumer industries in the cooperative sector and for the setting up of regional distribution centres by cooperatives and for the expansion of activities by the State Federations. During the current financial year (1987-88), proposals for financial assistance for the above mentioned projects were received from 16 States. Assistance amounting to Rs. 43.32 lakhs has so far been released.

Production target achieved by Coal India Limited

1223. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the target set by the Coal India Limited for the production of coal during the year 1986-87;

(b) the actual production achieved by Coal India Limited during the above year; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) In the Annual Plan 1986-87 coal production target of Coal India Limited was fixed at 143.50 million tonnes. Against this target, the actual production was 144.77 million tonnes. The figures of target and actual production in the subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. are given below:—

(In million tonnes)

Company	Target 1986-87	Actual Production 1986-87
Eastern Coalfields Limited	25.60	25.62
Bharat Coking Coal Limited	24.00	24.01
Central Coalfields Limited	25.00	25.14
Northern Coalfields Limited	13.40	13.60
Western Coalfields Limited	19.00	19.34
South Eastern Coalfields Limited	35.50	36.15
*North Eastern Coalfields	1.03	0.91
Total	143.50	144.77

(* North Eastern Coalfields is a division of Coal India Ltd.)

**Target for self-employment scheme
for educated unemployed youth**

1224. SHRI MANIK SANYAL :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the targets fixed for 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 under the self-employment scheme for the educated unemployed youths in the country; State-wise;

(b) the amount which was earmarked during the above years to implement the scheme, State-wise;

(c) whether Government are aware that some of the banks refused to entertain the applications of the unemployed youth after their selection by District Industries Centres; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-

CHALAM) : (a) A Statement showing State-wise targets fixed for 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (ad-hoc) is given below.

(b) Under the scheme, the Central Government allocates to States only physical targets in terms of number of beneficiaries and do not allot funds to implement the scheme. The loans are sanctioned by the banks on the recommendations of DIC Task Forces. The capital subsidy to the extent of 25% on each loan contracted is paid out of Central Budget routed through Reserve Bank of India. The amount earmarked on account of capital subsidy during the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 is as under:—

Year	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1985-86	95.00
1986-87	94.60
1987-88	70.00

(c) and (d) Government is aware that despite Task Force recommendations some cases do get rejected by the banks on scrutiny which is, within their competence.

Statement

State-wise targets fixed under SEEUY Scheme from 1985-86 to 1987-88.

S.No.	Name of the State/UT.	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	Adhoc
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17 300	17 300	8,650	
2.	Assam	6,200	6,200	3,100	
3.	Bihar	29,600	29,600	14,800	
4.	Gujarat	10,700	10,700	5,350	
5.	Haryana	4,600	4,600	2,300	
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1,600	1,600	800	
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,400	1,400	700	
8.	Karnataka	12,400	12,400	6,200	
9.	Kerala	13,000	20,000	10,000	

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Madhya Pradesh	17,600	17,600	8,800
11.	Maharashtra	15,500	15,504	7,750
12.	Manipur	1,500	1,500	750
13.	Meghalaya	300	300	150
14.	Nagaland	200	200	100
15.	Orissa	9,300	9,300	4,650
16.	Punjab	15,000	15,000	7,500
17.	Rajasthan	10,300	10,300	5,150
18.	Sikkim	100	100	50
19.	Tamil Nadu	18,100	18,100	9,050
20.	Tripura	900	900	450
21.	Uttar Pradesh	31,300	31,300	15,650
22.	West Bengal	24,300	24,300	12,150
23.	A & N Islands	100	100	50
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	100	100	50
25.	Chandigarh	500	500	175
26.	Dadra, & Nagar Haveli	100	100	50
27.	Goa, Daman & Diu	350	350	175
28.	Mizoram	200	200	125
29.	Pondicherry	450	450	225
30.	Lakshadweep	—	—	50
Total :		2,43,000	2,50,000	1,25,000

Undistri- 7,000

buted

Grand Total 2,50,000

Tender for purchase of homeopathic medicines by National Thermal Power Corporation

1225. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Thermal Power Corporation had floated tenders for purchase of homeopathic medicines during the last two years;

(b) if so, the clinical efficacy of the products purchased for treatment of eyes; and

(c) the reaction of Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) Enquiries in regard to purchase of homeopathic medicines have been issued by some projects of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC). No adverse reaction has been noticed in respect of various medicines procured.

Investment by non-resident Indians in power sectors

1226. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that non-resident Indians in the Gulf areas who have extensive business interests are willing to invest in power sector in India and promote exports; and

(b) If so, the reaction of Union Government and the procedure adopted in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) No specific proposal in regard to investment in the power sector has been received from any non-resident Indian in the Gulf.

Decline in production of Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited

1227. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a decline by around 20 per cent in the production of process plants in the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Limited, Visakhapatnam;

(b) whether there is lower level of orders book and if so, the details of the same for the last three years; and

(c) the profits earned by the Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd. during the last three years, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Year-wise value of orders received during the last three years is given below :—

	(Rs. Crores).
1984-85	57.27
1985-86	79.23
1986-87	157.27
1987-88	86.75

(Upto end Jan. 88)

(c) The profits before tax for last three years are given below :

	(Rs. Crores)	
	Profit (+)	Loss (—)
1984-85	(+)	8.92
1985-86	(+)	9.10
1986-87	(—)	0.29

[Translation]

Integrated scheme for production of power

1228 SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Economic Environment Review Team of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has submitted a 12 point long term integrated scheme for the production of power to meet the increasing demand of power in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The question apparently relates to a report prepared by the Economic Environment Scanning Group of ONGC on "Future Energy Options", which suggests a 12 point energy policy framework envisaging formulation of an integrated energy plan, acceleration of Exploratory effort for oil including exploration abroad, implementation of a National Gas Grid, reducing dependence on oil, conservation of energy, building up of energy data base, incentives for switching over to non-conventional energy sources, research and development, human resources development and increased allocation of resources etc.

(c) The strategy of the Government already encompasses many of these suggestions. The strategy is reviewed from time to time and suitable adjustments are made as and when considered necessary. As regards the suggestions pertaining to exploration for oil in basins abroad, Government of India and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam have agreed, in principle, to cooperate for exploration of hydro-carbons in Vietnam. ONGC is also considering a proposal to take up exploration venture in Tanzania.

Retrenchment in loss making public undertakings

1229. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA . Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of employees in loss making public undertaking is very high as compared to the number of employees working in such undertakings in many other countries, which is considered to be one of the reasons for loss being suffered by these undertakings; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to effect any retrenchment in these undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) :

(a) In the absence of published statistics in various enterprises in other countries, it is not possible to make any comparison between the manning pattern of loss making public sector enterprises with their comparable counterparts abroad.

(b) Does not arise.

Electrification of villages in Barabanki district, Uttar Pradesh

1230. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages electrified in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh during the last five months; and

(b) if no villages have been electrified during this period, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY : (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Six villages are reported by Rural Electrification Corporation to have been electrified in Barabanki district of Uttar Pradesh between 30.9.87 to 31.1.1988.

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

~~Rise in price of consumer commodities.~~

1231. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI S. G. GHOLAP :

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND
CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices
of essential commodities have increased
considerably during the year 1987-88;

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

commodity-wise and month-wise; and

(c) ~~the extent to which prices have in-~~
creased commodity-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a)
There has been a mixed trend in the prices
of essential commodities during the year
1987-88 so far. The prices of some comm-
odities have gone up, some have moved
down and a few have remained more or
less steady.

(b) and (c) Relevant information is
given in ~~the Statement~~ below :

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Potatoes	189.6	196.6	233.2	287.7	321.1	305.9	306.6	319.2	429.5	290.0	192.2	+ 1.4
Onions	454.6	490.0	509.3	489.4	590.6	817.8	984.0	999.7	789.3	645.0	551.0	+ 21.2
Milk	305.9	305.2	313.5	312.1	312.1	318.4	325.0	330.6	334.9	334.9	330.2	+ 7.9
Fish	602.0	687.2	666.3	643.2	651.9	562.0	480.5	512.9	517.2	537.2	599.7	— 0.4
Meat	577.2	577.2	589.5	597.0	597.8	598.0	591.6	591.3	590.2	590.2	600.1	+ 4.0
Chillies	132.0	138.3	131.2	137.0	141.8	182.0	230.3	243.7	253.4	237.2	250.9	+ 90.1
Tea	426.8	426.8	434.3	444.0	442.7	427.1	433.2	431.3	408.0	395.5	397.7	— 6.8
Coke	606.3	606.3	606.3	606.3	606.3	605.3	605.3	606.3	606.3	605.3	606.3	Steady
Kerosene	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	410.4	Steady
Atta	263.9	263.9	252.7	253.0	253.5	264.5	265.3	262.7	262.7	286.6	293.9	+ 11.4
Sugar	305.3	306.0	311.2	311.0	310.2	312.7	310.7	311.4	312.0	312.0	322.6	+ 5.7
Gur	381.5	374.2	402.1	419.3	410.4	471.9	488.2	480.1	470.9	441.5	439.8	+ 15.3
Vanaspati	416.3	414.7	424.2	430.2	431.0	443.8	435.0	429.7	429.4	428.9	427.8	+ 2.8
Groundnut oil	416.8	433.4	465.8	495.0	528.2	544.6	512.8	523.9	533.2	521.4	515.8	+ 21.8

Import of sugar

1232. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the buffer stock of sugar in the country in December, 1987;

(b) whether the stock is sufficient to meet the requirement;

(c) the total production of sugar during 1987-88;

(d) whether Government have decided to import sugar; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) No buffer stock of sugar is being maintained. However, a stock of 23.35 lakh tonnes of indigenous sugar was available with the factories as on 31.12 1987.

(b) The present over-all sugar availability in the country, including imported sugar stocks, is adequate to meet the requirement of internal consumption.

(c) The total sugar production during the current 1987-88 season aggregated to 40.86 lakh tonnes as on 7th February, 1988.

(d) and (e) The import of sugar was resorted to bridge the gap between availability and internal consumption. The Government policy relating to quantum and schedule of import of sugar is decided after considering domestic availability, demand and other relevant factors.

[English]

Reduction in import duty on plastic raw materials

1233. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will

the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Organisation of Plastic Processors of India (OPP) have approached Government to reduce the import duty on various plastic raw materials to enable the industry to maintain its production and 12% growth rate;

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

(c) the other measures Government propose to take to ensure regular supply of raw materials at reasonable rates to the plastic goods manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The views expressed by the Industry Associations are given due consideration while recommending import levies on plastic raw-materials from time to time.

(c) Government are organising import of plastic raw materials through STC and IPCL to help small scale consumer units. By way of long term solution to the problem, additional capacities for the manufacture of plastic raw materials have been approved and are in the process of being established.

Works at Rajghat, U.P.

1234. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that works at Rajghat in U.P. allotted to the National Projects Construction Corporation have been sublet to the private contractors which is being delayed by the contractors;

(b) whether the management of the National Projects Construction Corporation is giving vehicles to private contractors; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The total amount of the present construction work of the Rajghat Masonry Dam project allotted to the NPCC by the Betwa River Board in December, 1986, is Rs. 31.4 crores. Out of this, works sublet by the NPCC, amount of Rs. 2.3 crores only and are ahead of schedule.

(b) Under the present arrangement of execution of the project work, NPCC are not providing vehicles to private contractors.

(c) Does not arise.

Implementation of Fourth Pay Commission Recommendation for Public Sector Employees

1235. SHRI P.M. SAYEED ;
SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY :

Will the Minister of INDSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have delayed the implementation of the High Powered Pay Committees recommendation extending the benefits arising out of the Fourth Pay Commissions report for the Central Government personnel to the Public sector employees;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any protest from the Joint Action Committee of Public Sector Officers Associations; and

(d) if so, the details of the protest note and the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The recommendations made by the High Power Pay Commi-

ttee in their report submitted to the Government on 15.12.1987 are under active consideration of the Government.

(c) and (d) The Joint Action Committee of Public Sector Officers Association has not submitted any protest to the Government of India on this.

Sugarcane dues

1236. SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :
SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that sugarcane dues are outstanding against sugar mills in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of sugarcane dues outstanding; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken against the sugar mills which have been repeatedly holding up the payment of arrears to the farmers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) The position of cane price payments as on 31st January, 1988 is given below :

	Amount in Rs./crore
(i) Total price of sugarcane purchased for 1987-88 season	969.21
(ii) Amount paid to growers	776.32
(iii) Amount outstanding against sugar mills for the 1987-88 season	192.89
(iv) Arrears pertaining to earlier seasons	12.68

(c) Ensuring timely payment of sugarcane price is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments, who have the necessary powers and field organizations to enforce such payments. The Central Government has been monitoring the position and addressing the State Governments from time to time to take necessary steps. It may, however, be mentioned that as a result of these measures the arrears during the last two-three years have come down to very low levels. The arrears are generally high at the peak period of crushing and get liquidated quickly as the season tapers off. Thus, out of the total cane price of Rs. 2147.85 crores for the 1986-87 season, only Rs. 4.41 crores remain in arrears.

Self sufficiency in edible oils

1237. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

SHRI H. B. PATIL :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted by Government regarding the per capita consumption of edible oils, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether country is self-sufficient in the production of edible oils; and

(d) if not, what efforts are being made on long term basis to make the country self-sufficient in edible oils ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) No survey has been made by Government regarding per capita consumption of edible oils State-wise.

(c) and (d) At present there is a gap between demand and availability of indigenous edible oils. The various measures taken/to be taken by the Govt. to increase the production of oilseeds are given below:—

(i) Implementation of the National Oilseeds Development Project.

(ii) National Dairy Development Board's Oilseeds Project.

(iii) Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices.

(iv) Intensification of research efforts for increasing the productivity of oilseeds.

(v) Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crop like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran, etc.

(vi) Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

(vii) Setting up of a Technology Mission on oilseeds production under orders of the Prime Minister.

Development of quality sugar crystals

1238. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian sugar technologists have claimed to have developed a low cost completely manually controlled technique for producing uniform high quality sugar crystals;

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

(c) whether this technology is being introduced in all the sugar producing States ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) to (c) A low cost, completely manually

controlled continuous vacuum pan called "Pan-Anant" designed by an Indian Sugar Technologist has been installed in a sugar factory in Tamil Nadu. Its performance on commercial level is yet to be assessed as it is still in the trial phase.

[Translation]

Decline in power generation

1239. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the recently published P.T.I survey report in which it has been stated that there will be power shartage of 10,000 Megawatt in the country by the end of 1988-89 during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard;

(c) the main reason for decline in power generation; and

(d) the names of those power generating units which are producing electricity only upto 60 per cent of their capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) According to the 13th Electric Power Survey Report, the peak deficit in the country by the end of 1988-89 is expected to be of the order of 8540 MW.

(c) There has been no decline in aggregate power generation, per annum.

(d) A list of the Thermal and Nuclear Generating Stations with plant load factor of less than 60% during the period April 1987 - January 1988 is given in the Statement below. The average All India plant load factor for this period is 55.5%

Statement

List of Thermal & Nuclear Generating Stations with Plant Load Factor of less than 60% during the period April 1987-Jan., 1988.

Station	P.L.F.(%)
1	2
Thermal	
Badarpur	57.8
I.P. Station	46.9
Faridabad	43.1
Panipat	38.8
Obra	52.0
Panki	18.6
Harduaganj 'A'	34.0
Harduaganj B & C	43.9
Paricha	36.3
Anpara	51.3
Ukai	56.5
Gandhi Nagar	53.8
Wanakbori	58.9
Koradi	49.3
Paras	45.0
Bhusawal	54.1
Parli	58.5
Chandrapura(Maharashtra)	54.3
Satpura	52.9
Korba	54.0
Amarkantak	48.6
Korba West	50.5

1	2
Nellore	59.9
Ennore	55.1
Patratu	32.1
Barauni	29.9
Muzaffarpur	33.2
Talcher	32.6
Bandel	51.4
Santalidih	25.8
Kolaghat	51.2
DPL	31.2
CESC	50.6
Farakka STPS (NTPC)	34.9
Chandrapur (DVC)	40.0
Durgapur	44.2
Bokaro	34.1
Chandrapur (Assam)	56.7
Namrup	49.3
Bongaigaon	16.5
Assam Gas	45.9
Nuclear Station	
Rajasthan Atomic Power Station	34.6
Tarapur	57.9
Kalpakkam	53.0

*PLF of Hydro Stations is not calculated as it is dependant on water availability.

Financial crisis in cement industry

1240. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :

DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the financial crisis in the cement industry; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to formulate a new cement policy to overcome the financial crisis in this industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Representations have been received from the cement industry about the financial problems being faced by it, on account of increase in the cost of production of cement and fall in realisation from the sale of non-levy cement. The industry has sought, inter-alia, increase in retention price of levy cement due to cost escalation in power tariff, price of coal, movement of coal by railways, increase in the D.A. rates, etc. No decision has been taken by Government so far in this regard. However, the Government have given a number of reliefs from time to time in order to improve the profitability of cement industry and maximise cement production. The following are among the important incentives and reliefs given for the cement industry :

(i) Retention price for levy cement has been increased by Rs. 24.50 per tonne with effect from 15.12.86, and the levy obligation on cement industry has been progressively reduced with the twin objective of compensating the industry for increase in the cost of production and improving the profitability.

(ii) A rebate in excise duty to the

extent of Rs. 20/—per tonne and Rs. 50/—per tonne has been given in respect of new units which commenced production between 1.1.1982 to 31.3.1986. and on or after 1.4.1986 respectively.

(iii) The cement industry has been encouraged to set up captive power generating capacity and appropriate relief by way of reduction in levy obligation is allowed to compensate for increased cost of cement production with the help of high cost DG captive power.

(iv) There is no price and distribution control on the production of mini cement plant upto a capacity of 300 M.T. per day and hence there is no liability for supply of levy cement by these plants.

(b) After the introduction of partial decontrol of cement in February, 1982, Government have been constantly reviewing its policy keeping in view the growth of the industry. Pursuant to this policy, Government have been progressively reducing the price and distribution controls on the cement industry in recent years so that the industry is allowed to sell higher quantities of cement in the open market, which would help them in generating more funds for further investment/modernisation and improving their profitability.

[English]

Alcohol refineries

1241 DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are setting up new refineries for manufacture of alcohol for potable purposes from raw material other than molasses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any guidelines have been drawn up for setting up these refineries ?

MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b) Government have recently decided to relax the ban on manufacture of alcoholic drinks if produced from raw materials other than molasses.

(c) The guidelines will be issued shortly.

Plan for faster telex

1242. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are introducing any new plans for faster telex;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the new system will have the provision for automatic dialling of each telephone number ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. This is called TELETEX service.

(b) It is proposed to introduce this service initially at the four Metro cities. It is likely to be extended to other important cities later on. Teletex service will have a speed of 2400 bits per second as against 50 bits per second for Telex service.

(c) No, Sir.

Norms for tyre prices

1243. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are stipulating any specific norms for tyre price hike by the tyre manufacturers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Import bill for petroleum products

1244. SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT :

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount required to meet the cost of imports of oil and petroleum products during the next financial year;

(b) the countries from whom the crude oil and petroleum products are to be imported; and

(c) the steps taken or contemplated to reduce the expenditure on this count ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) The import plan of crude oil and petroleum products during the next financial year is yet to be finalised.

(c) The important steps, among others, taken to reduce imports are to intensify exploration efforts, curb consumption of POL and promote conservation through various measures.

Extension of H.B.J. pipeline to Punjab

1245. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are many plans to extend the HBJ gas pipeline to Punjab for power generation as reported in the Economic Times of 24 January, 1988.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some other States could also expect benefits from HBJ pipeline gas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The HBJ Pipeline is at present expected to supply gas to the following projects in four states :

(i) Gujarat — Kawas Power Plant

(ii) Rajasthan — Anta Power Plant and Swaimadhopur Fertilizer Plant

(iii) U.P. — Auraiya Power Plant and Fertilizer Plants at Shahjahanpur, Guraiya Jagdishpur & Babrala.

(iv) M.P. — Bilaspur Fertilizer Plant.

White paper on public sector

1246. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the draft white paper on public sector has been finalised;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is to be laid on the Table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes Sir.

Haldia Petrochemicals Project

1247. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR
MANDAL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the Haldia Petrochemicals Project;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a fresh viability report has been asked on this project;

(d) whether the viability of this project was studied and cleared by both the Industrial Development Bank of India and the experts committee long back; and

(e) if so, the reasons for not clearing the project far and asking for a revised viability report ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (e) While the letter of intent and approvals of foreign collaboration have been given, IDBI and the banks are considering various issues related to the project.

Import of foreign technology for telecommunication sector

1248. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high level departmental study has been ordered into the various aspects of import of foreign technology for the telecommunication sector; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

S.T.D. service from Barabanki district to metropolitan cities

1249. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to start STD service from Barabanki district in Uttar Pradesh to Delhi or other metropolitan cities during the current Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to start, STD service from Barabanki during this year; and

(c) If not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The connected works for providing STD facility are in progress and are not likely to be completed during this year.

[English]

Installation of new electronic telephone exchange at Vidisha

1250. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to install a new electronic telephone exchange at Vidisha in MP.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Vidisha trunk exchange will be connected with trunk auto exchange, Bhopal for national dialling system; and

(d) If so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) :** (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, Vidisha local automatic exchange is proposed to be connected to the digital trunk automatic exchange at Bhopal on its commissioning during 1988-89.

**Rail-cum-road bridge from Raniganj to
Majla**

1251. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry had taken up with the Railway Ministry for a rail-cum-road bridge from Raniganj to Mejia-via-Bankura; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHTAGI) :** (a) No Sir,

(b) Does not arise.

**Preventive scheme to curb sickness
in industrial Units**

1252. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :
SHRI RAM PYARE
PANIKA :
SHRI S M GURADDI :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to detect the sickness of industrial units at incipient stage so that corrective measures are initiated in time;

(b) if so, the steps contemplated in this direction;

(c) whether various industrial and financial institutions have expressed that joint efforts should be made to rehabilitate the sick units; and

(d) if so, the details of the suggestions received and the manner in which Government will help them to solve their sickness ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-
CHALAM) :** (a) and (b) The financial institutions have been adopting various strategies to detect incipient sickness. These include :

- (i) Appointing nominees on Boards of Companies which are showing signs of incipient sickness.
- (ii) Intensive monitoring in the case of units which are likely to face problems.
- (iii) Periodical inspection/visits and follow up action on the findings of inspection team.
- (iv) Scrutiny of progress reports received periodically from assisted concerns; and
- (v) Follow-up action on critical information relating to operations, management etc. of the units reported by the nominee Directors.

The Government have been emphasising the curative rather than the preventive aspects in matters relating to industrial sickness. Government have also set up a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) according to the provisions of the sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 for determining the preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other measures which need to be taken in respect of sick industrial companies in the large and medium scale sectors and expeditious enforcement of the measures so determined. According

to the provisions of this Act, an industrial company, the accumulated losses of which as at the end of any financial year have resulted in erosion of 50% or more of its peak net worth during the immediately preceeding 5 financial years, shall report the fact of such erosion to the Board within a period of 60 days from the date of finalisation of the duly audited accounts.

(c) and (d) Banks and financial institutions come out with concrete proposals for the rehabilitation of sick units which are potentially viable and suggest that these be drawn as well as implemented in consultation with all the concerned agencies including the concerned State Governments and the Central Governments. After an assisted unit starts showing signs of sickness, banks and financial institutions take up diagnostic studies to examine the factors causing sickness. All the jointly financed units are allocated amongst IDBI, ICICI and IFCI on the basis of 'Lead' concept. Then, for a particular unit, the lead institution takes up intensive monitoring of its problems and works out remedial measures. In case the unit is found to be potentially viable, a package of reliefs/concessions and additional assistance for rehabilitation/modernisation/diversification is drawn up and finalised in consultation with the participating institutions/commercial banks and other concerned agencies. The Central Government and the concerned State Government give necessary reliefs wherever they consider it necessary to do so for the revival of the industry.

Supply of LPG to Hotels in Bangalore

1253. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that small and medium hotels in Bangalore city are finding it difficult to get regular supply of LPG;

(b) if so, whether separate quota of LPG is released for hotels in Bangalore city;

(c) whether the matter for appointment of separate LPG dealers in important places of Bangalore city to supply LPG to small and medium hotels is under consideration of Government;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) On account of short fall in overall availability of LPG in the country during the past few months, there have at times been temporary shortages of supplies to various markets including Bangalore city. These shortages would also have temporarily affected hotels which have been receiving LPG for their use;

(c) to (e) The oil industry is examining the feasibility of setting up separate LPG distributorships for non-domestic users.

Japanese assistance for Raichur Thermal Project in Karnataka

1254. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approached Japan for financial assistance for the proposed Raichur Thermal Project's fourth unit in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the total amount of assistance sought; and

(c) the time by which the assistance is expected to be forthcoming ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The Raichur Unit—IV (210 MW) is under consideration for OECF loan assistance from Japan for the year 1988-89. The exact amount of assistance would be known only after the Japanese side formally agree to finance the project, at the

Aid India Consortium meeting which usually takes place in June each year.

Supply of HBJ pipeline gas to Aonla fertilizers plant

1255. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative Ltd. plant at Aonla (U.P.) has stopped due to non-availability of HBJ pipeline gas;

(b) how long the Aonla plant which is already completed would remain idle; and

(c) whether any other fertilizer plants which were to be supplied gas by HBJ lying idle ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) GAIL's commitment is for supply of gas as feedstock only. The IFFCO fertilizer plant at Aonla is expected to draw gas as feedstock from March 1988. GAIL's schedule for supply of gas to this fertilizer plant matches with this schedule.

(c) No, Sir.

Demand and supply of kerosene

1256. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the annual production and demand of kerosene in the country;

(b) the quantity of kerosene oil imported annually to meet the demand;

(c) whether Government are aware that State-wise quota fixed per month is not being supplied to the States and as a result the kerosene oil is being sold in black market at very high prices; if so, the action taken in the matter;

(d) the State-wise demand and supply of kerosene oil during the period April-December, 1987, month-wise;

(e) the main reasons for short supply, if any; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government to meet the demand of each state fully to eliminate the chances of any malpractice ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The indigenous production and demand of kerosene in the country during the current year (1987-88) are estimated at 4.95 million tonnes and 7.30 million tonnes respectively.

(b) A quantity of 2.59 million tonnes of kerosene has been planned for import during the current year (1987-88) to meet the demand.

(c) to (f) Kerosene requirements of States and Union Territories are assessed by allowing a suitable growth over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, and allocations are made accordingly. Since October, 1985, allocations are being made and 1/4 2% growth rate for the Winter Block (Nov. to Feb.) and at 7% growth rate both for Summer Block (March to June) and Monsoon Block (July to October). Besides the regular allocations, additional adhoc releases are made to meet specific situations like flood, drought shortage of LPG, etc.

A Statement showing the kerosene allocations and releases made to States and Union Territories during the period April to December 1987, in accordance with the above policy is given below. It will be seen that release on the whole have by and large been in line with the allocations.

While the allocations made are considered adequate to meet the genuine demand, sporadic reports about shortage of kerosene and sale of the product in the black market are received. However, since distribution of the allocated quantity of kerosene within the States is done and controlled by the respective State Governments, they have been advised to streamline the distribution system to ensure its equitable distribution to different areas in the States and also to take stern action against those indulging in malpractices under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Prevention of Black-marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980.

Statement

(Figures in Tonnes)

States/U.T.	April		May		June		July*	
	Alloca- tion	Releases	Alloca- tion	Releases	Alloca- tion	Releases	Alloca- tion	Releases
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1. Haryana	10200	9755	10430	10511	11000	10106	10410	10430
2. Himachal Pradesh	2130	2047	2430	2830	2630	2406	2910	2675
3. Jammu & Kashmir	3610	5378	4710	6241	4210	4976	4250	4253
4. Punjab	20865	20674	20865	20297	20865	20419	22890	23094
5. Rajasthan	17260	16579	17260	16428	17260	16825	18016	17208
6. Uttar Pradesh	60910	60963	60910	60174	60910	61737	65133	64558
7. Chandigarh	1275	1075	1275	1212	1275	1103	1425	1086
8. Delhi	15090	15093	15090	14744	15090	15145	15770	15246
9. Assam	17000	21894	15635	17541	17000	19497	18000	18000
10. Bihar	33495	31004	32795	30799	33995	28900	34622	34778
11. Manipur	1330	1376	1330	1373	1330	1380	1265	1321
12. Meghalaya	1150	1153	1150	1128	1150	1155	1345	1272
13. Nagaland	665	807	780	850	780	841	640	739
14. Orissa	10160	9437	10160	9745	10160	9536	10845	10525
15. Sikkim	365	317	365	336	365	275	320	336

[illegible]

(Figures in tonnes)

States/U.T.	August*			September*			October*			November*			December*		
	Allo- cation	Releases		Allo- cation	Releases		Allo- cation	Releases		Allo- cation	Releases		Allo- cation	Releases	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11					
1. Haryana	11282	11356	11537	11391	12087	11549	12010	12303	11210	11309					
2. Himachal Pradesh	2910	2605	2910	2895	2910	3897	3005	3111	3005	3005					
3. Jammu & Kashmir	4250	4232	4250	4260	4650	4658	6000	6140	6050	6103					
4. Punjab	22890	22856	22890	22918	22890	22886	22940	22949	22940	22913					
5. Rajasthan	18016	16867	18016	17478	18016	18103	20986	20570	20986	30916					
6. Uttar Pradesh	65133	65101	68133	66991	67133	66968	66368	66020	66368	67442					
7. Chandigarh	1425	1172	1425	1197	1425	1250	1670	1312	1670	1513					
8. Delhi	15770	15251	15770	15651	15770	17551	18985	17503	18985	18731					
9. Assam	18000	17998	18500	18172	18000	18529	19500	19708	19500	19715					
10. Bihar	37622	35760	38622	34472	40622	38442	38527	36778	34329	34400					
11. Manipur	1800	1602	1800	1304	1800	1569	1720	1712	1720	1872					
12. Meghalaya	1345	7118	1345	1143	1345	1149	1345	1463	1345	1476					
13. Nagaland	800	823	800	760	800	899	895	1008	795	939					
14. Orissa	10945	10218	10845	10609	10845	10967	12100	11778	12550	11911					
15. Sikkim	320	299	320	308	320	355	860	406	860	388					
16. Tripura	1600	1442	1600	1653	1600	1557	1925	1658	1925	1780					

Reported ban on diaries and calendars by public sector units

1257. SHRI SURESH KURUP :
SHRI R.P. DAS :
SHRI ANIL BASU :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'Telegraph' of 30.12.1987 regarding ban on printing of diaries and calendars by public sector units;

(b) if so, whether all the public sector units had already ordered for these new year gifts; and

(c) if so, when and how the money spent by them on this head is to be accounted for ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes Sir. The issue of Telegraph dated 30.12.1987 carries a news item referring to the order of Government regarding ban on printing of diaries and calendars by public sector units.

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

Loss due to underground fire in Jharia Coalfields

1258. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN ; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated loss in terms of quantity and value of coal lost annually due to the underground fire in Jharia coalfields; and

(b) the number of residents uprooted annually as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) There are about 70 fires in 40 collieries of Jharia Coalfields covering an area of 17.32 kms which have been existing since long before nationalisation. The first fire was reported in 1916 in Bhowrah Colliery of this area. The total loss of coal due to old fires in Jharia Coalfields is estimated at about 37 million tonnes since 1916 and a total reserves of about 1864 million tonnes of coal is blocked from extraction due to these fires. It is difficult to assess the annual loss but the quantity of coal being lost due to fires is now substantially less than what it was earlier due to the measures being taken to control the fires.

(b) The population shifted due to fires since 1981 is estimated to be about 2400.

Power generation and gap between demand and supply of power

1259. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN :
SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage rise in the demand of power at the end of 1987 as compared to the rise in the years 1985 and 1986;

(b) the percentage rise in the generation of power in the country during the year 1987 as against the target;

(c) the gap between the demand and supply of power at the end of 1987 as compared to the gap between the demand and supply at the end of the years 1985 and 1986;

(d) the anticipated rise in power generation and the gap between demand and supply between 1990 and 2001 with the present rate of power generation and gap between the demand and supply of power; and

(e) whether Government contemplate a change in the energy policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTA): (a) The growth in overall energy requirement in the country during the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 is given below :

	Energy Requirement (MU net)	% Growth over the previous year
1984-85	155432	—
1985-86	170746	9.8%
1986-87	192356	12.6%
1987-88	211568	10.0%

(b) During the period April-January 1988 total generation was 166.74 B.U. as against the target of 171.39 BU which is 97.3% of the target.

(c) The gap between demand and supply (availability) of power in the country as a whole during the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 is given below :

(Figures in MU net)

	Requirement	Availability	Deficit (%)
1985-86	170746	157262	13484 (7.9%)
1986-87	192356	174276	18080 (9.4%)
1987-88	211568	186998	24970 (11.8%)

(d) The broad picture of 9th Plan would emerge after the 8th Plan is finalised. As such, capacity addition programme during 9th Plan and corresponding peak and energy availability at the end of 9th Plan cannot be accurately estimated now. However, according to the 13th Power Survey Report, the peak demand and energy requirement during the year 2000-01 is expected to be 122560 MW and 647697 MKWH respectively.

(e) No, Sir. However, the Energy Policy is reviewed by the Govern-

ment from time to time and any changes required are incorporated.

Central allocation for major power projects

1260. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the major power projects proposed to be funded by Union Government during the financial year 1988-89;

(b) the name and number of those

projects, State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the Central allocation made for those projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHATGI) : (a) to (c) The
details of the Major Power Projects pro-
posed to be funded by the Government of
India during the Financial year 1988-89
are given in the Statement below.

Statement

**Details of Major Power Projects Proposed to be Funded by the Government of
India during the Financial Year 1988-89**

S. No.	Name of Project	Capacity (MW)	Allocation for 1988-89 Rs. Crores
1	2	3	4
A. National Thermal Power Project			
I. Continuing Project			
Andhra Pradesh			
1.	Ramagundam TPP Phase I	3 x 200 + 1 x 500	57.37
2.	Ramagundam TPP Phase II	2 x 500	145.52
Bihar			
3.	Kahalgaoon TPP Phase I	4 x 210	90.38
Gujarat			
4.	Gas Turbine at Kavas	600	192.59
Madhya Pradesh			
5.	Korba TPP Phase I	3 x 200 + 1 x 500	26.38
6.	Korba TPP Phase II	2 x 500	43.55
7.	Vindhyachal TPP	6 x 210	162.66
Rajasthan			
8.	Anta Gas Turbines	430	136.11
Uttar Pradesh			
9a.	Singrauli TPP Phase II	3 x 200 + 2 x 500	50.09

1	2	3	4
10.	Rihand TPP Phase I	2 x 500	130.18
11.	National Capital TPP Dadri	4 x 210	90.68
12.	Auriya Gas Turbines	600	210.00
West Bengal			
13.	Farakka TPP Phase I	3 x 200	30.33
14.	Farakka TPP Phase II	2 x 500	135.06
Delhi			
15.	Badarpur TPS Stage II	7 x 210	1.24
16.	Badarpur TPS Stage III	1 x 210	2.16
17.	Badarpur TPS Renovation		13.26
18.	Badarpur TPS Phase III Ash Pond		2.00
II. New Projects of NTPC			
Bihar			
1.	North Karanpura TPP	1000	*
Haryana			
2.	Yamuna Nagar TPP	2 x 210	*
Madhya Pradesh			
3.	Vindhyachal TPP Phase II	1000	10.00
Maharashtra			
4.	Chandrapur TPP	1000	*
Orissa			
5.	Talcher TPP I	1000	73.87
Uttar Pradesh			
6.	Rihand Phase II	1000	30.00
7.	Gas based Combined Cycle Power Project		*
West Bengal			
8.	Farakka TPP Phase III	500	5.00

*A lumpsum provision of Rs. 30 crores made for the 4 projects.

1	2	3	4
B. National Hydroelectric Power Corporation			
I. Continuing Projects			
Bihar			
1. Koel Karo HEP		4 x 172.5 + 1 x 20	1.00
Himachal Pradesh			
2. Chamera HEP		3 x 180	190.00
Jammu & Kashmir			
3. Salal HEP Stage-I		3 x 115	15.00
4. Dulhasti HEP		3 x 130	90.00
Manipur			
5. Lok Tak HEP		3 x 35	0.50
Uttar Pradesh			
6. Tanakpur HEP		3 x 40	60.00
New Projects			
Himachal Pradesh			
1. Nathpa Jhakri HEP		6 x 170	50.00
2. Chamera Stage II		3 x 100	15.00
Jammu & Kashmir			
3. Uri HEP		4 x 120	12.00
4. Salal HEP Stage II		3 x 115	10.00
5. Baglihar		3 x 150	**
6. Sawalkat		3 x 200	**
Mizoram			
7. Dhaleshwari HEP		120	**
Sikkim			
8. Rangit HEP		60	5.00
Uttar Pradesh			
9. Dhauliganga HEP		4 x 65	1.00
10. Tehri HEP		1000	70.00

1	2	3	4
C. North Eastern Electric Power Corporation			
1. Kathalguri Gas Turbines		270	45.00
D. Damodar Valley Corporation			
Continuing Projects			
1. Bokaro 'B' TPS Stage I		1 x 210	4.84
2. Bokaro 'B' TPS Stage II		2 x 210	50.00
3. Panchet Hydel Stage II		40	5.00
New Projects			
4. Mejia TPS		3 x 210	50.00
5. Gas Turbines at Maithon		90	18.41
E. Neyveli Lignite Corporation			
I. Continuing Schemes			
Tamil Nadu			
1. Neyveli II Minecut TPS Stage I		3 x 210	15.00
2. Neyveli II Minecut TPS Stage II		4 x 210	195.00
II. New Schemes			
1. Neyveli III TPS		3 x 500	0.10
2. Neyveli I TPS Expansion		2 x 210	0.10
3. Additional Unit at II TPS		210	10.10
Rajasthan			
1. Power station at Rajasthan			0.10
F. Nuclear Power Plants			
Continuing Schemes			
Uttar Pradesh			
1. Narora Atomic Power Project 1 & 2		2 x 235	33.00

1	2	3	4
Gujarat			
2.	Kakrapar Atomic Power Project 1 & 2	2 x 235	195.00
New Schemes			
Karnataka			
1.	Kaiga 1 & 2	2 x 235	75.00
Rajasthan			
1.	RAPP 3 & 4	2 x 235	90.00
Locations not known			
1.	8th Project	2 x 235	20.00
2.	9th Project	2 x 235	20.00
3.	500 MW 1 & 2	0 }	73.26
4.	500 MW 3 & 4		
5.	500 MW 5 & 6		
**Lumpsum Provision of Rs. 15 Crores.			

Report on short receipt of imported base oil

1261. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received the report of the Committee regarding inquiry into the short receipt of 547 tonnes of imported base oil out of total quantity of 1477 tonnes;

(b) if so, the main findings of the committee;

(c) the number of officials held responsible and the action taken against them; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure that such incidents of shortage of oil do not occur in future ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (d) BPCL had constituted a Committee to determine the circumstances resulting in the reported short receipt of imported base oils. The Report of the Committee has been received by BPCL and its major findings are as under :

(i) Major portion of the loss has occurred through a crack in the tanker discharge pipeline which could have occurred due to build up of pressure.

(ii) Some product has leaked out through a switch out valve which is normally used for releasing air during the pigging operations.

2. The Committee has also noted dereliction of duty on the part of the

Terminal Management at the receiving end and the oil industry staff operating on the ship as well as employees of the ship. BPCL have already initiated action against their own officers. A copy of the Report is also being provided to other concerned agencies for suitable action.

Generation of internal resources by public sector undertakings

1262. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 17 Central public sector undertakings have failed to generate any internal resources in the first half of 1987-88 against substantial targets set for them during the whole of current financial year;

(b) if so, the names of those public sector undertakings;

(c) the main reasons for the same; and

(d) what is the latest position of these undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) As targets for generation of internal resources are fixed for the full year, no firm conclusions can be drawn from the purely provisional figures for the first 6 months of the financial year. Generally, the performance improves in the latter part of the year. The correct position would be available only after the end of the financial year.

Sickness in small paper mills

1263. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of small paper mills are turning sick due to demand recession in paper;

(b) whether the input costs are going up, as claimed by the Indian Paper Mills Association;

(c) if so, the remedial steps considered;

(d) whether the public sector paper mills have been given monopoly for supply of paper to the education sector thereby depriving the small mills; and

(e) if so, Government's views thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The performance of small paper mills in general has not been satisfactory mainly on account of the following reasons: —

(i) Installation of inferior, inadequate and inappropriate equipment;

(ii) Fluctuations in the availability and price of raw material used by the mills;

(iii) Management deficiencies and skilled labour scarcity;

(iv) Absence of technically and economically sound recovery systems;

(v) Time and cost over-runs at the project implementation stage resulting in higher financial burden;

(vi) Inadequate availability of power and also good quality coal suited for the boilers installed in the mills;

(c) The Institutions and Banks have been extending need-based reliefs and concessions to the paper mills on a case to case basis and have been following a liberalised policy towards modernisation. Government have also granted various fiscal and financial reliefs to the Industry

from time to time to enable the Industry to improve its capacity utilisation and financial viability. These include the facility of liberal import of raw materials, excise concession for use of non-conventional raw materials : flexibility for manufacture of all varieties of paper and paper board within the overall licensed capacity exemption from licensing of writing, printing and wrapping paper manufactured from agricultural residues, wastes and bagasse; removal of the restrictions on export of paper. A Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has been set up in terms of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 with wide ranging powers, for taking various measures pertaining to sick industrial companies, falling within the purview of the Act.

(d) and (e) With a view to ensuring smooth and timely supply of white printing paper to meet the requirements of the education sector in the States/Union Territories, the Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd., a Central Public Sector Undertaking, has been entrusted with the responsibility of supplying paper till the year 1989-90. Even prior to the introduction of this arrangement, the requirement of white printing paper for the education sector was being met from supplies made by large paper mills falling within the purview of Paper Control Orders.

Rice bran oil production

1264. SHRI SATYENDRA NARARAN SINHA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether rice bran oil is emerging as a major source of non-traditional oil for the vanaspati industry;

(b) and (c) :

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	Capacity in lines	Working connection as on 31.1.88	No. On Waiting list as on 31.1.88
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Trivandrum Crossbar	10000	9005	2449

(b) if so, whether there are plans to increase rice bran oil production; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) Government has provided incentive for utilisation of rice bran oil in the manufacture of vanapati, thereby, generating an interest for larger diversion of bran for extraction purposes. Coordinated efforts are being made to develop technology for producing better quality of rice bran and for its stabilisation to get extra oil, particularly of edible grade. These efforts have yielded very good results.

Waiting list for telephone connections in Trivandrum Telephone District

1265. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges under Trivandrum, Telephone District as on date;

(b) the number of telephone connections in each exchange;

(c) the number of applications on waiting list for connections in each exchange; and

(d) the number of exchanges to be expanded during the next financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 3 (Three)

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Trivandrum OKI Crossbar	10000	9409	3293
3.	Sreekaryam	1400	1368	1143
	(d) NIL			

[Translation]

Installation of digital electronic telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh

1266. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the name of places in Uttar Pradesh where digital electronic telephone exchanges have been installed or are proposed to be installed during this year;

(b) whether there is proposal to install digital electronic telephone exchanges at Ram Nagar (Nainital), Tanakpur (Nainital), Bageshwar (Almora), Lohaghat and Dharchula (Pithoragarh) in the State; and

(c) if so, the time by which the same will be installed ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Digital Electronic Telephone Exchanges have been installed at the following places in 1987-88 :—

(1) Orai (2) Ranikhet (3) Sultanpur (4) Pauri (5) Fatehpur (6) Pithoragarh and (7) Surajpur (Noida)

There are proposals to instal Digital Electronic Exchanges, during this year at the following places (1) Noida (2) Banda (3) Lalitpur and (4) Ghazipur.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) MCR Electronic Telephone Exchange is likely to be installed in 1988-89 at Ram Nagar (Nainital District) which is not a digital exchange.

Quota of Wheat, Rice, Kerosene, Palmolein and Sugar to Uttar Pradesh

1267. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the quota of wheat, rice, kerosene oil, Palmolein and sugar released to Uttar Pradesh during the last three months was according to the requirements of that State;

(b) if so, the details of each item;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to non release of quota in time, difficulties of the consumers in the State have increased; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) Allocations of various essential commodities to States are made from time to time taking into consideration the availability of stocks, relative needs of various States, market availability and other related factors. Allocation of these commodities are supplementary in nature and are not intended to meet the entire demand of the States.

Details of allocation of wheat, rice, kerosene oil, imported edible oils and levy sugar made under the Public Distribution System to Uttar Pradesh during the last three months, namely, November 1987 to January, 1988, are given in the Statement below.

(c) and (d) The State Government has not reported any such difficulties. However, the State Govt. has been advised to strengthen and streamline the functioning of the Public Distribution System.

Statement**Allocation of Essential Commodities to Uttar Pradesh under Public Distribution System.**

(Figures in Tonnes)

	November 1987	December 1987	January 1988
Wheat	65,000	70,000	45,000
Rice	60,000	60,000	60,000
Kerosene Oil	66,378	66,368	66,368
Imported Edible Oil	10,000	10,000	7,400
Levy Sugar	52,926	52,926	52,926

*[English]***Relief to sugar industry**

1268. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware
that there is low sugar recoveries from the
sugarcane this year due to drought;

(b) if so, whether sugar mills associa-
tions have approached Union Government
to extend relief to the sugar industry to
face the crisis due to high sugarcane prices
and low sugar recoveries from the sugar-
cane; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Govern-
ment thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a)
Yes, Sir, the percentage of sugar recovery
from sugarcane recorded by sugar factor-
ies in some of the sugar producing States
this year upto the end of January, 1988, is
reported to be lower as compared to the
recoveries achieved during the correspond-
ing period in the preceding two seasons.

(b) and (c) In a joint representation

recently received from the two apex bod-
ies, namely, the Indian Sugar Mills Asso-
ciation and the National Federation of
Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd, a re-
quest has been made for grant of relief to
the sugar industry by way of upward re-
vision of levy sugar prices; restoration of
free sale sugar price to realistic levels;
enhancement of free sale quota to 60 per
cent; remission of Excise Duty on sugar;
remission of cane purchase tax by the
State Governments; grant of interest-free
loans to the sugar factories, etc. Since the
cane crushing season is still on, Govern-
ment considers it premature at present to
undertake a review of the position.

Oil exploration in Kerala by ONCC

1269. SHRI T. BASHEER :
PROF. P. J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to
state :

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas
Commission has undertaken any off-shore
exploration in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the future plans of oil
exploration in Kerala ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Three exploratory wells, namely, Cochin-I, Kesargod-I and Karwar-1 drilled during 1978 to 1980 have proved dry.

(c) ONGC have planned to drill about 10 wells in Kerala-Konkan Offshore during the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

International Cooperation in the field of small scale Industries

1270. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India's cooperation is being sought by the developing countries in the field of small scale industries :

(b) if, so whether the National Small Industries Corporation has signed recently any memoranda of understanding with concerned organisations in several countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) National Small Industries Corporation have recently signed memoranda of understanding with concerned organisations in Ethiopia, Mauritius and Nigeria. Generally these Memoranda of Understanding are for exploration and setting up of Small Scale Units on turnkey basis and also helping in setting up training centres.

Proposal to redefine backward areas

1271. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to redefine the backward areas; and

(b) if so, the criteria proposed to be adopted while re-defining the backward areas and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The existing Schemes of incentives for industrialisation of backward areas 'No Industry Districts' have been reviewed by an Inter-Ministerial Committee. Recommendations of the Committee are under the consideration of Government.

Setting up of Industrial complex in Orissa

1272. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up an Industrial Complex in Phulbani, a backward and tribal district in Orissa;

(b) whether an investment of Rs. one crore is proposed to be made in that industrial complex; and

(c) if so, the steps taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) With effect from 1.4.83, the Central Government has formulated a Scheme to assist the State Governments having 'No Industry Districts' to develop infrastructural facilities in one or two identified growth centres. The Central assistance is limited to 1/3rd of the total cost of infrastructural development subject to a maximum of Rs.2 crores per district. Phulbani being a 'No Industry District' is eligible for Central assistance subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores for development of infrastructure in a growth centre in the district. The State Government of Orissa has identified Manmunda as growth centre and the

Central Government has released first instalment of its share amounting to Rs. 50 lakhs to the Government of Orissa.

Price increase of levy sugar

1273. SHRI KRISHNA SINGH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether prices of levy sugar have lately been increased and the quota of free sale sugar increased by 50 per cent; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, indicating the extent of price increase and the factors leading to enhancement of price of free sale sugar ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) Consequent upon increase in the statutory minimum prices of sugarcane for 1987-88 season from Rs. 17,000 to Rs. 18,50 per quintal linked to 8.5 per cent recovery and higher manufacturing cost of sugar determined for the production of 1987-88, the retail issue price of levy sugar has been increased from Rs. 4.85 to Rs. 5.10 per kilogram with effect from 1.1.1988. The ratio of levy to free sale quota for the sugar year 1987-88 has, however, been kept unchanged at 50:50. There has been no increase in the retail prices of free sale sugar, which ranged between Rs. 6.30 to Rs. 6.80 per kilogram in the principal markets as on 22.2.88 as against the price range of Rs. 6.20 to Rs. 7.30 per kilogram on 31.12.87.

Manufacture of Agarbathies

1274. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number firms engaged in the manufacture of 'Agarbathies' in the country; and

(b) which are the first 50 firms which are excelled their performance for any award, including Export Awards, during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Based on frame list prepared for sample survey of small scale units registered upto 31.3.1981, there were 2100 small scale units manufacturing Agarbathies in the country ?

(b) Six firms have received award/certificates of merit from Chemexcll for outstanding export performance during 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86.

Telephone directory of Goa

1275. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued any policy guidelines as regards the interval within which each Telephone division shall print and publish Telephone Directories;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the dates on which last three telephone directories of Goa Telephone Division were published; and

(d) whether the same have been published as per the policy guidelines issued ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Telephone Directories are to be published annually.

(c) Last three issues of telephone directory for Goa Telephone Division were published in October, 1982, February, 1985 and April, 1987.

(d) The directories could not be published as per schedule owing to constraints like shortage of staff and trained personnel.

Supply of push button telephone to subscribers

1276. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to supply push button telephones to the subscribers;

(b) if so, the details with respect to the phases, by which the supply would be commenced and completed;

(c) whether the instruments are indigenously manufactured; and

(d) if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir. A Push Button telephone can be provided to a subscriber, on request, on payment of one time charge of Rs. 5000/ subject to availability of such instruments.

(b) Supply of these instruments has already commenced and will continue as per demands from the subscribers.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A number of companies have been licenced to manufacture these instruments in the country.

Setting up of second digital electronic switching factory at Bangalore

1277. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY :

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal for setting up the second digital electronic switching factory in Bangalore has been deferred; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to revive the proposal in the interest of the workers ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) A second factory to produce five lakh lines a year of digital electronic switching equipment was proposed to be set up at Bangalore during the 7th plan period. This was proposed in the context of a proposed investment of Rs. 13,000 crores in the telecommunications network.

The final plan outlay was fixed at Rs. 4010 crores only. In this background, it was found that the factory may not be needed during the 7th Plan period. Since then, the Department's allocations have been increased modestly in the Annual Plans and it has now been decided to set up the factory in a phased manner. The production of one lakh lines a year of C-DOT design of Rural Automatic Exchanges has been taken up. This is to be followed by production of one lakh lines a years of 512-part main exchanges.

[Translation]

Completion of thermal power houses Uttar Pradesh

1278 SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of places in Uttar Pradesh where the work of setting up of thermal power houses is in progress or is about to start; and

(b) the time by which this work is likely to be completed at these places ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The desired information is given in the Statement below :

Statement

Names of the projects/places in Uttar Pradesh with likley dates of completion.

S. No.	Name of the Project/Places	Unit Numbers with Commissioning schedule as anticipated now	
1.	Anpara 'A' Mirzapur District.	Unit — 3	3/88
2.	Anpara 'B' —do—	Unit — 1	*
		Unit — 2	*
3.	Tanda Faizabad District.	Unit — 1	3/88
		Unit — 2	9/88
		Unit — 3	3/89-4/89
		Unit — 4	9/89
4.	Unchahar Rae Bareilly District.	Unit — 1	5/88
		Unit — 2	3/89
5.	Riband Mirzapur District.	Unit — 1	3/88
		Unit — 2	3/89-4/89
6.	Auriaya Combined Cycle Project Etawah District.	Unit — 1	8/89
		Unit — 2	10/89
		Unit — 3	12/89
		Unit — 4	2/90
7.	National Capital Region TPP Ghaziabad District.	Unit — 1	12/91
		Unit — 2	6/92
		Unit — 3	12/92
		Unit — 4	6/93

* As order for main plant and equipment is yet to be placed, it is difficult to assess the anticipated commissioning schedule.

[English]

Surplus skilled and technical employees in N.P.C.C.

**1279. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :**

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of skilled and technical employees declared surplus by the

management of National Projects Construction Corporation;

(b) whether any officer who supervised the work of the employees has also been shown surplus;

(c) whether Government propose to withdraw the retrenchment orders with retrospective effect and ensure that the workers are not harassed; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) According to the National Projects Construction Corporation, 1050 workmen have been rendered surplus.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Out of the aforesaid surplus workmen, about 570 were offered alternate jobs in the security discipline with protection of emoluments, better service conditions and one additional increment. About 70 workmen have already accepted the offer and have been absorbed in the regular cadre of the Corporation. The NPCC have a surplus workforce and it is not proposed to withdraw the retrenchment orders.

Installed capacity and demand of power in Orissa

1280. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether power demand of Orissa will increase from 1000 MW at present to 2200 MW as per survey conducted by the Central Electricity Authority; and

(b) if so, the installed capacity and demand in the State at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) The peak demand in Orissa which is at present of the orders of 1000 1100 MW will increase, according to the 13th Power Survey, to 1956 MW by 1989-90. The installed capacity in Orissa at present is about 1315 MW.

Expenditure on postal services

1281. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent during the

Sixth Five Year Plan and so far in the Seventh Five Year Plan on the expansion of postal network in rural and backward, hilly and tribal areas; and

(b) the details of new post offices opened ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The expenditure incurred on expansion of postal network in rural/backward/hilly/tribal areas is as follows :

(Rupees Crores)

Sixth Plan (1980-85)	16.54
Seventh Plan	
1985-86	0.02
1986-87	0.03
1987-88 (B.E.)	0.50

(b) The number of new post offices opened is as follows :

Sixth Plan (1980-85)	6820
Seventh Plan	
1985-86	13
1986-87	12
1987-88 (Sanctioned)	988

Setting up of sugar factories in Kerala

1282. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether applications for setting up sugar mills in Kerala are pending for approval; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Expansion of Cochin Refineries

1283. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for the expansion of the Cochin Refineries in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) There is no proposal for the expansion of the Cochin Refineries Ltd. in Kerala in the Seventh Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

Outlay for industrialisation in Kerala

1284. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total outlay for industrialisation in Kerala during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount spent so far and the details of industries set up with central assistance;

(c) whether it is a fact that Kerala's share in the total industrial outlay for the country is low; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to augment its share ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) According to the Seventh

Five Year Plan document, total outlay for the Industry and Minerals sector is placed at Rs. 208.00 crores for the State of Kerala.

(b) According to the Planning Commission, allocation of outlays to Kerala for 1985-86 (actuals), 1986-87 (Revised estimates) and 1987-88 (approved outlays) in respect of Industry & Minerals sector are as follows :—

	(Rs. crores)
1985-86 (Actual)	Rs. 46.76
1986-87 (Revised estimates)	Rs. 41.31
1987-88 (Approved outlays)	Rs. 41.35

(c) and (d) No discrimination or favour is shown to any individual State while taking decisions on Plan outlay for industrial projects. The establishment of industries at a particular location is guided by the considerations of techno-economic feasibility, availability of raw materials, infrastructure etc.

Supply of power at concessional rates to disabled defence service personnel

1285. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to provide power at cheaper rates to the defence service personnel who are disabled;

(b) the other categories of people which are being considered for power supply at concessional rates; and

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b) Under the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, the power to fix tariffs for supply of electricity to various categories of consumers vests

in the State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments and not in the Union Government.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Production of mineral oil

1286. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of mineral oil being produced at present;

(b) the actual consumption of mineral oil in the country; and

(c) the quantity of mineral oil to be imported during the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) Production of crude oil in the country during 1986-87 was 30.50 million tonnes as against consumption of 45.70 million tonnes.

(c) Projected gross imports are 18.34 million tonnes.

[English]

Energy consumption pattern

1287. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some experts have made useful suggestions for a more balanced fuel-mix in the country's energy consumption pattern to achieve all round cost reduction;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government to these suggestions; and

(c) whether Government are shortly

announcing a new energy policy to meet the growing demand of industrial transport as well as domestic sectors, if so, when it is likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The question of providing a balanced fuel mix in the Country's energy consumption pattern to achieve all round cost reduction has been the subject of study by various Committees and Working Groups set up by the Government in the past and the present energy policy of the Government encompasses the findings of these Committees. The Advisory Board on Energy have also made recommendations in regard to the strategy for short-term and long-term growth in the energy sector. These recommendations, inter-alia, lay stress on improving utilisation of the existing energy production capacity in the country, demand management, conservation of energy, increase in the share of hydro power in the total power capacity, and development of non-conventional sources of energy. These are, by and large, within the framework of the present energy policy of the Government. The Planning Commission is at present studying the problem through development of an energy model which would serve as a tool for analysis of various problems and issues for the formulation of a fuel policy. In the course of this exercise, the Planning Commission will take into consideration the findings of other recent studies on the subject. Government will take a view on the need for any restructuring of its energy policy when the findings of the Planning Commission study are available.

Contract with U.K. firm for development of new underground mine complex

1288. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are entering into a contract with a UK firm for the development of a new underground mine complex at Ghusic under Eastern Coalfields Limited on a turnkey basis;

(b) whether Government are also entering into a contract with UK for exploitation of two mines (i) Moonidih of Bharat Coking Coal Limited and (2) Godavarikhare of Singareni Collieries Ltd; and

(c) the specific advantages in entering in'to these contracts from financial as well as technological points of view ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) The Government is considering the possibility of tying up the Ghusik underground project with the United Kingdom. The mining methodology and project economics for the project are still to be finalised. The investment decision in respect of this project will be considered after those details are finalised.

(b) No, Sir. Contracts for these projects will be with Indian companies in the public sector and UK assistance will cover imports by the Indian companies for fulfilling the contracts.

(c) Does not arise since no contract is presently being entered into with any U.K. firm.

Production and export of canned fruits, vegetables and herbs

1289. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the steps taken to boost production and export of canned or frozen fruits, vegetables and herbs ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : The production and export of canned and frozen fruits and vegetables has increased during the recent years. The following steps have been taken for increasing the same :

- (i) Production and distribution of quality planting material, laying

out of demonstration plots on improved agro techniques, supply of inputs at subsidised cost and such other steps are taken for increasing production of fruits and vegetables in the country;

- (ii) The entrepreneurs engaged in the production and export of canned and frozen fruits and vegetables are provided technical advice and guidance by technically qualified officers of the government during the course of inspection of the units in terms of the Fruit Products Order, 1955 and Export (Quality Control & Inspection) Act; and

- (iii) Incentives like cash compensatory support, import replenishment and duty draw back are allowed with a view to increasing export of canned or frozen fruits and vegetables and herbs. Besides, in order to help modernisation and technological upgradation of the industry, import of several machinery items is allowed under Open General Licence or with concessional rates of duty.

Constructions of godowns in Kerala by FCI

1290. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India is constructing godowns in Kerala on behalf of the Central Warehousing Corporation;

(b) if so, the number of godowns being constructed at present;

(c) whether this will not lead to loss of jobs of the permanent employees of the Central Warehousing Corporation;

(d) whether they have given any representation to Government; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

Joint ventures with USSR

1291. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and USSR have agreed to establish a number of Joint ventures in the next few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by what time the implementation is likely to take place ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) An agreement between the Governments of India and the U.S.S.R. was signed in New Delhi on 24th November 1987 for promoting the development of New forms of economic cooperation between the two countries in industry, trade, services sector and other possible fields. Presently a number of joint venture proposals in the fields of leather, textiles, dye stuffs forest products etc. are at the preliminary negotiation stage.

Outlay for Coal India Ltd.

1292. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has approved only Rs. 1600 crores for Coal India Ltd. for 1988-89;

(b) if so, whether Coal India Ltd. had asked for more than the outlay approved;

(c) if so, the main reasons for reducing the outlay; and

(d) whether this will greatly affect the schemes prepared by the Coal India Ltd. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c) Against a large amount sought by Coal India Ltd. the Planning Commission has agreed to an outlay of Rs. 1314 crores for 1988-89. The amount approved by the Planning Commission has been arrived at in the light of the total resource availability and after detailed scrutiny of the requirements of coal mining projects and the production needs.

(d) As coal mining projects usually have a long gestation period, lower allocation of funds in one year will not have an immediate and significantly adverse effect on production.

Action plan to curb power losses

1293. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have asked the State Governments to draw up a time-bound action plan to bring down the transmission and distribution losses in the power sector;

(d) if so, the States which have so far drawn up the plan;

(c) whether the experts of Union Government have also suggested some measures to be undertaken by the States to curb power losses;

(d) if so, the details of the same; and

(e) to what extent States have been able to curb power losses up till now ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (c) The

State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments had been requested to draw up short-term and long-term action plans for reduction of transmission and distribution losses. They had also been advised to intensify surprise raids/inspections on the various consumer installations for the prevention of losses due to pilferage, defective meters, etc. Action Plan has so far been received from States of Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Nagaland. The remaining organisations have been requested to expedite formulation of Action Plans. Effective implementations of the plans will help in reducing the transmission and distribution losses. As short term measures, organisations have been asked to take up capacitor installations and energy meters refurbishment programmes. The results of the efforts by different organisations will be known after energy balance accounts for the year 1987-88 are ready.

Technology gap in industrial sector

1294. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to bridge the technology gap in the industrial sector by encouraging foreign collaborations with private enterprises;

(b) if so, what is the main strategy to give a boost to foreign collaborations for updating technology;

(c) whether Government propose to evolve a scheme for entrepreneurs; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Government policy regarding import of technology has been to bridge the technology gaps in the industrial sector. Import of technical know-how is permitted in sophisticated and high priority areas, in export oriented

or import substitution manufacturing or for enabling indigenous industry to update existing technology in India to meet efficiently domestic requirements and/or to become competitive in the export market.

Production of Khadi KVIC

1295. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the capital invested by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission in various States to increase the production of Khadi during the last three years, Statewise;

(b) the amount of profit earned by the Commission during the last three years;

(c) whether it is also a fact that KVIC is not expanding its activities; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The funds disbursed by KVIC for the implementation of Khadi programme to various States during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87 are as follows :

(Rs. in lakhs)			
Year	Grant	Loan	Total
1984-85	2482.61	2645.23	5127.84
1985-86	3699.04	2989.80	6688.84
1986-87	4214.25	2629.21	6843.46

The state-wise details of funds disbursed are given in the Statement below.

(b) KVIC is a developmental organisation and the Khadi activities are required to be conducted on no-profit no-loss basis as per the Certification Rules

of KVIC. Funds for development of khadi are disbursed to State KVI Boards and directly aided institutions. Whatever surpluses are earned in the course of production and sales remain with respective KVI Boards and institutions. However, a small portion of funds is invested by the KVIC in its departmental trading activities for production and sale of Khadi. The surplus and deficit in its departmental trading units in the last three years under Khadi programme is as follows :—

Year	Net surplus	Net deficit
1984-85	8.15 lakhs	—
1985-86	12.76 lakhs	—
1986-87	—	1.07 lakhs

(c) No, Sir. The following data relating to production, sales and employment indicates that KVIC activities are expanding from year to year.

Year	Production (Rs. in crores)	Sales (Rs. in crores)	Employment (in lakhs)
1984-85	964.68	1039.97	37.89
1985-86	1124.04	1285.51	39.68
1986-87	1316.72	1417.07	40.70

(d) Does not arise.

Statement
Statewise details of disbursement of funds for Khadi during 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87
(Rs. in lakhs)

KHADI

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories	1984-85		1985-86		1986-87	
		Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan	Grant	Loan
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I. States							
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47.75	77.46	116.33	144.87	83.37	174.90
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.54	—	0.07	—	—	—
3.	Assam	6.53	86.84	8.96	14.00	21.19	59.76
4.	Bihar	254.14	145.05	265.40	184.87	476.20	119.30
5.	Goa (including UT of Daman & Diu)	—	—	—	—	0.05	—
6.	Gujarat	185.62	114.83	311.37	43.43	371.69	280.37
7.	Haryana	171.12	46.77	120.27	73.94	138.03	61.31
8.	Himachal Pradesh	3.32	35.48	6.14	26.62	5.27	13.73
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1.33	43.88	0.02	14.51	6.18	17.94
10.	Karnataka	105.02	148.28	152.91	313.27	145.16	410.90

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Kerala	94.19	84.74	111.47	140.11	127.53	138.80
12.	Madhya Pradesh	57.46	89.49	164.89	81.30	159.21	79.31
13.	Maharashtra	75.13	23.67	211.08	25.04	343.05	69.54
14.	Manipur	0.82	3.21	0.43	4.76	0.32	0.35
15.	Meghalaya	0.68	—	0.37	—	0.29	—
16.	Mizoram	0.44	—	—	—	1.31	2.08
17.	Nagaland	2.70	0.15	0.60	1.98	0.68	2.50
18.	Orissa	9.19	17.18	8.10	5.22	12.71	10.69
19.	Punjab	14.29	65.31	138.44	99.88	114.50	52.36
20.	Rajasthan	197.59	151.57	300.49	262.03	285.35	332.48
21.	Sikkim	—	—	0.30	—	—	—
22.	Tamilnadu	295.97	526.73	453.93	582.73	597.26	189.60
23.	Tripura	4.95	—	1.27	8.75	2.39	6.19
24.	Uttar Pradesh	808.78	754.58	1163.69	651.85	1081.64	320.24
25.	West Bengal	80.87	216.84	68.10	292.37	117.78	266.37
Total I		2+20.43	2632.36	3604.63	2971.53	4085.16	2608.73

Setting up of Helium gas based research plant

1296. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3946 on 24 March, 1987 regarding setting up of Helium gas-based Research Plant by Bhabha Atomic Research Centre at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan and state :

(a) whether Helium extraction from ONGC's gas fields in Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan has been established ;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Bhabha Atomic Research Centre is going to set up a Helium Gas based research plant in Jaisalmer; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) (a) to (c) Sufficient reserves for extraction of helium from ONGC's gas fields in Rajasthan are yet to be firmly established.

[Translation]

Gas based thermal plant in Ramgarh, Rajasthan

1297. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2631 on 24th November, 1987 regarding gas based thermal plant at Ramgarh, Rajasthan and state :

(a) whether there has been an agreement between the Rajasthan State Electricity Board and the Oil and Natural Gas Commission regarding the price of gas for the gas based plant to be installed in Ramgarh Jaisalmer district ;

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

(c) whether Rajasthan State Electricity Board has invited global tenders for the purchase of Gas Turbine Plant ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ;

(e) the decision taken on the aforesaid tenders ; and

(f) the time by which the plant will be commissioned

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Fall in demand of polyester staple fibre

1298. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the demand for polyester staple fibre has fallen to less than one-third of the industry's capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) how far the fiscal policy of Government has affected the polyester staple fibre producers ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to remove the worsening situation faced by the polyester fibre industry ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (d) The demand for polyester staple fibre (PSF) in the country has been consistently growing, the process having been considerably facilitated by reduction in excise duty on PSF from Rs. 45/kg. to Rs. 25/kg. in August, 1985. At present, the production capacity of PSF has outstripped the demand primarily due to bunching of commissioning of a number of new units. To enable the industry to overcome this short-term imbalance, export of PSF has been permitted.

Cement Units

1299. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cement units operating in the country as on date ; and

(b) how many mini cement plants have closed down due to financial difficulties this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The total number of cement units operating in the country which are licensed or registered with Directorate General of Technical Development is 157.

(b) Mini cement plants could be closed owing to a variety of reasons such as power shortage, raw material shortage, financial, technical or managerial difficulties etc. precise information is not available in this regard.

Coal linkage for second unit of Mettur Power Project in Tamil Nadu

1300. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal linkage has been made for the first unit of Mettur Power Project in Tamil Nadu and if not, the reasons for the delay ;

(b) the steps being taken to establish coal linkage for the second unit of the same project which is expected to be commissioned in March, 1988 ; and

(c) the steps being taken to solve the problem of coal supply to thermal projects in Tamil Nadu ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) Mettur

Power Project in Tamil Nadu has been sanctioned linkages to its all units upto Unit No. IV from Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.

(c) Requirement of coal of on-going thermal power projects is being met in full. All the power stations have comfortable coal stocks with Ennore power station having stocks adequate for over 40 days consumption and Mettur power station for over 60 days consumption.

In so far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, new coal based Thermal Power Stations with a capacity of about 1500 MW have so far been provided with coal linkage. Further enhancement of coal based power generating capacity would depend on the development programme of new coal mines in Godavari Valley and Talcher coalfields.

National Convention on Solar Energy

1301. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the decision arrived at in the National Conventions on Solar Energy held in New Delhi in the first week of December, 1987 ; and

(b) the action being taken on the decisions for optimum utilisation of solar energy ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The conclusions arrived at the National Convention on Solar Energy held in New Delhi in the first week of December 1987, concern inter alia the important role renewable sources of energy have already started playing in the country, particularly for rural areas, and the need for a greater shift to renewable sources of energy from conventional sources as conventional sources are often centralised, have long gestation periods and need heavy investment. The convention felt that shift to renewable sources of energy would mean more rapid satisfaction of energy needs and return on investment,

(b) Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is already implementing a programme for effective utilisation of Solar and other renewable sources of energy and actions therein are based *inter alia* on conclusions arrived at various national conventions including the one held at IIT Delhi in December, 1987 subject to the availability of funds,

Consumption of furnace oil in coal-fired thermal plants

1302. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps being taken to curb the extravagant consumption of furnace oil in the coal-fired thermal plants, at an average of over 20 ml. per kilowatt hour ; and

(b) the steps being taken to avert the line losses, which average over 19 per cent of the total generation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) (a) The various steps undertaken to curb the consumption of furnace oil in coal fired thermal power stations are given in the Statement below.

(b) The Central Electricity Authority have issued guideline to the State Electricity Boards, Electricity Departments etc. to reduce transmission and distribution losses. These guidelines contain measures for reducing technical losses as well as commercial losses such as theft of energy. The State Electricity Boards, Electricity Departments etc. have been requested to undertake studies to identify system elements responsible for high losses and prepare system improvement scheme for strengthening and improvement of sub-transmission and distribution system for implementation in a phased manner to bring down the T & D losses. The Government of India has also introduced an incentive scheme for payment of rewards to the State Electricity Boards/Electricity Departments etc. for reducing T & D losses.

Statement

Steps taken to curb the consumption of furnace oil in coal-fired thermal plants

- (i) Under the Renovation & Modernisation Scheme, 34 stations comprising 162 (excluding 2 Nos. Units at Durgapur damaged in fire) thermal generating sets of capacity below 200 MW have been undertaken to remove the deficiencies of the plant and equipment. The scheme is at various stages of implementation.
- (ii) Generic problems relating to generator hydrogen leakage and failure of HP control valves of 200/210 MW turbines and frequent failure of 60/110 MW generator stators have been taken care of by carrying out suitable modifications.
- (iii) The mills, performance of which has a direct bearing on the higher consumption of oil, are being retrofitted with modified internals.
- (iv) Special operating instructions specifically highlighting the critical operations having direct bearing on oil consumption have been circulated among the various State Electricity Boards.
- (v) To improve the combustion stability and reduce the dependence on oil support, the latest version of the coal nozzles and scanners have successfully been tried.
- (vi) In order to eliminate oil totally as a secondary fuel a low calorific value coal gas plant at Ennore Thermal Power Station and direct ignition of pulverised coal system at Satpura Thermal Power Station are being tried.
- (vii) The productivity reward incentive scheme to boost the power generation has been suitably

amended to encourage the reduction in the secondary fuel oil consumption.

Manufacture of low technology equipment

1303. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of entrepreneurs from Tamil Nadu who have been encouraged to manufacture low technology equipment for use by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the extent of work done in the seismic survey in Ariyalur-Pondicherry area by the Soviet experts for the exploration of oil and gas; and

(c) the steps being taken to utilise the associated gas from Bhuvanagiri oil well for power generation in Tamil Nadu ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) The entrepreneurs from the State of Tamil Nadu who have been encouraged to manufacture equipment in medium and low-technology areas, under the Import Substitution programme of ONGC, are listed below :

1. Audco India Ltd., Madras.
2. BHEL, Trichy.
3. T. I. Diamond, Madras.
4. L. G. Balakrishnan & Co., Coimbatore.
5. Shree Ram Polyplast, Madras.
6. Sundaram Industries Ltd., Madras.
7. Marshall & Co., Madras.
8. Beat & Crompton, Madras.
9. Ashok Leyland, Madras.
10. Iyyappan Industries, Madras.

11. E. I. D. Parry, Madras.

12. Kaveri Engineering, Madras.

13. Fanner India Ltd., Madras.

14. Madras Industrial Products, Madras.

15 Universal Heat Exchangers Ltd., Coimbatore.

The equipment and items supplied/developed under the Import Substitution programme are not exclusively for use in Tamil Nadu and these may be used in any of the regions of ONGC.

(b) Two Soviet seismic parties, working in the area, have so far covered about 1030 line kms. of seismic surveys in the Arriyalur-Pondicherry area.

(c) The Tamil Nadu Electricity Board is preparing a feasibility report for setting up a 3.3 MW plant near Bhuvanagiri. For Planning purpose, ONGC has intimated the availability of 30,000 m³/day of gas for this project.

Amendments to Pulses, Edible Oil seeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977

1304. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the representatives of trade and industry have represented to Government to withdraw the recent amendments to the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977;

(b) whether Government propose to withdraw the amendments in view of the representations received thereon; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Recent amendments to the Pulses, Edible Oilseeds and Edible

Oils (Storage Control) Order, 1977 issued on 12.11.87, 18.11.87 and 10.12.87 have since been withdrawn.

Leakage of edible oil into open market

1305. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the leakage of edible oil from the public distribution system into the open market has come to the notice of Government; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) A complaint was received from one State regarding sale of imported edible oils.

(b) The State Government was asked to take strict legal action against the trader.

Construction of staff quarters at Panampilly Nagar, Cochin.

1306. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether land was purchased by Telecommunications Department from G. C.D.A. Cochin to construct staff quarters at Panampilly Nagar, Cochin; and

(b) if so, the progress made in the construction of those staff quarters ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Tenders are being called.

Accumulation of pit head stocks of coal/lignite

1307. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pit head stocks of coal/lignite have mounted over the years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the steps taken to create demand thereof, and

(c) how much coal/lignite has accumulated in the pit heads at the end of the third year of the Seventh Five Year Plan period and how does it compare with the corresponding period of the Sixth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF) : (a) and (b) There is no significant accumulation of stocks of lignite with Neyveli Lignite Corporation. There is only a small buffer stock of 2.83 lakh tonnes of lignite as on 31.1.1988 for meeting emergent requirement of power stations. Coal stocks with subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. and Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd. are subject to seasonal and year to year fluctuations. Stocks generally go up between November to April when the rate of production exceeds off-take and come down between May and October when the rate of production is less than off-take. Pit-head stocks with subsidiary companies of CIL and SCCL at the end of financial year during the last five years as under :—

	(Million tonnes)
1983-84	22.38
1984-85	29.12
1985-86	26.40
1986-87	27.84
1987-88	27.92
(As on 31.1.1988)	

Non-realisation of full demand of the various consuming sectors, non-availability/delay in development of transport infrastructure and mismatch in the quality parameters of the stocks available and demand are the main reasons for building up of

the stocks. Efforts are made to liquidate stocks through continuous interaction with the consumers, finding alternate consumers if quality of coal available falls below the specifications of original linked consumers and making efforts to overcome movement constraints. Marketing of slow-moving stocks from selected collieries through liberalised Road Sale Scheme has also been attempted.

(c) Coal stocks at pit-head with subsidiary companies of CIL and SCCL and lignite stocks with NLC at the end of 1982-83 (3rd year of 6th Five Year Plan) and as on 31.1.1988 (3rd year of 7th Five Year Plan) were as under :—

	(Million Tonnes)	
	Coal	Lignite with NLC
1982-83	22.60	0.095
1987-88	27.92	0.283

(As on 31.1.1988)

Supply of raw material to HDEP woven sack industry

1308 PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of High Density Polyethylene Woven Sack industries functioning in the country before the introduction of mandatory jute use order;

(b) the number of HDPE Woven sack industries closed down after the order;

(c) whether excise duty exemption will be given to this industry; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to supply raw materials to this industry at a reasonable price ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) and (b) There were around 500 HDPE Woven Sack manufacturing units in the country out of which, as per industry sources,

around 250 units have closed down after issue of notification prescribing compulsory use of jute in packaging in certain sectors.

(c) Decisions in such cases are taken on merits.

(d) Government are organising import of raw-materials through STC and IPCL to help such small scale units. By way of long term solution to the problem, additional capacities for the manufacture of HDPE have been approved and are in the process of being established.

Allocation of essential commodities to drought and flood affected States

1309. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of extra allocation of essential commodities made to each State, affected by drought and flood during 1987, against the demand; and

(b) the allocation of rice, wheat, edible oil and sugar proposed for 1988, State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b) Allocations of various essential commodities to the States/U.Ts. are decided from time to time taking into consideration the availability of stocks, relative needs of various States, market availability, past lifting and other relevant factors. Allocations of these commodities are supplementary in nature and are not intended to meet the entire demand of the States/U.Ts.

2. Statement-I Indicating allocation of wheat and rice during 1987 and imported edible oils during the oil years 1986-87 (November, 1986 to October, 1987) made to drought/flood affected States/U.Ts. is given below.

3. Statement-II Indicating allocation of wheat and rice during January-March,

1988 and imported edible oils during the period from November, 1987 to February, 1988 to States/U.Ts. is given below.

4. Monthly levy quota of sugar is allocated on a uniform norm and not on the basis of demands received from State Government/U. T. Administrations. The allocation from February, 1987 onwards

is based on 425 gms per capita availability on the basis of the projected population as on 1.10.86. In addition to the monthly levy quota, festival quota was also allocated during the months of September and October, 1987. Statement-III indicating monthly levy sugar quota and festival quota for the month of September and October is given below :—

Statement I

Allocation of Rice, Wheat and Edible Oil during the year 1987 and Oil year, 1986-87.

S. No.	Name of the State/UTs.	Allocation of Rice in 1987	Allocation of Wheat in 1987	Allocation of Edible Oils (Oil Year, 1986-87)
		(In 000 tonnes)		(Nov. '86 Oct. '87) (In M. 'tonnes)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1165.0	252.0	1,08,830
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	68.5	13.8	780
3.	Assam	530 0	436.8	3,800
4.	Bihar	345 0	1006 0	12,500
5.	Gujarat	390 0	720.0	1,44,340
6.	Himachal Pradesh	78 0	60.0	13,100
7.	Haryana	42.0	360.0	13,700
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	305.0	150.0	7,800
9.	Kerala	1660.0	420 0	45,500
10.	Karnataka	675.0	300.0	61,400
11.	Maharashtra	720.0	1080 0	1,76,500
12.	Madhya Pradesh	330 0	600.0	42,400
13.	Nagaland	92.0	44.0	8,300
14.	Orissa	255.0	276 0	30,650
15.	Rajasthan	30.0	800 0	17,000
16.	Punjab	18.0	155.0	17,800
17.	Tamil Nadu	600 0	360.0	80,100
18.	Uttar Pradesh	635.0	600.0	34,500

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Sikkim	54.0	3 0	2,210
20.	Manipur	58.5	24.0	9,300
21.	West Bengal	1500 0	1512.0	1,41,700
22.	A & N Islands	12.0	8.4	1,150
23.	Chandigarh	6.0	21.6	1,410
24.	D & N Haveli	2.3	1.1	750
25.	Delhi	300.0	600.0	32,690
26.	Daman & Diu	2.25	0.5 (from Aug. '87)	320
27.	Pondicherry	23.0	3.6	7,400

Statement-II

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	Allocation of Rice in 1988 (Jan- March '88)	Allocation of Wheat in 1988 (Jan-March, '88)	Allocation of Edible Oils from Nov.-87 to Feb. '88 (In M. tonnes)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	230.0	63.0	70,400
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	19.5	2.4	445
3.	Assam	125.0	102.8	2,600
4.	Bihar	70.0	320.0	10,200
5.	Gujarat	105.0	220.0	79,750
6.	Haryana	10.5	90.0	9,500
7.	Himachal Pradesh	19.5	40.0	8,050
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	89.0	40.0	7,200
9.	Karnataka	170.0	70.0	36,200
10.	Kerala	405.0	90.0	36,200
11.	Madhya Pradesh	75.0	140.0	32,500
12.	Maharashtra	190.0	280.0	94,900
13.	Manipur	16.5	6.0	4,000

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Nagaland	24.0	6.0	3,250
15.	Orissa	70.0	69.0	16,000
16.	Punjab	4.5	30.0	9,100
17.	Rajasthan	12.0	350.0	17,500
18.	Sikkim	13.5	0 75	1,500
19.	Tamil Nadu	180.0	90 0	49,500
20.	Uttar Pradesh	150.0	245.0	32,350
21.	West Bengal	335.0	352.0	69,900
22.	A & N Islands	3.0	2.1	445
23.	Chandigarh	1.5	5.4	950
24.	D & N Haveli	0.6	0.3	365
25.	Daman & Diu	1.35	0.4	550
26.	Delhi	75.0	150.0	21,500
27.	Pondicherry	7.5	0 9	2,430

Statement-III

(Figures in Tonnes)

S. No.	States/Union Territories	Monthly quota upto March, '82	Monthly quota from 4/82 to 9/1983	Monthly quota from Oct. 1983 to Jan. 87	Monthly quota from February, 1987 onwards
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	20882	22696	24027	25281
2.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	190	190	215	247
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	228	267	289	314
4.	Assam	7541	8459	9190	9617
5.	Bihar	26929	29675	31573	33459
6.	Chandigarh	243+32*	275	328	372
7.	D & N Haveli	36	44	50	51

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Delhi	5304 + 800@	6104	6855	7689
9.	Goa Daman & Diu	470	470	478	539
10.	Gujarat	14031	14433	15361	16194
11.	Haryana	4916	5462	5837	6386
12.	Himachal Pradesh	1588	1801	1917	2019
13.	Jammu & Kashmir	2250	2542	2673	2884
14.	Karnataka	14215	15743	16843	17769
15.	Kerala	10495	10796	12225	11953
16.	Lakshadweep	65	65	68	71
17.	Madhya Pradesh	20825	22150	23276	25031
18.	Maharashtra	24743	26645	27998	29938
19.	Manipur	524	609	643	694
20.	Meghalaya	493	564	609	662
21.	Mizoram	171	207	240	261
22.	Nagaland	340	340	390	426
23.	Orissa	10723	11166	11577	12393
24.	Pondicherry	230	257	271	292
25.	Punjab	6564	7085	7581	7945
26.	Rajasthan	12757	14494	15832	16914
27.	Sikkim	107.5 + 25†	134	154	165
28.	Tamil Nadu	19783	20526	21284	22547
29.	Tripura	759	876	958	1001
30.	Uttar Pradesh	41761	47111	50466	52926
31.	West Bengal	21994	23156	24435	25888
Total		271157.5 + 857	294348	312643	331928

* Additional ad-hoc allocation given to Chandigarh from June, 1981.

@ Additional ad-hoc allocation given to Delhi from February, 1981.

† Additional ad-hoc allocation given to Sikkim from June, 1981.

Statement

Share of each State out of 50, 000 tonnes allotted as festival quota for each of the months of September & October, 1987.

S. No.	State	Quota
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3807
2.	Andaman & Nicobar	37
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	47
4.	Assam	1448
5.	Bihar	5039
6.	Chandigarh	56
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7
8.	Daman & Diu	6
9.	Goa	75
10.	Delhi	1158
11.	Gujarat	2439
12.	Haryana	962
13.	Himachal Pradesh	304
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	434
15.	Karnataka	2675
16.	Kerala	1800
17.	Lakshadweep	11
18.	Madhya Pradesh	3768
19.	Maharashtra	4507
20.	Manipur	104
21.	Meghalaya	100
22.	Mizoram	39
23.	Nagaland	64
24.	Orissa	1865
25.	Pondicherry	44
26.	Punjab	1196

1	2	3
27.	Rajasthan	2546
28.	Sikkim	25
29.	Tamil Nadu	3395
30.	Tripura	151
31.	Uttar Pradesh	7968
32.	West Bengal	3898
33.	Bhutan	25
		50000

[Translation]

'No Industry Districts'

1310. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received proposals from various States including Rajasthan for reviewing the scheme of declaring 'No Industry Districts' in the country;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the District Industries Centre scheme has

made a good effect on industrialisation in the country; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Union Government on the proposal of Rajasthan Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The District Industries Centres continue to make an impact on the development of village and small industries as is evident from the following facts :—

Indicator	6th Five Year Plan 1980-81 1984-85	1985-86 (Actuals)	1986-87 (Provisional)
1. No. of new artisan units established	12,65,781	2,65,098	2,77,018
2. No. of new small scale units established	3,70,936	97,419	1,17,459
3. Additioal employment generated (no.)	52,10,011	12,23,547	13,57,304

(c) The Government has not taken a final decision on the revision of Central

Incentive Scheme for backward areas/No Industry Districts.

**Allocation for public welfare programmes
by South-Eastern Coalfields Limited**

1311. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether amount sanctioned for public welfare programmes has been fully allocated by South-Eastern Coalfields Ltd. located in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the extent of participation of this company at the time of the worst drought of the century;

(c) whether the infructuous expenditure of Coal India Ltd. is being curtailed at the time of economic crisis; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir SECL has an allocation of Rs. 70 lakhs for 1987-88 for community development, environmental protection and special schemes for tribal welfare. In addition, the company has contributed Rs. 14 lakhs for family welfare programmes of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

(b) SECL employees have donated one day's wages, amounting to Rs. 51.07 lakhs, to P.M.'s Relief Fund and the company contributed Rs. 10 lakhs and Rs. 5 lakhs towards Chief Minister's Relief Funds of Madhya Pradesh and Orissa respectively for drought relief. Other schemes of the Company that may be mentioned in this connection are :

1. Programme of sinking tube wells for drinking water in the nearby villages of coalfields.

2. To provide raw water, discharged from the mines, for agricultural purposes.

3. To make available free medical assistance to villagers in coalfields areas-

through mobile medical vans of the Company.

4. Construction works of roads, buildings etc. of the Company offer indirect employment opportunities to rural population.

5. In consultation with local State Government authorities, the Company has drawn out a programme to construct small stopdams in nullahs for creating ponds for the benefit of villagers.

(c) and (d) Coal Companies are expected to avoid infructuous expenditure in all situations. In view of the difficult economic situation created by drought, Government have also issued instructions, for minimising expenditure on general administration, hospitality, travel, over-time, etc.

[English]

Relief in excise duty to mini cement plants

1312. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to have any policy of encouraging the setting up of mini cement plants with 50-200 tons per day capacity;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government allows the setting up of these mini cement plants on VSK technology only;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government are rendering support by way of relief in Excise Duty only to rotary kiln mini plants with capacity upto 600 TPD whereas the mini cement plants with VSK technology are ignored; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) According to

the current policy, mini cement plants up to 100/-00 tonnes per day capacity based on vertical shaft kiln technology are encouraged subject to the State Governments' certifying that the mini cement plants will be located in an area where the deposits of lime stone cannot sustain large sized plants. The establishment of mini cement plants based on rotary kiln technology is not encouraged except in the north eastern States and hilly regions.

(c) and (d) All cement plants including mini cement plant which commenced production between 1.1.82 and 31.3.86 are given a rebate in excise duty to the extent of Rs. 20 per tonne while all cement plants including mini cement plants which commenced production on or after 1.4.86 are given a rebate in excise duty to the extent of Rs. 50 per tonne subject to certain conditions. The mini cement plants get this rebate irrespective of technology adopted by them.

Export of alcohol

1313. DR. PHULRENU GUHA :

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise production of alcohol in 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) whether there is surplus alcohol in some States;

(c) if so, how it is utilised; and

(d) whether Government propose to export alcohol ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) As per information received from the State Governments/U.Ts., the details of State-wise production of alcohol are given the Statement below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The surplus alcohol is allocated for transfer to deficit States for catering to their requirement.

(d) Yes, Sir. Only a limited quantity.

Statement

	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	386.16	469.70	551.65
Assam	3.30	3.12	7.29
Bihar	134.99	175.26	209.50
Gujarat	246.29	273.95	295.31
Himachal Pradesh	4.83	3.28	1.51
Jammu & Kashmir	—	19.11	25.80
Haryana	118.53	142.86	143.66
Kerala	52.96	55.60	41.30

1	2	3	4
Karnataka	471.78	401.50	487.10
Maharashtra	1653.22	1547.66	1517.49
Nagaland	5.62	3.53	3.94
Orissa	20.80	19.40	16.60
Punjab	292.27	145.67	172.22
Rajasthan	124.10	116.12	90.32
Pondicherry	20.43	25.49	32.91
Madhya Pradesh	149.93	142.36	171.20
Tamil Nadu	578.00	768.40	632.08
West Bengal	48.00	25.00	20.00
Uttar Pradesh	1592.03	1462.97	1742.51

Commission structure of H.S.D. and petrol retail outlets

1314. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether petroleum companies are running some retail outlets in big cities which are high selling points under their own management;

(b) if so, what are the per litre handling expenses of such retail outlets on the sales of H.S.D. and petrol vis-a-vis commission earned by them;

(c) whether it is a fact that these retail outlets are showing net losses; and

(d) whether Government propose to reframe the commission structure of retail outlets in cities as well as in small towns where these are unable to capture such higher sales so as to cover all the handling, maintenance and investment charges including depreciation, etc. ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir;

(b) and (c) The objective of establishing these retail outlets is essentially in-house training and demonstration, besides providing service to consumers in their area of service. While several of these outlets are running at a loss, that is not a true index of their performance and utility;

(d) There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government in this regard.

Pending applications for public call offices

1315. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received district-wise, in Punjab for public call offices (PCO) during the last three years;

(b) the number of applications accepted, under consideration and rejected during the said period, district-wise; and

(c) the time likely to be taken for the disposal of pending applications ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b)

The number of applications received, accepted, under consideration and rejected district-wise in Punjab for Public Call Offices (PCO) during the last three years are given below :—

District	Received	Accepted	under consi- deration	Rejected
Amritsar	122	25	—	97
Bhatinda	8	8	—	—
Chandigarh	377	106	—	271
Faridkot	5	5	—	—
Ferozpur	4	2	2	—
Hoshiarpur	27	3	23	1
Jalandhar & Kapurthala	110	33	77	—
Pathankot	6	—	6	—
Patiala	35	16	19	—
Ropar	4	1	3	—
Sangrur	—	—	—	—

(c) Pending applications are likely to be disposed by March, 88 depending on the availability of stores.

Temporary telephone connections in Punjab

1316. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of temporary telephone connections sanctioned in Punjab during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise;

(b) the number of temporary telephone connections applied for and rejected in Hoshiarpur district during the said period;

and

(c) the reasons for rejection ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The information is given in the Statement below.

(b) 14 applications for temporary telephone connections in Hoshiarpur District were received during the last three years. One request could not be agreed to.

(c) The request was not found justified.

Statement

No. of temporary telephone connections sanctioned in Punjab during the last three years year-wise and District-wise

District	No. of temporary telephone connections sanctioned :		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
Amritsar	77	169	85
Jalandhar	123	95	154
Kapurthala	11	8	2
Ludhiana	57	52	56
Faridkot	3	14	2
Gurdaspur	—	6	6
Ferozpur	15	18	16
Bhatinda	16	22	24
Sangrur	3	16	13
Patiala	26	55	70
Chandigarh	151	167	118
Hoshiarpur	5	7	1
Ropar	4	7	6

Difficulties faced by sugar industry

1317. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is wide disparity between the minimum sugarcane price fixed and the actual sugar cane price paid to farmers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the price of sugar in free market has been declining; and

(c) the steps proposed to avert the crisis in sugar industry and to arrest sharp rise in production cost of sugar ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) The Central Government fixes the statutory minimum price of sugarcane, which is only a floor price, below which no sugar factory can pay. In actual practice, the sugar factories generally pay prices higher than the statutory minimum.

(b) Prices of sugar in the free market have been stable during the last three/ four months. For example, wholesale prices of sugar in Delhi have moved in the range of Rs. 630/- to Rs. 650/- per quintal between 15.10.87 to 22.2.1988.

(c) Cost of production is taken into consideration in arriving at the prices of

levy sugar and, Government policy is framed keeping in view, among other things, the economic viability of the industry. Measures adopted by the Government include, raising the statutory minimum price for 1987-88 season from Rs. 17.00 to Rs. 18.50 per quintal, linked to a recovery of 8.5 per cent; grant of excise duty rebate for early crushing during October-November, 1987; retaining the free-sale proportion at 50% of the sugar produced, etc. It may, however, be mentioned that cost of production, to a large extent, is a function of technical efficiency and managerial skill. Government has been offering financial assistance on easy terms to sugar factories for development of sugarcane and modernisation/rehabilitation, out of the Sugar Development Fund.

Telex concentrators in Delhi

1318. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telex concentrators working in Delhi and their equipped capacity;

(b) whether the existing capacity is sufficient to serve the needs of the capital; and

(c) if not, the measures proposed to be adopted to augment the capacity both in term of telex concentrators as well as the number of lines which they would have ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) There are 7 telex concentrators working in Delhi at present with a total equipped capacity of 2000 lines.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In order to meet future demands, two more telex concentrators with an equipped capacity of 900 lines are being installed.

Financial, Industrial and Technical Collaboration with Italy

1319. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Italy will provide financial support for joint ventures with India, concessional credit to public financial institutions and support research and development aimed at the transfer of suitable technologies;

(b) if so, the areas which are indentified for financial, industrial and technical collaborations;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed between two countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) In the course of discussions held in October 1987 with an Italian delegation, the Italian side had indicated keen interest in promoting joint ventures and stated that concessional financing may be available for the purpose. Both the sides agreed to explore the possibility of identifying projects in sectors such as fertilisers, telecommunications, transport and energy.

(c) and (d) A memorandum of Understanding for a credit of US \$ 250 million (Rs. 325 crores approx.) for the energy sector has been signed between the Government of India and Government of Italy on 9.1.1988. The Credit is repayable over 20 years including grace period of 10 years and carries an interest rate of 1.5% p. a. repayable half-yearly. The credit may be used either independently or alongwith export credit and outright grant. The ratio of the above credit and export credit shall be in the minimum proportion of 60 : 40 respectively. Export credit is repayable over 10 years and carries an interest at OECD consensus rate. The credit is to be used for financing import of equipment and engineering

services of Italian origin for projects in the energy sector.

Telephone connections to Retired officers

1320. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government officers who retire from service and were drawing a salary of Rs. 3500/—p.m. are eligible for telephone connections under Non-OYT-SS category; and

(b) if so, the period in which such officers get telephone connections after retirement ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Central/ State Government officers, who retire from service and were drawing a basic pay of Rs. 3700/-per month or more for at least one year prior to retirement are eligible for registration of the application for a telephone connection under Non-OYT-SS category.

(b) Telephone connections against Non-OYT category are provided to such officers according to the waiting list.

Conversion of telephone exchange in Ghaziabad into electronic telephone exchange

1321. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone exchange of Ghaziabad starting with 84 is working under old coaxial system; and

(b) if so, whether there is any plan to convert it into electronic system in future ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Level 84 Pentaconta Crossbar Exchange is working at Ghaziabad. The Junctions between Delhi and Ghaziabad have been provided by utilizing 12 MHz coaxial cable system between Delhi and Ghaziabad.

(b) No proposal in the current plant. A new 4000 line Digital Electronic Telephone Exchange is under installation at Ghaziabad.

[Translation]

S.T.D. facility in Jhunjhunu District of Rajasthan

1322. SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the time by which it proposed to connect Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan with STD facility ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : It is proposed to connect Jhunjhunu with STD facility by 1990.

[English]

Payment of prorata wages to extra departmental employees

1323. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has issued orders on 10 February, 1988 to pay prorata wages to all the casual labour, part-time casual labour and contingency paid workers of the department;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to pay prorata wages to Extra Departmental employees also;

(c) whether it has been announced that Extra Departmental employees will get increased emolument from 27 percent to 67 percent and whether this increase has been actually effected;

(d) whether a proposal to cover the ED employees under Group Insurance Scheme is under consideration; and

(e) if so, when the final decision will be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir, but the percentages of increased emoluments for various categories of Extra Departmental Employees, vary from 25.65 to 69.1.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No specific duration can be mentioned.

Guidelines for foreign companies

1324. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn any guidelines for the functioning of various foreign companies in the field of oil industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir, Foreign Companies which are awarded contracts in the field of oil industry, on the basis of global tenders, operate, whenever necessary in India, as per the contracts and other relevant acts of Government of India.

Representation by manufacturers of transformer oils

1325. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the manufacturers of transformer oils have represented to Government their grievances relating to the poor quality of base oil supplied by the Indian refineries and the move on the part of Government to allow import of such oil on global tender basis in respect of projects financed by the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM) : (a) to (c) Some representations have been received by Madras Refineries Ltd. (MRL) requesting for Transformers Oil Base Stock of more stringent specifications. A trial batch to the required specification is being made by MRL.

Proposals for import of special type of Transformer oil for converter transformer and smoothing reactors being commissioned will be considered if it is not possible to manufacture the same from indigenous base stocks.

Rally of telecommunication workers

1326. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telecommunication workers held a rally and burnt a copy of the Aggarwal Committee report before Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi in the last week of December, 1987;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Aggarwal Committee and their recommendations;

(c) the grievances of the workers; and

(d) the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

It was observed that some papers purported to be a report of Aggarwal Committee were burnt during the demonstration held by Bharatiya Telecom. Employees Federation on 29.12 1987.

(b) A copy of the terms of reference is given in statement-I below. A copy of the recommendations of the Aggarwal

Committee is also given in the Statement-II below.

(c) A copy of the Memorandum of their grievances is given in Statement-III given below.

(d) The whole issue is under consideration of the Government.

Statement-I

Terms of Reference of Aggarwal Committee

- (a) To study the duties, responsibilities and related issues pertaining to the cadre, Restructuring and Rationalisation Scheme of the Department of Telecommunications;
- (b) To make suitable recommendations with regard to the cadres included in the Cadre Restructuring and rationalisation scheme, taking into account the observations in para 10.67 of the Report of 4th Central Pay Commission and other relevant factors; and
- (c) Along with the scheme of restructuring the Committee may also suggest tentative staffing standard for the restructured cadre of Junior Telecom-Officers.

Statement-II

Section 14

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

14.1. Background

14.1.1. The Committee has considered the inputs from the following sources while making its recommendations :—

- Report of the Fourth Central Pay Commission Information about cadre strength, staff norms, recruitment and promotion aspects and other allied matters furnished by the Telecommunications Directorate.
- Memoranda submitted by Staff Federations and Association and personal discussions with them.
- Visits and personal discussions with officers and staff of the Department at different stations in the country.
- Reports of the Sarin Committee on Telecommunications, the IIM Ahmedabad and the IIM Bangalore.
- Reports of the National Productivity Council on Job Analysis of the present cadres and job evaluation of the Restructured Cadres.
- Report of the TCIL Study Group.

14.1.2 The Committee has also drawn upon the experience of its Members.

14.2 Objectives of Restructuring

The recommendations of the Committee have been formulated with a view to enable the Department of Telecommunications to achieve the following goals :

- (i) The telecommunications network of the Country should be operated and maintained in the most cost effective manner;
- (ii) The telecommunication services should be provided to the users at a high level of quality and performance;
- (iii) The planning and development of telecommunication services should be carried out efficiently;
- (iv) The workers should be efficient and well-equipped through qualifications and training to meet the work requirement.
- (v) There should be minimal overlap between the duties of the different cadres working on telecom installations of different types;
- (vi) Special cognisance should be accorded to higher educational qualifications, knowledge, proficiency and competence on modern technology, modern equipment including word processor, data entry terminal computer terminal, VDU etc.;
- (vii) The total number of staff of different cadres posted in a telecom installation should be determined according to the prescribed norms, their individual numbers in each cadre being flexible to meet the specific requirements of the station/installation work;
- (viii) Opportunities should be available to persons in service to improve their career prospects for promotions to higher cadres through departmental examinations;
- (ix) Lateral time-bound promotions should be available to those who do not succeed in the examinations for vertical promotions;
- (x) Facilities should be provided by the Department to all employees—technical operative and office cadres—to improve their knowledge on a continuing basis;
- (xi) Supervision should be reduced to the minimum extent essential and officials should be motivated to handle direct responsibility and exercise self supervision; and
- (xii) For small installations where the total manpower required is not large but where the skills required are multi-disciplinary, officials should be trained in more than one skill and the prescribed duties should have adequate flexibility to enable posting of officials of the restructured cadres for such assignments.

The recommendations are detailed in the succeeding paragraphs.

14.3 Future Cadre Structure

14.3.1 Main Technical Stream

14.3.1.1 The Committee recommends below the level of Junior Telecom officer, the operation maintenance, installation and other allied technical activities of the telecommunication engineering wing of the Department (both indoor and outdoor) should primarily be carried out by two Group 'C' cadres and one Group 'D' cadre namely :—

- Telecom Assistant
- Phone Mechanic
- Phone Mazdoor/workman

14.3.1.2 The Committee recommends that the present group 'C' cadres in the Technical team, below the level of Junior Telecom. Officer may be combined into the main cadres according to the Table 1 annexed.

14.3.1.3 Other cadres are discussed below :

(i) *Telephone Inspector, Auto Exchange Assistant, Transmission Assistant and Wireless Operator.*

The Committee has noted that these four cadres and their S.G. cadres are phasing out. They should continue to handle the work they are doing at present. On their promotion, retirement etc. the work they are handling would be performed by Telecom Assistant.

(ii) *Cable Splicing Work*

The Committee recommends that the special function of Cable Splicing may be performed by Phone Mechanic in future, and the existing cadres of Cable Splicer and Cable Splicer (S.G) be declared as cadres which are phasing out. The pay scales etc. of officials of Phone Mechanic cadre performing cable splicing work are given in Table 1.

(iii) *Motor Driver-Motor Driver (S.G.)*

The Committee recommends that the existing cadres of motor driver and motor driver (S.G) may continue as such. The pay scales etc. of this cadre are given in Table 1.

(iv) *Line Inspector*

The Committee recommends that the designation of Line Inspector given to the linemen cadre at the second stage of promotion may be redesignated as Telecom Assistant. The pay scales etc. of this cadre are given in Table 1.

14.3.2 Telephone Traffic Stream

14.3.2.1 The Committee recommends that officials of the Telephone Traffic stream may be grouped under the following designations :

(i) Telephone Supervisor-Senior Telephone Supervisor :

The existing designations of officials performing supervisory, coordination or higher level functions such as Teler one supervisor. Observation Supervisor, Lady Welfare Superintendent etc. may be designated as Telephone Supervisor and Senior Telephone Supervisor, observation Supervisor (S.G) as Senior Telephone Supervisor.

(ii) Telephone Operator

The designation of Telephone Operator may continue as such. The designation of 15-year promotion official would have the word 'Senior' prefixed e.g. Senior Telephone Operator. The official who performs supervisory coordination or higher level functions would be designated as Telephone Supervisor.

14.3.2.2 The pay scales etc. of these cadres are given in Table 2.

14.3.3 Telecom Office Stream

14.3.3.1 The Committee recommends that officials of the Telecom Office stream may be grouped under the following designations :

(i) Office supervisor (Telecom)-Senior Office Supervisor Telecom

The existing designation of official performing supervisor coordination or higher level functions such as Section Supervisor and Senior Section Supervisor may be designated as Officer Supervisor (Telecom) and Senior Office Supervisor (Telecom).

(ii) Office Assistant (Telecom Senior Office Assistant (Telecom))

The designation of 10-year promotee officials would be senior office Assistant (Telecom) the official who performs supervisory coordination on higher level functions will be designated as Office Supervisor (Telecom).

14.3.3.2 The pay scales etc. of these cadres are given in Table 3.

14.3.4 Telegraph Traffic stream

14.3.4.1 The Committee recommends that in addition to the Assistant Superintendent Telegraph Traffic (A.S.T.T.) the operation and allied work of the telegraph traffic wing of the Department should basically be handled by the following Group 'C' cadres namely;

(i) Telegraph Master-Senior Telegraph Master

All existing designations of officials performing supervisory, coordination or higher level functions such as Assistant Telegraph Master, Telegraph Master, Senior Telegraph Master etc. be designated as Telegraph Master and Senior Telegraph Master.

(ii) Telegraph Operator

The existing designation of Telegraphist may be changed to Telegraph

Operator. The designation of the 16-year promotee officials would be Senior Telegraph Operator. The official who performs higher level co-ordination of supervisory functions would be designated as Telegraph Master.

(iii) Assistant Superintendent Telegraph Traffic

This designation may continue as such. The 16-year promotional cadre of A.S.T.T. (S.G) may in future be designated as Senior A.S.T.T.

14.3.4.2 The pay scales etc. of these cadres are given in Table 4

14.3.4.3 The duties of operative and office stream officials would be flexible and interchangeable to certain extent.

14.3.5 Telegraph Office Stream

14.3.5.1 The Committee recommends that in addition to the A.S.T.T., the officials performing the office functions in the Telegraph Traffic stream may be grouped under two designations :

(i) Office Supervisor (Telegraph) Senior Office Supervisor (Telegraph)

The existing designations of officials performing supervisory, coordination or higher level functions such as Section Supervisor (Telegraph) be designated as Office Supervisor (Telegraph) and Senior Office Supervisor (Telegraph).

(ii) Office Assistant (Telegraph)

The existing designation of Telegraph office Assistant may be changed to office Assistant (Telegraph). The designation of the 16-year promotional level officials would be Senior Office Assistant (Telegraph). The official who performs higher level, coordination or supervisory functions will be designated as office supervisor (Telegraph).

(iii) Town Inspector

This cadre may be redesignated Office Assistant (Telegraph).

(iv) Telegraph Overseer

This cadre may continue as such.

14.3.5.2 The pay scales etc. of these cadres are given in Table 4.

14.3.5.3 The duties of officials of the operative and office streams in telegraph offices would be flexible and interchangeable to certain extent.

14.3.6 Group 'D' Cadres

14.3.6.1 Phone Mazdoor/Workman

The committee recommends that the Group 'D' cadres specific to telecommunications functions may be designated as Phone Mazdoor/Workman. The cadres combined under this designation would be the following :

- Battery Man
- Regular Mazdoor
- Adult Peon (in exchange)
- Attendant-cum-Khansama.

14.3.6.2 Telegraphman-Jamadar

The Committee recommends that the designation of Group 'D' cadres of Telegraphman for Telegraph Offices may continue as such. The one time bound promotional cadre be designated as senior telegraphman.

14.3.6.3 Other Group 'D' Cadres

Certain Group (D) cadres are common to other Government establishments and offices. They may retain the present designations. These are :

- Sweeper
- Scavenger
- Chowkidar
- Gateman
- Waterman
- Gardener
- Women Attendant
- Daftry
- Daftry (S.G)
- Liftman
- Jamadar
- Farash
- Khansama

14.3.6.4 The grouping of the Telecom Group 'D' cadres along with the pay scales etc, are indicated in Table 5.

14.4 Promotions

14.4.1 Tables 1 to 5 also indicate the promotional avenues which would be available to the different cadres. It is recommended that the sixteen year promotional avenue presently admissible to certain cadres may continue to be available.

14.4.2. The Committee recommends that the sixteen-year one time bound promotion scheme should be extended to the restructured cadre of Phone Mechanic and Telecom Assistant.

14.5 Recruitment

14.5.1 Junior Telecom Officers

14.5.1.1 At present 20 percent JE vacancies are filled from the four cadres of Transmission Assistant, Phone Inspector, Auto Exchange Assistant and Wireless Operator, 10 percent through a qualifying test and 10 percent by a competitive test. Fifteen percent vacancies in JE cadre are filled through a departmental test from other (existing) Group 'C' cadres. The Committee recommends that for the next five years the vacancies in the JTO cadre be filled in the following manner :—

- Forty percent from the Four cadres mentioned above
- Fifteen percent from the other Group 'C' cadres
- Forty five percent from direct recruitment.

14.5.1.2 After five years, recruitment to sixty percent vacancies of this cadre will be direct. Ten percent of the vacancies will be available for the four cadres mentioned above through a qualifying test. Twenty percent vacancies would be filled from the restructured cadre of Telecom Assistant and the four cadres mentioned above, and ten percent from other Group 'C' cadres through a departmental examination of officials with five years of service having high school or equivalent qualification. The unfilled vacancies in any year from the qualifying test or from the 10 percent quota of other Group 'C' cadres would be added to the 20 percent vacancy slab unfilled vacancies of the 20 percent slab would be added to the direct recruitment quota.

14.5.1.3 After all the officials of the four cadres mentioned above have phased out, 10 percent vacancies reserved for them through qualifying test will be added to the 20 percent slab for Telecom Assistants. Ultimately, recruitment to the cadre of JTO will be 60 percent direct, 30 percent from the restructured cadre of Telecom Assistant and 10 percent from other Group 'C' Cadres.

14.5.2 Telecom Assistant

Recruitment to this cadre will be to the extent of sixty percent direct recruitment, thirty percent from the restructured cadre of Phone Mechanic and ten percent from the Group 'C' and 'D' cadres through departmental test. Those Phone Mechanics who possess the entry qualifications would be eligible for recruitment after 3 years of service and other Phone Mechanics and Group 'C' and 'D' cadres with high school or equivalent qualification after five years of service. For the next five years the service limit of 3 years and 5 years will not apply for the restructured cadre of Phone Mechanic. The unfilled vacancies would be dealt with on the same basis as for JTO in para 14.5.1.

14.5.3 Phone Mechanic

Recruitment to this cadre will be seventy five percent from departmental employees through an aptitude test and twenty five percent by direct recruitment from Mazdoors/Workmen after three years of service. The unfilled vacancies will be dealt with on the lines indicated for JTO cadre in para 14.5.1 above.

14.6 Duties and Staffing Norms

14.6.1 The duties and staffing norms for the cadres structured in the above manner have been recommended by TCIL in their Report in Chapter 12 and 14.

14.6.2 Chapter 12 gives the details of duties of the restructured cadres Phone Mechanic and Telecom Assistant as well as JTO; duties of other cadres have also been suggested. The Committee have had several discussions with the experts of TCIL and recommend that the duties as extracted in Annexure 16 of this report be adopted.

14.6.3 In Chapter 14 of their Report, TCIL have detailed the revised staffing norms for the technical cadres of JTO Telecom Assistant, Phone Mechanic and Phone Mazdoor/Workman. These norms have been arrived at on the basis of detailed discussions with field staff and their experience. For other staff, they have generally recommended continuance of the existing norms except in the case of Telephone Operators where they have suggested that separate operators at present being sanctioned for clerical duties are not required.

14.6.4 The Committee has had several discussions with TCIL experts with regard to the staffing norms suggested by them and the Committee now recommends that these staffing norms as extracted in Annexure 17 of this report be adopted.

14.7 Special Pay and Special Increments

14.7.1 Phone Mechanics trained for cable splicing work will be given special pay of Rs. 100/—per month.

14.7.2 Telephone Operators who possess High School level qualifications in three languages Hindi, English and a regional language be given one advance increment.

14.7.3 Telephone Operators who qualify the prescribed test in Operating on line and offline data entry terminals, computer terminals and VDUs in offices where such equipment is installed be awarded two advance increments.

14.7.4 Office Assistants who qualify the prescribed test in operating on-line data and off-line data entry terminals, word processors where such equipment is installed be considered for grant of suitable incentive.

14.7.5. Night duty operative staff—Telephone Operators and Telegraph Operators—who are present for a minimum of 80% of the night duty periods in a calendar year may be given cash grant equivalent to 15 days basic salary. In case Government are considering some other incentive scheme to ensure night attendance, this recommendation of the Committee may be considered as an alternative suggestion.

14.8 Special allowance to certain Cadres

14.8.1 Certain categories of officials were granted special allowance of Rs. 15.25 and 35 per month on the introduction of 16 year time-bound promotion scheme. Some of these cadres have been included in the restructuring scheme. The Committee recommends that the special allowance would continue only for those cadres for which existing pay scales have not been revised upwards consequent to restructuring.

14.8.2 The Committee recommends that the special allowance may be treated as part of pay for purposes of pay fixation in the new scale.

14.9 Training

14.9.1 Considerable efforts have to be put in by the Department in order to

bring up the technical competence, enhance the skills and maintain the level of capability of officials so as to keep pace with the introduction of newer technologies in the telecommunication system of the country.

14.9.2 As explained in the earlier parts of this Report, training modules for other courses for enhancing the skill and for maintaining the level of capability should also be finalised.

14.10 Retirement Benefits

14.10.1 To assist those cadres which are not to continue after adoption of the restructuring scheme, Government should consider allowing the officials of such cadres to retire at 50 or more years of age by offering an attractive composite package.

14.11 Follow up Action

14.11.1 These recommendations envisage a changed work ethos and structure for the operation, maintenance, development and installation of the country's telecommunication assets. It would therefore be necessary to take follow up action on several fronts in order that the work culture comes into effect at the earliest and is sustained and further enhanced in the coming years. These are detailed in Section 17 of this Report.

Statement-III

BRIEF OF DEMANDS BY B.T.E.F. ON AGGARWAL COMMITTEE REPORT

General

1. Many cadres are grouped with lower cadres and their pay scales are reduced. This is not acceptable of B.T.E.F.
2. Date of implementation of report be from 1.1.1986 as was done in case of restructuring of Junior Engineer Cadre.
3. Officials having more than five years of service should be exempted from qualifying the examination and be upgraded in new proposed restructured skills.
4. Special pay for supervisory duties be doubled.
5. Gazetted promotional post enmarked for technical and administrative cadres be increased as per the strength of staff.
6. Technical staff be allowed to qualify the TES Group B examinations.

Phone Mazdoor

1. Phone Mazdoors be given a scale of Rs. 825/- to 1200/-.
2. Group 'D' Staff working at other units shall have entry in Phone Mazdoors cadre depending up on their talents and aptitude,

Phone Mechanic

1. Phone mechanics cadre be given a scale of Rs. 975-1640.
2. Cable splicers/Phone Mechanics doing cable work be given a special pay of Rs. 100/- per month.
3. Sub. Inspector cadre be grouped with Telecom. Assistant's cadre.
4. S.G. Cable suppliers be given a grade of Rs. 1400-2300/-

Technicians

1. Entry educational qualifications of technicians should not be reduced from diploma to 12th standard 1st class.
2. Technicians be given a scale of Rs. 1400-2300/-,
3. Technical Supervisors be given a scale of Rs. 1640-2900/-.
4. Technicians be designated as Junior Engineers.
5. Technical Supervisors be designated as higher grade Junior Engineers.

R.S.A./P.I./A.E.A./W.O. :

1. RSA/PI/AEA/WOs be merged with JTO cadre in the grade of Rs. 1640-2900. as their nature of duties are similar. "Equal pay for equal work" a verdict of Supreme Court be honoured.
2. 16 years promotional cadre for RSA/PI/AEA/WOs be of Rs. 2000-3200/-.

Telephone Operators :

1. Telephone Operators are recruited with higher educational qualification and have to qualify a test of general knowledge including English, Geography, Science etc. Hence their qualification should be treated as Graduates.
2. Telephone Operators be given a scale of Rs. 1320-2040.
3. Telephone Operators working in modern technology be given two increments for knowing the working and two increments for actual working.
4. 16 years promotional grade for this cadre be of Rs. 1640-2900.

Telephone Supervisors :

1. Scale of Telephone supervisors be of Rs. 1640-2900.
2. Telephone Supervisors be given a special pay of Rs. 70/- per months.

Senior Supervisors

1. Senior Supervisors be given a scale of Rs. 2000-3200/-.

2. Senior Supervisors be given group 'B' promotion on seniority, as A.E. Traffic.

Telecom Office Assistant

1. The entry qualification for this cadre be treated as Graduates considering their mode of recruitment.
2. T/O/As. be given a scale of Rs. 1320-2040/-.
3. 16 years promotional grade for this cadre be of 1640-2090/-.

Section Supervisors

1. Section supervisors be given a scale of Rs. 1640-2900/-
2. Section supervisor doing supervisory duties be given a special pay of Rs. 70/- P.M.

Senior Supervisors

1. Senior supervisors be given a scale of Rs. 2000-3200/-.
2. Senior supervisors be given Group 'B' promotion.

Telegraphman

1. Telegraphman be given a scale of Rs. 825-1200.

Telegraphists

1. Telegraphist be given a scale of Rs. 1320-2040/-.
2. 16 years promotional scale be of 1640-2900/-.
3. H.S.G. scale for this cadre of Rs. 2000-3200/-.

Assistant Superintendent Telegraph Traffic:—

1. The cadre of A.S.T.T. be given a scale of Rs. 1640-2900/—
2. Senior A.S.T.T be given Group 'B' promotion.

Left Out Cadres—:

1. Restructuring be done for the cadre of L.D.C and U.D.C. in Administrative Offices.
2. Motor Drivers in telecom, be given a scale of Rs. 1150-1500/—

Setting up of petro-chemical complexes

1327. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the setting up of the petro-chemical complexes scheduled for the Seventh Five Year Plan period in the private, public and joint sectors;

(b) the names of the complexes which are likely to go on stream before the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan and those which are not going to be set up by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) the reasons for these projects being held up and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure their completion within the stipulated period ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) to (c) The Seventh Five Year Plan document envisaged commissioning of one petrochemical complex, namely, Maharashtra Gas Cracker Complex during the Seventh Plan period. Work on this complex is in full swing and it is expected to be commissioned by end 1989.

Expansion of small automatic exchanges in telegraph engineering divisions in Himachal Pradesh

1328. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of SAXs in Dharamsala, Mandi and Simla Telegraph Engineering Divisions in Himachal Pradesh are proposed to be expanded during the current financial year and 1988-89 so as to augment their capacity; and

(b) if so, the names of these exchanges programmed for expansion during this period district-wise and the programme of expansion for each month of the year till 31st March, 1988, alongwith the exact increase in capacity sought for each exchange district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal for expansion for 1987-88 is 39 SAXs and during 1988-89 is 40 SAXs. Details are given in the Statement below.

Statement**(i) Progress of expansion in 1987-88**

Name of the Exchange	District	Expansion of capacity	Date of expansion
1	2	3	4
1. Khairi	Chamba	25-45	9/87
2. Sihunta	„	25-45	9/87
3. Dhaneta	Hamirpur	25-45	9/87
4. Barsar	„	45-90	9/87
5. Jarol	Shimla	25-45	9/87
6. Marog	„	45-90	9/87

1	2	3	4
7. Padora	„	45-90	9/87
8. Shoghi	„	45-90	9/87
9. Pharal	2	25-45	9/87
10. Rawalakia	„	45-90	1/88
11. Nauradhar Solan	Solan	25-45	9/87
12. Chail	„	45-90	9/87
13. Daulatpur	Una	25-45	12/87
14. Gohar	Mandi	45-90	12/87
15. Nagwain	„	25-45	2/88
16. Kuthera	Bilaspur	25-45	1/88
17. Katrain	Kulu	45-90	2/88

(ii) Proposal for expansion during February & March, 1988 subject to availability of equipment.

1. Barmana	Bilaspur	45-90
2. Berthin	„	30-45
3. Lehrisarail	„	25-45
4. Sundla	Chamba	25-45
5. Tissa	„	25-45
6. Chaura	„	25-45
7. Haripur	Kulu	25-45
8. Ani	„	25-45
9. Chountra	Mandi	30-45
10. Dharampur	„	25-45
11. Rawal Sar	„	25-45
12. Paror	Kangra	25-45
13. Daroh	„	25-45
14. Indora	„	25-45
15. Ghanyara	„	25-45

1	2	3
16. Bhoranj	Hamirpur	25-45
17. Deha	Shimla	45-90
18. Deori Khanti	„	45-90
19. Nankheri	„	25-45
20. Kunihar	„	45-90
21. Tikkar	„	45-90
22. Sawra	„	45-90

39 SAXs were proposed to be expanded during 1987-88. Details have been given above.

Survey for installation of petrol/diesel pumps and LPG agencies in Himachal Pradesh

1329. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some places have been surveyed in Himachal Pradesh for the installation of petrol/diesel pumps and gas agencies for the next three years, including the current financial year;

(b) if so, the names of the places surveyed alongwith the findings of survey and names of the places, district-wise, for which pumps/agencies have been sanctioned;

(c) the likely date by which these would be installed; and

(d) if not, whether any such survey would be undertaken during the current year and whether early sanction/installation would be ensured?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) Based on surveys periodically conducted by the oil industry, locations are identified for setting up of Retail Outlets (MS/HSD) and LPG distributorships, and are included in its Annual Marketing Plans. The list indicating locations which have been included on this basis is in the Statement given below.

(c) As various steps precede actual commissioning of dealerships/distributorships, it is not possible to indicate any specific date by which these will be commissioned;

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

Statement

Retail Outlet /Dealerships

S. No.	Location	District	Present Position
1	2	3	4
1.	Satwan	Birmaur	To be included in the future Marketing Plan,

1	2	3	4
2. Pandojha	Una	Included in the Oil Industry Marketing Plan 1987-88.	
3. Jeori	Shimla	Already commissioned on 31.7.87.	
4. Kumarhati (2 locations)	Solan	Included in Marketing Plan 1987-88	
5. Sabathu	Solan	—do—	
6. Darampur	Solan	—do—	
7. Miranda	Kangra	Commissioned on 28.1.88.	
8. Kaza	Lahaul Spiti	LOI issued on 1.5.87.	
9. Mehatpur	Una	LOI issued on 24.9.86 but development held up due to Court case.	
10. Sheoghi	Shimla	Commissioned on 30.3.87.	
11. Dharampur	Mandi	Included in the Marketing Plan 1987-88.	
12. Totu	Shimla	—do—	
LPG Distributorships			
1. Kalpa	Kinnaur	LOI issued for adhoc distributorship to H P. State Civil Supplies Corporation.	
2. Pooh	Kinnaur	—do—	
3. Parwanoo	Solan	Included in Marketing Plan 1987-88.	

Direct telephone link between Sri Naina Devi and Bilaspur (H.P.)

1330. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3327 on 10th December, 1985 regarding direct telephone link between Sri

Naina Devi and Bilaspur (H.P.) and state :

(a) the steps taken to link Naina Devi and Bilaspur in H.P. telephonically on a direct circuit, in view of the fact that one of the reasons for low booking of Trunk Calls is the poor prospects of their maturing;

(b) whether any decision has been taken to parent Sri Naina Devi to C.B.N.M. Exchange at Nangal instead of parenting it to C.B.N.M. Exchange at Anandpur Sahib; and

(c) if so, the likely date by which the CBNM would be provided and also a direct circuit between Naina Devi and Bilaspur would be installed in view of the fact a revenue district is to be covered by one SSA and SSA should not cover two States ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Provision of a direct trunk circuit between Sri Naina Devi and Bilaspur has been sanctioned. This trunk circuit would be provided during the current year on a VHF system to be installed between Sri Naina Devi Nangal and further to be built up on the existing Radio Systems working between Nangal-Chandigarh and Chandigarh-Bilaspur.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The direct trunk circuit between Sri Naina Devi and Bilaspur is likely to be provided during the current year.

Fibre Optics Projects of Hindustan Cables Limited

1331. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to scrap the Fibre Optics Project as initiated by the Hindustan Cables Ltd.;

(b) if so, when the decision for this proposal was taken and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any clearance has been given to another project being set up by the Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation;

(d) if so, when the M.P.S.E.D.C. project would be set up; and

(e) whether the new project would meet the recommendations made by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research that the transfer of technology for opto-electronic components should also be sought for ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) : No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The MPSEDC project is reported to start the first phase of its approved phased manufacturing programme during 1988-89.

(e) The recommendation was that the scope of know-how transfer in both the MPSEDC and Hindustan Cables Ltd. Indian Telephone Industries projects should cover optical/fibreoptic passive components and semiconductor devices such as MLAs, LSI/VLSI circuits used in the optical fibre communication equipment involved in the project concerned. Opto-electronic components such as Lasers, Avalanche Photo-Diodes and Light Emitting Diodes were not so specified for being covered by the scope of foreign know-how transfer in the case of either project. Furthermore, these recommendations were made, not by the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research alone, but by an Inter-Departmental Committee consisting of senior representatives of the Department of Telecommunications, Deptt. of Electronics and DSIR, which operated under the overall coordination of Secretary, DSIR and Secretary, Telecommunications.

[Translation]

Linking of cities with Delhi by S.T.D.

1332. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cities proposed to be linked with Delhi by STD facility; and

(b) the names of such cities ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 88 cities are proposed to be connected to the STD network during 1988. Delhi is already on the STD network.

(b) The names of such cities are given in the Statement below.

1. Ahwa
2. Alibagh
3. Alipurduar
4. Ananthnag
5. Angul
6. Anjar
7. Armoor
8. Balurghat
9. Baragarh
10. Baramula
11. Begusarai
12. Bhadrak
13. Bhind
14. Bijnore
15. Bilaspur (H.P.)
16. Bokaro Steel City
17. Bongaigaon
18. Botad
19. Bundi
20. Chatarpur (Ganjam)
21. Chhindwara
22. Chinnalaoatti
23. Chirkunda
24. Chittur (Karnataka)
25. Daman
26. Dharamshala
27. Dhule
28. Etawah
29. Faridkot
30. Gadchiroli
31. Hajipur
32. Halong
33. Hamirpur (U.P.)
34. Hamirpur (H.P.)
35. Hanumangarh
36. Haripad
37. Hoshiarpur
38. Hoskote
39. Jagdalpur
40. Jalna
41. Jeypore
42. Jharsuguda
43. Kailashahar
44. Kannaauj
45. Kanhapally
46. Kapurthala
47. Kasganj
48. Kathua
49. Kodinar
50. Kolacherry
51. Koraput
52. Kudal
53. Kurangapally

54. Latur

55. Madhubani

56. Mahe

57. Male

58. Mandi

59. Mannarghat

60. Munnar

61. Nahan

62. Naharlagau

63. Nanded

64. Nawadha

65. Nedumangady

66. Nilesbwar

67. Nilambar

68. Noida

69. Pali

70. Parwanoo

71. Patan

72. Pandalam

73. Pithoragash

74. Purnea

75. Radhakishorepur

76. Ratlam

77. Satara

78. Shoranur

79. Solan

80. Sriganganagar

81. Silvassa

82. Srivilliputtur

83. Shikohabad

84. Somanur

85. Ujhani

86. Osmanabad

87. Vadakkancherry

88. Williamnagar

[English]

Import and export of petroleum products

1333. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated production, import and export of petroleum and petroleum products, item-wise, by value and by weight during the current financial year;

(b) the corresponding actual figures for the preceding year;

(c) whether the conflict in the Gulf has affected the oil supply; and

(d) the proportion that the import from non-Gulf sources forms total import by weight and by value ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI RAFIQUE
ALAM) : (a) and (b) A Statement is given below:

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The provision of import of crude oil from Non-Gulf sources works out to 56.66% by weight and 56.77% by value approximately with reference to total import of crude oil during 1987-88. In case of petroleum products these percentages work out to 59.16% by weight and 59.31 by value approximately as compared to total import of petroleum products during 1987-88.

Statement

(a) and (b) The crude production

during the year 1986-87 was 30.48 million tonnes. It is estimated to be 30.66 million tonnes during the year 1987-88. The quantity and value of crude oil and petroleum products imported and exported during the year 1986-87 and estimates for 1987-88 are given below :

(Qty. : Million Tonnes)				
Value : Rs./crores				
1986-87		1987-88		
Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	
Imports				
Crude Oil	15.53	2057.5	18.34	3104
Petroleum Products	3.0	647.8	4.8	1232
Exports				
Crude Oil	—	—	—	—
Petroleum Products	2.5	411	2.9	549

Dispute between Government of Bihar and B.C.C.L about assessment of royalty

1334. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the dispute between the Government of Bihar and the Bharat Coking Coal Limited regarding assessment of royalty has been settled;

(b) whether the other Coal Mining Companies in the public sector have paid the royalty due from them;

(c) whether the payment is made on a month-to-month basis; and

(d) if so, the period upto which the royalty account has been cleared by each operating company in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE

MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Three subsidiaries of Coal India Limited, namely Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. Central Coalfields Ltd. and Eastern Coalfields Ltd. operate in Bihar. Normally, payment of royalty is made by the coal companies against the monthly dues. Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. has paid royalty amount upto November, 1987 and has made part payment for December, 1987 to Government of Bihar. Royalty dues upto December, 1987 have been paid in full and dues arising in January, 1988 have been paid partly by Central Coalfields Ltd. Eastern Coalfields Ltd. has paid royalty dues in full upto September, 1987 and partially for October, November and December, 1987.

Establishment of new telephone exchanges and telegraph offices during 1987-88.

1335. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new telephone exchanges and telegraph offices proposed to be established during 1987-88, State wise;

(b) the norms for the establishment of a telephone exchange or a telegraph office in terms of area, population and revenue ;

(c) the total allocation for the purpose for the year 1987-88; and

(d) the number of exchanges and offices already established by 31 December, 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) A total of 512 new Telephone exchanges and 1200 long Distance Public Telephone (combined offices) are planned to be opened during 1987-88. The Statewise details are given in the statement below.

(b) (i) The policy in regard to opening of 9,25,50 and 100 lines telephone exchanges lays down, that, there should be a minimum registered demand for 5,10,23 & 46 respectively paid connections. Secondly, there will be a minimum of 2 junctions lines for 25,50 & 100 lines exchanges with the parent exchange.

(ii) In regard to telegraph offices, the department plans to provide telecom facility in the principle village of every geographical area bounded by a hexagon of 5 km sides each. As per the above policy

LDPT's opened in the Post Offices are provided with telegraph facility on Phono-com basis irrespective of population or revenue.

(c) Funds for minor works are met from lumpsum grant placed at the disposal of respective Circles. However, the total allocation earmarked for local telephone systems for the year 87-88 is about Rs. 630 crores and for telegraph Rs. 163 crores. This includes works under new systems as well as those under expansion programmes.

(d) A total of 127 new telephone exchanges and 461 LDPTs have been established up to 31st December, 87

Statement

No. of New Telephone Exchanges and Telegraph Offices proposed to be opened during 1987-88 Statewise.

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	No. of Telephone Exchanges	No. of LDPT/ (Combined offices)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55	10
2.	Bihar	22	145
3.	Gujarat	15	45
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	10	25
5.	Karnataka	86	45
6.	Kerala	8	—
7.	Madhya Pradesh	50	170
8.	Maharashtra	57	130
9.	North-East	10	50
10.	Assam	15	50
11.	Haryana	20	30
12.	Himachal Pradesh	20	25
13.	Punjab	23	10
14.	Orissa	10	70

1	3	4
15. Rajasthan	31	240
16. Tamilnadu	34	—
17. Uttar Pradesh	34	75
18. West Bengal	12	80
Total :	512	1200

Power requirement of Bihar

1336. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total estimated power requirement of Bihar for the current year;

(b) the required installed generating capacity on the basis of optimum utilisation;

(c) the actual installed generating capacity;

(d) the additional generating capacity under installation;

(e) the additional generating capacity proposed in the Central or State sector; and

(f) the actual capacity utilisation in the State during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) The total estimated requirement of Bihar during 1987-88 is 5155 million units.

(b) Under normal operating conditions the installed capacity in Bihar is adequate to meet the power requirements of the State.

(c) The present installed generating

capacity in Bihar is 1575 MW comprising of 1425 MW Thermal and 150 MW Hydel.

(d) and (e) A capacity of 258.9 MW in the State Sector and 510 MW in DVC is under construction in Bihar for commissioning during the remaining years of the Seventh Plan. The capacity addition envisaged in the 8th Plan is 2680 MW in the Central Sector and 848MW in the State Sector.

(f) The capacity utilisation of Thermal Power Stations in Bihar during 1984-85, 1 85-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 (upto January, 1988) was 30.5%, 34.1% 33.3% and 31.8% respectively.

Import of pulp and synthetic fibre

1337. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala has made any representation to Union Government against the import of pulp and synthetic fibre; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) No representation has been received from the Government of Kerala requesting for ban on import of pulp and synthetic fibre.

(b) Does not arise.

Investment in Double Seven, Double Cola and Pepsi Cola

1339. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the investment in the concentrate plants of Double Seven and Double Cola and the proposed Pepsi Cola concentrate plant; and

(b) the import content of Double Seven, Double Cola and Pepsi Cola ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) M/s. Modern Food Industries (India) Limited who are manufacturing Double Seven concentrates have given their investment in plant and machinery as under :—

(a) Land	Rs. 9,08,783.25
(b) Building	Rs. 14,04,510.99
(c) Plant & Machinery	Rs. 14,98,086.26

M/s. Double Cola Manufacturing Company (India) Pvt. Ltd., have informed that their investment in plant and machinery is as under :—

(a) Land	Rs. 2,00,000
(b) Building	Rs. 5,00,000
(c) Machinery	Rs. 5,00,000

According to the proposal submitted by M/s. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation for setting up a joint venture with M/s. Pepsico Incorporated of USA, the investment in the soft drink concentrates segment of the project will be Rs. 5.55 crores.

(b) M/s. Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. have shown the import content and value of imports for capital goods, raw materials etc. to be 'Nil'. M/s. Double Cola Manufacturing Company (India) Ltd. have intimated that they have imported equipment and machinery worth Rs. 4.6 lakhs for their project.

According to the proposal of M/s. Punjab Agro Industries Corporation, the import of Capital Goods for all the four segments of the Project has been indicated at Rs. 6 crores (cif). At full volume of production, the project envisages import of raw materials to the extent of Rs. 3.2 crores (cif) per annum.

Telephone connections in Kottayam District of Kerala

1340. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applicants in the Kottayam district of Kerala waiting for telephone connections as on 31st December, 1987 (exchange-wise);

(b) The number of those applicants who are expected to get telephone connections in 1988 (exchange-wise); and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the provision of telephone connections in Kottayam district ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Exchange-wise Information is furnished in the Statement below.

Statement

Details of No. of applicants waiting for telephone connections as on 31.12.1987, Those expected to get telephone connections in 1988 (Exchange-wise) in Kottayam District of Kerala circle and steps taken at present to expedite provision of telephone connections.

Sl. No.	Name of Exchange	No. of Applicants waiting for Telephone connections as on 31.12.87	No. of Applicants who are expected to get telephone connections in 1988.	Steps taken at present to expedite provision of telephone connections
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Kottayam Unit-I Max-I	631	Nil	5000 lines Electronic exchange programmed.
2.	Kottayam Unit-II MAX-1	420	44	—
3.	Changanacheery PRX	890	Nil	—
4.	Yaikom MAX-II approved	180	112	200 lines expansion.
5.	Cbingavanam MAX-II	292	12	—
6.	Erukeli MAX-II	162	Nil	—
7.	Gandhinagar MAX	396	47	—
8.	Kanjirappally MAX	361	24	—
9.	Kanji Kuzhy MAX-II	714	72	100 lines expansion
10.	Kuruvilangad MAX-II	235	Nil	—
11.	Kuruppanthara MAX-II	188	Nil	—

1	2	3	4	5
12.	Munlakkayam MAX-II	120	22	—
13.	Pali MAX-II	508	76	200 lines expansion
14.	Pampadi MAX-II	220	Nil	—
15.	Poovarani MAX-II	92	18	—
16.	Ramapuram MAX-II	233	27	—
17.	Vakathanam MAX-II	317	77	—
18.	Pinnakkonad MAX-II	121	92	100 lines expansion
19.	Ponkunnam MAX-II	268	88	1000 lines expansion
20.	Erattupettah Manual	241	Nil	—
21.	Etlumar Manual Exchange	298	109	150 lines expansion
22.	Ayarkunnam MAX-II	295	174	200 lines expansion
23.	Bharanamganam MAX-III	212	Nil	—
24.	Cherpu MAX-III	42	Nil	—
25.	Chengalam MAX-III	116	107	150 lines expansion
26.	Chenapadi MAX-III	126	Nil	—
27.	Karukachal MAX-III	323	Nil	—

1	2	3	4	5
28.	Kangazha MAX-III	118	Nil	—
29.	Kidangoor MAX-III	42	Nil	—
30.	Kollappally MAX-III	139	97	100 lines expansion
31.	Kootickal MAX-III	42	Nil	—
32.	Koorappally MAX-III	14	Nil	—
33.	Kozhuvanal MAX-III	117	Nil	—
34.	Kudavachur MAX-III	19	19	45 lines expansion
35.	Kumarakam MAX-III	123	Nil	—
36.	Kurumannu MAX-III	29	28	—
37.	Kuttickal MAX-III	28	Nil	—
38.	Mammood MAX-III	158	Nil	—
39.	Manimala MAX-III	195	Nil	—
40.	Marangattupally MAX-III	136	Nil	—
41.	Mevalloor MAX-III	96	Nil	—
42.	Melakarematham MAX-III	93	Nil	—
43.	Monippally MAX-III	78	42	45 lines expansion

1	2	3	4	5
44.	Moonilare MAX-III	33	Nil	—
45.	Njeezhoor MAX-III	56	Nil	—
46.	Pallickalkod MAX-III	94	Nil	—
47.	Pathampuzha MAX-III	50	9	—
48.	Peringalam MAX-III	4	Nil	—
49.	Teekoy MAX-III	81	Nil	—
50.	Thalayolaparamba MAX-III	89	Nil	—
51.	Uzhavoor MAX-III	124	Nil	—
52.	Vazhoor MAX-III	140	95	180 lines expansion
53.	Pampa MAX-III	—	—	—
54.	Sabarimala MAX-III	7	Nil	—
55.	Mukkootuthara MAX-III	65	Nil	—
56.	Koruthod MAX-III	19	19 New exchange of 45 lines	
57.	Kunnori MAX-III	—	37 New Exchange of 45 lines.	

M RTP probe into fake degree racket

1341. PROF. MADHU DANDA-
VATE :

SHRI PARASRAM BHAR-
DWAJ :

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Govern-
ment has been drawn to the news report
captioned "M RTP probe into fake degree
racket" appearing in the 'Times of India'
(Delhi edition) of 20th December, 1987 in
which it has been mentioned that many
Indians have received fake degrees from
foreign universities.

(b) if so, whether as mentioned in
the report that Monopolies and Restrictive
Trade Practices Commission has probed
into the matter as a result of numerous
complaints from persons all over the
country,

(c) If so, the findings of the M RTP
Commission; and

(d) the steps taken by Government
to prevent these malpractices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNA-
CHALAM) : (a) to (d) As per the provi-
sions of the M RTP Act, 1969 relating to
unfair trade practices, the M RTP Commi-
ssion has instituted enquiries against two
educational institutions based on the find-
ings of the investigation conducted by D.
G.I. & R. These findings are to the effect
that the promised degrees are of Stanton
University and New Port University—
both of U.S.A. which, according to US
Educational Foundation in India, are
unaccredited. The Commission has also
issued interim injunction orders in these
cases.

Films on firewood saving devices

1342. DR. (SMT.) PHULRENU
GUHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY
be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any
proposal to make films depicting the use
of firewood saving devices; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY
AND MINISTER OF COMMUNI-
CATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) :
(a) and (b) Propagation of fire wood
saving devices through various media
of mass communication is being done
continuously. The Films Division have pro-
duced and released several films on trees
and energy resources which directly or
indirectly deal with the subject of fire
wood saving devices. National Wastelands
Development Board have also made films
on various aspects of social forestry and
wastelands. Video cassettes of 15 to 20
minutes in duration on biogas, improved
chulha, solar cooker, wind energy, urja-
gram etc. have been made by the Depart-
ment of Non-Conventional Energy
Sources. These have been/will be telecast
by the Doordarshan at appropriate inter-
vals.

[Translation]

**Opening of small telephone exchanges
in Jhunjhunu district [of Rajasthan]**

1343. SHRI MOHD. AYUB
KHAN : Will the Minister of COMM-
UNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to
open small telephone exchanges in Jhun-
jhunu district of Rajasthan during Seventh
Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the time by which these
telephone exchanges will be opened; and

(c) the criteria for opening small
telephone exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes,
Sir.

(b) The exchanges will be opened

progressively by the end of 7th Plan subject to availability of equipment, resources and registered demand.

(c) On existence of demand of 5, 10, 23 and 46 connections, small automatic exchanges of 9, 25, 50 and 100 lines respectively are opened.

12.00 hrs.

RE. QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : On 15th December, 1987, Shri P.R. Kumaramangalam gave notice of a question of privilege against Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan for making allegations on the floor of the House against Shri P.R. Das Munsi, Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce by making an untrue statement deliberately to mislead the House during the discussion on 'No Confidence Motion' on 10th December, 1987.

Shri Kumaramangalam referred to the proceedings of the House dated 10th December, 1987, when Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan made certain allegations against Shri P. R. Das Munsi which were refuted by him. While making the allegations, Shri Unnikrishnan had referred to the Kandla Free Trade Zone and stated that "between November, 1984 when our distinguished Prime Minister came into office on June, 1987, the Bachchan brothers in Kandla Free Trade Zone alone have cornered licences worth R. 23.5 crores, and exported value-added for Rs. 33 crores...I am not talking now about the other licences they have cornered through certain corrupt elements in the Ministry of Commerce." Shri Unnikrishnan wanted the Prime Minister to have an enquiry made about the activities of the Bachchan brothers, not merely regarding FERA violations, but also what he called "import licence scandals."

Refuting the allegation, Shri Das Munsi said :

"...What he is stating is absolutely wrong, and he is trying to overwhelm us by using certain words. We have answered this question; he has himself but the question.....He can quote the answer himself. This is not a fact.....All these norms of value-added or FERA have been maintained i.e. according to the norms of the licences. We have replied. No fault was there."

Shri Kumaramangalam contended that since the allegations made by Shri K. P. Unnikrishnan had been refuted on the floor of the House by Shri Das Munsi, Shri Unnikrishnan made an untrue statement deliberately to mislead the House and thereby committed contempt of the House.

As per established practice, I referred the notice to Shri K.P. Unnikrishnan for his comments. In his reply, Shri Unnikrishnan has stated as follows :—

"I have not been able to understand what exactly is the breach of privilege.....except that Shri Kumaramangalam accepting the Minister's version that what I said was wrong. Even if, for argument sake, it is admitted that what I said was wrong..... ...it does not constitute a question of privilege. A wrong statement cannot be construed to be a deliberately untrue statement knowingly and wilfully made to mislead the House— a condition precedent for a question of privilege."

Shri Unnikrishnan has also referred to the provisions contained in Article 105 of the Constitution and stated that "when the Constitution of India protects the right of members, such right of free speech as exercised by the member uninterrupted or unrestrained by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker cannot be made subject matter of question of privilege."

Shri Unnikrishnan has not furnished any documentary or other conclusive

evidence to prove the allegation made by him in the House. It is well established that the statement made by the Minister is considered final and accepted as the correct statement of the position in a matter unless proved otherwise.

It is also well established that an untrue or incorrect statement or an unfounded allegation made by a member on the floor of the House does not constitute a breach of privilege. The remedy and the procedure for pointing out mistake or inaccuracy in a statement by a Minister or a member is laid down in Direction 115. In order to constitute a breach of privilege or contempt of the House, it has to be proved that the statement was not only wrong or misleading but it was made wilfully, deliberately, knowing it to be false and with the intention of misleading the House. Shri Unnikrishnan made a sweeping allegation which was immediately refuted by Shri Das Munsi and the position stood corrected. This was, of course followed by a free exchange of challenges and counter challenges between opposition and ruling party members and offer, demand and agreement for reference of the matter to the Privileges Committee in which members of both sides of the House joined.

Matters of privilege are governed by Rules 222 to 228 which *inter alia* require as the first pre-requisite a notice in writing for a question of privilege being raised on the floor of the House. After such a notice is received, the matter can be raised on the floor of the House with the consent of the Speaker or referred by the Speaker to the Committee of Privileges. In the instant case, when Shri Unnikrishnan made certain allegations which were categorically refuted by the Minister, the question of privilege was not at all before the House; no notice had been received and no consent to raise the matter as a matter of privilege had been given.

In view of this position, so far as the demand, offer and agreements in regard to the matter being referred to the Privileges Committee made on the floor of the House on that day are concerned, they would not be relevant for determining the matter of privilege.

The question whether a matter complained of is actually a breach of privilege or contempt of the House is entirely for the House to decide but the Speaker before giving his consent to the matter being raised on the floor of the House or before making reference to the Committee has to be satisfied that the matter is fit for further enquiry or requires the intervention of the House. Successive Speakers have held that the Speaker, before he gives his consent, must be satisfied that a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege has been made out.

Even when the Speaker is satisfied of there being a *prima facie* case of breach of privilege, the normal thing is for him to allow the matter to be raised on the floor of the House and for the House to take a decision itself or refer the matter to the Committee. The Speaker's power under Rule 227 is an exceptional provision to be used by the Speaker in his discretion only sparingly and in very clear cases of breach of privilege on which there may appear to be unanimity in the House.

After careful consideration of the facts in the present case, rules, precedents and well-established parliamentary conventions, I am satisfied that no *prima facie* case of breach of privilege has been made out.

I, therefore, withhold my consent to the raising of the matter in the House as a question of privilege.

— — —
(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): I have given notice regarding the crisis arising out of the total non-availability of cotton yarn for the handloom. Millions of handloom weavers are idle. We want a statement from the Government. We want to know what steps will be taken to relieve their distress...

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it.

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli) : I have given a Call Attention Notice, The Tamil Nadu Textile Secretary has announced kapas (cotton) as hoarding...

MR. SPEAKER : You give it to me; I will find out.

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANANI : have already given you, Sir.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : A serious lapse has taken place. The reactions of the leader of the Telugu Desam Party in Lok Sabha on the Budget were recorded but they were not telecast. We want an apology from the Minister of Information and Broadcasting.

MR. SPEAKER : You give it to me : I will find out.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : We want an immediate apology from the Minister.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : When you give in writing, only then I shall look into it.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : We have already given notice.

MR. SPEAKER : I will find out.

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : On 6th there is a peaceful conference on the Maharashtra-Karnataka border at Belgaum....

MR. SPEAKER : I have seen that. It is a matter of the State Government. I cannot interfere in it.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : It is a central issue

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I have not given you permission,

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Datta Samant, now you please take your seat.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Will you please take your seat ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : The telephone operators are on tool down strike.....(Interruption)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you making a noise ? Please it down (Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Samant, you are disturbing me. I have told you to sit down. Now you are exceeding the limit.
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Will you please sit down ? He is not allowed. I have not given him the floor.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I do not know whether it is happening there or not, but you are doing it here.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot do it. It is not in my power...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now I ask you to sit down.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. Not a single word of whatever he says will go on record.

DR. DATTA SAMANT : I am walking out in protest.

12.10 hrs.

[At this stage Dr. Datta Samant left the House]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, I want to bring to the notice of Mr. Vasant Sathe that 30,000 telephone Technicians are on tool down strike for the last fifteen days..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Does not matter. I will look into it.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : And he is sitting tight here, sir.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : The telephones are dead for the last 15 days.

MR. SPEAKER : How can I hear everyone ?
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : How can we conduct business if all of you speak at a time ? Let one person speak at a time.
(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Holi is an important festival. Therefore, there should be no sitting of the House on 3rd.

MR. SPEAKER : I have no objection if the whole House agrees.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Your order is necessary. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Why is everyone speaking ? I am asking if the entire House wants an off on the 3rd.?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Yes, Sir.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : If that is the con-

sensus of the House, then let us have a holiday on that day.....

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD (Chamarajanagar) : Sir, I have given a notice under rule 193 about the recent atrocities on Harijans, particularly in Karnataka..... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon. Member, please listen. You have given a notice under rule 193 and that will be considered. That is all.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot give any decision now.....
(Interruptions)

SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO (Chikballapur) : It is a very important issue, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : What does it matter if it is important ? Heavens won't fall.

Shri Vengal Rao.

— — —

12.11½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Review on and Annual Report of National Instruments Ltd; Calcutta for 1986-87 and Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Indunagar for 1986-87

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : 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 :—

- (a) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Instruments Limited, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5570/88]
- (ii) Annual Report of the National Instruments Limited Calcutta, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts & the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5568-88]
- (b) (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited, Indunagar, for the year 1986-87.
- (ii) Annual Report of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited, Indunagar, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5569/88]
- (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—5568-69/88]
- (3) (i) A copy of Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Process and Products Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding
- Review by the Government on the working of the Process and Product Development Centre, Agra, for the year 1986-87.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5570/88]
- Statement re. Rejection of the Award of the Board of Arbitration under the Joint Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration for Central Government Employees Re. Cash Allowance to Postman**
- THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding rejection of the Award of the Board of Arbitration under the Joing Consultative Machinery and Compulsory Arbitration for the Central Government Employees regarding Cash Allowance to Postmen.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5571/88].
- Notifications under Oil Industry (Development) Act,**
- THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under subsection (3) of section 31 of the Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974 :—
- (1) The Oil Industry Development Board Employees' (Conduct, Discipline and Appeal) Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 20(E) in Gazette of India dated the 11th January, 1988.
- (2) The Oil Industry Development Board Employees' (General Conditions of Service) Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 23(E) in Gazette of India dated the 12th January, 1988.
- (3) The Oil Industry Development

Board Employees' (General Conditions of Service) Second Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 24(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th January, 1988.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5572/88]

Notification Re. exemption to H.E. Mr. Li Gem Mo. Premier of Republic of Korea and other Members of the delegation from payment of foreign travel tax and Notification under customs Act and Central Excise Rules

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 94(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th February, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to His Excellency Mr. Li. Gun Mo, Premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and other twenty members of the delegation who visited India from 18th to 21st February, 1988 from the payment of foreign travel tax in respect of their international journey to any place outside India at the end of the visit under section 41 of the Finance Act, 1979.
[Placed in Library. See No LT—5573/88]

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Custom Act, 1962 :

- (i) G.S.R. 37(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification

No. 343/87- Customs dated the 27th October, 1987 so as to reduce the basic customs duty on imported Aluminium ingots from Rupees 2000/- per tonne to Rupees 1000/- per tonne.

- (ii) G.S.R. 61(E) and 62(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th January, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to withdraw the exemption from basic customs duty and auxiliary duty on palm seeds, rape-seeds, soyabean seeds, sunflower seeds, plum kernel and groundnut seeds which are canalised for import through State Trading Corporation of India/Hindustan Vegetables Oils Corporation of India.
- (iii) G.S.R. 74(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 124/86-Customs dated the 17th February, 1986 so as to make certain changes in the basic customs duty on dates dry (excluding seedless).
- (iv) G.S.R. 85(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No 13/81-Customs dated the 9th February, 1981 so as to provide for duty free import of "Spares of capital goods and material handling equipments, namely, fork lifts, overhead cranes, mobile cranes, crawler, cranes, holsts and stackers" in place of "Spares of Production machinery."
[Placed in Library. See No. LT—5574/88]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944 :

- (i) G.S.R. 964(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th December, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 177/87-Central Excises, dated the 1st March, 1986 so as to allow credit of actual duty paid on paper and paper boards used as inputs.
- (ii) G.S.R. 1012(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to motor vehicles, namely Kolos 1atra 7 Model 815 and Model HDT 45 manufactured by M/s Bharat Earth Movers Ltd., for supply to the Ministry of Defence for official purposes from the whole of the duty of Excise leviable thereon.
- (iii) G.S.R. 1013(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th December, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 405/63 Central Excise dated the 8th September, 1986 so as to provide exemption from excise duty on systems and sub-systems of launch vehicle project and satellite project.
- (iv) G.S.R. 43(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to knitted or crocheted fabrics of manmade textile materials.
- (v) G.S.R. 44(E) published in

Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 109/86-CE dated the 27th February, 1986 so as to exclude knitted or crocheted fabrics from the scope of the said notification as a consequential change.

- (vi) G. S. R. 45(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 1988 regarding exemption to fabrics of fibres of yarns of cellulosic origin whether or not containing cotton, and fabrics of nylon filament yarn whether or not containing viscose or cotton on the basis of weight of such fabrics.
- (vii) G. S. R. 46(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to other man-made fabrics based on their width weight or value.
- (viii) G. S. R. 47(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th January, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to tents and rags of man-made fabric subject to certain limitations and conditions.
[Placed in Library, See No. LT-5575/88]

Notification under Explosives Act, Under Companies Act, Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act etc.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following

Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 18 of the Explosive Act, 1884:—

- (i) G. S. R. 887(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 1987 containing Corrigendum to Notification No. G. S. R. 248(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd March 1983.
 - (ii) The Explosives (Amendment) Rules 1987 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 995(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th December, 1987.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5576/88]
- (2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 396 of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (i) The Anna Engineering Corporation Limited and Anna Transport Corporation Limited (Amalgamation) Order, 1986 published in Notification No. S. O. 19(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th January, 1987.
 - (ii) The Gujarat Agro Foods, Limited and the Gujarat Agro Industries Corporation Limited (Amalgamation) Order 1987 published in Notification No. S.O. 96(E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th February, 1987.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5577/88]
- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 67 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969:—

- (i) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Conditions of Service of Chairman and Members) Amendment Rules 1988 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1(E) in Gazette of India dated the 1st January, 1988.
 - (ii) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (Recognition of Consumers' Association) Amendment Rules, 1987 published in Notification No. S.O. 28 in Gazette of India dated the 2nd January, 1988.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5578/88]
- (4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—
- (i) A statement regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Chandigarh Industrial and General Development Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1986-87.
 - (ii) Annual Report of the Chandigarh Industrial and General Development Corporation Limited, Chandigarh, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5579/88]
- (5) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks for the year 1986-87 under section 126 of the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5580/88]

- (6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, for the year 1986-87.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5581-88]

- (7) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the National Productivity Council, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5582/88]

- (8) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Tool Room and Training Centre, Delhi, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on the working of the Tool Room and Training Centre, Delhi, for the year 1986-87.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5583/88]

Review and Annual Report of National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd. New Delhi for 1986-87. Annual Report of and Review on Damodar valley Corporation Act, etc,

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): 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 National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87.

- (ii) Annual Report of the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts and the 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—5584/88]

- (3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta for the year 1986-87 along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 45 of the Damodar Valley Corporation Act, 1948.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Damodar Valley Corporation, Calcutta, for the year 1986-87.

- (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—5585/88]

**Notifications Under Standards of
Weights and Measures Act and Under
Bureau of Indian standards Act.**

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) :** I beg
to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following
Notifications (Hindi and English
versions) under sub-section (4)
of section 83 of the Standards of
Weights and Measures Act,
1976:—

- (i) The Standards of Weights
and Measures (Inter-State
Verification and Stamping)
Rules, 1987 published in
Notification No. G. S. R.
945(E) in Gazette of India
dated the 2nd December,
1987.
- (ii) The Standards of Weights
and Measures (Numeration)
Rules, 1987 published in
Notification No. G. S. R.
946(E) in Gazette of India
dated the 2nd December
1987.
- (iii) The Standards of Weights
and Measures (approval of
Models) Rules, 1987 pub-
lished in Notification No.
G. S. R. 1003(E) in Gazette
of India dated the 22nd
December, 1987.
- (iv) The Standards of Weights
and Measures (Packaged
Commodities) Amendment
Rules, 1988 published in
Notification No. G. S. R.
19(E) in Gazette of India
dated the 8th January,
1988.
[Placed in Library, See No.
LT-5586/88]

- (2) A copy each of the following Noti-
fications (Hindi and English
versions) under section 39

of the Bureau of Indian
Standards Act, 1986:—

- (i) The Bureau of Indian Stan-
dards (Powers and Duties
of Director-General) Amend-
ment Regulations, 1987 pub-
lished in Notification No.
G. S. R. 1031(E) in Gazette
of India dated the 31st Dece-
mber, 1987.
- (ii) The Bureau of Indian Stan-
dards (Advisory Committees)
Regulations, 1987 published
in Notification No. G.S.R.
1032(E) in Gazette of India
dated the 31st December,
1987.
- (iii) The Bureau of Indian Stan-
dards (Certification) Requi-
sitions 1988 published in
Notification No. G. S. R.
10(E) in Gazette of India
dated the 6th January,
1988.
- (iv) The Bureau of Indian Stan-
dards (Terms and Condi-
tions of service of Emplo-
yees) Regulations, 1988 pub-
lished in Notification No.
G. S. R. 34(E) in Gazette
of India dated the 15th
January, 1988.
- (v) The Bureau of Indian Stan-
dards (Recruitment to
Scientific Cadre) Regula-
tions, 1988 published in
Notification No. G. S. R.
35(E) in Gazette of India
dated the 15th January,
1988.
- (vi) The Bureau of Indian Stan-
dards (Recruitment to
Laboratory Technical Posts)
Regulations, 1988 published
in Notification No. G. S. R.
36(E) in Gazette of India
dated the 15th January,
1988.
- (vii) The Bureau of Indian Stan-
dards, (Recruitment to

Administration, Finance and other posts) Regulations, 1988 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 38(E) in Gazette of India dated the 15th January, 1988.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-5587/88]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

[English]

Forty-seventh Report

SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI (Dharmapuri): Sir, I beg to present the Forty-seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Private Members Bills and Resolutions.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

[English]

Reported decision of Government to sell Scooters India Limited to a private sector company

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Industry to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“Reported decision of the Government to sell the public sector company—Scooters India Limited to a private sector company.”

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): Sir, Scooters India Limited, a public sector, undertaking under the Ministry of Industry engaged in the manufacture of 2-wheelers, 3-wheelers and Fans, has been incurring losses since inception. The accumulated loss of the unit as on 31.3.87 was Rs. 105.26

crores. The issue of making Scooters India Ltd. a viable unit has been engaging attention of the Government for some time.

Various alternatives like closure, employees' takeover, joint venture with the private sector, revival through transfer of assets and liabilities to another existing unit or through fresh capital investment were considered. After careful examination of various alternatives, the revival of the unit by way of transfer of assets/liabilities to another existing unit in the 2-wheeler sector, failing which revival through fresh investment, were found most suitable.

The current decade has shown a satisfactory growth rate in the 2-wheeler sector of economy with adequate investment in the private sector. It was found desirable to dovetail the capacities created in Scooters India Ltd. with the existing private investments to avoid fragmentation of capacities and to secure maximum overall returns to the economy. Accordingly, Government decided to transfer agreed assets and equivalent liabilities of Lucknow unit of Scooters India Ltd. for the manufacture of 2-wheelers and 3-wheelers to M/s. Bajaj Auto Ltd.

In the proposed scheme of transfer of agreed assets and equivalent liabilities of Scooters India Ltd.'s Lucknow unit to M/s Bajaj Auto Ltd., the latter would provide fresh employment to a sizeable number of existing employees of Scooters India Ltd. In the rejuvenated unit, certain standard fiscal concessions as applicable to the defined backward areas would also be extended to this rejuvenated unit. The modalities of settlement of workers, private share holdings and loans of financial institutions etc. are being worked out and a Memorandum of Undertaking will be entered into with M/s. Bajaj Auto Ltd. for the purpose.

This scheme would enable the optimum utilisation of assets, capacities and skills already created in the unit and would lead to the improvement of the performance of this unit.

The decision to transfer assets and

[Shri J. Vengal Rao]

liabilities of the Scooters India Ltd. is on the basis of past performance of this individual unit and with a view to consolidate capacities in this non-strategic sector. Govt. have not taken any policy decision to privatise public sector units.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, the matter is very serious, as you will understand and even there should some logic before taking a decision to sell the public sector company. The statement of the Government is like the logic of a killer only. Sir, yesterday, our Finance Minister, Shri N. D. Tewary, spoke of a strong and vibrant public sector which late Jawahar Lal Nehru wanted to be in commanding heights in our economy. Today we are discussing about the Scooters India Limited which will be sold to a private sector company. Let our journalists write a book on Scooters India—its rise and fall. It will be the best thriller in India in 1988.

Sir, Scooters India Limited came into being in 1972-73. You know, Sir, it is ready for sacrifice and it is now at the alter of Bajaj Scooter. The priest is ready to utter 'mantras'. Scooters India has been tied. Bells are ringing and the Department of Industry is ready with sword in hand. I do not know how many are there still to be privatised like this. The Automobile of India and Innocenti of Italy had been manufacturing scooters. But they could not find it viable. So, they approached the Government of India to make it a joint venture. But after it has been declared as a joint venture, both the Automobile of India and Innocenti of Italy backed out and the management of this unit was left with the Government of India. The joint venture system would have worked well but it has not worked well not because of the workers but because of the fault of your department. Bungling started. There is no estimation of the capacity of the plant. No technology was available. Even C.S.I.R. was not called for. About Rs. 70 lakhs have been spent to get foreign technology but it did not click. The plant and machinery had become obsolete and they had to be replaced and updated. Since 1972, no D.P.R.

has been prepared and it is the statement of the Secretary of your own Department.

12.20 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Rs. 30 lakhs have been made available for this DPR to M/S A.P.I. Even then the DPR is not yet ready. You will be struck with wonder, there is no Chairman in this Company, there is no M.D. since 1983 and one Executive Director has been brought here from the Railways, he is an officer of the Railways having no knowledge at all regarding automobiles and most of the time this gentleman remains absent from the plant. Naturally it is a loss—loss to the tune of Rs. 105 crores, of which Rs. 50 crores is Government loan. You agree that there has been a loss. Then, various Committees were formed, they made various recommendations. The Inger Soll Engineers Committee, Satya Pal Committee, Mansukhlal Committee, Secretaries Committee—they all made many recommendations to make it viable, you did not accept them, even the COPU, our Committee on Public Undertakings had gone through it, they made recommendations, but they are also not adhered to. But even then they continued to produce. They produced 20,275 scooters in 1983, 27,282 scooters in 1984, 26,186 in 1985 and 21,838 in 1986. But suddenly in 1987, when you had made a plan to hand it over to Bajaj, production has gone down to only 5,434. Why? It is perhaps because already you have made a plan to sacrifice it at the alter of Bajaj. Even then there has been step-motherly attitude towards it, although you allowed Bajaj to sell their products throughout India, the Vikrant and semi-Vikrant vehicles of this Company, 7-seaters and 3-wheelers, they are not allowed to sell them beyond U.P. and Bihar. Why? Whereas Bajaj has an all-India market, you being a Government concern, public sector concern, don't allow them to have an all-India market. I fail to understand why, they do not have a good market. In the mean time, Bajaj gets a licence to produce one lakh scooters in U.P., Surajpur, Meerut District, in 1985. In 1985 Bajaj gets a licence. Till that date Bajaj has not worked on that licence. Bajaj is waiting for the time to buy this factory and it is

allowed to continue this licence. Bajaj does not make the factory. In 1987 this Scooters India Limited was trying to revive. Sometimes it was producing some materials to be sold at a loss to private companies. In the mean time, ultimately it came to an agreement with Honda of Japan, and if this agreement is acted upon, it will be producing the best quality scooter with the highest fuel efficiency in India and that will be cheapest also. That will be as cheap as the Moped. When this is the situation, you just want to sell it to the private company. Situation was created to have good fuel efficient cheap scooters. But it is not to be, it has to be sold to Bajaj and asset of Rs. 200 crores with a land of 150 acres is being given to Bajaj for Rs. 30 crores, of which Bajaj will pay you only Rs. 5 crores and Rs 25 crores you will procure for Bajaj as a loan to be paid to you. I don't know why this magnanimity to Bajaj and Bajaj alone, I do not know whether this Bajaj family is in good books of some important person of that area or not.

AN HON. MEMBER : Chairman of Air India.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Balpur) : Chairman of Air India.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : So, Sir, such is the situation. The Indian people want a good scooter, a fuel efficient scooter, a cheap scooter, but they won't get it. Now, even the workers, I do not know—3200 workers and officers are working nothing to be heard from them, they will be thrown out. This is the story of Scooters India Limited, Sir. This is the beautiful story of how a capitalist State buys one factory which was going to be liquidated, that is, the Italian factory, then restores it to some extent and then hands it over to another capitalist, namely, Bajaj.

So, this the story. I want to put a few questions.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Let me answer first all this. Afterwards you can put questions.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : You have decided : "After careful examination of various alternatives, the revival of the unit by way of transfer of assets/liabilities to another existing unit in the 2-wheeler sector, failing which revival through fresh investment, were found most suitable. Before you took the decision, did you consult the workers, employees and officers. Do you know even the INTUC, your labour wing has opposed it ? Only yesterday, your INTUC has issued a statement that this should not be done. This would be anti-workers and anti-principles of the Congress Party. Mr. Gopeshwar has opposed it. Why don't you allow him to speak, if you want to know his reaction. Has the Government received any memorandum from the representatives of the workers, employees and officers regarding a separate viable plan to run this industry ? What is your reaction.

The Government has been very magnanimous to Bajaj. Assets worth Rs. 200 crores will be handed over to it and you will get only Rs. 5 crores. Even, you are getting Rs. 25 crores from other institution as loan for Bajaj. Why does the Government not go through and act upon COPU's suggestion ? The Government is handing over to Bajaj with good grace. Why does the Government not hand over financial aid to Scooters India so that it can be made viable which the officers and the engineers have claimed ? Why don't you work on the plan of Japan-Honda, the agreement which has been made by Scooters India with Japan-Honda.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I propose that Mr. Harish Rawat should be made chairman.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : It is amazing when you have said that facilities given to employers to construct factory in the backward area will be given to Bajaj, when the Bajaj takes over Scooters India. Is Lucknow a backward area ? Then, what is the reason for giving special concession to Bajaj ?

[Translation]

Tell me whose fault is it ? Is it of Bajaj or yours ?

[Shri Narayan Choubey]

[English]

Why should this backward facilities be given to them ?

What is the number of workers going to be affected ? You have said : Accordingly, the Government decided to transfer agreed assets and equivalent liabilities of Lucknow unit of Scooters India Ltd, to Bajaj. What is the equivalent liability of the Lucknow unit of Scooters India Ltd. ? What is the price of that ? What is the cost of that ? What is the price you are going to give to Bajaj for taking over this ? How many workers are going to be involved ? How many workers will lose their jobs ? How many workers whom Bajaj propose to take ? Nothing is mentioned. What is the amount those workers who would not be taken back are going to get and whether that is sufficient. This is your corcodile tear for the public sector. You have said very nicely : "It is with a view to consolidate capacities in the non-basic and nonstrategic sector. Government has not taken any policy decision to privatise public sector units." It is one step forward toward that. If you are successful in this, then something more will be done. Then, I will question to you whether you will refrain from handing over this concern to M/s. Bajaj. Kindly explain all these things.

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the reply given by the Government on the calling attention motion clearly shows that the Government is ignoring our national industrial policy. The Government has told that Scooters India Limited suffered a loss of Rs. 105.26 crores on 31.3.87. This loss surely did not take place within a year; the process of it must have started much before. I want to know from the Government as to why it has not implemented the suggestions for reducing the losses given by the Committee which was set up to go into the causes of loss ? Had there been losses in spite of the implementation by the Government of the suggestions made by the Committee, then it would surely have been a subject worth

consideration. The Government constituted committees time and again which included technical committees, Parliamentary committees etc. and the report of each committee was that management is not capable. Why have you not been able to check the losses, when they told about this ? They recommended that the obsolete machinery should be modernised and the technicians, who have to produce all these thing, should also be consulted, but the Government has ignored all these suggestions and is now raising the issue of the loss. The loss has not taken place in one go. If the Government really wanted to strengthen the public sector, then, it should have implemented the reports presented by the committees. Who is responsible for it ? Government have not implemented the suggestions. Even in 1985, you are giving it to Escorts and they promised to employ all its employees but even at that time, there was a lot of opposition and after that Government closed the matter and it remained in public sector. What are the reasons that today Government intends to give it to Bajaj ?

This factory was established by our late hon. Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in order to bring an end to the monopoly. At that time Bajaj had a monopoly and it was charging Rs. 4-5 thousand as a premium for selling a scooter to the people. In order to stop such a loot, Scooters India was established so that monopoly may come to an end. But today, Government is encouraging monopoly and thus going against the late Prime Minister's wishes. They should consider the fact as to why they formed such a view. At the time of manufacture of this scooter, there was demand of this scooter in the market. The people thought of buying it because of its durability. What happened to its management ? Four managers have been employed where only one would have sufficed, and similarly, seven Director General (M) have been appointed where only one D.G. was sufficient. You should let us know as to how much extra expenditure has been incurred on the management and how many extra people were employed due to which all this loss has been there.

I want to submit that we should not go against our national policy. Today Government have decided to give it away at Rs. 25-30 crores and provide them the same amount in the form of loan. No doubt, they will have to invest Rs. 5 crores and Government is making available to them a sum of Rs. 25 crores in the form of loan. This shows that they are giving them as a free gift. Government should give this Rs. 30 crores after having talks with the employees and give them another opportunity to run it. Thereafter, Government should take consensus and constitute a Managing Committee. Soon after giving this amount of Rs. 30 crores, you will understand whether the company shows profit or not. You should not go in for any anti-people policy which may harm anyone. You cannot take any arbitrary decision. This is not something to be mortgaged. You should do whatever is reasonable. You should follow only the national policy which has been formed in this connection. We should not go against it. The step that you are taking by selling 'Scooters India' to some other is entirely wrong. I also understand that you are selling it free of cost. I want to know its reason from the hon. Minister. You are doing this only to make someone a millionaire and multimillionaire. If you are capable and want to perform your duties honestly, then you should save the thousands of people who may suffer as a result of this action. You should consider all these things calmly and should not give it to Bajaj. You should not earn bad name by resorting to such a step. If you strengthen the public sector, the nation will surely be benefited. You are not at all following the path of socialism.

[English]

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, at the outset I am dead opposed to the decision of the Government to hand over Scooters India Limited to M/s. Bajaj Auto Limited. We find the Government is acting unilaterally. They have not brought this matter before the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Industries. They have not discussed this matter with the workers. They have not brought the matter before the public for their opinion. But, unilaterally they

have done this. This is not the only one case. We find that in the name of socialism, the Government is going to denotify one industry after another. For example, in our Bengal, you will find that there are many industries which have been denotified. I would like to cite a few of such units for your information. They are : (i) Containers & Closures Ltd. (ii) Indian Rubber Manufacturing Company (iii) Catter Pillers & Co. (iv) Motor Machines Manufacturing Company and (v) Sri Durga Cotton and Spinning Company. In this way, they are denotifying one industry after another. Besides this, there are many units which have been closed down. Regarding such units, the Government has not got any policy and is not doing anything. I cite a few units which have been closed down. They are : (i) Titagarh Paper Mills (ii) Bengal Paper Mills (iii) Hindustan Pilkingtons (iv) Bengal Immunity and like that there are so many units. What I would like to point out is that if any unit is to be made viable or profitable, it is the duty of the Government to discuss this matter with the workers ; to sit along with the workers and find out the ways and means. But, instead of doing that, they are going the other way round. My apprehension is this. They have some understanding with IMF. The IMF wanted not to nationalise any industry and advocated about privatisation. Now they are following the same policy. That is why this disaster has come to us now. Therefore, I want to know from the Government whether the Government will review the position and change its drastic policy or not. If an industry is not viable or profitable the Government has to think as to how that could be made viable or profitable and Government should think over that such sick industries should be nationalised in the interest of public and the public exchequer. Already, 1,45,000 industries have been closed down in our country. Thousands and thousands of workers have been thrown out of employment. In such a situation, now we are finding another example that Scooters India Limited is going to M/s Bajaj. Hundreds and thousands of workers will be thrown out of employment. Therefore I want to know categorically as to what the Government is going to do about this. I

[Shri Ananda Pathak]

would like to know whether the Government will reconsider the matter before handing over it to the Bajaj company and retain it, revive it and make it profitable and viable in consultation with the workers concerned and trade union concerned. That is my point.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the seriousness of the problem has already been mentioned by my colleagues here. The cavalier manner in which the Government approaches the whole problem is evident from the reply itself in which vital facts are cleverly covered up.

Sir, this is the first time in India that a public sector concern is going to be handed over to a private sector giant and the Minister's statement about losses are correct. But as I mentioned earlier, he has deliberately avoided mentioning certain vital facts about this unit. The API and Innocenti who were running this unit earlier very cleverly and cunningly put the unit under the responsibility of the Government of India, and they withdrew from the whole scene. After the Government of India took it over, all the machines were renewed and plants were modernised through the years. But even then not even a single year, the company made any profit. So the Government appointed different committees, mentioned by other Members. At least four committees have gone into the functioning of this unit including the committee on Public Undertakings. And none of the recommendations of these committees have been implemented. Not even a single recommendation of the Committee on Public Undertakings was implemented and the Committee has actually questioned the decision to purchase its old plant and it has at least given 21 recommendations to revamp the plant. I would like to know from the Minister why have they rejected the whole thing and why was none of the recommendations of this Committee implemented?

Sir, it is painful to know that such an

important unit is not having a full-time Chairman, a full-time Managing-Director and no functional Director for the last five years. And the person who is deputed from the Indian Railways is acting as the Executive Director and nobody is responsible and nobody is there to look after the unit and still the Government wants the unit to run in profit. And even in this state of confusion, this unit has successfully managed to produce a seven-seater which is known as 'Vikram' and which is quite commonly used in Uttar Pradesh. Other States have not allowed this scooter to enter into their States and it is only a matter of time. It has proved beyond doubt that this seven-seater has a market in this country and Government of India has given Rs. 05 lakhs to Honda and now they have developed a new design which is about to be marketed. At this stage, Government wants to hand it over to Bajaj. Sir, in 1976, the then Minister for Industries Shri T.A. Pai wanted to sell this unit. But at that time, nobody wanted it. Bajaj was not in the picture; no other private sector units came forward to take over it. Why, at this juncture, after 10-12 years, Bajaj wants to take over this unit? It is because they know that this 7 seater is a profitable thing and the new design can also be marketed well.

The workers have already submitted serious proposals to revamp the unit. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether they have considered it. They have already volunteered saying that they are capable of running this unit. They said 'it is our proposal, whether Government has considered all these things'.

Above all, what is the mechanism the Government has adopted to sell off this unit? Even if you have to sell off a thrashed property of the Government of India you have to advertise first. What is the modus-operandi of this? Have you advertised it?

Some other persons may be interested to buy this unit. Some other private sector units may be ready to buy this unit or some other public sector unit itself may be ready. If I understand right, HMT is ready to take over it.

Sir, everything connected with this deal is shady ; nothing overboard. Under-hand dealings are there. I would like to know what liability Government of India is raising out and how much liability Bajaj is taking out. The Minister is very much amused about all these things ; he is thinking what these fools are saying. Why is he so much amused about all these things ? He is presiding over the disintegration of the public sector units of this country. Workers are going to be retrenched.

I request the Minister to rethink about this even at this juncture, seriously consider the proposals put forward by the workers to revamp the whole unit and withdraw from the step taken by the Government to hand it over to Bajaj. He should also explain how much money Bajaj is going to pay over this unit.

[Translation]

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am a great admirer of Hon. Minister and I understand that people of Andhra Pradesh cannot forget what he had done for them as Chief Minister of that State. But I would like to quote the last portion of his today's statement which is as under :—

[English]

“The decision to transfer the assets and liabilities of the Scooters India Ltd. is on the basis of past performance of this individual unit and with a view to consolidating the capacities in this non-basic and non-strategic sector Government have not taken any policy decision to privatise public sector units.”

[Translation]

One can observe two things from his statement. One thing is that Government may be pressurised to hand over those public sector units in the non-strategic sector which are running at loss to the private parties which are doing good work in their field, though it might be due to

the Government's policies. So they also can pressurise the Government in future to sell such units to the private parties.

The other thing is that by stating in the last portion of your statement that this is not a policy decision, you have expressed the same apprehension which we have in our minds that what is the guarantee that whatever is being done with S.I.L. will not be repeated with other public sector unit. The question is not that of handing over a unit to Bajaj or any other party but the question is of handing over of a public sector unit to the private hands, howsoever big industrialist he may be. Beginning of this practice would be detrimental to the interest of the country in future. It will create an atmosphere which will be harmful to the nation. Therefore, I request you to consider this matter de-novo. Hindustan Paper Corporation, N.T.C. Kolar Gold Mines and besides these undertakings there are several other units which are running at a loss. Today, some newspapers and people are trying to create an atmosphere in favour of Bajaj, then what is the guarantee that in future others will not try to create such atmosphere to give other public sector units, public sector undertakings, on lease to the private people. Who is responsible for the loss of Rs. 105 crores or more in Scooters India Ltd. ? If we examine this matter, then I would like to know whether the people sitting in the Ministry of Industry are not responsible, who have been ignoring this loss for years and did not take remedial steps in this respect. They did not implement the recommendations made by the Parliamentary Committee, Committee on public undertaking. Against whom Government is taking action for this ? There has been no Managing Director since 1984 and the work is being done by an Executive Director who has also been brought here on deputation and moreover, his deputation period is already over. Who is responsible for it and how will you justify that you could not appoint a Managing Director since 1984. How shall we be able to satisfy the general public with this argument that we are not responsible for this loss. Is it not a fact that according to the advice of the Committee on Public Undertakings, the Scooters India Ltd.

[Shri Harish Rawat]

had sought the approval of the Ministry of Industry for mass production of 60 thousand scooters which were described as break-even point. But the people in the Ministry of Industry dumped the file and they did not give permission to S.I.L. management to reach that point. Is it not a fact that S.I.L. management applied several times for technical collaboration which was allowed in so many cases and also to Bajaj but the same was turned down every time by the Government. Some technical collaboration was allowed to Bajaj and others. To enhance their capacity, S.I.L. management submitted their proposal to get help from financial institution but Government turned it down also. They applied for all India permit for the production of Vikram and Mini models which are very popular in India and particularly in U.P. But people in the Ministry dumped that file also. Whose responsibility is this? I would like the hon. Minister to clarify these points and tell the people of India actual position through this Parliament.

I would also like to say that a most fuel efficient 100 c.c. Semi-Model, whose fuel consumption is about 60 k.m. per litre, has been manufactured & is ready for sale. But the present Management and the officials sitting in the Ministry of Industry are not giving permission to sell it because Bajaj is going to take it over and they do not want to give credit to the employees of S.I.L. for this model. The hon. Minister will have to reply to all these points.

I would like to urge to the hon. Minister that apart from looking into these points, he may also please find out the number of officers who are dealing with two-seater scooters in Department of Industries and getting ready to leave the Department and join the Bajaj group. According to my information, all these things happened during the tenure of an officer who left the Department and joined the Maruti Udyog Ltd. He is now trying to go from Maruti to Bajaj group. This bungling has been done during his tenure.

You will be surprised to know that

the total property of Scooter India Ltd. has been evaluated at Rs. 18 crores and it is being sold to Bajaj for Rs. 20 crore. Apart from this, Rs. 25 will be given to Bajaj by financial institutions. The Bajaj group will invest only Rs. 5 crore by taking from here and there. It includes 150 acres of land which is near Lucknow. If that land is auctioned to anyone, it will fetch Rs. 30-35 crores. At present the entire property of S.I.L. would be worth more than rupees two hundred crores. If the Bajaj group gets this property in just rupees 20 crore, then I understand that Bajaj is the most lucky one in the world and we are the biggest donor in the world.

Therefore, I would like to request you to look into this matter thoroughly. The case about the sickness of S.I.L. has been made out deliberately. Let a Parliamentary Committee investigate this case thoroughly. If it is proved that workers are at fault and because of trade union activities S.I.L. has become sick, then the workers should be dismissed and they must be shunted out. If some other persons in the Management are at fault or the officials sitting in the Department of Industries are found guilty, then the action should be taken against them.

I also want to draw your kind attention towards a humanitarian aspect, Uttar Pradesh is the most backward and poor State. It has the largest number of unemployed persons. The S.I.L. has provided employment to 3200 persons. The Bajaj group has already put the condition that if this property, which has a huge public investment, is given to them, then the Government of India would itself have to write to these employees that their services are no more required. They will be given the pay of one or two months in accordance with the rules and they will go to their homes. Those who have worked there for fifteen years, will be shunted out. Then Bajaj will be asked to take over this property. Bajaj has told with great magnanimity that they will keep only fifteen hundred employees in the job who will be found capable according to them. If they are found incapable, then they will not be given job. In this manner

seventeen hundred people will become unemployed. There will be element of uncertainty in so far as their jobs are concerned. The hon. Minister should also let us know as to who will be responsible for these persons who will be thrown out of employment.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Before the Minister replies, he should begin by telling us whether they will reconsider the whole thing and then tell us the facts. Have some respect for parliament and then for the Committee of Parliament.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The Members, who moved this calling attention motion, have already participated in the discussion on my Statement. The fact is that the Government is not against the public sector.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Then why are you handing over this unit ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Kindly listen.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Kindness only to Bajaj.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : No, no, Mr. Somnath Chatterjee, kindly have some patience. I am not a young boy. You cannot provoke me. I know you said that we are clerks in this Government. I enjoyed. I had my innings in politics. Don't underestimate...

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : No, no. You are part of this Government.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Yes, Sir a part of this Government as Cabinet Minister. It is a collective responsibility. I must perform.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Although against your wishes.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He has already admitted.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : No, no.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Don't disturb him.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : No, I told him about the responsibility of the Cabinet. It is a joint responsibility. (Interruptions)... We considered all the aspects. We considered all the recommendations of the Committee. We offered the workers to manage this unit. (Interruptions)

13.00 hrs.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Did You discuss it with the representative of the workers ?

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have listened one part. Let him say the other part also.

(Interruptions)

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : I heard you patiently. Why don't you listen to me patiently ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Our Statements are correct but yours is far from true.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can move the Privilege Motion.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : We are incurring a loss of Rs. 2 crores every month.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Have you gone into this ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : This unit is outdated unit. They are not in a position to compete with the modern vehicles in the market. Nearly, the licence capacity of the modern vehicles is 60,000.

[Shri J. Vengal Rao]

They are producing 16,000 two-wheelers in the country with the collaboration of Japan and other countries. Not only this, when I was the Chief Minister, with this collaboration of the Scooters India, we sorted IFS scooters also. The position of Avanti scooters also is the same. It is also closed. I know very well about it. Our friends do not know about all these things and they said about Vikrant or something. About Vikrant only UP Government gave the roadworthy certificate. The other States did not give the certificate. They are not willing to purchase that vehicle and allow them in the States. There are so many others. So many people came and Escort people also came. Bajaj Tempo people also came. They came and pressed. They visited the plant and negotiated. They said that they withdraw the offer. There is no other alternative for the Government.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : Have you advertised ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The first option is closure and the second option is to give to somebody. There are 3330 workers there. They will lose their jobs. There is no other alternative to save the workers, except that Bajaj came forward to manage this unit. That is why there is no other ultra-motive.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Bajaj will retrench 2000 workers.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : Negotiations have not yet been finalised. They are going on. I will certainly take care of all these things before the final negotiations. There is no other alternative.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : This is no reply at all.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOWBEY : ...whether it is a fact or not that Bajaj was allowed to hold the licence. Why do you allow Bajaj to.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No interruptions please.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : This is no reply. In protest I walk out.

[Shri Basudeb Acharia and some other hon. Members then left the House]

13.04 hrs.

[English]

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE Forty-Ninth Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY
AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIK-
SHIT) : I beg to move :

“That this House do agree with the Forty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 29th February, 1988”

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

“That this House do agree with the forty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 29th February 1988.”

The motion is adopted

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House is adjourned to re-assemble at 2.05 PM.

13.05 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at nine minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the
Chair

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377*[Translation]*

- (i) Demand for setting up a Propellant Factory by Department of Defence Production and an Engine Factory by Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. in Sagar area of Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY (Sagar) : From the industrial point of view Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh State is a very backward area. This area is the heart of India and is situated in the middle. It is necessary to take quick decisions on the proposals, which are under consideration for setting up a Propellant Factory by Department of Defence Production and an Engine Factory by Bharat Earth Movers Ltd. in Sagar district. Please set up these factories in Sagar district. Sagar district is the right choice from the security point of view also where setting up of such a factory will be convenient and will be in the national interest.

- (ii) Demand for direction to U.P. Government to have areas in and around Agra surveyed for tackling likely water scarcity there in the coming summer.

SHRI GANGA RAM (Firozabad) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to draw the attention of the Government to the following subject under rule 377.

Recently, like other parts of the country, Agra district has also suffered the stroke of awful drought. Kheragarh, Bah, Fatehabad, Fatehpur Sikri and Shikohabad Tehsil of district Malnपुरi have faced unprecedented drought. There was no rain during the Kharif crops but during winter season also the rain has been negligible. So the water-level of hand-pumps and wells of drinking water has gone down. Thus, there is every possibility of a famine of drinking and irrigation water during ensuing summer season which will pose a terrible problem for the people and the administration and there will be around chaos. So, the Government of India should give instructions to the State Government for doing an intensive

survey from the village level to the district level and to prepare a systematic strategy to combat the situation and implement the same on war-footing. If this is delayed, its results will be terrible.

- iii) Demand for filling vacancies of judges in the Allahabad High Court.

[English]

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : Keeping in view that litigants' interest is supreme. Government have taken various steps from time to time to provide facilities to the millions of litigants in the country. In spite of making all possible efforts, still lakhs of cases are pending with various High Courts. In U.P. alone, several lakhs of cases are pending for so many years because of inadequacy of judges and existing vacancies have not been filled. This has put litigants to lot of inconveniences and irreparable loss creating cloud of suspense in their mind that their interests are not getting serious thought by the Government.

I therefore, request Hon. Law Minister, Govt. of India to fill the vacancies of judges in the High Court of Allahabad and increase the existing number of judges to provide speedy justice.

- (iv) Demand for rehabilitation of people to be evicted owing to construction of Indo-Bangladesh border road.

SHRI SUDARSAN DAS (Karimganj) : The Indo-Bangladesh Border Road, following the Assam Accord, shall pass through the thickly populated areas inhabited by poor people who are either Scheduled Caste or belong to minority communities residing on the banks of rivers and border areas, particularly in the Cachar and Karimganj districts. Construction of the border road shall necessitate eviction of the inhabitants of the area from their home and they may have to go far away from their cultivable land. So, the Govt. should make adequate alternative provision for rehabilitation of the people to be evicted, failing which they will be put to limitless misery and could cause law and order problem.

[Shri Sudarsan Das]

So, I request the Govt. of India to make proir alternative provisions for rehabilitation of the people to be evicted, before construction of the Border Road.

(v) Demand for a coal-based thermal power plant in Ib Valley.

DR. KRUPASINDHUBHOI (Sambalpur) : Orissa State Electricity Board estimates shortfall in annual energy need for the state at 331 to 790 MW during the period from 1984-85 to 1989-90. A thermal station of 840 MW installed capacity would meet an annual energy requirement of about 4300 G.W.H. A Thermal Station would take about 5 to 6 year for completion while a hydroelectric power station will take about 10 years. Moreover, a thermal station would provide some alternative against possible failure of hydro-electric power generation owing to failure of monsoon. For an 840 MW thermal station, annual requirement of coal is about three million tonnes. According to G.S.I. investigations coal deposits in Ib valley are estimated at around 2588 million tonnes. According to Regional Director, C.M.P. D.I., Ranchi, sufficient coal is available in Ib valley for setting up a large thermal power station. There is no dearth of water, power and land etc.

Considering the ever growing need of power and in view of the state's industrial policy the project report of Ib thermal power station has been prepared and sent to Central Electricity Authority long ago. But it is unfortunate that the setting up of a thermal power plant has delayed on the plea of constraint of resources or for some reason or the other. Any further delay in setting up of the plant will not only aggravate the power situation but also deprive the State in further industrial growth. Therefore, I demand that immediate steps be taken to set up a coal-based thermal power plant in Ib valey during 1988-89.

(vi) Demand for sanction of City Compensatory Allowance to employees of Wagon Repair Workshop at Guntupalli in Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Hundreds of employees who are working in the wagon repair

workshop at Guntupalli are suffering very much in the absence of sanction of City Compensatory Allowance. They have requested the Railway Administration for sanction of C.C.A. to the employees who are working in this workshop which is situated within eight kms. range from the periphery of Vijayawada. It may be noted that C.C.A. is sanctioned to the employees who are working in Vijayawada Thermal Power Station, at Ibrahimpatnam; A.P. Heavy Machinery Engineering Ltd. at Kanodapalli and Central Warehousing Corporation Godowns Complex located at Rayanapadu which is just by the side of Wagon Repair workshop. So I request the Minister of Railways to order sanction of C.C.A. to the employees who are working in Wagon Repair Workshop at Guntupalli.

✓ (vii) Demand for inclusion of Nepali and other languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.

SHRI ANANDA PATHAK (Darjeeling) : Sir, the Government have promised more than once that they would render all assistance to the development of all the Indian languages including Nepali language irrespective of their being included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution or not. But in practice language other than those included in the Eighth Schedule are suffering from various maladies for want of sufficient help and assistance from the Government. No financial aids are made available for the development, research and enrichment of the languages. In competitive examinations conducted by Union Public Service Commission, the intending candidates having their mother tongue other than those included in the Eighth Schedule of the Constitution do not get opportunity to answer question papers in their mother tongue. Glaring examples of such discrimination have been cited in the case of Nepali, Manipuri, Bhojpuri, Konkoni, Dogri and other Indian languages although they have their written languages and rich vocabulary.

In view of these anomalies, I urge upon the Government to include these languages including Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution and render the necessary help to enrich and develop these languages.

(viii) Demand for construction of Fishing Harbours at Gopalpur, Kasafal and Astarang in Orissa during the Seventh Five Year Plan :

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : The State of Orissa had requested the Union Government for construction of three small Fishing Harbours at Gopalpur, Kasafal and Astarang for execution in the 7th Plan period. The cost of construction of the Fishing Harbour, at Kasafal is estimated at Rs. 1.17 crores. On receipt of the proposal an Expert Committee of the Union Government had visited Gopalpur and submitted their technical report to the Government.

After construction of these fishing harbours, the socio-economic condition of many thousands of poor fishermen community residing nearby, will improve very significantly. Besides, the country will earn a considerable foreign exchange by exporting processed fish and other marine products. I would, therefore, request the Union Government to include all these three project in the 7th Plan period for their early execution.

14.15 hrs

MOTION OF THANKS ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri B. R. Bhagat and seconded by Shri Naresh Chandra Chaturvedi on the 24th February, 1988 :—

“That an Address be presented to the President in the following terms —

“That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this Session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both House of Parliament Assembled together on the 22nd February, 1988”.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on the Motion of Thanks on President's Address.

Sir, you must have observed that the President has indicated Government policies and programmes in brief in paragraph 61 of his Address, but I want to quote para 3. It is the most important paragraph. It contains our feelings :—

- where the ideals of democracy, secularism and socialism enshrined in our Constitution, are fully realised;
- where social justice prevails, with equality of opportunity for every human being;
- where science and technology have helped to wipe out poverty and disease;
- where economic development does not exhaust the bounties of nature, but creates wealth in harmony with it;
- where industrialisation and modernization are fused with moral and spiritual values;
- where all religions and cultures flourish in an atmosphere of mutual respect and cooperation.

We want an India whose interaction with the nations of the world is dedicated to peace and international cooperation, and a new world order based on equality, freedom and justice.

The hon. President has enumerated in a single paragraph all those principles, ideals and aims with which the Government of India wants to progress. You can see that how the Government of India under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi is trying to implement all the decision we have taken with complete confidence. It may be the question of fighting Punjab's terrorism or

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endeavour to bring peace in the disturbed areas of Tripura, in all the cases we are marching forward with full confidence. So far as question of economy is concerned, in 1980, when we took over, after Janta regime, it was a completely shattered economy. After the drought of 1979-80, during Janta regime, agricultural production has gone down by 17 per cent and G.N.P. was only 4.7 per cent and not only this, the industries had also shown downward trend. The results of our constant efforts made during these years can be seen I only want to talk about infrastructure. Power generation has increased by 10.2 per cent and coal production by 7.5 per cent. We are marching ahead in case of coal, electricity, iron and petroleum. The hon. Members will be surprised to know that we have produced 3 crore and 36 lakh ton cement and 82 lakh ton iron. We have made alroaad progress in a practically all the industries.

We have honesily taken steps, in accordance with the declared policy, to meet the situation created by the worst ever drought faced in the history of the country this year. The result has been that not a single person has died of starvation. In Bengal famine in 1940 nearly 40 lakh persons died of starvation. Today all of us must join to congratulate the Government of Rajiv Gandhi for tackling the situation effectively. This year at the time of drought we had 23 million tons of foodgrains in buffer stock. Railways have done a commendable job in transporting foodgrains to deficit areas and their earning has gone up by 7.4 per cent and it was increased by 4.4 per cent during the first 9 months of the current year. We are improving the pace of development in all areas and the result is before us.

I want to draw the attention of the hon. Members to the Janta regime when ques used to be formed for Kerosene, Petrol was not available and to the surprise of all of us trains which transport coal were cancelled because of non availability of coal and there was no coal in power houses for power generation. At the time of our coming to power in 1980 economy was in shambles. We have brought the

economy on rails from where it can improve further systematically. We have implemented all our schemes vigorously. We have done good work in all the fields. We have enacted progressive laws for the welfare of women. Only the Government of Rajiv Gandhi has taken steps in this direction. He wants the women of the country to move forward and avail equal opportunities. He knows that if the women are not emancipated then there may not be a balanced development. In addition to all this, mgny committees have been set up for their upliftment.

Similarly, in the Seventh Five Year Plan an outlay of Rs. 14,00 crore has been made by the Hon. Prime Minister for the upliftment of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. In addition to this he is raising the amount as and when necessary. In our plans we fixed a target of ulifting 33 percent people of Sheduled Castes above poverty line. But I can say with pride that we have exceeded the target and have uplifted 41 per cent above poverty line. This is great achievement of our Government.

The number of youths in the country has gone up. Many good steps have been taken by the Government for their welfare. Many youth Centres and Nehru Yuvak Kendras have been opened for them by the Government. A feeling of discipline has developed amorg them. We have achieved this as a result of our policies and programmes.

Yesterday, hon. Finances Minister mentioned several programmes for the welfare of workers in his Budget speech. These had also been discussed in detail in the Economic Survey as well. This subject has also been discussed in detail in the budget speech by the hon. Finance Minister, although Hon. President had also touched this point in his Address. We have raised the issue of labour participation in industrial field. That day is not far off when crores of Indian workers will actively take part in the development of the country with a feeling of self involvement. The credit for all this goes to our Hon. Prime Minister Rajivji. The opposition side has not at all made any contribution in this respect.

Today the opposition of the country has got only 2-3 points in their mind. They only build castles in the air. They talk a lot about corruption but do not cooperate with the Government in eradicating it. I would like to say that the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Haryana are the most corrupt Governments. In democratic set up, you will never find such corrupt Governments. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and Haryana are openly indulging in nepotism. Even the Court has passed strictures against the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh for indulging in corruption. Today, the opposition groups are not coming under one umbrella to serve the country but to grind their own axe. The people of India will never tolerate the parties and the State Governments which are corrupt and indulge in nepotism and other malpractices. They want to organise Bharat Bandh. They have no right to organise it. What is the issue? The steps, the Government of Rajiv Gandhi has taken are being praised by one and all. The Budget presented yesterday by the hon. Finance Minister touches all the aspects of the economy. He has paid attention to the problems faced by the youth, women, aged persons, workers, journalists etc. in order to help them. They may see our future programmes also. We have brought our economy on sound footing and we can say with pride that no other nation in the world has achieved this much success in solving the food problem. The rate of Inflation had increased to 21 to 22 per cent at the time of drought in Janata regime. The Hon. Prime Minister of the country had stated firmly with courage, that in spite of this unprecedented drought and floods he and the Government will not allow the rate of inflation to touch the double digit as a result of which despite difficulties the rate of inflation is only 9.8 per cent. Yesterday, the hon. Finance Minister presented the Budget with a view to check inflation, rise in prices and increase productivity and employment opportunities. The other nations of the world under the grip of inflation are quite astonished to see the way we have achieved success in curbing inflation.

They talk a lot about balance of payment position, but despite drought, the exports have risen by 24 to 25 percent and imports by less than 13 per cent as compared to the last year's figure just because of our practical Import-Export Policy. I want to tell the august House that our Export-Import Policy and economic policy have stood test of the time. All the nations of the world except Pakistan have appreciated our foreign policy and signing of Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement, which is the interest of Tamils in Sri Lanka as well as Tamils in Tamil Nadu and our country as a whole. We have improved relations with China, Afghanistan, Russia and other countries of South Asia. Our peace efforts have all along been appreciated. Our technological and economic relations are constantly improving and have cultural exchanges with Russia under the Cultural Agreement between the two nations. The relations between Russia and India have improved since the visit of the Hon. Prime Ministers of the two countries.

I want to say that the opposition talk of corruption. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones at others. Their own shortcomings are very well known. I want to say that the opposition parties of the country should think seriously about their own deeds. CPM has lost its reliability and public support in Bengal. They are trying to win the Panchayat elections through rigging on a large scale. We are not revealing this truth. Three of their own Ministers have given the statement that rigging and corrupt means have been employed on a large scale in Bengal. So today, I want to tell them that they will have to work in a democratic way if you want to strengthen democracy in the country. I want to tell that CPM is a leftist party. They held a big rally in Delhi but what happened in Tripura? They lost the ground. I demand on behalf of the Congress party that if they have guts, let them have elections in Andhra Pradesh or dissolve the Bengal Assembly and then see. They expect Rajivji to be bold and it is quite surprising to note that they try to make an alternative to Congress party. I want to say that Congress is a National Party and its policies are working not only for

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the last forty years but right from the freedom movement. We want the progress or our country by following those policies. I want to ask them that on what basis they demand the resignation of Rajiv Government and claim to make an alternative. If we do not think of making an alternative in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka or West Bengal... (*Interruptions*)... What can they do to make an alternative who belong to different groups... (*Interruptions*)... We do not know what has happened to the Jan-Morcha of Shri Vishwa Nath Pratap Singh... (*Interruptions*)... This is not due to the faulty policy or inability of Shri Rajiv Gandhi but because Shri Vishwanath Pratap Singh wants to take the country backward... (*Interruptions*)... They organised a movement in 1974 against Babu Bahl Patel which was accepted by Shrimati Indira Gandhi in view of Shri Morarji Desai. But when Shrimati Gandhi ousted him, Babu Bhai became super human. They made him the Chief Minister of Gujarat. Seventy-five crore population of India are familiar with the faces of opposition. Do not make castles in the air, realise the factual position if you want to save your existence... (*Interruptions*)... We would welcome the comments of the opposition on the Hon. Presidents Address. But they do not say anything in this regard All they have talked has nothing to do with the President's Address. While I have said everything to the point whether it is economic policy, social policy, foreign policy or basic principles. I have not gone beyond the scope of Motion of Thanks on Presidents's Address.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are thankful and feel proud for all the basic things the Hon. President has indicated in his Address, and moreover I appeal to the opposition members to have some introspection and not to indulge in accusing others on baseless charges. Only then democracy can be established in the country. One could observe, how helpless they felt and how they reacted after the presentation of the Budget. when they could not find anything to say they declared it as an election budget. I would say that Shri Rajiv Gandhi will continue to present the budget in accordance with

the aspirations of the people it does not matter, whether they call it an election budget or people's budget. We would continue to bring such budgets and engage ourselves to do the welfare of the poor.

In the end, I thank you and once again support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat): I regret that I am not in position to support this Motion of Thanks.

The President's Address for the contents of which I know that he is personally not responsible, is an essay in illusion. And the reason for that is it has glossed over many of the harsh realities of the situation and led also, therefore, to some contradictory formulations in this Address. For example, one contradiction, I must point out, is very glaring in paragraph 59 This Presidents's Address has taken approving notice of what is described a 'substantial progress in our bilateral relations with the United States of America'. Well, we are not against developing friendly relations with other countries. But the first sentence approves of progress in our relations—that means, friendly relations, I take it, not progress in hostile relations—with the USA, and the next sentence of the same paragraph says "we continue to impress upon the United States the seriousness of our concern about the supply of armaments to Pakistan notwithstanding that country's relentless pursuit of nuclear weapons".

So, we are developing our relations substantially with the country which we are at the same time, criticising politely for continuing to supply armaments to Pakistan, despite that country's relentless pursuit for nuclear weapons. What is this? He should explain to us what is meant by this because, for the first time since Independence... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN (Badagara): You are replying to whom? There is no Cabinet Minister here.

AN HON. MEMBER : Secretaries are there.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katwa) : Where is Mr Bindeshwari Dubey, the Law Minister?.. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : What is the point in discussing all these things ? Is this the way they are treating the House, Sir ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Two Ministers are here.

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Neither Prime Minister nor a single Cabinet Minister is here.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : It is that two State Ministers make one Cabinet Minister ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : They are busy with other more important jobs than to listen to our speeches...(*Interruptions*) I was saying that for the first time since Independence, India has entered into cooperation with the United States in the sector of defence—a thing which was never countenanced by Pandit Nehru or even by Mrs. Indira Gandhi. But only recently, after his last visit to the U.S., the Prime Minister has informed us that in some vital sectors of defence, where some high technology is required, particularly in the manufacture of our proposed new light combat aircraft and our main battle tank, we are having to go to the Americans and to the West German to incorporate their technology and their designs and their engines into these vital weapons that we propose to manufacture in our country. At the same time, we are saying that USA is the best friend that Pakistan has got, who is arming it and is allowing it to develop nuclear weaponry. So, Sir, if they are going to allow these powers to enter our defence structure, to enter our laboratories and our workshops and to see our whole defence arrangement coming from the inside, can we depend on them to stand by us if we happen to be involved in hostilities, if a crisis comes from Pakistan ? Are these people we are going to

depend on ? So, I would say that on these points, Mr. President's Address should have been more carefully drafted because it is absolutely self-contradictory.

Then, Sir, I am more concerned with some of the disturbing new trends which have emerged on the scene during the last one year. There is a passing reference in this Address, to the communal and divisive forces, and pledge is taken that we are going to combat them with determination and so on. But that is not the experience of the country that these forces are being combatted with determination and energy by this Government. There is not a single mention by the President in his review, of the ghastly communal riots which took place a few months ago. There is not a word of solace for the minorities who suffered in those riots—I am referring to Meerut particularly. The name of Meerut is not even mentioned. It is not deplored. Nothing is said about the cruelties that were perpetrated, not only by communal forces but by the armed police of that State, as everybody knows. I think it is better that Members on the other side, like Mr. Panika, do not accuse us of flirting with BJP. After all, no less a person than Balasaheb Deoras has paid so much tributes to the Congress and said that there is no other alternative and if necessary, we should cooperate with them.

(*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER : He is referring to Mr. Dange.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You are putting Mr. Dange and Mr. Desoras on the same footing. You are welcome to do it. Mr. Dange is not our leader. We have expelled him from our party. You can see it. If you like, you can keep Mr. Dange with you. We have no objection. But don't say this thing. We are determined to fight the forces of communalism. (*Interruptions*)

AN HON. MEMBER : In Kerala, they are aligning with BJP.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : They were joining with the Janata Party and BJP also. The country is well aware of this. Not that I alone know of this. The country know about it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : As regards, election which took place recently in Tripura State, the particular point I wish to refer to is because it has been blindly digested by everybody, although it is going to be henceforth the criterion that if any State is disturbed, if there are violent activities and terrorist activities are there, if some people are killed by terrorists, then there is no option to held elections except under the development of the army. That is the thesis which has now been sought to be introduced slowly. I remember that two years ago when elections were held in Punjab, was the situation regarding law and order better than it was in Tripura? We went to Punjab and we saw the Prime Minister addressing meetings from behind the bullet proof screen. Wherever he went, at every platform the bullet proof screen had to be erected. Is it not a fact the whole *maidan* of the meeting was full of security people? Ordinary people are afraid of going out of their houses after dark. It is still there in Punjab. I will come to that later. The killings had taken place on innocent people everyday. But nobody suggested at that time that the army must be deployed; otherwise elections cannot be held in Punjab. Yes, para-military forces were there. They were in Tripura also-BSF, CRP and all that. But the army was never deployed because there was no question of overthrowing of a leftist Government in Punjab. The electoral contest was with the Akali Party. The Congress Party already decided that it is better that the Akali Government should be formed and they should face the terrorists. But here is a different kettle of fish—in Tripura. Therefore, what will happen there? I am not talking of charges, counter-charges, rigging and counter-rigging and all that. I am talking about what has appeared new on the scene and that is, three days before the polling the whole State was declared to be the disturbed area and the army was deployed, not only in the border areas, bordering Bang'ladesh from where these terrorists have been coming and goings but even in the capital town of Agartala where no TNV terrorists did anything, but even there the army was deployed three days before, on the 2nd of February it is quite obvious not only that it is the new thing, unusual and abnormal thing which

has happened, not only that it gives an alibi that in future if there is, in the opinion of the Centre, any law and order problem in a State where elections are to be held, then the army can be deployed by declaring it to be a disturbed area. It has never happened before, never happened in any previous elections. But it was a motivated move in order to influence the voters quite obviously. Sir, it is a strange thing that after the polling is over, the election is over left-front Government has been defeated, the Congress has come to power in alliance with a regional group called T.U.J.s whose main political slogan has always been that all those people who have entered Tripura State after 1949 should be driven out. With Such a group, the Congress is going to run Government there. But after the polling is over, you don't hear any more about T.N.V. killings and T.N.V. violence. All disappeared after the polling. (*Interruptions*) Yes, like you have done in the Punjab, like your terrorists' killing in Punjab.

AN HON. MEMBER : That means it is good.

(*Interruptions*)

DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI (Khalilabad) : It is said that their life and property is secure. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Therefore, the terrorists have got demoralised and they retreated to Chittagong hill tracts!

Any way, Sir, this a very serious thing that has taken place and the Prime Minister should tell us whether this is a new thesis which is going to be propounded that Army must be deployed, otherwise election cannot be held in disturbed areas. That is the point. If the situation is so bad, election should not be held, it should be postponed or delayed or put off. If the situation is so bad that without the Army you cannot hold election, then kindly think about it when you propose to go in. The other thing I wish to speak about is Punjab. Here I do not know what to say about this paragraph which is written here about the Punjab. It is full of a lot of

bravado and a lot of demagoguery, and not a single word here in paragraph 7 to admit that the situation is going from bad to worse. The whole country knows it. Only in November or December for a short period the security forces for some particular reason were able to get a slightly upper hand and it seems that the terrorists were somewhat on the defensive. A considerable number of them were, I believe, apprehended or even killed. But since then, it seems they have regrouped, they have reorganised, they have got new recruits, they have made a new plan, and they have stepped up their rate of killings and they are killing more Sikhs than Hindus now. Every day whole families are being butchered. What is the Government thinking to do in this situation? Here it is said—I charge this Government with a total policy of inaction and drift in the matter of the Punjab. It is not a question of one State, what is going to happen in Punjab tomorrow is going to affect the entire country and so should be taken seriously. Neither we are going in for any mass campaigning which we have always advocated that there should be joint united mass campaigning among the people against the terrorists, against Khalistan by all the parties and forces which really believe in secularism and national unity. It was tried out for a short while when Mr. Barnala was Chief Minister. Then it has been dropped like a hot potato. The Congress Party is not willing to do any joint campaigning after that. Then, the security forces, their efficiency and their capacity to cope with these terrorists is certainly not going up. I do not want to say anything more about this, but nowadays what do we hear? Suggestions are being made that Mr. Riberio should be withdrawn from the Punjab and the Governor is no good and this and that. Maybe that is for you to decide. But certainly the efficacy of the security forces, of the police particularly, in the Punjab is not what it should be. And thirdly, there is no political initiative whatever from the Government. Longago it was told to this House that the cares of Jodhpur detainees are being reviewed and those who are found among them not connected with the terrorists will be released. That was months ago, I forget how many months ago, it was declared openly

in the Punjab in a public meeting by Mr. Narasimha Rao that within a few days releases will begin. And today that is the biggest ammunition or handle that is being given to the terrorists and the extremists in Punjab. Now, nothing is being done. Here in this paragraph it says: "The foremost task is to crush terrorism." Very good." How will you propose to crush terrorism? Easier said than done. "...and isolate the secessionists." How will you isolate the secessionists, unless you fight them on politically? Unless you fight them politically among the people of the Punjab, how do you propose to isolate them? "...the Government stands ready for a dialogue with all those who eschew violence." Who are they? Is it enough to eschew violence? Even if you don't stand for the unity of the country and for the Constitution, will it do just to eschew violence? Your previous formula used to be for those who eschew violence and those who firmly stand for the unity of the country against secessionists. That has been given up now. Now, it is limited to eschewing violence. Whom have you got in mind, I would like to know. This deadlock is continuing making things worse every day. Now, you have come to a stage where the Prime Minister does not even bother to consult other Parties who are represented in this House. Is it a party question or is it a national question? There used to be a time, not long ago, when on occasions, consultations used to be held with all the Parties and some suggestions used to emanate from those meetings which might be considered useful. But this practice has been given up. Our Party has been demanding that the Prime Minister should call an all-Party meeting and have a thoroughgoing consultation. May be nothing will come out of it, maybe something will come out of it also. If you put many heads together, some useful suggestions can be found. But the practice has been given up; not necessarily, whatever a particular person considers to be right, that is the only thing which must be done. If the Punjab situation deteriorates and it is deteriorating with alarming implications for the rest of the country—I need not spell those out, you can think of them—it is this Government which is responsible. So, in the interest of the country, I suggest that they should

[Shri Inderjit Gupta]

pull up their socks and think of some new initiatives and take the trouble of consulting other parties to see whether some consensus can emerge as to the line of action that should be taken.

About Sri Lanka, well it is a delicate situation now and I do not want to speak much on it. We have always supported the Accord. The whole trouble has been its implementation as we know. I do not think, there is anything wrong in saying it. When our IPKF went there first, they did not have adequate knowledge as to what they were up against.

~ 14.57 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the Chair*]

I find, the commander of the IPKF who is now about to be withdrawn from there and replaced by some other officer, Lt. General Depinder Singh has said publicly that the Intelligence information that our troops were provided with was not adequate ; it should have been better. That is a restrained way of saying. But it is quite obvious that they did not know what they were up against. It is not only the question of the efficiency of the LTTE guerrillas in carrying out this kind of operation—they seem to be masters, for example, in the technique of mining, laying mines. Every day, we have to read out about casualties caused to our troops by the explosion of land mines and road mines. Any way, on the question of local population, the Tamil population in the North, in Jaffna particularly, it seems to me that if that entire population was really hostile to the LTTE, then our IPKF would have an easier time to go ahead. But obviously that is not so for reasons which should be gone into. But all I would say just now is, the country is very much disturbed, no doubt. We have had to step up our deployment of troops. There are supposed to be as many as 15 brigades now in Sri Lanka. I do not think in any previous military operations ever our country had to send 15 brigades out to another country. Anyway, because it was considered necessary, it has been done

so. President Jeyawardene is not keeping to his part of the bargain. It is the duty of our Government to see this, since our troops have gone there at his request. According to the Accord, they have gone there for a limited purpose. They have not gone there for an unlimited length of time. They cannot also be withdrawn tomorrow, even the Tamils do not want that, for obvious reasons. But President Jeyawardene must keep his part of the bargain. He is not doing so, neither in respect of sending new settlers to colonise the Eastern province, nor regarding the devolution of powers to the provincial councils, nor regarding the holding of elections.

15.00 hrs.

So, I would only submit that our Government must make all possible efforts to see that President Jayewardene sticks to his part of the commitment under the accord and that the elections are held as soon as possible and, after the elections are over, it will be time for the IPKF to come back, to withdraw. If it is not possible to withdraw, even then, you have to consider possibilities of initiating a move to replace the IPKF by a multi-national force. It should not and need not include super-powers contingents. There are other countries, after all, friendly countries non-aligned countries, third world countries and so on. But IPKF is not to remain there for all time to come. It will be something which will be counter-productive in the long run.

Then, there was another election recently to which I have to make a reference that is, in Meghalaya. What is the Congress Party doing in Meghalaya, may I know? They could not get a majority on their own. Now 5 Members of the Hill Peoples Union have violated the mandate given to them by their own party and defected. That means they have voted against their own party's mandate in the election of the Speaker and yesterday or day before yesterday, in the no confidence motion, they have voted against their own party's mandate and supported Mr. Sangma's Ministry. Now, there are altogether 19 Members elected from the Hill

Peoples Union. According to the legislation which we have passed sitting in this House, at least one third of 19 which means 7, must leave their parent party if they want to form a separate party. Here only 5 Members have violated mandate and they have joined with the other side. We need not go into what inducements and all that were offered to them. But I want to know in this House, I am one of the Members of this House who is responsible for the Anti-defection Act having been passed here, it lays down clearly that if even less than one third of people go out, then they are guilty of defection and under the provisions of that law, they have to be disqualified. I want to know what the Government of India proposes to do about this Meghalaya affair. Is it to be allowed? Is it to be tolerated? (*Interruptions*) The Act is passed here, not in Meghalaya. I am raising this question because tomorrow same thing will happen elsewhere also. It is a very important question. It shows that the Congress party, in order to somehow bring about a kind of an artificial majority by which it can maintain its rule in Meghalaya, is prepared, knowing full well that these people are doing something which is violation of the anti-defection law, is willing to wink at that also and to embrace such people. The Government must deeply go into this question and decide what they propose to do. Otherwise, you can repeal the Act. Why not repeal the Act? If you find it cannot work, then repeal the anti-defection Act. You have got a big majority here. You can repeal it. But then it has its own dangers and consequences. You know that. What to do? Either you keep the Act and please implement it. Or you repeal the Act and face the consequences in the country.

None of these problems and none of these issues which are agitating the minds of the people is dealt with in the President's address. Therefore, I say it is an essay in illusion.

I do not want to say much about the economic situation because we will have plenty of time to debate when the Budget is taken up. It is a strange thing that President's Address does not make even

a cursory mention of the fact that when Mr. Rajiv Gandhi came to power, the number of closed industrial units in this country was 93,000 and today, after about three years, it has gone up to 1,47,000. It is your figure, not mine. 1,47,000 Industrial units—large, medium and small—are lying closed in the country. They are not closed by the workers but closed by the employers, the owners. And something like over Rs. 4700 crores of bank credit is tied up with these closed units. There is some talk here about creating new avenues of employment and all that, as usual. But how many people have lost their jobs as a result of these closed units? The Government, I regret to say, does not maintain any record of that nor have they got any policy of finding out how many of these units can be restored, reopened and made functional. All that they have done is to set up a Board, of Industrial Reconstruction or something which has been functioning for about a year and I know that it has done precious little upto now. It will not be able to do anything. This is the phenomenon, big mass phenomenon in our country now. I do not know in how many other countries they keep lakhs of industrial units being closed down like this and the people who are responsible for this being allowed to go scotfree. If the workers go on strike—rightly or wrongly—no occasion is missed for attacking them and accusing them of being anti-national and doing something which is ruining the productive assets of this country and so on. All right, you are welcome to your views. But not a single word has been ever uttered against these fellows who have just eaten up the money, most of it taken from the nationalised banks and the financial institutions, swallowed the money, closed the units, rendered the workers unemployed and they themselves run away. It does not seem to arouse any anger or indignation in the ruling party at all. There is not a word about it. I am just pointing that out. Also, take the textile policy. 133 textile units are lying closed. More than that, I would say, the handloom weavers, lakhs and lakhs of handloom weavers—I am sure you are aware of it in your State—are today rendered unemployed. Their handlooms are idle because no yarn is available. The Finance Minister said some-

[Shri Inderjit Gupta]

thing in his speech yesterday about the plight of handloom weavers and how they are going to be supplied with artificial fibres—the polyester and rayon and something-else. But what is needed is cotton yarn with which they work. The cotton yarn is being exported from our country, lakhs of our handloom workers are starving. What is to be done? In every State, like U.P., Tamil Nadu, Bihar or Madhya Pradesh, wherever you go, lakhs of handloom weavers are beginning to give up all hope of being looked at by the Government so that they may be able to survive. What kind of a textile policy is this? 133 textile mills are lying closed. A big business house of our country, the Birlas, perhaps the biggest has not closed down but locked out, in one case for one year. Just on 15th Feb. it celebrated one year of lock-out. The Keshoram Cotton Mills employ 10000 workers. 99 per cent of them, incidentally, do not come from Bengal but they are people from Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. They are getting a living there. They are working there. That factory is locked out for more than one year now. Another Birla mill, the Gwalior Rayons Mill in Kerala situated in *Mavoor* is now closed down for two years, 19 workers have committed suicide in the course of that lock out. I am not surprised to know that such big capitalist houses do this kind of thing. My point is: what is the Government's attitude? What has the Government proposed to do? Has the Government any intention or capacity to influence or pressurise all such businessmen not to keep their productive units closed in this way when you are talking about shortages and talking about unemployment? Nothing is mentioned. Nothing is done. A lot has been said here about education, about the New Education Policy. I want to point out here that your economic survey says that the number of illiterates in the country has now risen to 400 million. Out of the 700 or 750 million people, 400 million people or more than 400 million are illiterates even now after 40 years of independence. They do not know how to read and write, they do not know how to sign their names. They are, of course, victims of the media propaganda because

even if you are illiterate, you can sit in front of television set or listen to the radio. It becomes very convenient to influence illiterate poor people who cannot read books, who cannot read newspaper or judge for themselves. It is better to keep them illiterate this way and influence them and pressurise them by official propaganda through the visual, the electronic media. Presently, in our country, 40 years after Independence, 400 million people are still illiterate. That is, for all of us I say, a matter of shame. It is a blot on our country. Instead of going in for very high fangled, high-tech methods of education by computers and so on and so forth, let us pay a little more attention to what is happening down below at the grass-root level. Otherwise, this rise in illiteracy would not have been like this. That is necessary. So many primary schools are there in the country in remote parts of the rural areas where there are no teachers. I have been to many tribal areas in Singbhum in Bihar. In those tribal areas, schools are there, building is there, but there is no teacher. There is no teacher, there is no equipment, blackboard. Nothing. Students are roaming about. So, it is no use creating illusions. We are not living in a high-tech country. We are not citizens of USA or West Germany or England or Japan. We are citizens of a country called India. We are Indians. This country has a specific characteristics and features of its own. Whatever we do in the way of modernisation or anything new, you want to bring technology, but it must be something which is appropriate for the conditions of our country. Something which is appropriate for USA may not be appropriate here. There must be a selective approach. It should not cater only to small sections of society the elitist section. It must be something which will really help uplift the masses. I am afraid that is not the perspective and outlook with which the Government is working. Therefore, this is a short-sighted policy which is expected to bring quick short-term results, but it will not.

Therefore, since my time is up and so many more points I could have spoken on, but I hope, I have said enough because on political issues as well as economic issues, I find this President's Address

thoroughly disappointing and illusionary and it seeks to only justify whatever the Government is doing. I do not blame Mr. Venkataraman for that. This is not prepared by him, we all know. But certainly, I thoroughly oppose the kind of demagogy which is being indulged in this document.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE (Bombay North Central) : Mr. Chairman, I rise to join my colleagues on this side in supporting the Motion of Thanks to the President for having delivered this Address to the joint session of both the Houses. In a way, the Address has become now a stale matter because after the Address, we have come to know about the Railway budget as well as the Economic Survey and the performance of this Government and yesterday, we had also the Budget before this House. From one point of view, the Address which was presented to the House was general and in that several details have been further filled up by these documents in several fields. As far as last year was concerned, the performance of this Government, their achievements and their future plans have been further highlighted before this House. Every Government is tested by the way in which they deal with the challenges before this country. There were mainly, according to me, two-three challenges during the last year. It is not necessary to repeat submission regarding the first challenge about the wide-spread drought arising out of the natural calamity and the way in which this Government had dealt with that challenging situation.

We have come to know from all the documents which are before the House that 21 out of 35 rainfall sub-divisions received deficient rainfalls and there have been floods also in the north eastern region. The steps that have been taken by this Government are really commendable and from this point of view the mention in the Address and the further details which are provided to this House go to show that no other Government could have done better than what they have done in this field or even as good as what they have achieved as far as the relief to the drought affected and flood affected areas are concerned.

Generally speaking, the drought always transmits its effects to other fields of the Governments also. Accordingly, slowly the industrial performance was also affected. We did not reach the estimated progress but we have already achieved and showed a good performance by showing the increase of 10.2% in this respect.

There are several other matters regarding performance. But, as my earlier speakers have already dealt with them, I would not like to repeat them within the short time available to me. I would point out certain irritants and some of the failings to which our Government should immediately look to and pay their attention.

Firstly, as far as the industry is concerned, even though the performance is good and the achievement has been commendable, certain data were published in the Economic Times which are a little disturbing. They show the very disproportionate large contribution of this industrial growth by a few industrial groups only. It has been further stated that what emerges from the detailed production data is that only 28% of industry accounted for as much as 79% of the growth rate. The bulk of the industrial sector or as much as 60% of it either grew by less than 5% or suffered a rapid decline. Therefore, I would request the Government to look into this matter. I know that they are not complacent about the progress; but if there is imbalance in the growth of the industry and only a few industrial houses are growing and the rest of the industry are not making as much contribution as desired, then it will be a matter for concern.

Many speakers have also referred to the textile policy. The earlier speaker Hon. Shri Indrajit Gupta also referred to it. Everywhere in all the sectors which are affected by this textile policy, they are agitated over the present textile policy. Cotton growers are agitated, handloom industry is agitated, powerloom industry and also the cotton textile mills which are in the urban cities are also complaining that because of this policy more unemployment is perhaps being experienced.

[Shri Sharad Dighe]

It is pointed out that nearly 133 mills have been closed rendering at least 1,66,000 workers jobless. That is the main point of agitation as far as the workers are concerned from the point of view of unemployment. Next Monday, thousands of workers from Bombay are coming to Delhi to demonstrate about the unemployment problem and closure of sick mills in Bombay.

Shri Indrajit Gupta said something about the deployment of military in Tripura. I would not like to join issue with him. He had drawn a parallel between the Punjab elections and the Tripura elections. If we consider the matter carefully, the situation was not bad in Punjab after the death of Shri Longowal and when the elections were declared in Punjab. But in Tripura, the situation was very bad. TNV were butchering the people every day. It was necessary to take steps as far as the Central Government was concerned. Therefore, the Central Government cannot be blamed about the deployment of military at that time. In fact, everybody welcomed it at that time. It was only after the counting started in election that the questions arose whether the deployment of military at that particular stage was correct or not. Looking at it from the national point of view, I agree that, as far as possible, at the time of elections, military should not be deployed so that a feeling is not created among the citizens that there is no freedom for voting. The Disturbed Areas Act was amended only recently and not at the time when Punjab elections were to be held. It came into force recently. The powers under that Act enabled the Government to deploy military at that time. The powers under the Act were used only when the situation demanded.

Regarding Punjab problem, several suggestions are before the Government. It has been made clear in paragraph 7 :

‘ There can and will be no compromise over the nation’s integrity and unity.’

Then, it is also stated :

“In the search for a non-violent political solution of the problem within the framework of the Constitution, Constitution,...”

From that point of view, “the Government is ready for a dialogue with all those who eschew violence.” The words “all those who eschew violence” have to be read in the context or in the background of the earlier statement made in that paragraph. We cannot merely separate them from the sentence which hon. Member, Shri Indrajit Gupta, raised before this House.

Several hon. Members referred to the report of the Sarkaria Commission and the appointment of Governors thereafter. Of course, Sarkaria Commission’s report is a very valuable and good document. It contains detailed data about the various provisions of the Constitution. It also makes detailed recommendations considering almost all the points of criticism against the Constitution, especially from the point of view of Centre-State relation. That report is still to be discussed in this House. I hope it will be discussed in all the State Assemblies. Finally, a decision can be taken by the Centre. From that point of view, it is no use merely quoting that report from now on. We have still to consider it carefully. Of course, the report, coming from a great Judge, who has considered all the aspects, deserves great respect. Ultimately a decision has to be taken by the Government and only then we can come to particular conclusions. Some remarks were made about the electoral reforms. It is true that in the First President’s Speech, the reference of electoral reforms was made. Thereafter, two legislations were passed as far as the funding by the companies and then the anti-defection law. Thereafter, the process has stopped and there is no word about the electoral reforms. I would urge upon the Government to take steps so far as the electoral reforms are concerned because the matter is now becoming more and more urgent. Hence, we have to take steps as far as this is concerned. At least voting machine should be introduced as also the identity cards. These are some of the points which were already

accepted and there is no deference as far as the opposition parties are concerned in this respect. It is becoming more and more a controversial matter that unless the question of funding, etc. is decided the election is not going to be free as far as the money power is concerned. Recently, I read and most of us must have read the remarks made by the ex-President of India. He has said that about Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 crores were offered for that election. If for the election of President, really speaking, who do not go to the people which is practically indirect election without any posters, banners and meetings Rs. 30--Rs. 40 crores was offered, then we must learn something from it. If for the election of President so much money was expected to be spent, and a person is offered support by the opposition parties barring the communists, then it is a very serious matter as far as this country is concerned. This is a very urgent matter. This shows that money power and muscle power are playing a very great role and if that is allowed to continue, then there will be no free elections in this country. It will be difficult to maintain democracy as far as this country is concerned. Therefore, electoral reforms should be urgently taken into consideration, even though no mention has been made in the President's Speech. The promises made off and on made in this House that electoral reforms will be brought and the opposition parties and others will be consulted should be implemented immediately and care should be taken that steps are taken before we come to the next Presidential Address as far as this House is concerned. With these words, I support the Motion.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati) : Mr. Chairman Sir, I am sorry that I cannot agree with my friends of the Treasury Benches when they claim that the President's Address has been one which sets new trend in the political system of this country. Last year has been, in many ways, a year of depression for us whether in the political or social or economic field. There is hardly anything to cheer about it. My friend Mr. Panika commented upon the Opposition that the Opposition is doing dis-service to the country by raising the issue of corruption. I have

to point out that if you want to criticise somebody for raising the issue of corruption, I think you should criticise the Prime Minister of this country because in the last three Presidential Addresses, the Cabinet spoke through the President about the purity in public life and assured the House and this country that necessary legislations for electoral reforms would be brought. It is not only in 1985 when it was stated in the President's Address that the Government was going to bring in laws for electoral reforms. Word by word the same very sentence was repeated in 1986 as also in 1987. But nothing was done in 1986 or in 1987 and I find that this time there is no reference of electoral reform at all. Maybe that the hon. Prime Minister, who in his youthful exuberance was thinking of cleansing of public life is now reconciled to the idea that the politics of this country is such that you cannot govern this country if you talk of purity. And I will point out as to how the ruling party has deviated from it.

A reference has been made to Meghalaya. In this House with a lot of fanfare the anti-Defection Law was passed. Even when this Bill was passed, opinions were expressed that the Bill has been passed to prevent defection from the ruling party and not defections to the ruling party. And events have proved that this was the case. What has happened in Meghalaya? In Meghalaya, 19 members were elected from HPU. If the ruling party really thought in clear terms that defection from one party to another is against the fundamental principles of democracy, if they were of the view that this *ayaram gayaram* phenomenon pollute the political atmosphere, a clear mandate should have been given to the Chief Minister of Meghalaya not to include any member of any other political party, elected on another political symbol. But this was not the case. Even technically, out of 19 members if 7 members go away from a political party and create a split and then go in for merger, one can legally avoid the effect of defection but politically such acts cannot be justified. But in Meghalaya five Members H. P. M. joined the ruling party; they were offered Ministership. There have been cases where

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independents have been given chairmanship of Corporation and when declined to support the ruling party, that was taken away from them. It is not what I am saying. Every newspaper of this country and even those newspapers which are at least considered to be, if not biased, in favour of the ruling party and to have independent opinion are talking about the play of money in the Meghalaya politics today and the attempt to purchase members by the ruling party.

How can the Prime Minister bring purity in public life when he does not try to prevent this type of things even in his own party. I have nothing against the Chief Minister of Meghalaya who has been a good friend of mine. In fact, he was doing so well here and I wanted him to continue here rather than go to the murky politics of Meghalaya. But then, I am not at all interested whether Congress (I) is ruling Meghalaya or some other party, my whole concern is that the anti-defection law has become a mockery. I was not in this House, not having been elected at that time, when the anti-defection law was passed. Subsequently, on a number of occasions, I have pointed out that giving power to the Speaker to adjudicate the question of defection will frustrate this very objective of the Act or unfortunately in this country, the Speakers cannot sever their connections from the ruling party. We have not been able to build a convention like England where Speakers are not contested by the major opposition parties and even if there is a change in the Government, the Speaker continues without any hinderance. We have seen one kind of an example in Tamil Nadu where members have been disqualified. I can speculate what will happen in Meghalaya, but the fact that the money power has been given the prime place today in the political life of this country amply proves that the purity of public life concept has been given away by the ruling party. I can point out that if electoral reforms are not introduced, if some sort of cleansing of the political life is not done, the time will not be far away, when the political personalities will have no

place in the political system of this country. We have seen the emergence of kisan power; the person, Tikait, has been able to muster thousands of kisans. He was never a political person. I do not know him at all. But the fact is that today in this country people somehow have become totally sceptical of the political personalities because of aberration of our political life. I come from a State where even during 1977 elections, Congress could win 10 out of the 14 seats. I come from a State where the Congress could dominate power right from the independence till the last elections but the Congress was swept out of the power by the students who have taken from the university to the pedestal of the power, because people have lost confidence in the political personalities and in the political process because of aberration. Sir, here is a warning signal. Unless we try to cleanse the political life of the country, the entire system may at some point of time collapse. Therefore, even today, I will urge upon the Prime Minister and say that the electoral reform cannot be brought by the Opposition but Congress can afford to do it. Even if a Ministry is not formed in Meghalaya, I do not think that the power of Congress will diminish. Congress can take that political risk. I urge upon the Prime Minister that the assurance that he gave in his earlier part of the Prime Ministership and the exuberance that he showed, should not be diminished. Let us hope that some sense will dawn upon the ruling party.

So far as Tripura is concerned, I am not interested either in favour of the Congress or the CPI(M). I have got great differences but even then I cannot and will not support the proclamation of disturbed areas a few days before the elections. I have seen for myself how elections were held in Assam where more than 7000 people were killed for the name of democratic compulsions under virtual military rule. Once the power to induct army before an election is given to the Government, the Government is likely and bound to misuse it and the whole democratic process is going to be a farce. Mr. Deputy Chairmen, I remember that when the Garhwal bye-election was there the Election

Commission put a firm stand and said that the army and the para-military forces could not be allowed from outside to go to Garhwal during the election. The Garhwal election had to be postponed. I would like to know why in this case the consent and concurrence of the Election Commissioner was not taken before the proclamation of disturbed area. I believe that what happened in Tripura should be a lesson and this House should firmly tell the Government that during elections the disturbed areas will not be declared and even if situation so demands such declaration will be made only with the concurrence of the Election Commission.

My friend referred about the Sarkaria Commission. The Report of the Sarkaria Commission is there. The recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission may be accepted by the Government or they may be rejected. Government has the power to accept it or reject it. But the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission should get respect from the Government. But on the very first day the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations were given a totally partial projection by the media. The AIR and the T.V. focussed that the Sarkaria Commission has recommended for a strong Centre. I would like to know who has asked for a weak Centre. When we ask for a strong State that does not mean that we want a weak Centre and we are of the view that strong Centre and strong State must go together. A weak Centre and strong State will destroy the democratic foundation of the Country. Similarly, a strong State and weak Centre cannot bring healthy political life in this country. There are very many recommendations which ought to have been projected but which were not projected. One of the recommendations was that in the States ruled by the Opposition parties a politician from the ruling party should not be sent as Governor. After consideration Government can ignore these recommendations. But the fact that even before the recommendation was considered, a Member from the ruling party was sent to the State ruled by the Opposition parties shows that the Government has rejected the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations even before consideration and that is the funda-

mental objection that I have got. It shows that you have no trust in the Sarkaria Commission and it was brought into existence to placate the demand for a healthy Centre-State relationship. This is an insult to Mr. Sarkaria also. I appeal to all the Supreme Court and High Court judges that if the Commission's recommendations are treated in this manner, then for self respect no High Court and Supreme Court judge should ever head such Commissions. The ruling party even without consideration has turned the Sarkaria Commission's recommendations. That is the objection that I take. So far as the financial relationships are concerned, a lot has been said about the Budget. But the fact remains that the Government now adopts a new strategy. Resources are mobilised not through Budget, resources are mobilised before the Budget and after the Budget. Whereas in the Budget already resource mobilisation has been done to the extent of Rs. 1270 crores, before the Budget through postal hike and the administered price, you have collected Rs. 2800 crores. It makes a mockery of the Budgetary procedure. One of the fundamental principle of Westminster democracy is that the Parliament must have control over finances. If Rs. 3000 crores are collected outside the control of Parliament, then you depart and deviate from the fundamental principles of Westminster democracy. Now apart from it, the fact shows that 30 years ago, two-third of public borrowings went to the States. Today, no State can float public borrowings without the consent of the Central Government. The result has been that today only 10 per cent of the public borrowings go to the States. There have been too many important recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission. Another aspect which is causing concern to us is that even when the Legislatures in their sovereignty pass Bills which are not unconstitutional, these Bills are sent for Assent to the President by the Governor and the President's Assent is awaited for years and years. There is no ground shown as to why a sovereign legislation does not get the final assent. I believe all these recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission should be immediately accepted. We talk about the purity of public life. We have seen some days' back a reply

[Shri Dinesh Goswami]

was given that Ajitabh Bachchan has become an NRI in this country the spectacle of people running for the country & people running from the country. I am not going to speak anything on that. I am not making any allegation against Bachchan. I hate to make personal allegation against anyone. But may I point out how the Prime Minister can justify his close association with Bachchan when the Inquiry is pending. Do you believe that in this country any officer will dare to make any Independent impartial inquiry against a person if he gets this impression that inner corridor of the Prime Minister is open to the person against whom the Inquiry pending at all point of time. I do not know whether Bachchan is guilty or not, but the fact remains that when inquiries are pending against him, if the Prime Minister permits him to accompany him in important journeys, no officer in this country will dare to make proper inquiry. This is something which is not done in a democratic country. Bachchan may be a friend of the Prime Minister but the fact remains that the person who rules this country as the highest Executive Head cannot afford personal relationship to guide him in such matters. The person at the top must remember that he is bound to be a very lonely person and he must remember all these aspects. On the political side, Punjab has been referred to but I will not refer. In Assam we have seen again the upsurge of agitational approach. For one who has suffered for six years in this State, I am one who will not like an agitation to come into the State again because I know what sufferings people shall have to undergo if there is again an agitation. There was recently the blockade of oil. We tried our utmost to dissuade AASU from the oil blockade. I should make it very-very clear that AGP Government tried its utmost to persuade the AASU not to go in for the blockade. But, we could not convince the students. It is because they pointed out that the number of assurances which have been given by the Central Government on the accord remained unfulfilled. We requested the Home Minister to go and convince the AASU because when I am not convinced of the intentions of the Central

Government, how can I convince others. The IM(DT) Amendment Act was introduced in the last Session after a series of parleys and there is no indication up till now when the Amendment is going to be passed. There was no revision of the electoral rolls in Assam. The Election Commission, as far as my information goes have written to the Home Ministry that it is high time that the revision takes place in Assam because in Assam the revision will take more than a year and if it is not started now, it will not be completed even before the next elections. Recently, there was a by-election in Nazira. There was a call for boycott on the ground that the revision of electoral roll is not done. We could persuade those who gave the call to withdraw it. But the next time we will not be able to do it. Now, when the request is there from the Election Commission itself to the Home Minister, why the Home Minister, Chintamani Panigrahi, is keeping the file close to his chest, I do not know. It is, in fact, in the interest of everyone that the revision of electoral rolls should take place.

There is a lot of talk about fencing and about border roads. The Government of Assam have done the survey. No security cover is given for that; no sufficient allocation of money. The refinery issue is kept hanging. In his Budget speech, the Finance Minister yesterday spoke about the long term perspective of a solution to the drought and flood problems. I tried to see from the entire Budget speech, whether he has suggested one long term measure. There is no indication of any long term measure to fight floods or droughts. There are a number of important multi-purpose projects which, if taken into account or performed, will give a lot of relief not only to the people of Assam—which is a flood area but also to a great extent solve the problem of drought. Nobody bothers about it.

There is the question of Nagaland—Assam boundary areas. Central Government's honest assistance is not there—as one could have liked it. A very disturbing news has come, Mr Chairman, that the Arunachal Government has given a

statement that the Adi and Mising tribesmen of Arunachal would be given arms to fight Assam on the border question. If necessary, even arms would be procured from abroad. The Central Government has taken partisan stand in the matter to further party interests. I would like the Home Minister to clarify, and give us an assurance that the Government will take necessary steps against this dangerous situation.

We opposed, and we are one of the parties which opposed the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord, because we felt that it was done in haste; and the subsequent events have proved it correct. We were told that the Indo-Sri Lankan Accord would bring peace to Sri Lanka. But what we are seeing today is a peace of the grave in Sri Lanka. The disturbing news has come that the LTTE is now trying to bypass India and talk with Jayewardene, and Jayewardene also is not fulfilling some parts of the Accord, and I do not know where we shall land ourselves.

I have also seen reports that the President of Pakistan was invited for discussion here, on the Afghanistan talks. I can understand India trying to mediate in its own diplomatic way, in the Afghan issue. But we know Pakistan's position on the Afghan issue. We know that Pakistan is linking up the formation of a Government in Kabul with that of withdrawal of the Soviet forces. Do we expect that even if President Zia and Rajiv Gandhi had met, some fruitful purpose would have been served? Even to a layman it was apparent that Zia was not going to respond to this invitation. Summit talks always take place between heads of State after a lot of preparation at the diplomatic level. Here, like a child, an invitation was sent and it was rejected, and on the next day we also found in the newspapers that our Secretary (Foreign Affairs) was going to Pakistan. Next day the visit was cancelled. I do not think that international diplomacy is carried on in this manner. One day we announce something and the next day we cancel it. International diplomacy must be conducted in a more mature way. Let us not forget that whatever

our differences may be in the internal field, in the external field there is a major consensus among all the parties; let us not do something in a hurry, by which this consensus may be effected. After all, India is a mature country which has made a name for itself in international diplomacy. It is one field which India can be proud of, and let us not, by very short term and hasty measures, really show that we have lost some of this maturity.

Because of all these reasons, I cannot support this President's Address. Let me conclude by hoping that the country will see a better year ahead, than what we had seen in the past.

[Translation]

SHRI NIRMAL KHATTRI (Faizabad) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks moved by Shri Bhagat on the Hon. President's Address in the joint sitting of both the Houses.

Hon. President has placed the Government policies and public feelings before us through his Address. Various aspects of economic development have been discussed. It contains detailed information about our effort to follow the path of democracy, secularism, socialism and description of our development in scientific and technical fields.

Earlier to me Shri Indrajit Gupta expressed his views for about half-an-hour. A word he used in his speech was that what is there in the Address? What should I say? I remember a saying in this regard which will fit in case of our Hon. Member in the opposition. A man was walking with his glance downwards, people criticized him that he does not see what is in front of him. When he walked with his glance upwards, people taunted him to be proud, when he walked with his glances towards sides people said that he moved his eyes too much, when closed his eyes, people blamed him of acting in a thoughtful mood and frustratingly when that man willingly became blind, people said that it was all the fruit of his deeds in previous births.

[Shri Nirmal Khattri]

The hon'ble Members of opposition have nothing to do except criticising and finding fault in every function of the Government. Latest one is Mr. Indrajit Gupta. One should not confine himself upto the President's Address. We can make our view after seeing the development and condition of this country. Rajiv Gandhi is following the path of progress of the country shown by Mahatma Gandhi, Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and Indrajit. Everyone thinks and understands this thing. Surely, we cannot ignore this incident but would like to warn the opposition that they should change their ways and should co-operate in the constructive work. If there is anything wrong, they should point it out. Only the Congress Government is making efforts for the progress of the country.

One thing is necessary that whatever the old customs and the conventional items whether they are used in the field of agriculture or in other fields, should be used but side by side, the modern techniques as the use of Computer should also be made in the field of agriculture, education and also in Government offices to reduce the heap of files. There is nothing wrong in using modern techniques. But the tragedy is that the opposition parties have always been opposing every progressive measure. I would like to tell you by quoting the example of Ram Krishna Param Hansji that if in order to reach our destination we have to adopt new means in place of old means, there is no harm in it. A man sits in the boat to cross the river but when he reaches the other side after crossing the river, he does not take that boat with him. He leaves the boat there and take some other conveyance to complete his journey. Now if the country can make progress with the help of computer, there is nothing wrong in it. If the opposition parties find fault in it, it shows their frustration and intention just to criticise the Government.

I would like to say with much emphasis on the President's Address with particular reference to one aspect that the spiritual and moral ideas of people of

this country should be highlighted and developed. Though, in politics, we are not very much experienced but today we as well as the young blood of the country realised that when Mr. Rajiv Gandhi took over the charge of ruling party, a voice came out from the Supreme authority that we should give high priority to the moral and spiritual development of the people of this country. Our party realised that there is nothing wrong with the country or the world, but the character of man has touched new low. We can again improve the situation by promoting moral and spiritual values among the youth but I regret that not even a single member of the opposition has appreciated and supported this idea to make it meaningful so that different problems, be it, Punjab and Assam or Mizoram and Darjeeling or any other problems, or problem related to the communal riots could be solved. Nobody heeded to the basic approach and most important point. Nobody has paid any attention to this aspect because the opposition parties have come to the conclusion that every thing has gone wrong in this world and India. The opposition parties are not making any effort to improve the character of man. They do not realise that if this is done, deterioration will stop and status of our country will go up. The bitter experience that we have to undergo will not recur.

I remember one incident. A professor of Geography used to draw maps the whole day and he became so habitual of making maps that on every paper available he used to draw some map. Once he drew a map of the world, his child tore that leaf, he collected those torn pieces of the leaf and tried to join them, but could not succeed. Later on the child told him that he could join them and he come and turned the torn pieces of the paper. He had drawn a picture of a human being on its back and completed that human being's figure by joining the pieces — hand, leg, head and torso and again by turning it, he presented the map of the world before his father. I mentioned this incident to show that by uniting human beings we can unite the country. Today, a similar example has been set before us by Hon. Rajiv Gandhi and consequently the opposition parties

started character assassination of the Prime Minister. A person who is trying to build character of the youth and its countrymen is being asked to stand in witness box, series of charges are being levelled against him in order to confuse him, so that he may do nothing else except answering their questions. He should forget upliftment of the youth and building their character and his mind should be diverted. Such endeavours were made in the previous days and it was misfortune that the people such as some frustrated men of Congress party now linked with the Jan Morcha, gave solid support.

16.00 hrs.

This has also been unfortunate that the persons holding highest office of the country also gave support indirectly. But the people of this country deserve appreciation and congratulation who observed every thing critically, deeply and minutely. The public understands that who are honest and who are really concerned about the welfare of this country and those who do not care about the dignity of the country. They are rather prepared to mortgage the dignity of the country abroad with Herschman. Such people, such leaders have been judged and identified by the people of this country.

16.01 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE in the Chair]

While discussing foreign policy Shri Dinesh Goswami and others have mentioned about the policy of sending Indian Peace Keeping Force to Sri Lanka under Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement and its role. They have questioned the wisdom of taking this step. When the decision of sending Indian Peace Keeping Force to Sri Lanka was taken I felt that a historical truth in respect of the country is taking shape again. During 'TRETA' age, Lord Rama had gone to Lanka with the army of monkeys to establish Ram Raj and peace in that country. Today the Tamil public living there are the symbol of Sita mata. Indian Peace Keeping Force has moved under the leadership

of Shri Rajiv Gandhi to that country for their upliftment, progress and their betterment. Indian Peace Keeping Force has arrived at Lanka and this Indo-Sri Lanka agreement has brought name and fame to this country. This is great responsibility. It has also inspired the country that it has not only to safeguard its own frontiers but we have to take care of our neighbours as well. We observe what is happening near our borders and we also keep in view the conditions of inhabitants of Indian origin wherever they have settled, how they live and what we can do for their betterment, how can we play our role to maintain peace and prosperity of our neighbouring countries, how can we help to prevent violence and destruction there. We are playing our role with full responsibility.

Election reforms is hot topic of the day. In this connection, I would like to say that a very big revolutionary step in the shape of Anti-Defection Act was taken a couple of years ago. There is need to observe how far we can move forward with regard to election reforms, how can we improve upon the present system and bring amendments in order to organise elections in a still better way. In this connection, whatever suggestions for election reforms are received from time to time or suggested in this august House, our Government, keeps an eye on them and efforts are already being made to give them a concrete shape in a very short time so that all doubts whatsoever in the minds of the people are removed. We shall move forward only by keeping fully the promise which we have made in this connection.

With these words, I fully support Motion of Thanks on Hon. President's Address.

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rosera) : Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address to the joint sitting of the Parliament. Hon. President has mentioned about the progress of the country made in different spheres during the last forty years after independence. The pledges taken by Mahatma Gandhi,

[Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan]

Jawahar Lal Nehru, Sardar Vallab Bhai Patel and Dr. Ambedker that fruit of independence should reach every home, how it has reached every home under the leadership of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and is still reaching under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has been mentioned in the Address as a result of which the public of our country has become optimistic. Hon. President has mentioned in his Address, how our country is moving forward on the path of socialism, democracy and secularism and how it is being kept in high esteem in the world. This has been mentioned in his Address. Hon. President has also stated that there are still many challenges to be faced in our path of progress and in achieving targets. There are internal and external challenges. Hon. President has also mentioned in his Address that we are determined to root out communalism, fanaticism and secessionist activities. He has also indicated that the people belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who had not obtained economic and social equality, are obtaining economic and social equality through welfare schemes being implemented by our Government and dignity of every class of society is being enhanced. He has also mentioned in his Address that education is reaching the far flung villages and blocks of our country, Navodaya Schools are being opened where children of poor people are also getting education. Forty one percent children enrolled in these schools belong to the poor. This has also been stated in his address. Besides this, he has also discussed about twenty-point programme. He also stated that how we are elevating people above poverty line. People in the rural areas are getting proper employment and similarly women, scheduled castes, educated unemployed and uneducated also get employment. Security of our country has also been strengthened and no one can dare challenge integrity of our country, as it is completely safe today. In spite of all this everyone is aware of the activities of opposition parties. Though opposition members are representatives of the people but they have never thought of national interest and never offered constructive suggestion.

Opposition parties are misleading people of the country by inciting communalism, casteism and by raising different slogans but people of India are cautious. Our colleagues of opposition talk about clean politics. I would like to ask them that why had they released all the profiteers, black marketeers, hoarders and different types of economic offenders when they were in power, they sold gold of the country. At that time nobody talked of clean politics. As a result of their performance, we have gone 50 years back in relation to the development. The people can themselves see our prestige restored in the world under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. They cannot conceal their mistakes with their utterances.

Mr. Speaker. Sir, our party functions with a firm policy keeping in view problems of the country. These opposition parties are maintaining their existence on the basis of casteism, vested interests and communalism. Someone organised one party, other organised a Morcha. These former rulers have been exploiting people for centuries. They organised Jan-Morcha when they were unable to achieve their selfish ends. Everyone is aware of the fact that Vishwa Nath Pratap Singh belongs to a royal family. He raised the Bofors gun issue to show his existence in politics. We also inquired of Bofors gun. This very ruler has amassed huge wealth of Dahia-Trust and Ram Janki-Trust. They do not bother about it. They have got a selfish motive behind this Bofors gun issue. They cannot mislead people of India with the Bofors gun issue. You should know that people of India are quite intelligent. People of India are aware with the exploitation done by the former rulers for centuries and huge wealth amassed by them. They exploited the people of India and now they want to mislead them by raising the slogan of socialism from the roof tops. But it would not be possible to mislead the public. Opposition parties also come here as representatives of people. They are also the representatives of people. They should think of the interests of people and security of the nation at least for some time. They should go through their past history. They have been opposing every developmental work.

They opposed abolition of 'Zamindari' system. They opposed nationalisation of banks also. Now they say that the problem of unemployment has become grave. At the same time they oppose the measures and very good plans adopted by Government for removing unemployment. When banks were nationalised they opposed it. They should give suggestions for the betterment of the poor and the country as a whole.

Our colleagues in the opposition ask that Prime Minister neither consults them nor invites them for discussions. They blame Prime Minister, Rajiv Gandhi although they themselves cannot unite and form any constructive policy. He has been inviting the opposition for discussion on every issue. All these eight or ten opposition parties are unable to form consensus after consultations among themselves. They cannot give any functional and constructive suggestions but they blame Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Atleast they should have consensus in so far as national problems are concerned. They talk of Punjab and Assam problems but they themselves could never evolve any consensus. They can suggest some way out to deal with these problems but instead of doing so, they mislead the people. They do not have public interest in their mind. If they themselves cannot take a decision, what sort of advice they can give to others.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, now I would like to say something about planning. Hon. President has emphasised the importance of planning for the development of the country. Many measures have been taken to remove regional imbalances. It is true that planning is utmost necessary for the development in our democracy. But Government entrusts everything to bureaucracy after planning. Many of our programmes fail because of this thing. The planners should chalk out plans keeping in view our democratic set up. They should keep in view the prevailing situation of every place. For example our Bihar is prone to floods. A huge amount was invested to construct big dams to prevent them. Kamal Balan dam, Kosi dam, Gandak—canal—scheme come into being but they have not been successful owing

to bureaucracy. The bureaucrats have not taken proper view and therefore they have not been successful. While billions, of rupees have been spent for flood control measures but the sufferings of the people have not been mitigated. The Officers should chalk out plans on the spot so that maximum number of people could be benefited in the real sense.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I also want to say something about regional imbalances. Although much development has taken place in the country, but there are some places where fast train passes every one or two hours but there are some places where one train passes in morning and one in the evening. Similarly there are regions where many industries have been set up but some regions have no industry at all. Though Government desires to develop every region equally, but it is not being done because of bureaucracy.

Similarly, a permanent scheme should be chalked out for flood control in North Bihar. Industries should also be set up there in sufficient number. Some industries which have been shut-down should also be reopened soon.

As far as development is concerned, only elite get its advantages. As Government has provided electricity in villages and it is Government's policy to make available electricity to villages and scheduled caste and scheduled tribes, but if they don't have houses where electric connection could be installed. So only affluent class get advantage of such schemes. So I request the Government to get such houses constructed—out of relief provided for house-buildings in flood-affected areas which may sustain the fury of floods and people may take advantage of electricity. I would like to say that nature has provided us water hundred times more than our requirements for irrigation purposes. Recently flood water was flowing through our doors but after just two months, the same drought situation has again arisen. In this area there are rivers at every two or three miles, but they dry up soon. If their depth is increased, then both the problems of floods and drought can be solved. This can prove to be a permanent solution to these problems. Therefore I request that this plan should be

[Shri Ram Bhagat Paswan]

implemented in order to solve the problems of flood, drought, as well as excess and scanty rainfall in Northern Bihar. For this officials should be given guidelines to make on the spot studies for formulating any plan in consultation with the people there so that the plan may prove useful.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. President has referred to the development of the nation in his Address and the people are hopeful that in future too, poverty will be eradicated under our programmes and the people will be helped to rise above poverty line. The Indian people are very vigilant and they know in whose hands are our country's independence, unity and integrity secured. The people feel the pang of poverty, but they are also aware as to who can solve these problems; who can maintain the integrity and independence of the country; who can make the country strong; and who can enhance the prestige of the country, and it is only under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi that we can achieve all these things.

With these words, I support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA (Vidisha) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address is being discussed in the House at present. While supporting the Motion I want to present some points before the House,

The President's Address made before both the Houses reflects the achievements made and priorities accorded by our Government during last year. The achievements of our Government during the past three years are there before the people. Irrespective of the natural calamities like drought or flood, the political crisis created by certain selfish elements, some other different problems or the efforts of some of our own colleagues to create hindrance in the functioning of the Government, we can certainly say that under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, we have implemented all the programmes which we had promised to the people. It is an undebatable truth that our Government has worked successfully on every front, whe-

ther it is industrial development, agricultural production, electricity and power generation, implementation of 20-point programme or the rapid development in the country, by making use of science and technology. We have fulfilled all our promises which were made to the people during the elections. For this, whatever credit is given to our leader for his achievements is insufficient. But on the other hand, when our irresponsible opposition members deny our achievements and try to undermine the democratic set-up by virtue of which we have entered this House, we are really very much surprised. The reason behind this is that irrespective of any kind of problem, our leader has given the first priority to the nation's unity and integrity. In Punjab, we signed an accord, in Assam too, a Government elected through democratic system was constituted, in Mizoram the problem going on since many years was solved, in Meghalaya and Tripura also, new Governments were constituted all these things reflect our strong determination. No matter what you say, but the achievement of this government cannot be denied. In the political field too, we have to face challenges. Attempts are made to degrade us by spreading rumours or else certain vested interests try to create hurdles in our way, but our country's people fully support our Prime Minister and have full faith in him and despite passing through crisis after crisis the Prime Minister has come out unscathed. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the morale of our leader is high and has stood the test of the time. Our opposition colleagues have neither any programme nor any policy. They are directionless. In spite of that they say that the hon. Prime Minister does not take the opposition members into confidence and does not call them for consultation. But I clearly remember that the Prime Minister has been calling the opposition leaders on various important occasions, has been giving due importance to their suggestions and has been taking them into confidence on matters of national importance. On the other hand, our colleagues of opposition have not stopped their irresponsible activities and have boycotted such meetings on various occasions, and today they blame the Government for not inviting

them for consultation. I was quite surprised on hearing this. The severe conditions and natural calamities which our country had to face during the past three years are not hidden from anyone and even during the current year the severe drought condition through which our country is passing and due to which more than 250 districts have been badly affected, has brought an extra burden on our economy. In spite of all this, we can proudly say that we will be able to pass through this crisis of drought also due to our incredible success in the field of agriculture, irrigation, and power generation.

The efforts of our leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi have only consolidated our economy to a greater extent. This is the reason why the rate of Inflation, which had increased to 21% in 1979-80, has stabilized at 9.8% today despite all difficulties. Some prices did rise but the Administration made some efforts and brought the prices under control. The price of oil fell. Diesel, Kerosene oil and other consumer items are available today at fixed prices to people all over the country. Even in these difficult circumstances our Government has succeeded in marching forward.

I would certainly like to say something about the 20—Point Programme. In the budget for the current financial year, 30% of the total allocation has been made for various schemes under the 20—point programme. All this has been done through the efforts made by our leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi. The benefits in this respect are not meant for any particular individual or a political party, but, are directed towards small farmers and the poor of our country. Through the I.R. D P. an effort has been made to assist nearly 2.5 crore people living under the poverty line. The N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. are such programmes which provide employment to people in villages. Under these programmes, a village is provided with an asset. This asset may be in the form of a pond, a community center, a dam or a road. An Action-Plan is drawn up after considering the needs of the rural population. Then we proceed towards the implementation of these schemes.

Under the R.L.E.G.P. workers are assured of a minimum of 100 days' work out of a total of 365 days. In the past three years, crores of people have been provided with employment under these schemes. A lot of constructive work has been done in our villages which the people in villages had been lacking all these years.

Now I would like to say something about the field of science and technology. The foundation of scientific and technological plans in our country was laid by our national hero Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and our late Srimati Indira Gandhi gave priority to these plans so that our country could become self-dependent. Our Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has accordingly shown a special interest in the effective implementation of these plans.

Today our country is progressing towards self-sufficiency in the field of energy. A bright future for India depends on the highly important sectors of petroleum and natural gas. Today we are not dependent on others so far as these sectors are concerned. On the contrary, we are exploiting our own resources. For the agricultural production we need natural gas and important fertilizers. For this purpose we are using technology to prepare good quality urea and other fertilizers. Of all the benefits derived from science and technology the most important have been in the agricultural sector where we have made rapid progress.

I would also like to submit about the field of nuclear energy. Scientists and engineers of our country have invited a fast-breeder reactor, in which such type of fuel is used, the supply of which never ends and which is renewal source of energy. It is a matter of great achievement that we have been able to develop this source of energy in the nuclear energy sector. Our Government have pledged to increase the capacity of the nuclear sector to 10,000 Megawatt by the year 2001. In order to realise this target we have developed the fast-breeder technology within our own country. It is a matter of great pride that today India is counted among the selected 4-5 countries of the world

[Shri Pratap Bhanu Sharma]

possessing this technology. The fuel which is used in this is not derived from uranium or any other mineral. It is obtained within our own country from an element called thorium present in sand. To convert thorium into uranium or plutonium our country's scientists and engineers have designed reactors with capacities upto 500 Megawatt each. Leading us on in this endeavour and giving direction to this Ministry is our young Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi.

Just now I referred to the sources of energy in our country. We have not remained dependent on only coal, petroleum and other such sources for our energy needs but have also developed non-conventional sources of energy like bio-gas solar energy and other sources.

Our hon. President has referred to the subject of meteorology in his Address. Attempts are being made to keep our country's farmers posted with up-to-date weather reports through the medium of television and meteorological laboratories and observatories. Availability of such information would help them sow their kharif and rabi crops at the right time. The farmers would also know the amount of rainfall expected in their area and thus would derive maximum benefits out of their land. It cannot be denied that meteorology has contributed in a large measure towards the success of rainfall-based agriculture.

Our colleague Shri Gupta said that there are 40 crore illiterate people in our country. Our Government is definitely concerned about this problem. Among the technology missions functioning in our country, we have also a technology mission to remove illiteracy. We have provided for Rs. 800 crores in the field of education. With this we hope to give practical shape to the pledge taken by our leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi. Our leader dreams of a literate nation. We have to fulfill the promises made to the masses by the country's leaders at the time of Independence.

I want to elaborate on the subject of

technology mission also. There are 5 important areas that of production of oil-seeds, improving tele-communication facilities, quicker implementation of the literacy movement and availability of drinking water facility. Our Government stands for a work ethos wherein encouragement is given to new technology and fresh ideas to solve the problems of the masses. And we, as part of that Government, are making concerted efforts towards that end.

In the end I would like to refer to the Indo-Sri Lanka Accord which is the greatest historical peace treaty of the century. It is a historical document through which the Government has made an attempt to implement its foreign policy which is based on peaceful co-existence and international brotherhood. This Indo Sri Lanka Accord has been acclaimed not only in India, Sri Lanka and our continent but also in the territories of the Super Powers because through it we have rendered help to our neighbouring country which could have otherwise disintegrated due to ethnic problem or could have become another Diegogarcia in this region of the world. It cannot be denied that our leader entered into this accord in time through which an attempt has been made to find out a permanent peaceful solution of the ethnic problem faced by that country.

Whenever some historically important work is done or an accord is signed, then definitely some contributions have to be made or loss suffered to make it successful. The good work courageously done by the Peace Keeping Force there to establish peace, to control terrorist groups in the most difficult circumstances to safeguard the life and property of the citizens and to generate a feeling of unity and self-confidence in the people, is highly praiseworthy. We would definitely like to honour the valiant soldiers who have laid down their lives for the sake of the country.

In addition to this I would like to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi for the achievements he has made and the steps he has taken for strengthening the democratic institutions

and for the priorities mentioned in the Presidential Address. Even such difficult circumstances he has not allowed the disintegration of our democratic institutions. All the external and internal attempts made to destabilise the country and the conspiracies hatched to overthrow the elected Government have been foiled under the strong leadership and with the support of the masses. A strong Government is running the country in conformity with the wishes of the people.

With these words I support the Motion of Thanks moved on the President's Address.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to refer to the first five points mentioned on page three of the Presidential Address. I would like to refer to these points because the Hon. President has raised and accepted many important points. I will mainly speak on these points. The Hon. President has said :

[English]

"The foremost task is to crush terrorism and isolate secessionists."

[Translation]

I am expressing the views of my Party in this august House, I am saying this while fully supporting it.

Today the biggest problem before the nation is the Punjab Problem. There many people are being killed. All our efforts to overcome this situation have led to its further worsening. The situation there has gone from bad to worst and from sad to saddest. Some newspapers have reported and the people of the State have also admitted that last eight months were bloody months and for the last seven months the Governor of Punjab, Shri Ray Sahab has also been commenting that no perfect formula has come to their mind to tackle the terrorist menace. The people there are disappointed and have become tired of the assurances of the Government. There terrorists, instead

of getting isolated, are consolidating their position. I am one of the well-wishers of the nation. I will tell in the end how to get out of this difficult situation. The Hon. President has dwelt on the solution of the problem and has also discussed how to evolve a solution of the problem. I don't want to discuss who created the problem. In this august House I only want to speak on the solution of the problem. By the way all of us know who are the people behind this problem? In my views both the opposition side as well as the ruling side have contributed their bit towards the creation of this problem. At that time the President's Rule was welcomed by the U.A.D. party there. But they have also now realised the reality and are now opposing the President's Rule. In a statement, Shri Riberio has stated today that :

[English]

"I am doing my job, other is to be done by the Prime Minister."

[Translation]

There was a news-item in the Hindustan Times of 4th February that :

[English]

"Punjab Congress-I men for political initiative. They say, normalcy cannot return to Punjab without political solution of the problem."

[Translation]

I do not want to take much time. I just want to put forward 5-7 suggestions. After referring to page three, I now want to refer to page 14, where the Hon. President has said:

[English]

"They (Pakistan) also continue to assist terrorists and secessionist elements in India."

[Translation]

But may I ask whether this issue

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

which the Government has been raising for the last 6 years, has been taken up with Pakistan at diplomatic levels and if so, what was the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto? Why it is not being disclosed in the House? It is not a treasure which should be concealed. If there is anything in it, then why it is being concealed? But nothing is being done in this connection. I want to say that first of all we should evolve some political and economical and emotional solutions of this problem, only then the extremists would be isolated. I would like to say through you that a feeling has been spread that whoever from the Akalis tries to prevent confrontation and adopts conciliatory attitude instead of joining issue with the Government. The Government instead of encouraging, oppressed him. This thing should be stopped.

Shri Longowal laid down his life for the sake of this country. What to speak of giving Chandigarh or water to him, he has not even been awarded any title for his courage. That has too been awarded to somebody else, Shri Barnala, who tried to bring about unity in the country, was thrown out of power without any hesitation. Similarly, now nobody knows about the whereabouts of Shri Darshan Singh Ragi who also tried to bring about normalcy in the State. What I mean to say is that such people who come forward in finding out some solution should be encouraged. This problem will not be solved by sending C.R.P. and by spending on it 120 crores of rupees. The C.P.I. (M), C.P.I., U.A.D. and even the Congress men have also opined that only a political solution can work. Recently, 1500 Punjabi writers, who staged a *dharna* throughout Punjab, are also demanding a political solution. What I want to say is that we can bring normalcy in Punjab through a political solution and not through bullets. A healthy atmosphere may be created by setting free Shri Tohra, Shri Simranjit Singh Man, the Jodhpur detenus and innocent persons detained in different prisons in Punjab. Shri Badal and Shri Barnala have presented a seven-point formula but no one is ready to consider it. It is therefore, necessary that there should be a political solution,

Sir, the Punjab Accord between Shri Rajiv Gandhi and Shri Longowal was and is a political solution. Even today, the same Accord has been approved by the House. We want to know how much of it has been implemented, what are the reasons for its non-implementation and what are the obstacles which are delaying its implementation? I very seriously want to say that there is a feeling among Akalis that whenever there is a split among Akalis it is instigated by the Centre. I do not say that we do not fight, we do fight. Now there will be split in A.G.P. and then in A.D.M.K. I want to urge that the Centre should not try to split regional parties. Such activities on the part of the ruling party should be stopped otherwise it will rise to more complications which will be harmful for our country. If they cannot unite us then they should not incite us to quarrel among ourselves. The Press, Radio and Television give wide coverage to negative steps on the Punjab issue but do not give due coverage to positive steps. This practice should be stopped. A feeling has spread among Sikhs that the Press, Radio and T.V. are branding every Sikh as an extremist. This type of publicity should be stopped because extremists have no religion at all.

Sir, I would like to suggest to the Government through you that a special programme like 'Ramayana' should be televised by which the wrong impression about Sikhs can be removed from the minds of general public. The public should be told that the number of extremists is very small and rest of the Sikhs are patriots and in future a patriot will be called a patriot. I want to say that the Government should admit its fault. When the President's Rule was imposed in Punjab, then 79 persons were killed. In this very House, I have argued that it is true that the ruling party has a majority of 400 Members and on their strength they can get anything done but the number of deaths should not be made a basis for over-throwing the Barnala Government. But the Government dismissed it. Now two hundred persons are being killed every month. The number of Police Officers who have been killed in the last two months, is 97. If the Government

do not want to dismiss the Governor, at least he should be called back.

The next thing which I want to say is that there is a general feeling among Punjabis that they will not get justice through Commissions. The Mathew Commission was constituted, but in its report the Mathew Commission recommended that Fazilka belongs to Punjab because the continuity could not be broken under the Accord and at the same time it stated that it could not give a judgement, therefore, a new commission might be constituted. The new commission recommended that it could not find out the Hindi-speaking areas but 70 thousands acres of land should be given to Haryana. The Commission did not mention any base for such a recommendation. It said that a new Commission should find out the land. The new Commission constituted for the purpose had been asked to give its report in just 12 hours. This should be stopped.

In my view fake cases are being instituted in Punjab. Recently, Shri Ranjit Singh, son of Shri Jagdev Singh Talwandi of course, a leader of the other faction of Akali Dal—who came from Canada and against whom five prosecutions have been launched in the courts, has been persuing these cases for the last one year and now he cannot go back. When contacted, the concerned officers admitted that the boy is not at all guilty but he has been detained because they have political differences with his father.

I want to say that Shri Bhajan Lal has talked about Greater Punjab. it is good but our brethren from Himachal Pradesh are here... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI (Shimla): we do not want it.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA : That is why I have said, I am very serious. When the issue of Greater Punjab was in the air the people of Himachal Pradesh burst out that they don't need Greater Punjab. The people of Himachal Pradesh numbering 48 lakhs

or so and also of Kashmir can live in their provinces remaining faithful to this country but not the Punjabis. I allege that the suggestion about Greater Punjab has either been made in anger or without any seriousness because this is a senseless suggestion.

The third point I would like to raise is that there is a rumour that the Punjab Assembly is being dissolved. I, however, caution the Government against taking such a step which will be very harmful as it will be another blot on our face. The people may be assured that if the commissions failed, justice would be done to them. I want full justice plus weightage for Punjab. This can only satisfy the people to some extent.

Unemployment is also a very important problem in Punjab. I want that the entire Punjab state should industrially be declared as belonging to category-A so that several unemployed persons there are also able to play their role.

I will finish my speech after submitting one point more. So long as the Government does not solve this problem it will have to go on facing this allegation that it is deliberately not solving the Punjab problem probably due to its political considerations. The Barnala Government had been thrown out for the sake of Haryana, but there they could win only five seats. If they had not done so, they might have won 15-20 seats. So, while expressing my views on the President's Address, I would say with full seriousness that if we want to solve the Punjab problem, we will have to find out a political solution as there is no other alternative. I finish my speech with these words asserting that if these things had been done we would have supported this Motion but now it is difficult.

SHRI KUNWAR RAM (Nawada) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I extend my hearty congratulation to the Hon. President for his accurate expression of Governments objectives, ideals and achievements. The hon. President has expressed reality about the country in para 3 of his Address. Our Prime Minister is determined to provide social justice to the people in true

[Shri Kunwar Ram]

sense. He is also determined to defend the unity and integrity of the country. He is eager to secure a topmost place for India in the galaxy of nations of the world. He is bent upon removing poverty and unemployment by making extensive use of science and technology.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the problem being faced by Punjab has just now been highlighted because the hon. President has also expressed his worry about it. The hon. Member who has just spoken has also expressed his anxiety in this regard. But there is no question of succumbing to the terrorism and extremism which have raised a storm and created instability in Punjab. We will have to combat that situation at all costs. We have always been anxious to have an accord and we have accordingly been working but the way the terrorists, extremists are being encouraged, it becomes very difficult to kneel down before the terrorists. If we go to other states of the country, we are asked what is happening in Punjab, what are the reasons for the situation created by terrorists and whether the Central Government would be able to contain terrorism or not. They are very much annoyed over the situation. They are anxiously waiting for a solution. We are representatives of the people. When, I go to my region or to their region or elsewhere in the country, I have to face this very question and I can't answer it. Urgency for a political solution has been emphasised. It is true that this problem could be solved only through a political solution, but it is not allowed to be solved. Allegations may be levelled about it but I would like to urge upon the opposition parties to just peep into their inner selves. Some actions on their part don't let the problem be solved. They do not want to allow the Rajiv Government to run peacefully. They are always conspiring to grab power somehow or the other. They are not really interested to find out a solution for the Punjab problem. They are simply after power. I think we can solve this problem if we rise above politics of grabbing power. Most of the people of India have full faith in Rajiv Gandhi's leadership and the work is going on according to that. We want that blood shed of Shrimati Indira Gandhi,

should not go waste. The Hon. President has opined that the Government is prepared to talk to anybody who refrains from violence. We are prepared for talks but where are the leaders of terrorists? The terrorists and their protectors are not prepared for talks. They say that they do not support terrorism. But the question is whether their support is without any reservations. They are actually not ready to share the concern which has been expressed by the hon. President. Today we find that the whole world is against extremism. What happened in Sri Lanka? Our Prime Minister took an initiative to fight extremism in Sri Lanka and send our Army there to restore peace. We have thus proved to the world that we are prepared to pay every price and to make every sacrifice to eliminate extremism.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that we will have to go on following the present policies in this country if we have to bring about economic improvement. The hon. President has also expressed some concern in this regard. I particularly want to draw attention to two points which are basic questions. We have to defend independence of the country and also to protect the liberty of the people in general. We have so far been working in accordance with the provisions made in the constitution. During the last 40 years, under the leadership of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru, under the leadership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi and under the leadership of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri and now under the strong leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, we have been working in accordance with the policies and the social principles as enshrined in our Constitution. Today, when some elements want to weaken the country from inside and want to endanger the democratic set up in the country, the Government is determined to face this challenge and lead the country to march forward on the path of progress.

But so far as our economy is concerned, all the policies in this connection have also been laid down. We have enacted a law to provide for a ceiling in respect of urban property too. In spite of this, the property of Urban people is on the increase and this is also affecting the

rural areas. We find that all development work is carried on in the urban areas only, we have not been able to complete the targets fixed for the rural areas with the result that the poor are becoming poorer.

The hon. President has mentioned that poverty is the greatest enemy of our country. It is correct to say that we have been striving to eradicate poverty but we have not been able to achieve any significant success. What is the reason for this? We want to go into these reasons because we represent the people. We come to this House to highlight public grievances and place them before our Government. We are a link between the people and the administration. It is our duty to see that the administration remains alert, works with responsibility and removes the difficulties of the public.

We lay down policies and enact laws in this august House. We too give our approval to huge sums of money for big plans but so far as their execution is concerned, this is to be done by the administration, by the Government. If our administrative machinery fails to implement the plan with honesty and responsibility, we are unable to achieve our purpose. The Members belonging to the opposition have never drawn the attention of the Government towards this aspect. I have the least hesitation to say that I have not heard a word in the whole Address that we would activate the administrative machinery too. If this is also added to the Address of the hon. President, I think, it will give a big boost to our policies, to our developmental works and to our measures to strengthen the country both at national as well as international levels. The addition of this aspect of activating the Government machinery will be very useful.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now I want to submit some other points also. I want to suggest that it is very vital to unearth black money. Some efforts have already been made in this connection. Apart from keeping an eye on big industrialists there is also a need to keep an eye on *Sadhus* and *Swamis* like Chandraswami. When his premises were raided, property worth crores of rupees was discovered. There is need to bring out black money in possess-

ion of such people. The people can remain beware of businessmen but such men loot the people through religious mesmerism and, collect crores of rupees and evade taxes. They enjoy all sorts of luxuries and indulge in misdeeds, we should remain beware of such people. The Land attached to 'Mathas' should be taken over and distributed among labourers and the land of those given to luxury should be distributed among the poor people.

17.00 hrs.

Top-most priority should be given to irrigation schemes. There was no justification for keeping the Kosi Project which was started in the first plan, pending till now. Similarly, an agreement should be concluded with the Nepal Government at all costs to control and make use the waters of rivers flowing from Nepal. The Rajasthan Canal should be completed soon. The projects of Tilaya-Dhadhar Koyal Karo and Upper Sakri etc. of Bihar should be implemented soon. By putting restriction on sale-purchase of urban land, house-building industry should be nationalised so that the source of black money is blocked effectively. A Housing Bank should be set up soon. At least one member of each Harijan and Advasi family should be provided with a Government job. Firstly all posts of fourth class services should exclusively be reserved for them. Decentralisation of power should be brought about. Due to increase in urban population, the condition of transport, housing and environment is deteriorating day by day and as such Government offices in Delhi and in the capitals of the states should be shifted to other places. Every such technology which deprives the people of employment should be discarded. What is the justification for introducing such a technology which deprives the people of their means of living. If there is any proposal with the Government to make use of such a technology, I suggest, it should not be implemented. Employment exchanges should be computerised. Railway services should be extended to backward areas. Just now, an hon. Member was telling that at some places fast trains pass after every hour or so while at other places if a train leaves in the evening, the next arrives only next morning. This is not a

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good system, definitely not in line with socialism. Development works specially railway development works should be carried on vigorously.

There are some demands about Bihar too. These demands are at national level. The Patna university should be converted into a Central University. The Nalanda Pali Institution and the Prakrit Institution of Vaishali should be granted the status of a University. The area comprising Patna-Gaya-Nawada-Vaishali and Nalanda should be developed as a National tourist area. In order to make use of the residual material of oil refinery in Baroni, the proposed petro-complex should be set up there which is lying pending. Adequate amount should be earmarked to establish Thermal Power Station at Kahalgaon of Bhagalpur. Bridges on the Ganges should be constructed at Bhagalpur and Munger. Also arrangements for irrigation in the areas along with the banks of the Ganges should be made. The Nalanda Open University should be activated. Double railway line should be laid between Patna and Gaya for extension of suburban railway service. The Gaya Kiul line should be converted into double line and developed as a alternate line for the movement of fast trains. The line from Gaya to Kiul via Nalanda should also be converted into double line. The royalty from Bihar mines should be increased to strengthen the economy of Bihar. In Bihar sick industries, particularly jute, cement, paper, sugar and cloth industries should be revived. The traditional control on the forest by Adivasis should be maintained.

With these words I support the Motion of Thanks.

SHRI AZIZ QURESHI (Satna) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. First of all, I wish to thank the President for making a reference to the Sarhadi Gandhi Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan in para 2 of his Address. I think simply paying tributes to him is not sufficient. History is a witness that after

the partition of the country, we had thrown him to the wolves. So this is very essential that a national monument should be erected in the memory of Sarhadi Gandhi and through it the public should be inspired to face the communal forces and those elements creating terror in the country. In this connection, I want to suggest that a university should be established in Delhi in the memory of Sarhadi Gandhi. But it would be a most appropriate tribute to him if Delhi University is renamed as Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan University. I would rather suggest that a chair after his name should be established in each of the universities in Aligarh, Banaras, Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Mysore and Hyderabad and also the students should be awarded scholarships on merit-cum-means basis for doing national integration work for propagating his views throughout the country for which Badshah Khan struggled throughout his life. With it, a national award for understanding should be established in the memory of Badshah Khan in our country as has been done in case of other leaders. The main buildings and roads in Delhi and other big cities should be renamed after the name of Badshah Khan so that it could be a real tribute to him. Besides, in order to perpetuate his memory his name should be associated with cultural programmes and educational institutions. Like portraits of other leaders his portrait should also find a place inside the Parliament House.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, now I would like to refer to para 3 of the President's Address in which, he has drawn a picture of New India which is going to emerge in future. In para 4, he has referred to the poverty and disparities prevalent in India for the eradication of which we will have to make efforts. The contents of para 3 and 4 give us a glimpse of the Preamble of the Constitution. We have guaranteed fundamental rights to every citizen in the Constitution. Every citizen of India is entitled to these rights as freedom of thought, expression, belief, worship and faith. We are enjoying these rights with full freedom and without any discrimination.

17.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

We have guaranteed social justice, political justice, equality of status and equal opportunities in the Preamble to all the citizens. Of course, they are enjoying political justice but we have not been able to provide them social justice to the desired extent. Today, there are so many weaker sections in our society which need our attention so that they may feel that they are also getting social and political justice and are entitled to equal rights as available to other citizens. They should enjoy those rights. We will have to create that condition in the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, now I would like to talk about the criticism which has been made by some Hon. Members in respect of Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. Among other things, the Members of Opposition want to know as to the why Peace-Keeping Force has been sent to Sri Lanka. Either they are not aware of the facts or they have not paid full attention towards this issue. If our friends go through the pages of History, they will find that the Indian forces had also taken part in the first and second world wars. This is a different issue whether they went there voluntarily or were sent there against their wishes. But whenever the question to put an end to the fascist powers arose in the world, the Indian forces played a significant role on every occasion. The Indian soldiers displayed their valour every time. This is quite another thing that these fascist powers overnight converted it into people's war. When Pakistan attacked Kashmir and the Maharaja of Kashmir sought our help the Indian forces were sent to Kashmir for the first time, of course, with the consent of Mahatma Gandhi. They were sent there to protect the rights of the people of Kashmir. Similarly the Suez Canal was nationalised and U.N. Forces were deployed there in the wake of attack launched by Britain, Israel and France against Egypt and when the President Nasir did not allow the Pakistan Forces to land there, then at that time, the Indian forces were sent there to settle the

Suez Canal dispute, to restore peace and to protect the rights of the people there. Thereafter the role of Indian army in the Korean war cannot be forgotten. The Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission had been constituted at that time and it was no other than our valiant general Thimmaya of Maharashtra who headed that Commission. It was under his leadership that the rights of the people could be protected and other arrangements made. The Indian army also played a very important role in Congo. At the time of deputing the army there our Government had decided that the army, if necessary, might use arms there. It has been a very old tradition of our army to protect the rights of the people. I would like to know from my colleagues as to why they have now become indifferent to this aspect. They should be aware that the Israeli army was already there in Sri Lanka before our army landed there. They were imparting para-military commando training to the people of Sri Lanka. The imperialist powers like U.S.A. were also active in that island. Had the Indian army not gone there, the armies of U.S.A., Israel and Pakistan would have come there and an impending danger would have been hovering above our heads. I would, therefore, like to ask those people who want to take advantage of this issue by giving it a political colour to look at this problem in this perspective sincerely. The history of the world will always remember the Accord which has been signed by our Government, by our Prime Minister with the Government of Sri Lanka. In this way our Government have saved the Indian Ocean from a great danger. It did not allow it to become a base of the Super Powers. In order to implement their Accord, we will pay every price, make every sacrifice, even if we are not prepared for that. We will continue to do every thing possible to honour our commitment. The entire country will support the Prime Minister in this task. It is our decision and the allegations of the opposition are not going to affect it in any way.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to express my views on para 14 dealing with the National Education Policy. It gives me pleasure that the number of

[Shri Azlz Qureshi]

Navodaya Vidyalayas in the country has gone up to 206. I am also pleased to know that 41 per cent students selected for these institutions during 1986 belonged to families living below the poverty line. Similarly 77 per cent students of these institutions came from villages. I commend the Government and the administration and also congratulate them for showing a ray of hope in the midst of darkness spread everywhere. But, I would like to refer to the commitment made by the Government under article 45 of the Constitution 40 years ago that primary education will be made compulsory for all children in the country. This commitment continues to be an unfulfilled dream till today. The people of the country demand that the above commitment made by our leaders like Pandit Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi and by the Government should be fulfilled now.

While making a reference to the National Education Policy, I would like to take up the case of an important and historical university known as the Aligarh Muslim University. Everybody in the country is aware of this university and its history. Our late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who was closely associated with this university, a special law was passed in the Parliament keeping in view the sentiments of the people and thereby declared it an institution belonging to minorities. In accordance with the law passed by the Parliament the University was empowered to set up a court to decide its own cases. Six M.Ps from the Lok Sabha and 4 M.Ps from the Rajya Sabha are taken in this court. But it is unfortunate that though the court has been set up, the principles as laid down under the law passed by the parliament, are totally being neglected by the present Vice Chancellor.** And whatever Shrimati Indira Gandhi had given to the minorities and the Muslims of this country that**. This has given rise to discontentment among all the Muslims in the country.

I would like that the Government and

the Prime Minister should see that**. It may be recalled that the representatives of those people who do not accept Kashmir as a part of India and are of the opinion that merger of Kashmir has not yet been completed, were invited to the University and honoured and were allowed to openly criticise our Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi and the Constitution. They were honoured under the protection of the authorities.

I would like that the Government should look into it as to why this Act which was passed by the Lok Sabha and the Parliament, is not being implemented fully. Perhaps, we are thinking that Aligarh Muslim institution is a Private institution. If this attitude continues to be there it will bring a great disaster to the country and its responsibility will be put squarely on those Officers sitting in the Ministry of Education who are supporting the Vice-Chancellor in a wrong way. I would like that the Hon. Prime Minister should look into it and take suitable action to preserve peace in the country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, your bell is ringing again and again. Therefore, with these words I support the Motion.

[English]

SHRI M.S. GILL (Ludhiana): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I seek your permission to expose the stale, stagnant, empty and ritualistic approach of the Central Government towards the burning problems of the nation, which have been mirrored in the Presidential Address before both the Houses of Parliament.

I have the highest regard for the Office of the President and his person. But the drafters of this Address has conveyed the impression to the people that the Bharats Nero was fiddling with his flute while every bit of Bharat soul was burning in pain. This out-of-order tune and out-of-place tune has rather suppressed very important voices which have to be heard and which have to be taken consideration of the shrieks of the widowed-daughters of

** Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

**Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

this country, the cries of the orphaned toddler sons of India and also the bleeding wails of those aging mothers who have been rendered sonless and childless before their eyes by the bullets which were, unfortunately, manufactured in the ordnance of India.

Now, unfortunately, with the ever-increasing rise in graph of the prices of consumer goods and commodities and ever increasing bone-breaking burden on the life of the people, they have given an impression to the people that this Government led by Shri Rajiv Gandhi, is determined to eliminate all the classes in this country excepting two classes—one multi-millionaires and the other poor labourers, pennyless labourers. These are the two classes. If the things are going in this manner, ultimately we are heading towards this. It appears that the concept of this Government is that the classless society of tomorrow of India would be like this. Under these circumstances, what has happened in the last year and all these years? We have to take into consideration our economic conditions and our social and political conditions everywhere. It is a tragedy, I should say, of the national dimension that Rashtrapati has to remind the nation of their goal, which is enshrined in the Preamble of the Constitution, that the people have taken a solemn resolve to constitute India into sovereign, democratic and socialistic republic, even after 40 years of Congress rule. This shows that we have not been able to move even one step in this direction during these forty years. That is why it has been repeated in the Presidential Address after 40 years. This is a tragedy. On the contrary, we seem to have traversed some steps backward from the cherished goals set by the framers of the Constitution, and I have no doubt that the souls of those framers of the Constitution must be restless, wherever they are. After forty years, this situation is there. After all what kind of socialism is our goal. It was there when the constitution was framed, it was there when we got the independence, and it is now being repeated after 40 years. On the other hand, I would say that socialism in India is a thing of the past and Mr. Rajiv Gandhi is going to lay it at

rest in the galleries of the National Archives. About two months ago he made a public statement in Madras that India cannot afford socialism. Also, in various public statements in Madras, he said that the public undertakings are exhausting the resources of the nation, and actually they are not generating any resources. In this Address itself and in the Budget also, there two things are stressed over and again. This is just the repetition of our goals which I feel this Government will never achieve. I am reminded of an Urdu couplet :

“Nazar unki zaban unki, mein
kisko maut par samjhoou, Nazar
kutchh aur kahati hai, zaban
kutchh aur kahati hai, Bataya ja
raha hai kafila manzil pe Aa
pahuucha, magar is kafil ki dastan
kutchh aur kahati hai.”

This is how we are passing through all these situations. Now we can see for ourselves that on the one hand the sky-scrapers are rising day in and day out, and underneath those mansions, those air-conditioned palaces, the poor people, with empty stomachs, empty breasts, bare-footed, without any shelter, are lying on the foot-paths, and their number is increasing day by day. Is this the socialism we are thinking of? On the other hand we see the dining tables of the rich people full of sumptuous meals, foreign drinks and all sorts of fruits. We have got reports from Orissa that because of undernourishment, starvation deaths are taking place in Kalahandi and Koraput districts. Is it not the tragedy of India that even after forty years, with all the wealth in the country, with all the stocks that we have got—we claim that we have got the stores full of foodgrains—there are starvation-deaths? This is not the only example, there are hundreds of such examples. Is this what we are heading for? And we are claiming that our goal is socialism. I think these are all empty slogans and we are just repeating them. Unless we stick honestly to this goal, all these empty slogans are leading this nation astray, I would say.

Again, Sir, we have certain figures

[Shri M.S. Gill]

with us. We claim to be aiming for socialism. There are other countries also in this word which claim socialism as their goal. But do you know what is the difference between the highest and the lowest income in those countries? In some countries it is 1:3, and in some other countries it is 1:7. That is the maximum. But here in India there is a yawning gap between the poor and the rich, and I would not hesitate to say that the gap is 1:1000. Still we are claiming that we are heading towards socialism. This tragedy is not going to stop unless we try to realise and think over the matter.

Then, Sir, the black money in this country is creating havoc. It is increasing in geometrical figures, I think, in 1951, it was only to the tune of 200 crores of rupees and in 1966 it was to the tune of Rs. 1216 crores. In 1979, it rose to Rs. 8600 crores and in 1986, it reached Rs. 37,000 crores and I can daresay that by this time, it would have crossed Rs. 40,000 crores and all that scandalous money of Bofors and Fair fax which is lying in the foreign banks is taken into account, it would be more than Rs. 41,000 crores. If this black money circulation continues in our country, we cannot achieve socialism, nor we can claim of democratic systems here nor we can claim other things. There are at present 34 million unemployed and by 1995, the economists say that the number of the unemployed will be 75 million. If this is the situation we cannot have any other idea except that we have to think over and over again.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have only to say that neither we have achieved nor we are going to achieve socialism and we are talking of democracy. Unfortunately, this Government has persistently and consistently eroded the democratic institution and democratic values of life. In regard to the most important and most powerful pillar of democracy, that is, the Supreme Court or the Courts of justice, I would point out what havoc has been played in the appointment of judges and transfer of judges? What is happening everyday? Everyday, Commissions of Enquiry are appointed and crores of

rupees are spent on the Commissions and ultimately they do not act upon the recommendations or the findings of the Commissions of Inquiry. There is an Inquiry Commission Amendment Act whereby secrecy is kept without disclosing it even to the Parliament although it is claimed to be a sovereign body. We do not know what our position is. This should be told to the Parliament. But on the other hand some times Election Commission is being bull-dozed and some times it is by-passed. If these things are continued, the democracy cannot survive.

Sir, my colleagues have already spoken about Punjab and others on Tripura. These are the facts. The law and order situation is such that whatever there is law in the courts, there is no order for years together and wherever there is order in the South Block, there is no law. The other day, the Home Minister made a statement when asked by one of his colleagues about the law and order situation of the country. He said that law is the concern of Mr. Shiv Shankar and the orders are issued from 5, Race Course. I received a letter yesterday from a widow of Gurdaspur District. She has narrated in her letter about the tragic story that her husband was kidnapped and later on disposed of by the para-military forces. She filed a complaint of murder and in the Court of law an evidence was produced. In the court some officers were summoned but they did not appear. Then the Court issued non-bailable warrant. But even up-to-date, after a period of one year, they have not appeared before the court. Instead they have issued threatening letters to the widow. The Police and the Executive have got scantest regard for the court of law and justice, one of the pillars of democracy. Nobody is taking care of it. After all we have to think over these things seriously. This is one incident. I have other incidents also in Punjab to narrate. Mr. Tohra has been given a charge-sheet after a period of three years and nine months. The Cr.P.C. does not permit such procedure of law. He has been given this charge sheet now. He was released, and after some time he was

arrested again in this case. Here the legal procedures have been violated. Unless we have the regard for law, we cannot claim any democracy in the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please wind up.

SHRI M. S. GILL : I am going to wind up very shortly.

Then, the secular aspect has been mentioned in the President's Address. Unfortunately, as has been pointed out by other speakers, there are various incidents like the Meerut Incident, the Maulana incident, the incident of Delhi carnage and some other incidents in Gurdaspur, Amritsar and Ferozepur districts in Punjab. These incidents show that we also do not have regard for the word 'secularism' which is enshrined in the Constitution. We actually never bothered to think that this is such a pious word that we have to stick to it to move on and to take the nation ahead. Reports say that Muslims are discouraged from enrolment in the police, para-military forces and in the military. This is the report of Mr. Justice Mishra—131 gurudwaras were burnt in Delhi, not a single man was charge-sheeted or punished. These things are going on. Can you claim the State to be secular? So, I would submit, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that these slogans have absolutely no meaning.

Then, I would say that so far as Punjab is concerned, we have to sit and think over it. The Prime Minister says, 'I have no time to think about Punjab'. This is a double tragedy when the Prime Minister of a country says such a thing. *(Interruptions)*. Kindly use your good offices. Through this Parliament I would like to appeal to the people of the country, and I pray that we must sit together and find out a solution for Punjab which has been burning for the last four or five years. Whosoever is at fault and whosoever has done it is a secondary question. The primary question is the solution of the Punjab problem.

With these words, Mr. Deputy

Speaker, I oppose the Motion of Thanks to the President.

[Translation]

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN (Kairana) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am very grateful to you for providing me an opportunity to express my views regarding the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. I fully agree to the Address given by the President before both the Houses of the Parliament. It has given me much pleasure and satisfaction that the President has made a commitment to root out communalism and secessionism. The President has also promised to fully implement the 15-point programme in the interest of the minorities. This has provided a sigh of relief to the minority communities in the country. In this connection I can say, with full confidence, that peace can be preserved in the country only when hearts of the minorities are won.

The President has outlined the policy of the Government on Indo-Pak relations before the House. I cannot help but praise it. In fact India believes in maintaining friendly relations with its neighbours. It is a matter of great concern that there is a lot of difference between the words and the actions of the Government of Pakistan. It has not only been making clandestine efforts to acquire atomic weapons but also helping the secessionist forces in our country. I request the Government to give due thought to this aspect and remain cautious about the diplomatic tactics of Pakistan.

[English]

SHRI C.P. THAKUR (Patna) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I thank you for giving me this time. This Address by the President is well-drafted, well-documented and well-intentioned. It is not a hazy illusion but rather a document in reality. What is the thinking of the Government, what is the Government doing, they are contained in this Address. Our Prime Minister wants to transform this country into a strong, educated and modern country. With this aim in view, he wants to

[Shri C.P. Thakur]

harness science and technology and other techniques.

Now, some of the Members from the Opposition said, what is the need of repeating the words 'socialism and secularism etc.' If you have to practise all good things, you have to repeat them. A Hindu goes to Mandir so many times; a Muslim repeats Namaz 5 times a day; and the Christian goes to the church. The reason is that he will do those good things. So, with that in view, we have to remind the people about the socialism, about the secularism. Now, the vision of this Government was the vision of Mahatma Gandhi, vision of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and of late Shrimati Indira Gandhi. We want to continue on the same path shown by these great leaders.

Now, some of the Members from the Opposition—learned Member, Mr. Indrajit Gupta—pointed out, there is a contradiction in our foreign policy Statement regarding United States of America. Actually, there is no contradiction. We are a Non-Aligned nation and we have to maintain a balance. If we want to be very friendly with one bloc, we have to be friendly with other bloc also. No doubt, we value the friendship with Soviet Russia and there is a long paragraph on that. Since we are the leader of the Non-Aligned nations, we also have to improve relations with United States. But we are not an ally of any power and, therefore, we have pointed out where the United States is committing mistakes—when they are arming Pakistan—we say that America is doing a wrong thing and not a right thing.

Now, on the Afghanistan issue, one of the hon. Members, Dr. Dinesh Goswami has pointed out that it is a childish sort of suggestion, made by India. But he does not realise that in the political game of Afghanistan, there were, only two powers, two super powers Russia and America, as America is playing the chess through Pakistan. It is to the credit of our Government, to the credit of our Prime Minister, that when Russia announced return of army from Afghanistan, they conveyed that to India and also

the American deputy Foreign Minister has come to consult with our Prime Minister, to find the real, good and permanent solution to Afghanistan issue. By that, India has gained in the world politics.

Regarding Sri Lanka issue, some Members pointed out that we have done the same. But actually there was no other alternative left for us. That was the best option for India. At that time, there was a vacuum in Sri Lanka and this vacuum would have been filled either by any superpower or by Israel or by any other power and, in that case, what would have been the political and strategic position of India? Therefore we sent the Indian forces to Sri Lanka not to conquer but to bring normalcy and order in the framework of the constitution of that country and for that also, for the first time, the Tamilians were given their right to vote and everything required in the normal life of the Sri Lanka Government. It was a right move at that time. The person who takes initiative in any matter would meet with some resistance in the beginning but I think the Sri Lankan policy of the Government of India will succeed and peace and normalcy will come to Sri Lanka.

Coming to the internal policy, this Government of our Prime Minister has stood through two grim trim tests. One is forced by nature and another is hatched by conspirators. The first is the drought and floods. The country has passed through the unprecedented drought and floods this time and, instead of wasting time on non-issues, our Prime Minister tackled the floods and drought situation with all the might of the Government and everything was mobilised and nobody was allowed to die due to hunger and all help was given to the needy.

The second is the conspiracy to topple this Government, the conspiracy to actually defame the Prime Minister. In India all the political parties move round the political leaders, whether it is the Congress party, Anna DMK, DMK, NTR party or any party. The conspirators think that "If you defame the Prime Minister, then naturally, the whole party will be later on defamed." They

thought that they will succeed in the game. But the credit goes to the people of this country. The credit goes to the MPs of the Congress party that they understood this game and they did not allow these conspirators to succeed.

The people have said that we are not socialists and that we are forgetting socialism. But in the Address, we have given all prominence to the public sector and to the development of the poor, of the down-trodden. This is the goal of our Government. There might be some faults in the public sector. I think everywhere in the world, the public sector is not being properly manned in the socialist countries and everybody is realising that there is some fault in the management. If the management improves, the public sector will also improve and, therefore, there should be a special cadre of public sector and this Government is not forgetting the path of socialism.

I must say that in the Address, importance has been given to farmers, for the agricultural sector and in this sector, the role of the water management has been highlighted. Bihar this year has suffered from unprecedented floods. So, I suggest that measures should be taken to prevent floods in Bihar. Further, I would like to point out that the Sone canal was built 110 years ago and because of breaches etc. that has been ruined. There should be some renovation of the Sone canal. Then the Tal area in Patna District and Mungir etc. if they are properly maintained they can feed pulses to the whole of this country. Therefore, these are some of the areas where attention has to be bestowed. Such provinces of Bihar should be given preference.

With these words, as the time is up, I thank you for giving me this time and I support the Motion of Thanks.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address moved by Shri Bhagat. The President's Address is essentially an overview of the state of the

Nation containing and summing up the performance of the Government and giving his advice as the Head of the Nation. Sir, as you know, the President has not only highlighted the performance of this Government during the last year but also he has referred to the challenging situation the nation is facing and dealt as to how we should meet this challenge with his advice. He has also outlined the programme of the Government ahead of the year. The outgoing year was a very difficult year and a challenging year. These challenges came not only from outside but also from within. As you know, Sir, the rain-God was unfavourable and unkind. We had also to face the serious challenge i.e. the failure of crops. During the last year, we had the worst drought of the century. Also, there were conflicts and dispute along both the borders—the Pakistan border and the China border. But still then, in spite of all these things like the serious drought, border dispute and the growing terrorism, the achievements that this Government had done under the young Prime Minister's able guidance are quite spectacular. They have been well reflected in the President's Address and the Government deserves congratulations. In spite of all these adverse effects, our economy, which has been based on strong foundations, has stood the test of time and in spite of all such things our economy has recorded a positive growth and this GNP growth rate will be atleast one or two per cent. Whereas in 1979-80 when the Janata people were at the helm of affairs, they were ruling this country with lesser impact of drought. The magnitude of drought at that time was lesser. In spite of that, GNP recorded minus 4.7 per cent. Coming to my point, in the industrial sector, the growth rate will be about 10 per cent over what it was during the corresponding period of last year. Further, the inflation will not touch the two-digits whereas it was 21 per cent during the Janata period. Why did it happen so? Despite the unfavourable situation, the Government has managed the situation appreciably. In all the fronts, they managed the situation very well.

Coming to my next point, I would like to say something about the SS Missile that was successfully tested last week. Of

[Shri Sriballav Panigrahi]

course, that was done after the President delivered his Address here. This is something about which the entire nation is proud of. The S.S. Missiles will now be inducted into Army. I wonder at the attitude of opposition Members. I do not know why they are making allegations against the ruling party—against the Rajiv Gandhi Government. What do they say? I am reminded of a story of seven blind persons who were looking at an elephant. They were giving their description at the appearance of the elephant. Whatever portion they came across—every one of them thought that the elephant had the appearance of what they felt. I do not know why they are trying to be blind. Why they are not looking at the progress which the country has been making, with their eyes open. And they are also not having a comprehensive picture before them. I do not know why they are intentionally trying to present a gloomy picture. Is it the time to do so when the country is reeling under severe drought? They are trying to go to every nook and corner of the country and are telling about the fantastic stories—the stories based on untruth. These are all only figment of imagination. Take for example, Bofors, Fairfax etc. They should be ashamed of their conduct. They are now preparing for a Bharat Bandh on 23rd March. They are also, day in and day out, publicly and through the press, inside and outside the House, demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. They are demanding repolls. They are demanding fresh elections. What for are they demanding all these things? Where is the justification? In Tripura, as you know, recently elections were held. Panchayat elections were held in Kerala and at different places. There is a story about rigging. There is the news report that three Cabinet Ministers of the Jyoti Basu Government are making allegations about rigging. Now these people are saying that Rajiv Gandhi Government has disregard for democratic institutions. This is like devil preaching scriptures. They forget for a moment that they are inside a glass house and they try to throw stones at others—at Congress Government.

Sir, what happened to NTR? What

is the judgment of the Court against him? Has he got any regard for judiciary? He is still continuing under one plea or another. What happened in the by-election at Nazira in Assam? It is only because Congress has utmost regard for democracy. Democracy is surviving in this country. Democracy is not only surviving but it has taken deep roots and nobody can do any damage to it and to other democratic institutions.

Again, these people are giving a call for general strike in factories and everywhere on 13th and 14th. They are going to organise Bharat Bandh. I am reminded of one thing. Can they not look at the article in the 'Time' magazine published in America? In that, they have categorically and emphatically stated that there is no alternative to Rajiv Gandhi's Government in India. When there is no alternative to this Government and when it is doing well despite very unfavourable and hostile situation, what for are they trying to create anarchy in this country? Naturally, people's opinion also was reflected in polls in Tripura and Meghalaya and at other places and Panchayat and municipal elections in Kerala and Andhra Pradesh. I would say that we have got many types of problems. Our Government and for that matter our President is not complacent. They also say that there are several other problems. We have to look at these problems seriously. We have to solve these problems. You take for example, problem regarding terrorism. About terrorism, *Rashtrapati ji* has rightly said and I quote :

“The foremost task is to crush terrorism and isolate secessionists...”

18.00 hrs.

In clear terms he has given topmost priority to this menacing problem of terrorism being faced. He has said that there can and will be no compromise over the nation's integrity and unity. In the search for a non-violent political solution of the problem within the framework of the Constitution, Government stands ready for a dialogue with all those who eschew violence. Mr. Indrajit Gupta, who is not here

justnow, while referring to this deliberately missed this point. When he referred to this, he said only about violence. There can and will be dialogue with those people if they eschew violence; but at the same time the foregoing sentence is about the unity and integrity.

The nation's economic performance is a tribute to the soundest of our development strategy. Naturally, the President also is not contended. We have miles to go ahead. We have achieved a lot; but that is not complete in itself and he is also not contended. He has advised that the 8th Plan must provide for even faster growth, the mechanisation of employment opportunities and the reduction of regional disparities. We need both a higher rate of growth and a composition of growth that matches the basic needs of the people and the evolving needs of the economy and the society.

He has advised the Government that regional disparities will have to be eradicated and unless regional disparities are reduced gradually, the unity and integrity it is apprehended will be endangered.

Overall we have made a lot of achievement in the fields of technology, agriculture, industry, etc. In respect of technology, we are the third greatest power or country in the world. At the same time our foreign policy is quite laudable. In this year also we have played a very leading role in the international affairs with regard to South Africa, with regard to apartheid programme and also with regard to the six nations initiative which has provided the base and impetus for the accord that is being reached between the two great powers—America and Soviet Union. They are also bringing in a ray of hope for the whole of the world as far as world peace and disarmament are concerned.

There are other problems; they are also highlighted in the Address. One of the problems is mixing of politics with religion. Rightly, we have to fight out terrorism. In the last year's speech also there was a reference to separation of politics from religion. The law should be enacted. We should have the right type

of secularism should be enacted. It is high time we separated politics from religion. Those who violate this, action should be taken against them and in addition they should be debarred from contesting elections.

About the administrative reforms a lot has been said here. I would say about the District Collectors' conference. It shows how our Prime Minister is sincere and serious. He said that there should be administrative responsiveness and accountability. There are allegations that the Government of India is releasing adequate funds and massive grants to the States; but the schemes are not being implemented properly. That is why the Prime Minister is having a direct dialogue with the District Collectors in different conferences. But even this is not tolerated by some of the Opposition Governments. Why is it so?

About the public sector undertakings and high technology there is a reference here. There is also reference to how to eradicate illiteracy, how to go in for a massive plantation programme and small family and put an end to dowry, bride burning and regional imbalance. About the irrigation I would say that without irrigation we cannot think of agricultural advancement. So we should go in for irrigation on a large scale. Further, we have to give priority in the field of energy.

Orissa which is a backward State is very much hit by drought this year and enough funds should be given to the State. Also a lot of irrigation projects—RLEGP projects—are pending here for clearance. I request the Government to give priority to these long-pending things as Orissa is a backward State.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.00 a.m. on 2nd March, 1988.

18.06 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 2, 1988/ Phalguna 12, 1909 (Saka).