

Eighth Series, No. 42

Tuesday, April 29, 1986

Vaisakha 9, 1908 (Saka)

Lok Sabha Debates

(Fifth Session)



सत्यमेव जयते

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

New Delhi

Price Rs-4.00

C O N T E N T S

No. 42, Tuesday, April 29, 1986/Vaisakha 9, 1908 (Saka)

Oral Answers to Questions :

*Starred Questions Nos. 846, 848, 849, 851 and 853 to 857	...	1-28
---	-----	------

Written Answers to Questions :

*Starred Questions Nos. 847, 850, 852 and 858 to 866	...	28-38
--	-----	-------

Unstarred Questions Nos. 8105 to 8118, 8120 to 8158, 8160 to 8174, 8176, 8178 to 8323 and 8325 to 8336	...	39-316
--	-----	--------

Short Notice Question No. 1	...	316
-----------------------------	-----	-----

Papers Laid on the Table	...	321-327
--------------------------	-----	---------

Public Accounts Committee—	...	327-328
----------------------------	-----	---------

Forty-Second, Forty-Third, Forty-Fourth, Forty-Fifth and Forty-Sixth Reports— <i>Presented</i>	...	327-328
--	-----	---------

Committee on Public Undertakings—

Seventh and Ninth Reports and Minutes— <i>Presented</i>	...	328
---	-----	-----

Committee on the welfare of Scheduled Castes

and Scheduled Tribes—

Thirteenth and Sixteenth Reports— <i>Presented</i>	...	328-329
--	-----	---------

Committee on papers laid on the table—

Eighth Report and Minutes	...	329
---------------------------	-----	-----

Matters Under Rule 377—	...	331-337
-------------------------	-----	---------

(i) Demand for Setting up the proposed electronic switching equipment factory at Palghat in Kerala Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan	...	331-332
---	-----	---------

*The Sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

(ii)	Demand for stoppage of Nilachal and New Nilachal Express trains at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road Station in Orissa.		
	Shri Anadi Charan Das	...	332-333
(iii)	Demand for measures to prevent pollution of air and water at Brajarajnagar and Talcher in Orissa.		
	Shri Sriballav Panigrahi	...	333
(iv)	Demand for developing Bithoor town near Kanpur as a tourist centre.		
	Shri Jagdish Awasthi	...	333-334
(v)	Need to bring about necessary modification in the Schedule for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.		
	Shri Ram Pyare Panika	...	334-335
(vi)	Need for completion of inter-State Durgapur-Jamshedpur 400 KV line to meet power requirements of Orissa.		
	Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik	...	335
(vii)	Demand for providing alternative employment to the Yoga teachers being removed from service by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.		
	Dr. Sudhir Roy	...	335-336
(viii)	Need for expansion of insurance service in the State of Sikkim.		
	Shrimati D. K. Bhandari	...	336-337
	Tea (Amendment) Bill—	...	337
	Motion to consider		
	Shri P. Shiv Shanker	...	337-386
	Dr. G. Vijaya Rama Rao	...	338

Shri Bipin Pal Das	...	341-378
Shri Ajoy Biswas	...	345-347
Prof. P. J. Kurien	...	348-385
Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi	...	352-357
Shri Piyus Tiraky	...	357-360
Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev	...	361-363
Dr. G. S. Rajhans	...	363-366
Shri P. Kolandaivelu	...	366-383
Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas	...	364-373
Shri Bhadreswar Tanti	...	373-374
Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav	...	375-
Shri Amar Roypradhan	...	375-377

Clause 2 to 4 and 1 Motion to Pass

Shri P. Shiv Shanker	...	386
----------------------	-----	-----

Coal Mines labour welfare fund (Repeal) Bill—

Motion to consider	...	386-314
Shri Vasant Sathe	...	386-388
Shri G. Bhoopathy	...	388-391
Shri Damodar Pandey	...	391-396
Shrimati Jeyanti Patnaik	...	396-399
Shri Basudeb Acharia	...	400-403
Dr. Phulrenu Guha	...	403-404
Shri Somnath Rath	...	404-408
Shri Raj Kumar Rai	...	408-411
Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee	...	411-413
Shri Ram Pyare Panika	...	413-416
Shri A. C. Shanmugam	...	416-418
Shri Mool Chand Daga	...	418-420
Shri Sharif Dhariwal	...	420-421

Clauses 2 to 8 and 1 Motion to pass	...	419-431
Shri Vasant Sathe	...	429-431
Shri Sriballav Panigrahi	...	429-430
Shri Damodar Pandey	...	431
Statement Re : Steps to contain aids—		
Shrimati Mohsina Kidwai	...	432-434

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, April 29, 1986/
Vaisakha 9, 1908 (Saka)*

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

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

**Setting up of cement plants in Bihar
and Maharashtra**

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

(a) whether the Cement Corporation of India proposes to set up shortly some of its projects in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, details of the projects likely to be set up;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up cement plants in Bihar and Maharashtra during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(d) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) Due to resources-constraint, Cement Corporation of India does not propose to take up any new cement plants in any part of the country

including Bihar and Maharashtra during the Seventh Five Year Plan period. Its Seventh Plan programme provides only for the completion of 'One going' schemes and modernisation and technological upgradation of some of its existing plants. Its one million tonne Tandur Cement Plant in Andhra Pradesh is likely to be commissioned in June, 1986.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : We are importing cement which means that there is a shortage of cement. In view of this fact, will be hon. Minister re-consider his decision and set up a cement plant in Bihar where there is no dearth of limestone and coal ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : The hon. Member will be happy to know that we have not imported cement and we have not provided any foreign exchange in the Budget for import of cement, because already the cement prices are coming down and about 33 million tonnes of cement has been produced upto March, 1986. As far as increase in capacity is concerned, already we have about 44 million tonnes of capacity which has been commissioned. We hope that by the end of the Seventh Plan the capacity increase will lead to production of cement upto 50 million tonnes or even more. As far as construction of cement plant in Bihar is concerned, it is not only the Cement Corporation but also the private sector and the joint sector which can set up cement plants. Already we have given a expansion Industrial licence to Sone Valley Portland Cement for Japla Palamau for a capacity of 3,30,000 tonnes.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Sir, the cement plants of Rohtas Industry is one of the best plants in Asia. It is closed for quite some time. Will the hon. Minister consider taking it over ? And also the Japla plant.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : Sir, even though I will require notice for giving a detailed answer to this question but I would, in general, like to mention it to the hon. Member that Robtas is a part of a package of mills. There is a complex of mills. Not only cement, but they are manufacturing textile, sugar, vanaspati, paper and other things. So, all this package is being considered as a whole by the Bihar Government.

MR. SPEAKER : You also want to make it a package deal.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : If I could, Sir. But the subject matter is under intensive consultations between the Finance Ministry, the Bihar Government, the financial institutions and also the owner of the mills.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Sir, the reply says that certain mills are going to be upgraded and modernised and production is being increased. But there are some good units which are working much below capacity. Has the hon. Minister taken any steps to see that capacity utilisation is increased?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : Yes. The main constraint has been the lack of power supply in State of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Bihar also. This has been one of the major reasons. The steps that are being taken are : The Corporation is installing DG Sets totalling 16.8 MW in five units, namely, Mandhar, Kurkunta, Akaltara, Nayagaon and Charkhi Dadri to meet the normal power shortage to the extent of 30 to 40 per cent. It is also planned to instal more diesel generating sets. Also, efforts are being made to get more supply of coal from Coal India Limited. Material handling studies have been conducted by the National Industrial Development Corporation. Other major parameters, viz., to improve the management control, cost control, production planning, maintenance management, quality control, inventory control are also being taken to augment production.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Sir, the question relates to the CCI. I would

like to know the names of all on-going projects which are going to be taken up in the Seventh Five Year Plan. I would also like to know whether there is any excess capacity already created for the manufacture of cement and whether the Government of India has already restricted further licensing of this industry.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : Sir, the on-going projects are : Tandur, which I have mentioned in my main answer. This is a one million tonne plant which is coming up at Tandur, in Andhra Pradesh. Then is the Nayagaon Expansion with split location grinding units at Delhi and Bhatinda. This is also a one million tonne per annum plant. It is in the advanced stage of implementation at Nayagaon, Mandsaur District. Only their grinding plant in Delhi is under consideration & Rs. 173 crores worth of estimates are going to be proposed for the consideration of the Public Investment Board. The site and environment factors are under consideration for this Delhi unit. Another expansion proposal concerns Yerraguntla in District Cuddapah of Andhra Pradesh. This is also a one million tonne plant. Then is the Damodar Cement and Slag Limited. It is a joint venture with West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation. It is proposed that a slag granulation plant at Burnpur, District Burdwan be set up under this project. Then, the Mandhar Conversion and Expansion plant ... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : My God ! This is a long list. Put it on the Table of the House.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : I will put it on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : The hon. Minister has informed that due to resource constraint, they will have no objection if new projects are started in the private sector. I would like to mention that if the people who have received training in high technology abroad and have applied to the Finance Corporation, and whose cases are pending with the Finance Minister, are permitted to set up new cement

factories, the country would start getting high quality cement at Rs. 30 or 35 per bag. Therefore, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister proposes to set up such new cement factories in the private sector? I shall submit a list of such factories to the Finance Minister. I have in my mind Singoja and Sangli which are in Maharashtra...

MR. SPEAKER : All right, you have made your point. Let him reply, you have given suggestions.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : Sir, as regards the desire of the hon. Member that assistance should be provided to set up cement units in the private sector, I would like to mention that we shall accept all such suggestions and this has been our effort in the past too. I shall be grateful if the hon. Member could give me complete details about Sangli to which he has just now referred.

MR. SPEAKER : Vishnu Modi.

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the C.C.I. was to set up a cement plant in Bundi, Rajasthan, with a capacity of one million tonnes. It is due to this plant that the Ministry of Railways have taken up the work of laying metre gauge railway line from Bundi to Chittorgarh. The approval to this railway line was given mainly due to likelihood of setting up a cement plant of C.C.I. with a capacity of one million tonnes. Just now the hon. Minister has informed that there is no mention of Bundi in the Seventh Five Year Plan. I would like to know whether the Government are going to set up a one million tonne cement plant of the C.C.I. in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : I am very sorry to say that due to resource constraints, it is not possible for us to consider this project during the Seventh Plan. But the name of Bundi is certainly there and as soon as the resources are available, we shall make efforts for Bundi also.

**Pollution of Rivers by Paper Mills
in Madhya Pradesh**

*948. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR

MISHRA Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the pollution of water of Arapa river and Hasdo river by certain Paper Mills in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by Government to prevent this pollution?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) According to the information made available by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, the coloured treated effluents of Brooke Bond Mill does pollute the river Arapa in the District Bilaspur. The consent given to the industry has been cancelled and the case is pending with the Appellate Authority. The industry has been advised to utilise the treated effluents for irrigation purposes instead of discharging it into river Arapa. The coloured treated effluents of Madhya Bharat Paper Mill is being discharged into river Hasdeo. The industry has been advised to run and maintain their effluents treatment plant properly. They have been advised to use waste water on land for irrigation.

MR. SPEAKER : Why not order? Why only advise? Order them to do it.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : Yes, Sir.

[Translation]

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, that was what I was going to say. You are a Krishi Pandit. I would like to say that the effluents of the factory which are polluting the river water contain high percentage of chlorine and caustic soda. Therefore, through you, I would like to know the species of plants which can be irrigated with such water and it is used for irrigation what will be its effect on the fertility of land?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : I have a great regard and respect for the wisdom of the hon. Member and his knowledge of that area. He must be knowing better about that area...

MR. SPEAKER : Have his remarks pinched you ?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : No, Sir. He has a sweet voice.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : When the hon. Speaker has given orders, they should be carried out.

MR. SPEAKER: Ram Singhji, haven't you heard that old saying.

[English]

There is no reason why not to do but to do or die !

[Translation]

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : Sir, as I said in the very first line of my reply, this work has to be done by the Madhya Pradesh Government and whatever information has been given here is based on the information supplied by the State Government. Sir, your kind observation and remarks as well as the suggestion given by the hon. Member will also be forwarded to the Madhya Pradesh Government for immediate action.

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Sir, my second supplementary is that...

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : There is nothing more.

**Licence for ceramic factory at Yanam
in Andhra Pradesh**

*849. **SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have granted licence for a ceramic factory at Yanam near Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh with foreign collaboration;

(b) if so, the particulars of the major partners;

(c) particulars of the chief consultant for this factory; and

(d) whether Government are considering any alternative proposal for some different place ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. M/s. Regency Ceramics Limited have been granted an industrial licence for setting up a ceramic tile plant at Yanam in the Union Territory of Pondicherry (near Kakinda in Andhra Pradesh).

(b) The Indian Company and the foreign collaborator M/s. Welko Industrial, SPA Italy are the two major partners holding 75% and 25% equity respectively in the paid up capital of the Company.

(c) The Company have not applied till date for the engagement of a foreign chief consultant.

(d) No such proposal has been received by Government from the Company.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part (c) of my question, the hon. Minister has stated that the company has not applied to-date for the engagement of a foreign chief consultant. But I did not ask this. What I had asked was :

[English]

"Particulars of the Chief consultant for this factory".

[Translation]

It reveals his guilty conscience. Why do they want to entrust the entire work to an Italian firm; why do they want to set up this factory in collaboration with this Italian firm? Have they tried to find out whether technical consultant in this field is available in India or not, because ceramic

industry in our country is quite advanced? Our technology in this industry can be compared favourably with the advanced countries of the world. Why then the Government want to collaborate with a foreign company by giving them 75 per cent shares, because as stated in the reply, the equity of the foreign company would be 75 per cent whereas that of the Indian Company was only 25 per cent?

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : This is not possible. how a foreign company can hold equity of more than 25 per cent.

[English]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : It says : "The Indian Company and the foreign collaborator M/S. Welko Industriale, SPA Italy are the two major partners holding 75% and 25% equity respectively in the paid up capital of the company."

(Interruptions)

Now I shall come to you for training.
SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOUDHARY : You ask why this discrimination?

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I want to know what was the need of giving them even 25 per cent?

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : The company has not yet applied, till date, for the engagement of foreign chief consultant. However, there is a standard clause in the foreign collaboration agreement forbidding the engagement of foreign consultant. If foreign consultancy is considered unavoidable, an Indian consultancy firm should nevertheless be the prime consultant.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : My question was very specific. In part (c) of my question, I had asked as to what were the particulars of the chief consultant of this factory. This is what it implies and I want to know why are we insisting on having collaboration with Italy since 1980

and what is the technical knowhow with them for which we have to enter into collaboration with them and whether that knowhow has not been developed so far in our country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : Sir, so far as the desire of the hon. Member that we should make more and more use of the indigenous technology developed in our own country is concerned, I welcome it but this firm of Italy is known for its high technology the world over and is particularly famous for the manufacture of glazed tiles the world over. Based on their technology, saving of energy upto 30 to 40 per cent can be had and whereas double furnace is needed in other techniques, only one furnace would be enough under this technique. Therefore, keeping in view the new technology, they have been given 25 percent equity.

[English]

Production and import of crude for oil refineries

*851. **SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state.

(a) the requirement of crude oil for the refineries in the country annually ;

(b) the estimate of production of crude oil in the country to feed the refineries ; and

(c) the quantity of crude oil imported annually to meet the gap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The estimated requirement of the crude oil in 1986-87 is 44.94 million tonnes.

(b) The estimated production of crude oil in 1986-87 is 30.21 million tonnes.

(c) Import requirements of crude oil for 1986-87 is estimated to be 15.6 million tonnes.

[*Translation*]

SHRI AMAR SINGH RATHAWA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know what programmes have been formulated for the Seventh Five Year Plan to meet the increasing demand and consumption of petroleum products?

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has already given this information. The Minister was asked to furnish the figures which he has done. What more do you want to know? Will the hon. Minister like to give some more information?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I have stated the factual position.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : Statistics have been given to you.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I have already given the figures about the information the hon. Member wanted to have. Two-pronged efforts are being made to bridge the gap between the production and the requirement. We are taking some steps to contain the demand and we are also making efforts to steps up production. Many steps are being taken in this direction. These include entering into collaborations with other countries for the enhancement of the production and for exploiting the recovery system. Meetings with foreign oil companies are also being arranged. All these efforts are aimed at stepping up production.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : It has already been done so many times. This has been answered so many times. Nothing more.

SHRI MURLI DEORA : The hon. Minister said that in 1986-87, we will import 15.6 million tonnes of crude oil. In view of the fact that there is a decrease in the oil prices in the world where the price has gone down to as much as 10 dollars, how much foreign exchange Government of India will save and whether the Govern-

ment is considering to conserve oil in our country and explore it when the prices go up?

MR. SPEAKER : They are trying to do it.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : The answer to the latter part of the question is negative. There is no attempt not to produce and conserve and import, because we are already faced with balance of payment difficulty but as far as the question what we are going to save because of the falling price at international level of crude oil is concerned, we have been able to save to the tune of Rs. 233 crores in the first quarter of this calendar year January-March and we are making purchases almost on spot prices although we are in consultation and discussion with different countries which export oil to us and we are trying to get arrangements made on spot prices or market-related prices.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : From time to time, the Petroleum Conservation Organisations have given a lot of suggestions as to how to decelerate the increasing consumption of petroleum in this country. I believe the Government has not taken any steps pursuant to this recommendations. If that is not correct, will the hon. Minister kindly tell us what steps have been taken to conserve use of petroleum or decrease the use of petroleum?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : I fully appreciate the hon. Member's concern to decelerate the growth in demand in petroleum products and I have already stated on the floor of the House that we are trying to evolve a package of measures to bring about a comprehensive strategy to contain this growth.

I had already held two meetings of all the Secretaries of the Ministries concerned and final meeting may be held in the next month. I hope we shall be able to go to the Cabinet to get its sanction for the project and thereby effect overall economy in the use of petroleum products in the country. (*Interruptions*)

Modern technology for non-conventional energy

*853. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some foreign countries have offered modern technology for production of non-conventional energy in our country ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on this issue :

(c) which countries have offered such modern technology ; and

(d) which are the systems for each such technology offered and the conditions attached therewith?

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

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, may I know whether it is a fact that the countries like USSR, USA, UK and Denmark are the pioneers in the production of non-conventional energy; If so, may I know whether the USSR has developed a very economical and cheaper model of wind-mill i.e. Eagle which is very easily operated and also very economical? Such type of model-wind mills can be installed in our country specially when our country fully depends on the agricultural sector. 75 per cent of our population is engaged in agricultural operation and these windmills, if installed in rural areas, the farmers can easily operate and it will be very economical. May I know whether the Government will think in that line to set up such type of model wind mills in our country?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We are already setting up wind-mill farms on the coastal side of our country. Two wind-mill farms—one at Tuticorin and one in Gujarat—have already been successfully working. Three more wind-mills are pro-

posed and any technology that can help us to put improved or better wind-mills will always be welcome. We are always on the look out. We are, ourselves, developing these windmills. This suggestion would be most welcome. But we do not have offer from any country mentioned by the hon. Member of any new technology in this regard. But we are, ourselves, on the look out and developing technology not only in the field of wind-mill but all non-conventional sources of energy. We know this is very important for the country.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, my second supplementary is whether it is a fact that a survey was conducted by the U.N. who had opined that whatever the energy we are getting now-a-days from wind-mills, it can be 16 times more than that. So, in that context, may I know from the hon. Minister whether any programme has been made to speed up the setting up of such wind-mills in the rural areas. Why I am saying this is, in all, 400 wind-mills have been set up in our country. So, will the Hon'ble Minister has any programme to expedite it?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We know the great potential of wind in the country and we would like to expedite it fully. But it depends upon the force, velocity of the wind available and what can be best used for generating energy; we will definitely keep this in mind. We have a big programme of using wind-mill energy in the country.

SHRI G. G. SWELL : I would like to know whether anywhere in the country we have experimented with magneto hydro dynamics and if so, where, with what results and what are the calculated economics.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : On MHD, a pilot plant is being experimented in our country. That technology is modern and it helps direct conversion from coal to energy...

SHRI G. G. SWELL : Where ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I do not know where. I will try to get the details

and pass them on to the hon. Member. Is it in Meghalaya ?

SHRI G. G. SWELL : You are the Minister for Energy.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will find out and get the information. The pilot plant has been set up in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Development of non-conventional sources of energy is a national priority. We have agreements for exchange of science and technology with many countries in the world—a very large number of countries. In furtherance of these Agreements we have Joint Commissions on science and technology. Now the procedure in these Joint Commissions is that the country, India or the other country, each one of them, submits those matters on which they would like to have cooperation. I would like to know, in view of the large number of these Joint Commissions, in view of the fact that it is open to this country to submit the item on which they would like to have cooperation and in view of the fact that non-conventional sources of energy are a national priority, why this question of cooperation in non-conventional sources of energy has not been taken up by any of the Joint Commissions on science and technology.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as science and technology is concerned, as I said, the Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources is developing on all fields of non-conventional sources of energy the technology indigenously and wherever we find that technology is available, we take action. It is a question of country-to-country when you say that discussions in Joint Commissions are held. Uptill now, no country has come forward or has shown any interest, but we have gone to various countries to find out technologies like Denmark for wind-mill and to other countries, and we take the best wherever it is available.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI USHA THAKKAR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know whether

any attention is being paid to harness the tidal wave energy ?

[English]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is also under consideration.

Licences for postal agencies

*854. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether licences for postal agencies now being given to private parties are granted only to war-widows, handicapped ex-servicemen and Scheduled Castes/Tribes alone;

(b) if not, what are the categories of persons eligible for the same; and

(c) how many private agencies have been appointed in the State of Kerala ?

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

(b) The scheme of licenced Postal Agents provides for grant of licenses to companies registered under Indian Companies Act, sole proprietorship firms, partnership concerns or to individuals, preference being given to charitable institutions, women's associations or co-operatives, war widows and physically handicapped persons. Licences are at present being issued mainly to institutions, associations, societies and other socially useful agencies.

(c) So far, 23 licensed postal agents have been appointed in Kerala State.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : The answer given by the Minister makes it specifically clear that the licences are at present being issued mainly to institutions, associations, societies and other socially useful agencies. But I

know of several instances in Kerala where certain private individuals have been given these agencies and they do not come under any of these categories. As far as my information goes, some of these agencies get an amount of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 per mensem as commission. If a departmental employee is entrusted with this function, I am sure that the departmental expenses will not exceed Rs. 2,000 per month. In this connection may I know from the hon. Minister whether the decision to go in for privatisation in postal services has been a policy decision or is it a deviation from the policy adopted in the Department over the years, that is, Communication Department, which is the second largest public utility service in our country.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : It is true that in some States when the scheme had just been sent to our officers, some individuals were appointed; but most of them are individuals who are handicapped and persons of that nature. (*Interruptions*) I do not deny that firstly people were appointed. When we came to know about it we again sent around the circular saying that preference should be given, as I said, to the associations and charitable institutions and things like that.

There are only 23 licensed/postal agents in the whole State of Kerala. There can not be large number of individuals who have been given—may be a couple of stray cases as the Hon. Member has in view. So, it is not a very alarming situation as it has been made out. This scheme has been tried in a very experimental way. It is a new scheme. This has been thought of for a long time. There is no question of privatising our services.

On the one hand we have ban on the creation of posts and opening of post offices and on the other there is a tremendous demand particularly in the urban areas where new and new colonies are coming up, new areas are opening up and we have not been able to provide any service to them. So, it was with this end in view that this scheme was thought of and we are trying to see whether we can solve the problem of expansion of postal services in this particular manner.

We also came to know that some persons are earning a lot of money. Not many cases, just one or two stray cases. Here again, we have revised our commission to make it more realistic. I will inform the House through you Sir, that a commission of 3% is paid on postage stamps and stationery purchased by the agents from the post office in the course of a day. The rate is being reduced to 1.5% on purchases made in excess of Rs. 1000/- during a day. There is a certain commission for registered letters. So, with this new rates of commission, there is no question of any one getting Rs. 10000/- or so.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Hundreds of RTP employees are serving the Communication Department for the last six or seven years continuously on temporary basis. These RTP employees are highly educated, qualified and they have been employed in the service on merit. Unfortunately, due to ban on the appointment in the Department, there is a lot of frustration. So also, some sense of insecurity is mounting in their minds. In this connection may I know from the Hon. Minister as to why does not the Government consider appointing these RTP employees in the Department on permanent basis to perform the functions that are being already delegated to private agencies.

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : In suitable cases it is welcome if they want to come and take the agencies. The experience is that people will certainly use them like this. But absorption of all the RTPs is a very long standing problem. This does not arise out of this question; but since it has been raised, with your permission, I can say that we are keen that at least a substantial portion of the RTPs should be absorbed. They have been in the service, they are doing good work and our Department is greatly helped by them. But because of the ban, we have not been able to convince the Finance Ministry to what extent they will let us absorb them. We are still in correspondence with them. I have taken up this personally with the Finance Minister and we are trying to find some way. If not all, at least some portion

of the RTPs are absorbed on permanent basis.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : May I draw your attention to the fact that—I am coming from my constituency—one letter posted within 30 kms. has taken eight days to come.

MR. SPEAKER : This does not have anything to do with this question.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I would like to know whether the ban on the recruitment...

MR. SPEAKER : This is an individual case and this does not pertain to this question.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I would like to know whether by this ban on recruitment, suspicion is being created in the Communication Department that it is actually a prelude for privatisation of the communication service.

MR. SPEAKER : Madam, this is irrelevant. Mr. Sharad Dighe.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : This is not an individual case Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : But this does not pertain to this question.

(Interruption.)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It is pertaining to privatisation Sir.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Sir, I have put a question.

MR. SPEAKER : My ruling is that Mr. Sharad Dighe to put the question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mrs. Geeta Mukherjee, your question does not pertain to this subject.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : This is regarding privatisation of this unit. This is happening everywhere,
(Interruptions)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : The Minister should reply to this question.

Mr. SPEAKER : I will allow another question to Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee. Even allowing a Short Notice Question, I will not mind. I am not averse to having any discussion.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : So, he will allow a Short Notice Question,

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE : The scheme of giving licence to postal agents is a good scheme and preference is being given to Charitable Institutions, Women's Associations, Co-operatives, War widows and Physically handicapped persons. However, in the cities like Bombay, these people cannot take advantage of this good scheme because of the accommodation problem and unless accommodation is made available to these people, to whom preference should be given, they will be unable to take advantage of this. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government will consider helping these people in putting up stalls on the foot-paths with the cooperation of the Bombay Municipal Corporation or the State Government so that really these people can take advantage of this good scheme,

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Perhaps one of the reasons why we have taken up this scheme is that if you want to open a post office in the cities, the rent there is very high. So, one of the requirements in the scheme is that he gets commission for doing the work and sales, etc, and he also provides his own accommodation. He has to keep it open for three hours. So, this is one of the part of the conditions that an agent should fulfil, that is, he should provide the accommodation where the neighbours could go for postal stamps, stationery, etc. As regards the suggestion regarding the stalls on the foot-paths, if the Municipal Corporation comes forward to help, we will certainly consider that.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I want to know from the hon. Minister what specific jobs are entrusted to the postal agents and whether the Government intends to wind up some of the existing post offices and entrust that job to the postal agents,

SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA : Three duties are entrusted to them. One is sale of postal stamps and stationery. The other is booking of registered letters and the third is clearance of letter boxes installed in the premises. There is no question of closing any of the existing post offices and giving them to these agents. Closing of the existing post offices is completely a different matter. It goes on from time to time. But there is no link between the two.

Import of Oxyfedrine by companies in violation of industrial licences

*855. **SHRI VISHNU MODI :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Drug Companies have imported Oxyfedrine in violation of conditions of Industrial licences;

(b) whether any such instances have come to the notice of his Ministry; and

(c) if so, the action taken by his Ministry against the companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) M/s. German Remedies had been importing bulk drug Oxyfedrine in violation of the conditions of industrial licence.

(c) The company has been issued a show cause notice for the revocation of the industrial licence.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw your attention to Question No. 344 which was replied to in this House on 14th August, 1984. In reply to that question the hon. Minister had stated that German Remedies had been issued a licence. This is a company which manufactures drugs. There was a specific condition in their industrial licence that the company would not import this drug and that no foreign exchange would be given for that. But on 14th August, 1984, the hon. Minister had stated that

the company was importing it. On the one hand we are having an adverse balance of trade, our imports are increasing and on the other hand, such companies are importing it in violation of their industrial licence. And now, we are receiving a reply that a show cause notice has been issued. I would like to know from the hon. Minister when this show cause notice was issued and whether he has issued an order simultaneously to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports to stop imports forthwith ?

[English]

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Sir, it is true that M/s. German Remedies were given an industrial licence to produce/manufacture oxyfedrine formulation with the condition that bulk oxyfedrine would be manufactured within a period of two years. This was one of the conditions laid down in the Industrial Licence, that is, within a period of two years they should produce bulk drug Oxyfedrine.

As I have said, they have violated this provision and it is because of this violation that we consulted that Law Ministry whether or not we could issue a show cause notice for revocation of its licence. In 1984 this came to the notice of the Ministry and we immediately had a consultation with the Legal Affairs Department. Since it was a very complex question, it took one and a half years to two years for discussion between the Ministry of Industry and the Legal Affairs Department. It was only in 1986 that finally the Ministry of Law agreed that it was a violation of one of the conditions in the Industrial licence. In March 1986, we issued a show cause notice. Besides that, while waiting for this, we have taken some action. We have written to the CCIE to stop its import from outside India. We have also taken another step by disallowing extension to the Managing Director of German Remedies, Mr. Voss, on the recommendation of the earlier Department, which is now under the same Ministry, the Ministry of Industry, the Department of Industrial Development.

[Translation]

SHRI VISHNU MODI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you have listened to the reply given by the hon. Minister. It took them 1½ years to decide whether it was a case of violation or not and whether a show cause notice could be served or not. At the same time, I would like to know whether they imported the drug at a higher price from their principal? They had imported it at a much higher price than what was prevailing in the international market. They did so because they were to transfer the money. I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of it and if so, the reasons therefor?

[English]

SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : The difficulty is that this particular drug is being manufactured only by one company in the world. Whether they purchase the drug from their principal company or another company it is very difficult to find out. We have tried to find out, but since it is manufactured only by one company, we are not in a position to find out.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Oxyfedrine and other life saving drugs are being produced according to the licence being issued by the Central Government. If there is any violation, you are taking action. I appreciate the Government for action taken against some of the companies. At the same time, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Government that the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. at Madras has been closed *sine die*, and four thousand employees are out of job. This is a company which is managed by the Central Government and they are producing cheapest drugs used for the poor and down-trodden. I would like to know whether any action has been taken by the Government in order to open the factory and give employment to four thousand employees.

SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH : Though this question would need a separate notice, I can inform the hon. Member that we are taking up the preparation of rehabilitation plan of all the five drug Companies under the Ministry

of Industry, including IDPL. Reports about some of them have already been submitted. The report about IDPL is expected next month. I have given them the deadline of 1st June. We expect that the report on the complete rehabilitation would come some time in June and I can assure the hon. Member that the IDPL Madras would not be closed down.

Compulsory inspection of cooking gas connections to ensure safety

*856. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :**

**SHRI JAGANNATH
PATTNAIK :**

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

(a) whether Government propose to provide for compulsory inspection of cooking gas connections to ensure safety of women who happen to be the victims of gas explosions in kitchens;

(b) whether gas distributors have trained people to install and check gas connections;

(c) whether several distributors employ illiterate personnel to distribute cylinders and connect these although they have no training in safety measures; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to correct the present system?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA
SHEKHAR SINGH) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) LPG distributors of the oil marketing companies are under instructions to ensure that deliverymen and mechanics employed by them are adequately trained to do their job in a safe and competent manner.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Mr. Speaker Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have any arrangement to check

whether the instructions of the Government have been carried out or not.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : There is regular checking to ensure that the instructions given by the Government and Oil Companies are adhered to. Distributors are obliged, under the agreement, to maintain trained mechanics for installation work and repair work and make available free technical advice to the customers. The training has to be of standards laid down by the marketing companies. The companies also conduct training courses for them and there are regular checks to see that these mechanics are trained to get the desired standards.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : I would like to know whether the Government has received any complaints that the pin-type valve cylinders are unsafe because the pin tends to come off, leading to leakage. At the same time, I would also like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government are aware that sub-standard LPG cylinders are in circulation and whether ISI (Indian Standards Institution) marking is compulsory for the LPG cylinders. If not, does the Government propose to make it compulsory so as to prevent health hazards?

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH : Sir, with the introduction of self-closing valves and click-on regulators, it is now very simple and easy for housewives to connect the LPG cylinders to the stoves. As far as the question whether ISI standards are being adhered to or not is concerned, the LPG cylinders are procured by the oil companies from the cylinder-manufacturing units after the quality of the cylinders is approved by the ISI and the Chief Controller of the Explosives. In the bottling plant also, i.e. at the filling end, care is taken to see that ISI standard cylinders are utilised. Also, the cylinders are given a water bath to detect any leakage. By these methods, we are trying to ensure that these accidents do not occur. But it has been seen that accidents have occurred because of careless handling and bad maintenance at the end of the customers. I would like to inform the House that Government is

considering the constitution of a Committee headed by a leading public figure to look into this question in all its aspects and suggest measures to ensure that these accidents are minimised and the most rigorous standards are adhered to.

(Interruptions)

Safeguard in Palmyra tapping occupation

*857. **SHRI N. DENNIS :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to safeguard the Palmyra tapping occupation from deterioration; and

(b) whether Government would come forward to protect the persons engaged in Palmyra jaggery production and connected subsidiary occupations with subsidies and loans for purchasing utensils and firewood for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) and (b) Khadi and Village Industries Commission encourages artisans engaged in Palmyra Tapping occupation to form Co-operatives and Federations. It provides them financial assistance on concessional terms such as for Capital Expenditure for tools, equipment machines, worksheds, etc. It also provides them Working Capital for production and sale as per the prescribed norms. This also covers expenditure on firewood. The loan paid for working capital are repayable in 5 years whereas capital expenditure loans are repayable in 5/10 years depending upon the nature of assets. The loans carry interest at 4% only.

The products of this industry are enjoying exemption from income-tax and excise. KVIC also provides Share Capital Loans to the artisans and members of the societies to enhance their borrowing power apart from providing capital formation loans to registered institutions.

In some cases, assistance is also given directly to individuals.

Steps have also been taken for undertaking research and development in this industry. KVIC has set up Palm Products Research Institute in Madras where training facilities are provided to the artisans, supervisors and other workers.

SHRI N. DENNIS : It is a traditional rural industry providing employment and income without investment. This industry is facing declining trend and gradually perishing due to its hazardous nature and lack of encouragement and patronage by the Government of India. Thus those who depend on the industry live below the poverty line. If this industry perishes, the consequences would be creation of several socio-economic problems and if developed, it would solve many problems. May I know whether a separate Board or Commission would be constituted specially for the development and production of palmyra products and for the solution of socio-economic problems of those who are engaged in this industry? What is the total financial assistance disbursed to the artisans annually and the number of beneficiaries thereon?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : I totally disagree with the hon. Member when he says that the industry is declining. The production during the Fifth Plan was worth Rs. 19.85 crores and employment 3.72 lakhs. In the Sixth Plan it has increased to Rs. 40.53 crores and 6.25 lakh employment. In the Seventh Plan it is estimated that there will be a production worth Rs. 63 crores and 7 lakh employment. As far as formulation of a separate commission is concerned, we have no proposal at hand. Recently we have received a representation from workers of manufacturing units in Tamil Nadu. We have referred the matter to the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for its comments. A decision will be taken after receiving the comments from them.

SHRI N. DENNIS : Palmyra products like fibre, leaves and other palmyra products have tremendous export potentialities.

They have to be protected with enhanced loans, subsidies, equipment, firewood and by implementing beneficial measures like housing, pension and cash benefit relief measures to the victims of accidents. May I know whether long term policies would be evolved for the development of this industry and palmyra workers. The hon. Minister has said about the research work. May I know the details of the research work and the result achieved thereon? Will the research be conducted for preservation of neera, jaggery and other palmyra products and to produce dwarf varieties of trees as in the case of coconut?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : A research institute of KVIC is functioning at Madras. A number of research programmes are being undertaken in this Institute—for example, to improve the recovery of sugar from palm syrup, soft drinks from palm syrup, etc. To remove the drudgery involved in palmyra tree climbing, an improvised mechanical device has been fabricated by the Institute.

MR. SPEAKER : The Question Hour is over.

MR. SPEAKER : There is a short notice question. Dr. Datta Samant—not present.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Assistance to States for infrastructure facilities in district courts

*847. **SHRI ATAUR RAHMAN :** Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inadequacy of infrastructure for district courts in the States like Additional District and Subordinate Courts, construction of court buildings and residential quarters for judicial officers of those courts; and

(b) the steps, if any, taken in this regard during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (b) Administration of justice in District and Subordinate Courts primarily concerns the State Governments and as such infrastructure like Additional District and Subordinate Courts, construction of Court

buildings and residential quarters to Judicial Officers is provided by them. In addition, the Central Government has given financial assistance by way of grants-in-aid under Article 275 of the Constitution as recommended by the Seventh Finance Commission during 1979-84 for upgradation of standards of judicial administration. Statement showing details is given below.

Statement

Release of grants as recommended by the 7th Finance Commission during 1979-84 for upgradation of standards of judicial administration.

Name of the State	Total amount released based on the recommendations of the 7th Finance Commission (Rs. in lakhs)	Approval given for		
		Setting up of Additional courts (No.)	Construction of court buildings (No.)	Construction of Residential quarters. (No.)
1. Andhra Pradesh	83.97	19	19	19
2. Assam	165.23	41	41	41
3. Bihar	487.88	133	133	133
4. Himachal Pradesh	7.82	2	2	2
5. Jammu & Kashmir	3.92	2	—	—
6. Kerala	5.34	1	1	1
7. Madhya Pradesh	35.83	7	7	7
8. Manipur	27.37	7	5	5
9. Nagaland	70.00	—	700 Village court buildings	—
10. Orissa	92.88	21	21	21
11. Rajasthan	202.46	48	48	48
12. Tamil Nadu	15.64	4	2	2
13. Tripura	60.46	12	11	11
14. Uttar Pradesh	591.78	132	132	132
15. West Bengal	124.42	29	60	60
	1982.00	458	482 + 700 Village Court Buildings	482

*[Translation]***Funds for expansion of rural electrification in hill regions of U.P.**

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

(a) whether different criteria are adopted by the Rural Electrification Corporation for allocation of funds for per km. expansion of electricity line for rural electrification in the plains and hill regions of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the U.P. State Electricity Board earmarks the same amounts for per km. expansion of electricity line for rural electrification in hill regions of the State, which have been recognised as a specific geographical unit even by the Planning Commission, as is spent by it on electrification of villages in the plains; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed by Government to remove this anomaly ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Rural Electrification Corporation has prescribed a uniform criterion for allocation of funds for per kilometer extension of electricity line for rural electrification in the plains and hill regions of the country, except in the case of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) For Uttar Pradesh, the comparative cost data adopted by REC for the year 1985-86 in respect of 11 KV lines for expansion of electricity in the plains is in the range of Rs. 18000-36000 per kilometer and in the hills in the range of Rs. 50000-74000 per kilometer, depending upon the size of conductor used etc.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Industrial development and modernisation of industries

*852. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of countries wherefrom cooperation is likely to be forthcoming for the industrial development and modernisation of all the industries in the country; and

(d) the names of the industries proposed to be modernised in Rajasthan and the estimated amount to be spent on this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The initiative for the selection of the technology for modernisation and development is left to the Indian entrepreneurs. They explore the alternative sources of technology, make a techno-economic analysis of the proposed foreign collaboration and select the foreign collaborator whose offer suits them best. Government has laid down the foreign collaboration guidelines which permit co-operation with various countries for technology up-gradation and industrial development. Every proposal for a foreign collaboration needs Government approval.

*[English]***Petro-chemical complex in Madhya Pradesh**

*858. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Madhya Pradesh have submitted a proposal for setting up a Petro-chemical complex based on natural gas through HBJ pipeline in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the present position of this proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Tenders for projects of Neyveli lignite Corporation Ltd.

*859. DR. V. VENKATESH : SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of global tenders invited by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli, during the last four years with specific requirements for machinery and equipments in various projects for expansion etc.;

(b) the bids received from different overseas organisations either with or without Indian collaborators;

(c) how many such tenders have since been finalised; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and action proposed to be taken to expedite the process of finalisation and completion of on-going projects of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) 23 Global Tenders have been invited by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited.

(b) 106 bids with 33 number of foreign collaborations with or without Indian collaborators have been received.

(c) and (d) Of the above 23 tender cases, 16 have been finalised and most of

the remaining cases are in an advanced stage of processing. Close monitoring is being done at various levels to ensure that the on-going projects are completed on time.

Setting up of gas-based power projects

*860. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of gas-based power projects functioning in the country, their location and the production capacity;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish more gas-based power projects in the country during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Details of the gas-based power projects which are functioning and which are proposed to be set up during the Seventh Plan are given below :

S. No.	Name of the Project	Location	Capacity in MW
1	2	3	4
Projects already functioning			
1.	Dhuvaran Gas Turbine Project	Gujarat	54
2.	Uran Gas Turbine Project	Maharashtra	672
3.	Lakwa (Phase I)	Assam	45
4.	Namrup	Assam	81.5
5.	Mobile Gas Turbine	Assam	21
Projects proposed to be set up :			
6.	Kawas	Gujarat	600
7.	Auraiya	U.P.	600
8.	Anta	Rajasthan	430

1	2	3	4
9.	Kathalguri	Assam	280
10.	Ramgarh	Rajasthan	3
11.	Lakwa (Phase I, 4th Unit)	Assam	15
12.	Lakwa (Phase II)	Assam	60
13.	Baramura	Tripura	10

**Proposals for new industrial growth
[centres by Kerala]**

***861. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHO-
THAMAN :**

PROF. P. J. KURIEN :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Kerala
have submitted proposals to develop new
industrial growth centres as instructed by
Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :**
(a) and (b) A proposal has been received
from the Government of Kerala for appro-
val of growth centre in Vemom village of
Wynad district, one of the two 'No—
Industry Districts' in the State.

**Procedure for recovery of illegal
benefits made by drug companies**

***862. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH
MALIK :** Will the Minister of INDUS-
TRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has laid down
procedure for the recovery of illegal bene-
fits made by the drug companies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :** (a)
and (b) Paragraph 17 (1) of the Drugs
(Prices Control) Order, 1979 specifies the
situations under which money can be reco-
vered from the drug companies under the
Drug Prices Equalisation Account. For the
purpose of recovering the amount details
of imports/procurements of bulk drugs are

called for from the manufacturers, invol-
ces relating to purchases/procurements and
consumption etc. are verified. Thereafter,
set offs, if any, claimed by the company
are verified and only then the recoverable
amount is ascertained. The process is
time consuming. However, the process of
recovery against various formulators and
manufacturers of bulk drugs is on in acc-
ordance with the due procedure of law.

[Translation]

Working of gifts schemes

***863. SHRI NARENDRA BUDA-
NIA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY
be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Com-
pany Affairs has arrived of the conclu-
sion that gifts schemes are against the
interests of the consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) how the interests of the consumers
are being safeguarded against such sche-
mes launched by various companies and
in vogue at present; and

(d) the action being taken against the
offender companies ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :** (a)
and (b) All gift schemes may not be agai-
nst the interests of consumers. Only such
of the gift schemes as are "unfair trade
practices" within the meaning of sub-cla-
use (a) of clause (3) of Section 36 A of
the MRTP Act are against the interests
of consumers.

(c) and (d) The interests of consumers
are being safeguarded by MRTP Commi-
ssion by enforcing provisions of Sections

36 A, 12A and 12B of MRTP Act. If gift schemes launched by companies/parties are found prejudicial to public interest, the Commission passes orders in terms of Section 36 D of MTRP Act. Any violation of the said orders passed by the Commission is punishable under Section 48 C of the Act.

[English]

Expert committee on functioning of State Electricity Boards

*864. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :

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

(a) whether the Chairman, Advisory Board on Energy has recommended to Government to appoint a high powered committee to study the functioning of the State Electricity Boards in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to appoint such a committee; and

(c) if so, the time by which the Committee is expected to be set up together with the terms and conditions thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Advisory Board on Energy has suggested the appointment of an expert committee to examine the working of the State Electricity Boards.

(b) The working of State Electricity Boards has been studied in detail by several bodies and measures to strengthen them are being implemented.

(c) Does not arise.

Production of Penicillin

*865. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of Penicillin in the country during 1982-83 and 1984-85;

(b) the reasons for fall in production;

(c) what is the total production and licensed capacity of Penicillin in the country and what was the percentage production of licensed capacity during 1984-85; and

(d) what is the policy for fresh permission for this essential drug ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI):

(a) The total production of Penicillin in the country during 1982-83 and 1984-85 was of the order of 358.37 MMU and 221.68 MMU respectively.

(b) The reasons for fall in the production are marketing constraints and technological problems in HAL and IDPL and power shortage in Standard Pharmaceuticals.

(c) The total annual licensed capacity of Penicillin in the country is 637.00 MMU. The percentage of production of total licensed capacity during 1984-85 was 34.70%.

(d) Under present Drug Policy manufacture of Penicillin is reserved for public sector undertakings.

Manufacture of duplicate electric fans of popular brands

*866. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints against some units manufacturing duplicate electric fans of popular brands at Rampura-Hansapuri Road, Tri Nagar, Delhi;

(b) whether any action has so far been taken to save the customers from this duplication;

(c) the measures proposed to be taken against such manufacturing units and the concerned local police officers ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Boycott of some companies by AIOCD

8105. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to reports about boycott of some companies by the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists and its constituent associations;

(b) the reasons for the boycott; and

(c) if trade margin is the bone of contention, whether Government propose to fix the trade margins statutorily so that no boycott takes place and consumers are not put to avoidable inconvenience ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The main reasons behind such instances of boycott is the dispute between the manufacturers and the distributors on the issue of trade margin. There is already a provision in Paragraph 24 of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979 for regulating trade margins.

**Quality of coal supplied to NTPC
Shakti Nagar, Kota**

8106. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal produced at Jayant Project of Central Coalfields Limited now Northern Coalfields Limited is supplied to National Thermal Power Corporation, Shakti Nagar, Kota for use in thermal power station only;

(b) whether stones are picked up from coal before it is crushed into small pieces to save boilers from damage;

(c) whether removal of stones before crushing has been stopped by Jayant management as they have thrown contract workers out of job and "run-of-the-mine coal" is being directly sent to coal handling

plant for crushing, endangering the thermal power boilers;

(d) whether National Thermal Power Corporation, Shakti Nagar has many a time complained about the bad quality of coal; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to ensure good quality coal to National Thermal Power Corporation by getting stones picked at wharfwall siding as before; and if not, reasons therefor ?

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

(b), (d) and (e) The coal seam at Jayant is free from any stone band. However, occasionally when any geological disturbances are met with, the stone is separated by mechanical means so that coal free from stone goes to the crusher. As such coal free from extraneous matter is being supplied to NTPC. Since the CHP at Jayant had started functioning, despatch from wharful has been abolished.

(c) The company management at Jayant has never engaged any agency for the picking up of stones. It was, in fact, on the request of NTPC that some contract labour were engaged for breaking up of coal to (—)4" size for relieving the pressure on their crusher. This was discontinued as the coal handling plant of Northern Coalfields Limited at Jayant had started functioning. Further, as the coal seam at Jayant is free from any stone band the "run-of-mine coal" is always directly fed to the crusher and, as such, the question of endangering the thermal power boiler does not arise.

**Use of foreign trade mark by Escorts,
Maruti and D.C.M.**

8107. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the collaboration agreements of Escorts with Yamaha, Maruti with Suzuki and DCM with Toyota have a clause that no foreign trade mark will be used;

(b) if so, how they are using it and what action Government are taking against them;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Western Cosmic, Onida, Crown etc. have a similar clause on foreign trade marks and are not using the foreign trade marks; and

(d) if so, whether this is due to the clause being enforced by the Electronics Department ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Escorts-Yamaha, DCM-Toyota and Maruti-Suzuki are not foreign owned trade names. These are hybrid names and are being used by some Indian Companies.

(c) and (d) As per Industrial and Licensing Policy for the manufacture of T.V. Sets, use of Foreign Brand names is not allowed in the manufacture and sale of T.V. sets, Weston, Cosmic, Onida etc. have not been allowed Foreign Collaboration for the manufacture of T.V. sets.

Effect of Newsprint Price Hike on Press

8108. SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that massive price increase allowed for indigenous newsprint is going to affect the newspaper industry very seriously;

(b) whether Government propose to control the Press indirectly as per the media controlled by Government;

(c) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) the measures Government are going to pursue, financially or otherwise to keep the free role of the press unhampered in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Central Government has allowed the price of newsprint to be raised by an amount found reasonable by a Bureau of Industrial Costs & Prices' study keeping in the view the relevant factors. The price of newsprint is just one element in the total cost of a newspaper. The price rise has taken place after a period of about 20 months.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. In fact, the Government owned media also enjoy professional autonomy in the discharge of the duties cast on them.

(d) There is no proposal to extend the scope of the facilities presently being provided to the Press, as the Government is committed to the growth of a free and unsubsidised Press.

Scheme for allowing Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. to borrow from international market

8109. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to allow the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) to borrow from the International market so that this company can offer credit linked packages for supply of power equipment in the country as well as in foreign countries ;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of this scheme ; and

(c) how far it will go in the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. competing with foreign firms, while tendering for contracts for supply of power equipment to domestic and foreign projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Government have not taken any decision allowing BHEL to borrow from the International market.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Working of hydro-electric projects

8110. **SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI** : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the hydro-electric projects in the country are showing poor performance vis-a-vis thermal power projects ;

(b) if so, the causes thereof ;

(c) which are the projects so affected ;

(d) the remedial steps Government have taken to improve the situation; and

(e) the amount of funds provided for completion of these projects during the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Generally, the hydro-electric projects take a longer time for completion than the thermal power projects on account of various reasons which include complex nature of geological pro-

blems, remoteness of the site, difficulties in acquisition of land, rehabilitation of people whose lands are acquired, extensive civil works and obtaining clearance from environmental angles.

(c) The on-going projects which have been delayed by over five years and are now targetted for commissioning during Seventh Plan are indicated in the statement given below.

(d) The need for timely completion of projects is being constantly emphasised on state authorities. Extensive monitoring of the projects is also being done by Central Electricity Authority to ensure timely completion of hydel projects. Help is rendered to the State authorities in overcoming the constraints, through site visits and review meetings by the Senior Officers of the Central Electricity Authority. The problems regarding clearance from environmental angle is also taken up with the concerned departments.

(e) The information is given in the annexure referred to in part (c) above.

Statement

Details of Hydro Electric Projects under construction which are likely to be commissioned during the 7th Plan period which are delayed by over 5 years.

Sl. No.	Name of the Project with capacity (MW)	7th Plan outlay (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
CENTRAL SECTOR		
1.	Salal (3 × 115)	117.00
NORTHERN REGION		
Himachal Pradesh		
1.	Andhra (3 × 5.60)	13.26
2.	Rongtong (4 × 0.5)	6.96
WESTERN REGION		
Gujarat		
1.	Ukai LBC (2 × 2.5)	2.20
2.	Kadana PSS (2 × 60)	41.75
Maharashtra		
1.	Tillari (1 × 60)	6.57

1	2	3
Common (M.P./Maharashtra)		
1. Pench	(2 × 80)	5.71
SOUTHERN REGION		
Kerala		
1. Idamalayar	(2 × 37.5)	N.A.
Tamil Nadu		
1. Kadamparai	(4 × 100)	35.77
2. Lower Mettur	(4 × 2 × 15)	43.23
EASTERN REGION		
Orissa		
1. Upper Kolab	(3 × 80)	44.00
West Bengal		
1. Ramman St. II	(5 × 12.5)	33.00

Voluntary retirement scheme in Public Sector Undertakings

8111. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether Government propose to allow voluntary retirement schemes applicable on uniform basis for employees of all the Public Sector Undertakings as has been done in the Steel Authority of India Limited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : No such proposal is under consideration of Government at present.

Failure of Public Sector Units to present accounts in time

8112. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of public sector units have failed to present their accounts in time as stipulated; and

(b) if so, remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes Sir, there have been delays in some cases.

(b) The Public Enterprises have been advised by their Administrative Ministries/Departments as well as by the Bureau of Public Enterprises to keep appropriate time schedules so that the accounts are finalised, audited, adopted in the Annual General Meeting and placed before the Parliament within the prescribed time limits. The Bureau of Public Enterprises have also advised Administrative Ministries/Departments to ensure that there is no delay in the finalisation of accounts of the enterprises under their administrative control and the placement of annual reports before the Parliament.

Provision of domestic confections in Dashrathpur village in Andaman

8113. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether rural electrification of the entire Dashrathpur village in Middle Andaman has been completed ;

(b) if so, the total number of domestic connections provided in that village; and

(c) whether the villagers demanded more connections in that village; if so, the action taken to meet their demands?

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

(b) So for 15 Domestic connections have been provided in Dashrathpur village in Middle Andaman.

(c) As per information received from Andaman & Nicobar Authorities, two more applications for new service connections have been received recently, which are under process.

Delimitation of Constituencies

8114. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the largest parliamentary constituency in the country based on population;

(b) the smallest parliamentary constituency based on population in the same State;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to reduce such huge differences in population of various parliamentary constituencies; and

(d) whether some laws are proposed to be enacted to enable the Election Commission to reduce such disparities in constituencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : Bombay North East Parliamentary Constituency in the State of Maharashtra-10,82,419;

(b) Rajapur Parliamentary Constituency in the same State—6,12,195.

(c) and (d) Fresh delimitation of constituencies on the basis of the latest

census and other factors like migration, urbanisation, industrialisation, changes in administrative boundaries, etc., may redress the imbalance in the size of constituencies. Regarding the steps concerning fresh delimitation, attention is invited to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 25 dated 23.7.1985.

Pending applications for marketing of new drugs

8115. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for marketing of new drugs pending with his Ministry and for how much period;

(b) the names of the drugs for which these applications are pending; and

(c) the reasons therefor and when a decision on them is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) :

(a) Permission for marketing new drugs is granted under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 and the rules made thereunder. This Act and the Rules are administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. According to information received from that Ministry clinical reports in respect of 12 new bulk drugs have been submitted by the manufacturers but marketing permission in respect of these drugs would be accorded after completing the necessary formalities in due course.

(b) It would not be proper to furnish the names of the new drug for which the applications are pending unless the Drug Controller (India) takes a decision on the reports of clinical trials that have been submitted.

(c) Decision on these 12 applications would be taken by the Ministry of Health after completing necessary formalities.

Monitoring and evaluation task by Bureau of Public Enterprises

8116. SHRI MANIK REDDY : Will

the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the staff in Bureau of Public Enterprises has been declared surplus;

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

(c) whether it is a fact that the Bureau of Public Enterprises was doing monitoring and evaluation task which will now suffer; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that many public sector units were never or seldom monitored and evaluated leading to their failure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

In accordance with the decision taken by Government, Bureau of Public Enterprises (BPE) has recently been restructured. In the revised set up, BPE will perform its basic role in laying guidelines in the fields of personnel policy and training, wage policy, performance indicators, work norms, etc. It will also act as a nodal point for collection and maintenance of information with regard to public sector enterprises. Consequently, three Divisions of BPE, viz., the production Division, the Construction Division and the investment, Consultancy and Research Division, have been wound up w.e.f. 14.3.86 resulting in reduction in staff strength from 262 to 159. The staff declared surplus have either been repatriated to their parent organisations or their services have been placed at the disposal of the Surplus Cell, as per rules, for redeployment elsewhere.

BPE's role in regard to monitoring and evaluation of performance of public enterprises has been greatly reduced in the context of these responsibilities devolving on the Ministry of Programme Implementation. Monitoring and evaluation of performance of public sector undertakings will not be adversely affected on account of restructuring of BPE as the same is being done by the concerned administrative Ministries as well as by the

Ministry of Programme Implementation. It is not correct to say that many public sector units were never or seldom monitored or evaluated leading to their failure. Monitoring and evaluation is an on-going function on the part of administrative Ministries and performance of an enterprise depends on several factors, both internal and external.

Proto-type development and training centre at Hyderabad

8117. **SHRI S. PALAKONDRA-YUDU :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have approved the proposal sent by the Government of Andhra Pradesh to set up a Proto-type Development and Training Centre for Electronics at Kushalguda, Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) whether it has been included in the Seventh Five Year Plan and the reasons for the delay in setting up of the proposed P. D.T.C. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : No such proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh. However, the Government of India are considering a proposal of National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) for setting up a Prototype Development and Training Centre for Electronics at Hyderabad.

(b) The proposal of NSIC envisages setting up of a PDTC in Electronics at Hyderabad with a financial outlay of Rs. 4.34 crores. The Centre will produce electronic components and special purpose machines for electronics industry and will also provide training, besides extending Common Facility Services to Small Scale Units in the field of electronics.

(c) This has not been included in the Seventh Five Year Plan. The proposal of

NSIC had been referred to the Planning Commission who have advised that as there were a number of similar proposals and to avoid duplication it would be desirable if a view on the various proposals is taken in a meeting to be convened by the Department of Electronics.

Proposal to reduce imports of drugs

8118. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries where from Government are importing drugs;

(b) the total worth of drugs imported from different countries during the last three years; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to reduce the import and increase the domestic production of drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Government does not generally import drugs. The imports are mostly effected by the pharmaceutical industry from a large number of countries including Japan, China, Hungary, Italy, Spain, France, Holland, West Germany, U.K.

(b) The total worth of bulk drugs and formulations imported during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 was as under :

1982-83	...	...	Rs. 120.96 crores
1983-84	...	...	Rs. 126.48 crores
1984-85	...	...	Rs. 188.57 crores

(c) Yes, Sir.

Central assistance for installation of biogas plants in Orissa

8120. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-NAIK : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the central assistance given to Orissa for the installation of bio-gas plants so far ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : A total sum

of Rs. 247.61 lakhs has been released to the State Government of Orissa during the period 1981-82 to 1985-86 under the National Project for Biogas Development. Another sum of Rs. 13.20 lakhs was released to Orissa from 1982-83 to 1984-85 for Community/Institutional Biogas plants.

Supply of water to NTPC from Hasdeo Bango Dam

8121. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any commitment for supply of water to National Thermal Power Corporation from Hasdeo Bango Dam;

(b) whether Madhya Pradesh State is in a position to complete the dam for supply of water as committed;

(c) the efforts Madhya Pradesh Government have made to complete the dam for water supply to National Thermal Power Corporation and other thermal projects; and

(d) whether the delay is due to shortage of funds and if so, what steps have been taken to meet the shortage of funds ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Government of Madhya Pradesh had confirmed in 1977 and in 1981, that water requirements of the Korba Super Thermal Power Station (STPS) of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) would be met by suitably regulating the discharge from the Bango Dam.

(b) to (d) The progress of construction of the Bango Dam is reported to be slow on account of shortage of funds. The Government of Madhya Pradesh had allocated Rs. 13 crores for this purpose in 1985-86 and have indicated that, should adequate funds become available during 1986-87, it would be possible to bring the Dam to 325 metres by June 1987 to meet the water requirement of the Korba STPS. Contracts for constructing Earth and Masonary dams have been finalised and work is in progress on all the blocks. The

State Government have been advised to ensure provision of adequate funds for construction of the Dam.

Setting up of public sector units in Andhra Pradesh

8122. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total-number of Central public sector units in the country;

(b) the number of such units located in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether any proposal to set up more such public units in Andhra Pradesh is under consideration of the Union Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) There were 217 Central Public Enterprises as on 31.3.1985 excluding Insurance Companies, Banking and Financial Institutions. 12 of these enterprises are situated in Andhra Pradesh having their registeree offices there.

(c) and (d) The decision regarding location of Central public sector enterprises are taken by the Government on broad techno-economic considerations and it cannot be pre-determined on a state-wise basis.

Allocation of funds to small scale industry for production of synthetic fibres

8123. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to allocate funds to Small Scale Industry for the production of synthetic fibre under the liberalised licensing policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Bottlenecks in Bakery technology and products

8124. SHRI NARSING SURYAWANSI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the action taken by the Union Government to remove the bottlenecks in Bakery Technology and Products viz. difficulties in procuring raw materials of the required quality, non-availability of standard machinery, inadequate training facilities and the high cost of material etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : There is no shortage of raw materials and the main raw materials such as maida, yeast, shortenings etc, are made available at reasonable prices. There are about 50 small and medium scale units engaged in the manufacture of different types of bakery equipments in the country. There are enough technical institutions to train young men and women in bakery technology.

There cannot, therefore, be said to exist any major bottlenecks which impede the growth of bakery industries.

Production and shortage of quinine

8125. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that quinine salts are not available in the country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total production of quinine and its salts during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether there is any formulation based on quinine and its salts being marketed in the country; and

(e) if so, the names of the formulations alongwith the price fixed for each ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No shortage of Quinine and its

salts, which are produced by the State Government factories, has been reported. In fact, according to the information available, the production had increased from 5558 kg. in 1982-83 to 7300 kg. in 1983-84 and 8120 kg. in 1984-85.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A statement giving the names of the formulations and their leader prices as fixed by the Government is given below.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the formulations alongwith composition	Pack size	Leader price
1.	Quinine DI-Hcl. Injection 0.3 gm/ml.	50 Amps × 1 ml.	40.09
2.	Quinine DI-Hcl. Injection 0.6 gm./2 ml.	10 Amps × 2 ml.	16.34
3.	Quinine DI-Hcl. Injection 0.3 gm./ml.	10 Amps × 2 ml.	19.67

Policy regarding clinical trials for introduction of new drugs

8126. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) which are the new drugs for which clinical trials were conducted in the country and the drugs approved for marketing during the last three years;

(b) which are the companies that have been given licences to import/manufacture those in the country; and

(c) whether Government propose to change their policy to encourage clinical trials in the country for the introduction of new drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Approval of new drugs is granted under the Drugs & Cosmetic Act and the rules thereunder which are administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. According to the information received from that Minis-

try, 41 drugs have been cleared for marketing in the country during 1984, 1985 and upto 28th February, 1986 and their names are given in the Statement given below. Out of these, 34 drugs have been approved on the basis of clinical trials carried out in the country. The remaining drugs have not undergone clinical trials in the Country. They are either anti-cancer drugs or life saving drugs which have been approved for marketing in the country on the basis of the advice given by the experts consulted in the respective fields.

(b) To the extent information is available, out of the 41 drugs referred to in reply to part (a) of the question industrial approvals have been issued in respect of the following six bulk drugs :-

- (i) Ranitidine
- (ii) Atnelol
- (iii) Tabramycin
- (iv) Diclofenale Sodium
- (v) Becampicillin
- (iv) Captopril

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Statement

List of new drug cleared for marketing during the period 1984 to-date.

Sl. No.	Name of the Drug	Pharmacological Classification
1	2	3
1.	Septopal Deads & Chains	Bone & soft tissue infections.
2.	Timolol Maleate	Blaucomo.
3.	Flurazepan	Hypnotic.
4.	Tinazoline Bulk	Nasal decongestant
5.	Praziquantel	Nearocysticerocosis
6.	Aminoglutethimide Tablets	Anti-cancer.
7.	Nimustine Hcl	Anti-cancer.
8.	Carboquone	Anti-cancer.
9.	Etomidate	Anaesthetic agent.
10.	Cinnarizine	Anti-histaminic.
11.	Mianserin HCl.	Anti-Depressant.
12.	Isosorbide Mononitrate	Cardiac drug.
13.	Netilmicin Sulphate	Amionglycoside antioibtic,
14.	Ranitidine	Anti-ulcer.
15.	Hydrocortisone 17 Rutyrate	Topical Corticosteroid.
16.	Mexiletine HCl.	Anti-errhythmic agent.
17.	Atonolol	Anti-hypertensive agent.
18.	Spectinoycin Hcl.	Anti-conorrheal agent.
19.	Tobramycin	Antibiotic
20.	Monensin Sodium	Aoccidiosis (Vet.)
21.	Cefazolin Sodium	Antiliotic.
22.	Diclofenac Sodium	Anti-inflammatory agent.
23.	Nadolol	Anti-hypertensive agent.
24.	Testosterone Undecanoate	Oral androgan.
25.	Dextranomer	Alcers & Burns.
26.	Serratio peptidase.	Oral enzyme.

1	2	3
27.	Bleomycin Oil Suspension	Anti-cancer.
28.	Ciclepirex Olamine	Anti-fungal.
29.	Becampicillin	Antibiotic
30.	Captopril	Anti-hypertensive agent.
31.	Ivermectin	Anthelmintic (Vet).
32.	Nicergoline	Peripheral Vasedilator
33.	Amoxapine	Anti-depressant.
34.	Purified Chicken Embryo Cell (PCEC) Tissue Culture Rabies Vaccine.	Rabies Vaccine.
35.	Benserazide Hcl, (To be used in combination with Levodopa only)	Parkinsonism
36.	Acebutolol Hydrochloride	Anti-hypertensive agent.
37.	Atricurium Dibesylate Injection	Muscle relaxant.
38.	Culprostance Inj.	Abertificiant.
39.	Amoscanate	Anti-amoebic.
40.	Satranidazole	Anthelmintic.
41.	Centbucridine	Local anaesthetic.

S.T.D. meters tampered with by staff

8127. SHRI R. S. MANE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken by Government to ensure that STD meters are not tampered with by staff;

(b) whether any action has been taken all over India in 1986 to reduce such tampering with meters, leading to unfair billing of subscribers;

(c) the technical gadgets utilised to prevent tampering with phone and meters at the exchange level;

(d) whether Government are aware

that such tampering is generally taking place after working hours;

(e) what steps have been taken to ensure that zonal officers visit exchanges on surprise visits after office hours; and

(f) whether any such policy exists presently ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (f) No separate STD meters are provided and question of their tampering does not arise. STD calls are recorded on the subscribers meters provided for recording local calls. The details

of preventing vigilance measures taken to detect and curb misuse of STD facility are as follows :

- (i) All meters are sealed.
- (ii) Meter rooms are kept locked under the charge of a J.E. and entry to meter room is restricted.
- (iii) Subscribers telephone meters are checked regularly and fortnightly individual meter readings are recorded. Any unusual variation in the calling pattern is reviewed.
- (iv) Surprise visits, inspections by vigilance staff of meter room and main distribution frame room are undertaken.
- (v) Entry to metering room and MDF room has been banned to unauthorised persons to avoid possibility of disconnecting the metering wires.

[Translation]

Complaints against officers of BHEL

8128. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints concerning theft, corruption and economic offences in different units of Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. received during the last three years and during the current year, year-wise and unit-wise; and

(b) the number of officers and other staff found guilty and the action taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Prices of two-wheelers

8129. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the ex-factory prices of various makes of two-wheeler scooters manufactured by Bajaj, Lohia Machines, Andhra Pradesh Scooters and others; and

(b) the steps which Government propose to take to cut down the present heavy over-heads and incidentals included in the overall manufacturing cost particularly the administrative charges ?

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

(b) The Government sanctions higher capacities to existing manufacturers under re-endorsement schemes, by way of substantial expansion etc. to encourage better economies of scale.

Statement

Name of the company	Model	Ex-factory price (excluding excise duty)
1	2	3
Bajaj Auto Ltd.	Bajaj Super	6,490.00
	Bajaj Cub	6,410.00
	Bajaj Chetak	6,730.00

1	2	3
Lohia Machines Ltd.	Vespa XE	10,911.18
	Vespa 150	9,685.16
	Vespa 150 DZ	10,992.01
Andhra Pradesh Scooters Ltd.	Vespa PL 170	8,200.00
Maharashtra Scooters Ltd.	Priya	6,440.00
Scooters India Ltd.	Vijai Super	7,335.00
	Lambretta Cento	5,825.00
Automobile Products of India Ltd.	Lamby 150	6,650.00
	Lamby Polo 150	7,250.00

Closing of branch post offices in Himachal Pradesh

8130. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Branch Post Offices which are under-going loss are proposed to be closed in Himachal Pradesh during the year 1986-87;

(b) if so, the details of these Branch Post Offices, Division-wise, including the amount of loss during the past year and the projected loss for the current year;

(c) whether the Himachal Pradesh Government has offered to pay the NRC (non-refundable contribution) and requested the Postal authorities not to close down any office;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the decision and ensure that no Branch Post Office is closed in view of the utility for the rural areas and the offer of the State Government in this regard; and

(e) the likely date by which suitable instructions would be issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Closure of some branch post offices as indicated in reply to part (b) of the question during 1986-87 was contemplated.

(b) Division-wise information is as under :

Name of Divn.	No. of Branch Post Offices		Amount of loss
Chamba	2	Rs.	1,061.77
Dharmasala	20	"	56,193.77
Dehra	4	"	41,675.34
Hamirpur	10	"	48,995.76
Solan	28	"	1,70,453.57
Mandi	33	"	98,754.81
Shimla	48	"	1,02,973.74

The amount of loss includes past year and projected loss in some cases.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) Instructions have already been issued.

Khadi and Village Industries set up in Orissa

8131. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the number of Khadi/village/individual industries set up with KVIC aid/finance/loan, district-wise in Orissa during the last two years with amount spent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : The information is being collected.

Temporary telephone connections in Calcutta

8132. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of telephones (temporary) sanctioned and installed during the period of October to December, 1985 in different exchanges of Calcutta Telephone under the administrative jurisdiction/charge of the Area Managers South and Central;

(b) whether most of the telephones were given for a period of six months each and even after installation of such connections most of them remained unserviceable to the respective subscribers;

(c) if so, whether a few subscribers have since represented to extend the period of six months by the period for which their respective telephones remained unserviceable or dead or inoperative; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof and the steps being contemplated to extend the benefit of further period for which their telephones remained dead or inoperative ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE

MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The total number of temporary telephones sanctioned and installed during the period of October, 1985 to December 1985 in different exchanges under Area Managers South and Central of Calcutta Telephones are given below :

	Sanc- tioned	Ins- talled
Area Manager (South)	49	49
Area Manager (Central)	23	27

(b) Most of the telephones were given for six months each. Faults of different types occurred on some of the above mentioned telephones after installation which were rectified.

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

Nationalising drug industry

8133. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether 70 per cent of the drugs sold in India should be banned as those are spurious and harmful;

(b) whether Government are thinking in terms of nationalising the drug industry;

(c) if so the details of the proposed nationalisation; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Nationalisation of the drug Industry is not a viable proposition.

Shortage of anti-T.B. preparations

8134. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of anti-TB preparations are not available in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that preparations based on Thiacetazone, Streptomycin, Isonicotinic Acid Hydrazide, Sodium Salt of para Amino Salicylic Acid, para Amino Salicylic Acid are used for the treatment of T.B.;

(c) whether there is a shortage of all these medicines in the country and the same are being sold at premium; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No general shortage of the medicines referred to have been reported. There are no reports of the sale of these medicines at prices higher than the prices fixed by the Government under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. M/s. Pfizer Limited are, however, selling PAS based formulations at the prices allowed to them by the Delhi High Court through its judgement dated the 17th December, 1984. A special Leave Petition has been filed by the Government in the Supreme Court of India against the judgement of Delhi High Court.

Missing postal bags from Air Sorting Office, Cochin

8135. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that recently some postal mail bags were found missing from Air Sorting Office, Cochin;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether Government have conducted any enquiry regarding the missing of mail bags; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) Nine registered packet bags containing registered articles have been reported lost after despatch from Air-Sorting Office, Cochin to different stations.

(c) Yes, Sir,

(d) The loss stands reported to the police for investigation.

Production of Metronidazole by IDPL

8136. SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited is licensed to produce Metronidazole;

(b) if so, the licensed and installed capacity of Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited for this drug and its production during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the estimated requirement of this drug for 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is as under :

Licensed	Ins- talled	(In tonnes) Produc- tion		
		1983-84	1984-85	1984-85
30	30	0.30	0.43	0.40

(c) 330 tonnes.

**Import of syn o-base for production of
Ethohepazine Citrate**

8137. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that certain companies imported the penultimate known as syno-base for the production of Ethohepazine Citrate;

(b) if so, whether the CIF price at which this penultimate was imported was higher than the CIF price of the drug; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) M/s. Wyeth Labs. are now reportedly producing the drug Ethoheptazine Citrate from basic stage only.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

**Requirment of Trimethoprim and Sulpha
Methazole and Production by IDPL**

8138. SHRI D.P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated requirement of Trimethoprim and Sulpha Methazole for 1986-87;

(b) the total production of each of these two drugs in the country during the last two years; year-wise;

(c) the percentage of IDPL production to total production year-wise during the last two years; and

(d) the reasons for non-utilisation of capacity by IDPL ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The 7th Five Year Plan Working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceutical have estimated the requirement of Trimethoprim (TMP) and

Sulpha-methoxazole (SMX) during 1986-87 as under :

(i) Trimethoprim (TMP) — 125 T

(ii) Sulphamethoxazole (SMX) 470 T

(b) The production of these bulk drugs in the organised sector during the last 2 years, yearwise is as under :

Name of the bulk drug	Production (Tons.)	
	1983-84	1984-85
(i) TMP	— 61.31	46.53
(ii) SMX	— 375.94	539.08

(c) IDPL's percentage of production to total production of Trimethoprim (TMP) and Sulphamethazazole (SMX) during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 is as under :

Year	TMP	SMX
1983-84	6%	3.7%
1984-85	5.4%	1.6%

(d) The production of Trimethoprim by IDPL was more than the licensed capacity. Production of Sulphamethazazole was limited to demand.

**Bench of Madras High Court at
Madurai**

8139. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether Government propose to set up a Bench of the Madras High Court at Madurai to reduce the pending cases in the Madras High Court ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : The matter of establishment of a Bench of the Madras High Court at Madurai is engaging the attention of the Government of India.

Use of foreign brand name

8140. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a decision that no foreign brand name will be allowed to be used for colour and black and white Television sets;

(b) if so, the reasons for such a policy; and

(c) the reasons why such a policy is not applicable to all the goods manufactured and sold in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. As per industrial policy for TV receivers, use of foreign brand names is not allowed in the manufacture and sale of TV receivers, both Black and White and Colour.

(b) This is because foreign brand names are likely to distort consumer preference and place the TV sets with local brand names at a disadvantage.

(c) As a general policy, foreign brand names are not allowed for use on products for internal sale, although there is no objection to their use on products to be exported. A condition to this effect is accordingly incorporated in all approvals for foreign collaboration.

Development of energy from non-conventional sources in Maharashtra

8141. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI R.S. MANE :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation made under the Seventh Plan for development of energy from the non-conventional sources;

(b) what would be sub-allocation for the State of Maharashtra;

(c) whether the Union Government themselves have formulated any scheme for covering more areas in Maharashtra during the Seventh Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d) Funds for the development of energy from non-conventional sources in the State Sector are allocated by the Planning Commission to each State separately. The allocation made to the State of Maharashtra in this sector by the Planning Commission is Rs. 4.17 crores for the Seventh Five Year Plan. So far as the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources is concerned, funds are allocated to each State on an annual basis depending on the target for various schemes and availability of funds. The Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources also funds a large number of R&D and Demonstration projects in various institutions existing in the different States. The schemes for development of energy from non-conventional sources are sponsored/initiated by the Central Government and are operated by the States in the areas which are generally chosen by them. The total allocation available to the Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources under the Seventh Five Year Plan for promotion of schemes on non-conventional energy sources is Rs. 412.35 crores. Physical and financial outlays and targets for the all States, including Maharashtra, are fixed on a year to year basis. The programmes are generally implemented throughout the State.

Opening of new post offices in rural areas of Orissa

8142. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices to be opened during the Seventh Plan in rural areas of Orissa;

(b) the programme of the Government for the year 1986-87;

(c) the target of the Government for the Sixth Plan to open post offices in rural areas of Orissa; and

(d) whether the target was fully achieved; if not, the reason for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS ((SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) Having regarding to the extensive coverage already achieved, there are no proposals at present to open new post offices in Orissa or other Circles during 1986-87 or during the Seventh Plan period. This position also takes into account the current ban on creation of posts.

(c) 455 new rural post offices were proposed to be opened during the Sixth Five Year Plan.

(d) No, Sir. Out of 455, only 377 post offices were opened, the ban on creation of new posts having come into effect in January, 1984.

Crisis in Titagarh Paper Mills

8143. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute crisis in the Titagarh Paper Mills;

(b) the reasons of the present crisis;

(c) whether Government have received any memorandum in this regard;

(d) whether Government propose to institute an enquiry by the C.B.I. or otherwise to ascertain reasons for this crisis;

(e) the steps being taken for the revival and rehabilitation of the company; and

(f) the percentage of share of this company controlled by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) M/s. Titagarh Paper Mills Company Ltd. has been incurring losses since 1981-82 and its total loss as on 31.3.85 is Rs. 23 crores which is expected to go up to Rs. 32 crores by 31.3.86. The Company has reported that

production operation in Unit No. 2 in West Bengal is closed since September, 1985 and that Unit No. 1 in West Bengal is under lock out since November, 1985.

(b) The main reasons for the crisis faced by the industry are very old plant and machinery, excess labour complement, high cost and inadequate availability of raw material, management deficiency and labour problems.

(c) Representations have been received from Worker's Unions alleging mismanagement, inefficiency, failures and misdeeds on the part of the management of the Company.

(d) The reasons for the present crisis have been given in reply to part (b) of the question. There is no proposal to institute an enquiry by C.B.I. into these matters.

(e) The Financial Institutions are engaged in working out the modalities for revival and rehabilitation of the Company.

(f) About 62.66% of the equity of the Company is held by Government, Financial Institutions and Nationalised Banks.

Non-fixation of price of Ethoheptazine Citrate

8144. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ethoheptazine Citrate falls under Drugs Price Control Order 1979;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry did not fix the price of this drug; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Setting up of LPG bottling plants

8145. **SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH** : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up one LPG bottling plant every quarter during the coming years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) LPG bottling plants with a total additional capacity of 0.7 million tonnes per annum are being set up at various locations in the country at an estimated cost of Rs. 846 crores under the LPG Phase III project. These plants will come up in a phased manner by March, 1988.

Involvement of workers in management of public sector units

8146. **SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether workers are proposed to be involved in monitoring the working of public sector units to ensure improved productivity through peaceful and harmonious working relationships and healthy environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this will form part and parcel of Government strategy to involve workers in sharing responsibility in management; and

(d) if so, the details of the scheme proposed to achieve these objectives ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) The Government had introduced a scheme in 1983 providing for workers' participation at shop floor, plant and Board level. The Resolution [No. L. 56011/1/83-Desk I (B)] was notified

in the Gazettee of India Extraordinary dated 30th December, 1983.

Extra charges for home delivery of LPG cylinders

8147. **PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT** : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration for extra charges for home delivery service of LPG cylinders; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and amount proposed to be so charged ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) (a) and (b) The Government reviews from time to time the quantum of dealers commission. The structure of the dealers' commission includes delivery charges also as an element.

Assets taken over by Metropolitan Telephone Corporation from Telecommunication Department

8148. **SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the value of assets taken over by the Metropolitan Telephone Corporation from Telecommunications Department and rate of interest for payments towards the same;

(b) how the share of revenue earnings has been settled for Trunk Calls and STD calls (i) between both Metropolitan Cities (ii) each Metropolitan City and other stations in the country towards use of enroute Government equipment;

(c) whether Long Distance Telecommunications equipment of the Telecommunications Regional Circle within Metropolitan Cities also stands transferred to the Telephone Corporation; and

(d) if so, the details of take over; if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) (a) The value of physical assets of Bombay and Delhi Telephones transferred to the new Corporation is estimated to be of the order of Rs. 1200 crores. The exact figure will be worked out after finalisation of accounts for 1985-86.

Out of this Rs. 600 crores will be treated as equity and the remainder as loan. The rate of interest for such loans is fixed by the Government from time to time. At present this is 13% to 14% depending on the period of loan.

(b) The exact formula for sharing of revenue between the Department of Telecommunications and the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam will be determined in due course in respect of Telephone Traffic originating from the network under the control of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam under direction from the Government of India.

Pending the evolution of this formula, the sharing of revenue on the above account will be apportioned in the ratio as shown below :-

	Percentage of share of	
	Mahanagar Telephone Nigam.	Department of Telecommunications.
S. T. D. Calls	50%	50%
Trunk Calls	50%	50%

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Closing down of divisions in postal Circles

8149. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern-

ment have taken a decision to close down some divisions in different postal circles in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with reasons for taking such a decisions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that a decision has been taken to abolish sub-standard Postal Division all over the country. In all 14 sub-standard Divisions are to be abolished in two phases. Seven sub-standard Divisions have already been abolished in the first phase with effect from 31.12.85. These Divisions were west Krishana, Chirala and Srikalahasti in Andhra Pradesh, West Champaran in Bihar, Yadgiri in Karnataka, Jind in North Western Circle and Orai in Uttar Pradesh Postal Circles. The remaining Divisions will be abolished in the second phase. The sub-standard Postal Divisions have to be abolished as these are not justified as per the departmental standards.

Consequent upon a decision to retain only those Extra Departmental Sub Post Offices (EDSO) with a workload of 4 hours or more, a number of EDSOs which had been earlier upgraded solely on account of their having PCO (Public Call Office Facility) in accordance with the orders then existing, were downgraded as Extra Departmental Branch Post offices (EDBOs). This resulted in some reduction in the workload of those Postal Divisions in which a large number of EDSOs had been downgraded as the coefficient for calculating the workload of an EDBO for computing the workload of a Postal Division, is only one-tenth of an EDSO. Thus a few Postal Divisions all over the country (14 in all) were no longer justified as per the workload norms. It is these sub-standard Divisions which have been ordered to be abolished.

Consumption of power in Kerala

8150. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the per capita consumption of power in Kerala;

(b) how does it compare with the national increase;

(c) whether it has been growing over the years and if so, the details;

(d) what is the anticipated growth in per capita consumption of power in Kerala during the Seventh Plan; and

(e) how is it going to be met ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) The per capita consumption of power in Kerala has been in the range of 112.04 Kwh during 1980-81 to 130.51 Kwh in 1984-85 (provisional). The per capita consumption of power on all-India basis has been in the range of 130.34-169.51 Kwh during the same period.

(c) The per capita consumption of power Kerala increased from 112.04 Kwh in 1980-81 to 130.51 Kwh in 1984-85.

(d) The anticipated growth in per capita consumption of power in Kerala during the Seventh Plan is about 12%.

(e) A capacity addition of 530 MW is envisaged in Kerala during the Seventh Plan period. The State would also receive its share of power from Central Sector Projects in the Southern Region. Besides, action has been initiated on other measures in order to reduce the gap between demand and supply.

[Translation]

Electrification of unauthorised colonies of Delhi

8151. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have held out a promise to electrify villages under the 20-Point Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have not yet

been able to make available electricity to unauthorised colonies in Delhi;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to make available electricity to such colonies in the near future; and

(f) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Under 20 Point Programme, high priority is being accorded to achieve cent per cent electrification of villages as speedily as possible.

(c) to (f) DFSU has intimated that it is not possible for them to undertake electrification of the unauthorised colonies unless these are regularised by the concerned agency.

[English]

Rivalry of sick industries in Bihar

8152. SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government are taking to revive 14000 sick industries in Bihar after the enactment of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985; and

(b) the steps being taken to revive Rohtas Group of Industries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, has not yet come into force.

(b) A viability study of Rohtas Industries Limited has recently been undertaken by a team consisting of the representatives of concerned banks and financial institutions and the Government of Bihar to consider feasibility of revival of the undertaking.

Action against manufacturers of unsafe electric appliances

8153. SHRI K.S. RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take strict action against manufacturers of inefficient and unsafe electric appliances; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of India has promulgated an order called Household Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 1981 effective from 12 the November, 1981. As per the Order, manufacture, store for sale, sale or distribution of 40 selected Household Electrical Appliances which are not in conformity with the relevant Indian Standard Specification are prohibited. Those who violate the order could be punished under Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Lighting arrangements on roads near Delhi Border

8154. SHRI BHARAT SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether inspite of heavy traffic, there is no road light on the road from Nangloi to Dhansa Border, from Nangloi to Tikri Border and from Ghevra turning to Narela; and

(b) whether accidents and case of looting etc. have increased in the absence of road lights and if so, the time by which road light is likely to be provided there ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) At present, there is no street lighting on the roads from Nangloi to Dhansa Border, from Nangloi to Tikri Border and from

Ghevra turning to Narela, PWD, Delhi Administration has requested DESU for providing street lighting on the road between Nangloi and Tikri Border. DESU can take up the work only after Delhi Administration makes full payment. Normally, it would take about 6 months to complete the work from the date of commencement. No request has been received by DESU for providing street lighting on the other two roads from any agency.

There has been no increase in the incidents of cases of accidents and looting on these roads in 1985 as compared to 1984.

Representation regarding mismanagement in Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

8155. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation dated 6th December, 1985 from Bharat Coking Coal Staff Coordination, Dhanbad regarding mismanagement in Bharat Coking Coal Limited, a subsidiary of Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) the steps taken by Government if any, in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay?

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

(b) It has been stated in the representation that inspite of the existence of a Quality Control Department in BCCL, the consumers are not getting the proper quality of coal and that substantial deductions have been made by the consumers from the bills of BCCL on quality considerations; resulting in huge loss to BCCL.

(c) to (e) Government have laid great emphasis on the maintenance of proper

quality of coal. As far as deductions are concerned, BCCL have informed that the deductions were made mostly by Power Houses, Steel Plants and other Govt. Undertakings. BCCL have also informed that the deductions made by the Power Houses prior to February/March, 1985 were unilateral, since there had been no joint sampling agreement between the Power Houses and BCCL during that period. In order to settle these disputed claims, both Power Houses and Coal Companies have been asked to conduct mutual negotiations, failing which by arbitration. BCCL have also informed that the deductions made by the Steel Plants had already been settled upto 1984-85 and approximately Rs. 22 crores have already been reimbursed to BCCL by the Steel Plants.

After the signing of the agreement between Power Houses and Coal Companies, joint sampling is being done regularly; and the grades of coal are revised by the coal companies wherever found necessary.

Excise duty on trucks and buses

8156. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the increased excise duty on trucks and buses and on spare parts will raise the prices of popular models of trucks and buses;

(b) if so, the extent of increase in the excise duty on trucks and bus chassis and also for the body built trucks and buses; and

(c) what is its impact on the prices of these items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Excise duty on bus and truck chassis has been raised by 4.25%. The excise duty on body building has

been made specific at the rate of Rs.4,000/ per truck and Rs. 8,000/- per bus body.

Consumption of petrol in different segments of economic activity

8157. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment to find out the consumption of petrol in different segments of economic activity;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether reduction in consumption of petrol is contemplated in each of these sectors without curtailing the economic activity; and

(d) if so, plans drawn up in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Although no detailed market survey has been carried out to assess the consumption of petrol separately in different segments of economic activity, the tentative assessment is that the consumption of petrol is almost entirely by automobiles, i.e. 2-wheelers, 3-wheelers and 4-wheelers in the transportation sector. A very small quantity of petrol may be put to other miscellaneous uses such as cleaning, portable generators, etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. While petrol will continue to be available on free sale basis, measures for its conservation are being taken, like economy in non-plan expenditure, encouraging manufacture of fuel efficient vehicles and conducting of 'save fuel' clinics, where talks on petrol conservation are given, supported by audio visual aids such as films and (distribution of) printed literature, giving conservation tips for scooterists and motorists. Besides this, conservation of petrol is propagated through press campaign, AIR & TV spots, hoardings and participation in exhibition and fairs.

Increase in excise duty on vehicle industry

8158. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether commercial vehicle industry will face a crisis as a result of increase in the excise duties proposed in the Central budget;

(b) if so, how Government propose to help the vehicle industry; and

(c) how Government propose to control the vehicle prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Whereas there could be consequential effect of excise duties, the performance of commercial vehicles industry is dependent on a number of factors.

(b) and (c) Sufficient capacity has been licensed in this sector to generate adequate competitions so that vehicles are available at reasonable prices. Following measures have been taken by the Government to stimulate the demand for medium and heavy commercial vehicles :

1. Availability of credit to State and Municipal Transport Undertakings under IDBI's Bill discounting system has been enhanced.

2. The condition of 10% margin money for State and Municipal Transport Undertakings has been waived for a fixed period.

3. Period of Loan repayment in case of small operators enhanced from 4-5 years till 30-6-1986.

4. Ceiling on number of National Permits for freight carriers has been lifted.

Fuel use by Tata Electric Co. Ltd.

8160. SHRI D. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal of the Tata Electric Company Limited to establish a

plant to generate 500 M. W. in Bombay was sanctioned on the condition that only coal would be used as fuel;

(b) whether the Tata Electric Company submitted a revised fuel pattern in August 1983 asking to use 735 tonnes of coal instead of 6000 tonnes, and 1400 tonnes of gas per day;

(c) whether the Tata Electric Company has been permitted to do so;

(d) if so, from where gas is supplied to the Tata Electric Company and the quantity supplied per day; and

(e) the cost of production per unit of electricity generated by this plant ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Trombay Unit 5 (1×500 MW) of M/s. Tata Electric Companies (T.E.C.) was sanctioned in August, 1977 on the basis of coal being used as primary fuel; however, the boiler was designed on multi-fuel firing system for using oil/gas, in addition to coal. The Trombay Unit 6 (1×500 MW), sanctioned in June, 1984 would be operated on gas/LSHS/fuel oil.

(b) M/s. T.E.C. forwarded, in July, 1983, the Environmental Impact Statement for Trombay Unit-6 which gave three scenarios with different fuel patterns. One of the configurations was based on use of 735 tonnes of Fuel Oil equivalent of coal per day in Unit 5 and 1400 tonnes per day of gas in Units 1, 2, 4 and 5.

(c) M/s. T.E.C. requested, in December, 1985, for permission to operate Unit No. 5 on gas/refinery residual fuel, in addition to coal, to meet the demand requirements of the system. No objection was conveyed to use gas/refinery residual fuel, as and when available.

(d) The associated gas, produced in the Bombay High oil fields, is being supplied for Unit No. 5 only on a fall-back basis, from the Uran Terminal, after meeting priority requirements. The average quantity of gas supplied to the Company was

1.74 million cubic meters per day (mmcmd) in 1984-85 and 0.70 mmcmd during April, 1985 to February, 1986.

(e) M/s. T.E.C. have intimated that the cost of production of electricity generated varies between 58 and 67 paise per unit.

Steps to curb monopoly in Scooter production industry

8161. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that monopoly houses in India control the scooter production industry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these houses are being encouraged by Government; and

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to take steps to curb their monopoly in order to allow fair competition to improve both quality and quantity in the production of Scooters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. Government have licensed sufficient capacity and foreign collaboration for various makes of two-wheelers, generating a situation in the market where two-wheelers are likely to be freely available at competitive prices. Broadcategorisation of motorised two-wheelers industry and other policy measures are directed, inter-alia, towards inducing fair competition in this industry.

Improper storage of raw material by Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Kerala

8162. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of Eucalyptus wood, the main raw material for producing newsprint has been rendered useless in Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Kerala due to improper storage facilities and non-use of the same in time;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity rendered useless and the approximate value thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to prevent recurrence of such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The procurement of eucalyptus wood in Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. started in 1981 based on the scheduled commencement of production of chemi-mechanical pulp by April, 1982. The wood procured was properly stacked and there was no lack of storage facilities. However, on account of labour unrest during July to November, 1982, and severe power cuts during December, 1982 to January, 1984, production in the chemi-mechanical pulping plant could not be stabilised earlier than the year 1985-86. In view of this, the pulping quality of about 10 000 tonnes out of about 1.11 lakh tonnes of eucalyptus wood procured upto March, 1984 was affected. The Company is making every effort to ensure that the recurrence of such losses is avoided.

Lapses in Coal India Limited

8163. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether several accounting lapses in Coal India Limited have been pointed out by the Auditors of the company; and

(b) if so, the action taken against those responsible for misrepresentation of company's working results ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) The accounts of Coal India Limited were certified by Auditors as having shown a true and fair view. No serious lapses were pointed out in the Accounts apart from their observation of routine nature, replies to which were annexed with the published accounts.

As there was no misrepresentation made

in the financial accounts as audited by the Auditors, no action against any individual on this score was called for.

Use of Westland Helicopters by ONGC

8164. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :
SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

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

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has expressed its serious concern about the economics of operation of Westland Helicopters; and

(b) if so, to what extent the Westland helicopters will meet the requirement of ONGC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The cost of operation of Doupin and Westland helicopters has not yet been finalised by the Helicopter Corporation of India.

(b) Westland Helicopters meet the requirements of ONGC.

Ancillary units of Central Coalfields Limited

8165. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of ancillary units of Central Coalfields Limited;

(b) whether these ancillary units are starving for orders and have become sick; and

(c) the reasons for not giving orders to these ancillary units ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c)

Presently, there are 31 regular ancillary units in the Central Coalfields Limited. Besides, 45 ancillary units are under different stages of development.

The company started an ancillary development programme in 1979. An "Indigenous and Ancillary Development Cell" was set up for the purpose. The thrust of the programme has been to promote ancillary units for manufacturing maintenance spares required by Central Coalfields Limited. Such items have been identified and orders are being placed on ancillary units for their supply. The units are assisted by the company in a number of ways so that they are able to take full advantage of the ancillarisation programme. The position of orders placed is as below :

Year	Value of orders
(a) 1981-82	Rs. 2.50 lakhs
(b) 1982-83	Rs. 65.00 lakhs
(c) 1983-84	Rs. 101.35 lakhs
(d) 1984-85	Rs. 163.59 lakhs
(e) 1985-86	Rs. 203.45 lakhs

Indira Sarowar Hydrel Project

8166. DR. PHULRENU GUHA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether houses of a large number of Adivasis will be demolished for Indira Sarowar Hydrel Project in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the steps taken to rehabilitate them; and

(c) how much money is allotted per family ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) In all, 1712 families of which 75% are Adivasis and required to be rehabilitated

under the Indira Sarovar Hydro-electric Project in Madhya Pradesh. No houses or hutments will be demolished until full development of new settlement area is completed. In addition to payment of full compensation as per rate fixed by the Rehabilitation Committee appointed by the State Government each Adivais family will be provided a pucca house in the new settlement area, 5 acres of developed agricultural land, free training in vocational and technical trade skills etc.

(c) Apart from compensation on account of acquisition of land and property, Rs. 20,000 is allotted per family.

Domestic energy consumption in Northern Region

8167. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study on rural domestic energy consumption in Northern Region has been completed by the National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, salient points thereof indicating whether similar information is available in respect of Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The study encompassed about 14,400 rural households spread over five North Indian States. It looked at various aspects such as energy use and land holding size; energy use and per capita income; and, energy collection modes. The study covered all major fuels and end-uses. It mainly gives energy use in average terms rather than at a village level. The report shows considerable variation in energy consumption amongst households situated in hills, plains and deserts of the Northern Region.

Several village-level studies on rural energy consumption have also been carried out in respect of Andhra Pradesh.

Election Commission's recommendation on political curbs on staff of public units

8168. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Election Commission has suggested political curbs on public unit staff, including units such as LIC on the basis of similar curbs under CSS Rules; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government.

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

(b) The proposal forms part of the set of proposals on electoral reforms recommended by the Election Commission and is under consideration.

Pending case in Supreme Courts and High Courts after setting up of administrative tribunals

8169. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) to what extent the High Courts and the Supreme Court have been relieved from filing the writs, appeals and civil matters after constituting the administrative tribunals in various States to decide the case of the Central Government employees; and

(b) the remedial measures Government propose to take to provide quick disposal of the pending cases keeping in view the large number of cases still pending in the High Court and the Supreme Court ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : The pendency has been reduced to the extent of 6207 cases with the setting up of Central Administrative Tribunal from 1.11.1985 and transfer of cases from High Courts and their Subordinate Courts to Benches

of Tribunal upto 31.3.1986. There is no transfer of cases from Supreme Courts to the Tribunal as the Supreme Court continues to have the power to entertain writ petitions and Special Leave Petitions in respect of service matters of Central Government Employees under Article 32 and 136 of the Constitution.

(b) Steps taken to reduce pendency of cases in Supreme Court and High Courts are given in the attached Statement.

Statement

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the Supreme Court and High Courts :-

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August—1st September, 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commended to High Courts and State Governments.
2. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (vide section 100 A).
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.
4. The Judge strength of the Supreme Court has been raised from 13 to 17, excluding the Chief Justice with effect from 31.12.1977 by amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956.
5. The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March 1977 to 431 on 1st April, 1986.
6. The Supreme Court has also taken the following measures ;
 - (i) Priority is given to certain matters;
 - (ii) Miscellaneous matters are fixed daily;
 - (iii) Writ Petitions with identical question are grouped together and batches running from 50 to 100 matters are listed together for hearing;
 - (iv) Other matters involving identical questions are also identified from time to time and put together and efforts are made to see that such groups are disposed of early;
 - (v) The Supreme Court Rules were revised in 1966 providing for printing of records under its own supervision. As that was also taking quite some time, the Court, of late, has started wherever possible, dispensing with the preparation of records, and hearing the appeals on Special Leave Paper-Book itself; after the parties have filed their counter-affidavits and affidavits in reply;
 - (vi) To save the Court's time, Honourable the Chief Justice of India is taking mentioning after court's hours, which were previously taking at least about one hour;
 - (vii) In Criminal Appeals, Counsel for the appellant is required to file cyclostyled records to save time in getting it printed, so that the matters could be heard early;
 - (viii) The Supreme Court Rules have been amended empowering Hon'ble Judge in Chambers and the

Registrar to dispose of certain types of matters which were previously being listed in the Court. This has been to save the Court's time.

- (ix) Specialized benches are constituted to list particular type of matters relating to that branch of law in which the Hon'ble Judges constituting the Specialised Bench are experts. This enable the Specialised Bench to dispose of such matters expeditiously.
 - (x) The Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has recently directed that the Counsel in each matter must file written arguments, if the arguments are to take more than five hours on each side. The oral arguments on each side are now restricted to five hours unless the court feels that more time is to be given to the counsel, in which case a maximum of ten hours are given for oral arguments to each side. The length of oral arguments by counsel of both the sides have thus been curtailed which results in the quick disposal of matters.
7. Apart from the above, certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases;
- (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;
 - (b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;
 - (c) Dispensing with printing of records;
 - (d) Expediting and giving priority

to matters under certain Acts.

- 8. The recommendations contained in the 79th report of the Law Commission have been examined. As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and High Courts, these have been sent to them along with the views of the Union Government and they have been requested to take necessary action.
- 9. The Government have constituted an informal Committee of 3 Chief Justices to examine the problem of arrears in High Courts and suggest remedial measures.
- 10. The Government have entrusted to the Law Commission the Study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are :—
 - (a) The need for decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by :—
 - (i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;
 - (ii) Setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres;
 - (iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
 - (b) The matter for which Tribunals (excluding Service Tribunals) as envisaged in Part XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working.

- (c) The procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii).
- (d) The method of appointments to subordinate courts/subordinate judiciary.
- (e) The training of judicial officers.
- (f) The role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice.
- (g) The desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the public sector undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such undertakings.
- (h) The cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.
- (i) Formation of an All India Judicial Service.
and
- (j) Such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Survey of waterfalls and streams in Manipur for hydel power

8170. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Central survey has been made to find out the different perennial waterfalls and water streams in Manipur which are capable of generating hydel

power through installation of small generating units now being manufactured by BHEL;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what Central assistance is made available to the State for undertakings such projects and how much has been earmarked for such projects in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) The Central Electricity Authority is presently conducting studies on re-assessment of the hydro-electric potential of the country. This study which would cover identification of sites with power output of 2-3 MW continuous and above would also cover possible sites in the State of Manipur. The re-assessment study is currently under progress.

(c) Central assistance is given in the form of block assistance for the State Plan as a whole and not for any specific sector/projects.

Demand for raising price of Molasses.

8171. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present price of Rs. 60/—per tonne of vacuum pan factory molasses fixed as early as in 1975, is not even covering the cost of storage, handling and pumping expenses in the sugar factories;

(b) whether the national Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories Ltd. at its meeting held on 31 December, 1985, has urged Government to fix a reasonable price for molasses keeping in view the actual expenditure incurred by factories and the international prices of molasses.

(c) whether open market prices of khandsari molasses is nearly two times higher than controlled prices of vacuum pan sugar factory molasses; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The prices of molasses were fixed on the basis of a cost study on alcohol and molasses done by the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices at a level that is considered reasonable.

(b) Such a demand was made by the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories in the meeting of Central Molasses Board on 22.2.1986.

(c) and (d) The prices of molasses, prepared by open pan process are expected to be higher than those of molasses, prepared by Vacuum Pan process since the former has higher fermentable sugar content.

Assistance to families whose land is acquired for setting up public sector projects

8172. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the public sector undertakings will no longer offer employment to the persons/families whose land is acquired for setting up their projects and instead the affected persons/families would be persuaded to take up other occupations such as poultry, farming, animal husbandry etc;

(b) if so, the reasons for a change in the policy practice of offering employment to the persons/families whose land is acquired by the public sector undertakings; and

(c) the yard-stick, if any, laid down in determining the financial assistance/loan to be given to the persons/families, whose land is acquired for taking up other occupations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The main reason for the

change in the policy is to guard against the contingency of overmanning of the enterprises and to see that the public sector enterprises are operated at commercially viable level and are able to generate adequate internal resources. With a view to providing the dispossessed families with alternative means of livelihood, they would be encouraged to take to useful avocations like poultry, farming, animal husbandry etc. No yardstick has been laid down to determine the financial assistance/loans to be given to the persons/families whose land is acquired. Each such case will depend upon the prevailing circumstances which will be assessed generally by the concerned State Governments and the project authorities.

Permission to M/s. Burroughs Welcome Ltd. for foreign collaboration with M/s. Nike Incorporated, U.S.A.

8173. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a multinational in the pharmaceutical industry, M/s. Burroughs Welcome Ltd. has sought permission for foreign collaboration with M/s. Nike Incorporated, U.S.A. for manufacture of sports shoes and sports apparels;

(b) whether the proposal involves lump sum payment and royalty and permission to use foreign brand name;

(c) whether foreign collaboration has been cleared by his Ministry and such payments permitted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : Yes, Sir. But no specific permission to use foreign brand names was sought.

(c) and (d) M/s. Burroughs Welcome Ltd. have been granted permission for foreign collaboration with M/s. Nike of USA for the manufacture of sports shoes

and sports apparels, subject to the condition that 50% of the product will be exported. The approval envisages payment of \$ 7,50,000 as technical know-how fee, and royalty @ 5% for 5 years, subject to the standard conditions. According to the standard conditions, foreign brand names are not allowed for use on the products for internal sales although there is no objection to their use on products to be exported.

Exploration of geo-thermal potential

8174. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether boring experiment for exploration of Geo-thermal potentials is being carried out in different parts of the country with special reference to Jammu & Kashmir and if so, the names of the States and the locations thereof;

(b) whether such experiments are being carried out in Puga and Chihumathang Valley of Ladakh for the last many years;

(c) if so, the results achieved so far and quantum of power likely to be generated from each hole bored so far; and

(d) the steps taken for follow up action thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Exploratory drilling (boring) for assessing Geo-thermal potential is in progress in the Puga Valley in Ladakh, J&K, Alaknanda Valley in Uttar Pradesh, Beas Valley in Himachal Pradesh and Tattapani in District Sarguja, Madhya Pradesh.

(b) to (d) Exploration carried out in Puga and Chumathang has established that Puga Valley could be promising from power generation point of view. The exploration at Puga is in progress. The feasibility of power generation and the quantum of power likely to be generated using geo-thermal potential in Puga Valley can be assessed on completion of the exploratory drilling and well testing. In the meantime, geo-thermal energy of

fluids from some of the shallow bore holes drilled at Puga and Chumathang is being used for space heating of hutments and bathing purposes at Puga and Chumathang.

Manufacture of Telephone Instruments by Indian Telephone Industries

8176. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the types and the number of telephone instruments and other equipments manufactured by the Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) and other industries for use in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have made any assessment regarding the requirements; if so, to what extent the production of these items is far below the requirement; and

(c) what steps have been taken to increase the production of these items, including the opening of new factories with their location etc., if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) Limited has been manufacturing a wide variety of telecommunication equipment including telephone instruments. The total production of telephone instruments by I.T.I. during the last three years has been as follows :

1982-83	—	5,85,441 nos,
1983-84	—	6,31,890 nos.
1984-85	—	6,37,798 nos.

I.T.I. has so far been the only major manufacturer of telephone instruments.

(b) The production of ordinary type telephone instruments has been adequate,

The production of Plan instruments has however, been below the requirements.

(c) ITI is enhancing its capacity for manufacture of telephone instruments including plan instruments to 1 million Nos. per annum with updated technology. To meet the future demand, Government have issued letters of intent to 49 other units in State/Private Sectors at locations spread out all over the country.

Shortfall between demand and availability of power in different zones and in Gujarat

8178. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made adequate provision to meet the power demand in the next five years considering that the development of a State through industries and irrigation depends heavily on power supply;

(b) if not, the expected shortfall between demand and availability of power in different zones of the country in general and Gujarat State in particular;

(c) the steps Government intend to take to cover such shortfall so that the development may not suffer;

(d) whether Planning Commission has cleared and provided funds for the power generation/transmission projects proposed by Gujarat State; and

(e) if not, the names of the schemes that are held up for want of sanction or funds ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan envisages an outlay of about Rs. 34,273 crores for the Power Sector towards capacity addition, transmission and distribution schemes, rural electrification, etc. A capacity addition of 22,245 MW is envisaged during the Seventh Plan period.

(b) The power position in different regions of the country and in Gujarat State by the end of the Seventh Plan period is given below :—

Region	Energy surplus/ (Deficit) (%)
Northern	(6.7)
Western	1.7
Southern	(17.9)
Eastern	1.6
North-Eastern	42.8
Gujarat	(13.6)

(c) In order to reduce the gap between demand and availability, a number of measures have been initiated. These include expeditious commissioning of projects, taking up short gestation projects, improvement in the Plant Load Factor of thermal plants, reduction in transmission and distribution losses, energy conservation, etc.

(d) and (e) The following generation schemes in Gujarat are awaiting investment approval in the Planning Commission :—

Schemes	Estimated cost (Rs. crores)
1. Gandhinagar TPS Extn. Unit (1 × 120 MW)	103.88
2. Kutch Lignite Extn. (1 × 70 MW)	69.25
3. Panam Canal Bed Power House (2 × 1 MW)	3.33
4. Utran Thermal Power Station replacement unit (2 × 120 MW)	112.42

The Seventh Plan contains a lump-sum provision of Rs. 95.14 crores for new starts including the above schemes and Sabarmati replacement unit (1×110 MW.) No transmission scheme in Gujarat is awaiting investment approval in the Planning Commission.

Requirement of coal at thermal power plant stock yard at Talcher

8179. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal available at the Thermal Power Plant stock yard at Talcher is very inadequate to meet the requirement of the plant;

(b) if so, the steps taken to make regular supply of adequate quantum of coal to meet the requirement of coal in that plant; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) While coal stocks at the Talcher Thermal Power Plant have been low, the requirements of the Plant are, by and large, being fully met.

(b) and (c) The steps taken to regularly supply adequate quantities of coal to the power plant include providing additional bunkering and adequate crushing capacity at the supply end, renovation and augmentation of the belt conveyor system under the Renovation and Modernisation scheme of the Power Plant, and off-take of part quantity of coal by road.

Demand for inclusion of Bhayinder area in Bombay Telephone Corporation

8180. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhayinder area was part of Bombay Telephone Circle upto February, 1986;

(b) whether Bhayinder area is excluded from the newly created Bombay Telephone Corporation;

(c) whether people have requested to include it in Bombay Telephone Corporation;

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

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been decided not to include Bhayinder in the area of operation of of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam, Bombay, as the jurisdiction of the Nigam is limited in Bombay to the Municipal Corporations of Bombay, New Bombay and Thane.

Establishment of Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

8181. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new telephone connections proposed to be given during 1986-87 in Hyderabad and other towns in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the number of Electronic Telephone Exchanges proposed to be established in Andhra Pradesh during 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of new telephone connections proposed to be given during 1986-87 in Hyderabad and other towns in Andhra Pradesh is 4,000 and 8,000 respectively.

(b) There is a proposal to set one large and 4 small Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh during 1986-87.

Amount allotted for development of Bio-Gas in Kerala

8182. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allotted to Kerala for bio-gas development for the period 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86; and

(b) whether the allotted amount has been completely utilized ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) During 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86, sums, of Rs. 5.90 lakhs, Rs. 37.80 lakhs and Rs. 91.03 lakhs respectively were released to the State Government of Kerala under the National Project for Biogas Development. The State Government has so far submitted accounts totalling up to a sum of about Rs. 73.50 lakhs. Under a separate scheme for setting up community and institutional biogas plants, a project was sanctioned to Kerala at an estimated cost of Rs. 1.28 lakhs in 1985-86. A sum of Rs. 3000/ was released as advance for which utilisation certificate has not been received so far.

[Translation]

Transportation of coal from Bokaro open mines to Kargali Coal Washing Plant in Giridih by gross transport system

8183. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cross Country Transport System Project of Central Coalfields Limited (C. C. L.) which was approved in 1977 to transport coal from Bokaro open mines to Kargali Coal Washing Plant in district Giridih has not yet been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard and the increase in the cost of the project as against the original estimates as a result of this delay; and

(c) the time by which the Cross Country System will start operating ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A scheme for Cross Country Transport System was approved by Coal India Limited for an investment of Rupees 2.06 crores. This project is under implementation and it is expected to be completed by August, 1986. The delay in execution was due to various factors like delayed supply of belt conveyor and also due to technical re-examination of the scheme before implementation in view of its re-alignment along the embankment of the Damodar river. The total cost of the project, when completed has been estimated as Rupees 3.50 crores.

[English]

Investment of amount of deposits for Vespa XE Scooter bys M/s. Lohia Machines Ltd.

8184. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 500 on 1.4.1986 regarding investment of amount collected by M/s Lohia Machines Ltd., Kanpur against booking of Vespa XE Scooters and state :

(a) the names of nationalised banks/public sector undertakings with which the amounts have been deposited by M/s. Lohia Machines Ltd. indicating the amount in each case, the date of deposit, the period of deposit and the interest so far received from them;

(b) the amount invested in Unit Trust of India;

(c) whether it is a fact that crores of rupees have been deposited with J. K. Group of Industries on interest basis by M/s. Lohia Machines Ltd; and

(d) the details in each case indicating

the total amount given to each industry with name, rate of interest charged, date from which given, period of deposit and interest received, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) A statement showing the position of deposits placed with the nationalised banks and public sector com-

panies as on 31.12.1985 is given below.

(b) As per the information furnished by the company the amount invested in the Unit Trust of India as on 31.12.1985 was Rs. 11.47 crore.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement
Details of Deposits Placed with Nationalised Banks

Position as on 13.12.1985

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Name of the bank/ Branch Address	Period of Deposit Yrs.	F.D.R. No.	Date	Date of Maturity	Rate of Interest %	Amt. of Deposit Lac/Rs.
State Bank of India,	5	907386	13.01.83	13.01.88	11	5.00
Main Branch,	5	907387	14.01.83	14.01.88	11	5.00
The Mall, Kanpur.	5	907388	"	"	11	5.00
	5	389	"	"	11	5.00
	5	390	"	"	11	5.00
	5	394	15.01.83	15.01.88	11	5.00
	5	395	"	"	11	5.00
	5	396	"	"	11	5.00
	5	397	"	"	11	5.00
	5	398	"	"	11	5.00
	5	399	"	"	11	5.00
	5	403	17.01.83	17.01.88	11	5.00
	5	420	20.01.83	20.01.88	11	15.00

5	421	22.01.83	22.01.88	11	20.00
5	431	25.01.83	25.01.88	11	10.00
5	432	"	"	11	10.00
5	433	"	"	11	10.00
5	434	"	"	11	10.00
5	435	"	"	11	10.00
5	461	28.01.83	28.01.88	11	25.00
5	462	"	"	11	25.00
5	465	31.01.83	31.01.88	11	25.00
5	466	"	"	11	25.00
5	504	09.02.83	09.02.88	11	25.00
5	505	"	"	11	25.00
5	506	"	"	11	25.00
5	507	"	"	11	25.00
5	508	"	"	11	25.00
5	509	"	"	11	25.00
5	510	"	"	11	25.00
Total C/o					420.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
State Bank of India, Main Branch, The Mall, Kanpur.	5	907511	09.02.83	Total B/F 09.02.88	11	420.00	
	5	512	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	513	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	514	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	515	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	536	11.02.83	11.02.88	11	25.00	
	5	537	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	538	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	539	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	540	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	541	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	542	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	543	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	544	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	545	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	546	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	547	"	"	11	25.00	
	5	026308	18.02.88	18.02.88	11	10.00	
	5	311	19.02.83	19.02.88	11	25.00	
	5	312	"	"	11	20.00	
	5	313	"	"	11	20.00	
	5	314	"	"	11	20.00	
	5	315	"	"	11	20.00	
	5	316	"	"	11	20.00	
	5	026317	"	"	11	20.00	1000.00

State Bank of India (Contd.)					Total B/F				1000.00
5	030960	05.10.84	05.10.89	11	12.50				
5	030961	"	"	11	12.50				
5	445535	19.12.84	19.12.89	11	9.65				
5	446543	13.04.85	13.04.90	11	36.20				
5	446574	27.06.85	27.06.90	11	4.10				
5	445536	19.12.84	19.12.89	11	10.60				
5	446567	27.05.85	27.05.90	11	12.03				
5	446577	05.07.85	05.07.90	11	16.79				
5	446588	15.07.85	15.07.90	11	16.32				
3	029765	23.07.84	23.07.87	10	10.00				
1	029766	23.07.85	23.07.86	8	10.00				
1	767	"	"	8	5.00				
1	768	"	"	8	1.00				
1	769	06.09.85	06.09.86	8	0.10				
1	030962	05.10.85	05.10.86	8	10.00				
1	963	"	"	8	10.00				
1	964	"	"	8	10.00				
1	965	"	"	8	10.00				
1	445533	19.12.85	19.12.86	8	15.00				
1	445534	"	"	8	16.40				
1	446542	13.04.85	13.04.86	8	25.00				
1	446566	27.05.86	27.05.86	8	18.60				
1	446578	05.07.85	05.07.86	8	25.95				
1	446587	15.07.85	15.07.86	8	25.24				
									322.98
						Total C/a			1322.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	Total B/F	7	8
						1322.98		
Bank of India	3	21/3	12.02.83	12.02.16	10	10.00		
Gumti No. 5, Kanpur	3	21/4	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/5	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/6	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/7	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/8	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/9	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/10	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/11	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/12	"	"	10	10.00		
	3	21/13	"	"	10	3.00		
	3	21/14	14.02.83	14.02.86	10	12.00		
	3	21/31	28.05.83	13.05.86	10	35.00		150.00
Canara Bank	3	160702	16.02.83	15.02.86	10	10.00		
The Mall, Kanpur	5	160708	24.02.83	24.02.88	11	10.10		
	5	160709	"	"	11	10.00		
	5	160710	"	"	11	10.00		40.00
Union Bank of India	3	003178/1538	21.02.83	21.02.26	10	10.00		
Sarvodaya Nagar, Kanpur	5	003185/1544	15.03.83	15.03.88	11	10.00		
	5	003186/1545	"	"	11	10.00		
	5	003187/1546	"	"	11	10.00		
	5	003188/1547	"	"	11	10.00		50.00

Indian Overseas Bank Sarvodaya Nagar, Kanpur	5	120090	07.02.83	07.02.88	11	20.00
	5	120091	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120092	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120093	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120094	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120095	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120096	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120097	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120098	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120099	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120100	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120101	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120102	"	"	11	20.00
	5	120103	17.02.83	17.02.88	11	20.00
						280.00
						280.00
						1562.98
	5	120105	17.02.83	17.02.88	11	20.00
	2	194099/44/84	03.08.84	03.08.86	9	25.00
	2	194100/45/84	"	"	9	25.00
	2	194101/46/84	"	"	9	12.50
						362.50
Syndicate Bank Sarvodaya Nagar, Kanpur	5	003403	15.02.83	15.02.88	11	10.00
	5	003405	03.03.83	03.03.88	11	10.00
	5	003406	"	"	11	10.00
	5	003407	"	"	11	10.00
	5	003408	"	"	11	10.00
	5	003410	16.03.83	16.03.88	11	10.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Indian Bank Halsey Road, Kanpur.	5	003411	16.03.83	16.03.88	11	10.00	70.00
	5	249824	17.02.83	17.02.88	11	10.00	
	5	825	"	"	11	10.00	
	5	826	"	"	11	10.00	
	5	827	"	"	11	10.00	
	5	828	18.02.83	18.02.88	11	10.00	
	5	829	21.02.83	21.02.88	11	10.00	
	5	830	25.02.83	25.02.88	11	10.00	
	5	831	"	"	11	10.00	
	5	847	06.06.83	06.06.88	11	50.00	
Hindustan Commercial Bank, Kalpi Road, Kanpur	5	849	08.06.83	08.06.88	11	50.00	
	5	852	15.06.83	15.06.88	11	20.00	200.00
	5	033917	11.03.83	11.03.88	11	10.00	
	5	918	"	"	11	10.00	
	5	919	"	"	11	10.00	
	5	920	"	"	11	10.00	
	5	033921	"	"	11	10.00	50.00
	5	1409	04.06.83	04.06.88	11	50.00	
	5	1410	"	"	11	50.00	100.00
	3	829905	16.02.83	18.02.86	10	10.00	10.00
Bank of India Main Branch, Kanpur United Bank of India, Birhana Road, Kanpur Oriental Bank of Commerce, The Mall Kanpur.	3	151464/17/83	17.02.83	17.02.86	10	10.00	10.00
	Total C/o						
							2365.48

3365.48

Total

Punjab National Bank	5	286941	23.06.83	23.06.88	11	1.00
Panki Industrial	5	942	"	"	11	1.00
Area, Kanpur.	5	943	"	"	11	1.00
	5	944	"	"	11	1.00
	5	945	"	"	11	1.00
	5	946	"	"	11	1.00
	5	947	"	"	11	1.00
	5	948	"	"	11	1.00
	5	949	"	"	11	1.00
	5	950	"	"	11	1.00
	5	496205	28.03.85	23.03.90	11	10.00
	5	496218	37.06.85	27.06.90	11	10.00
	5	496219	"	"	11	10.00
15 days	15 days	496227	17.12.85	11.01.86	3	25.00
						65.00
Punjab National Bank	5	816676	24.02.83	24.02.88	11	10.00
Meston Road, Kanpur.	5	816677	"	"	11	10.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
State Bank of Patiala Darasi Road, Ludhiana	5	192304	25.03.85	25.03.90	11	5.00	5.00
Union Bank of India Birbana Road, Kanpur	3	009329	03.05.85	03.05.88	10	10.00	10.00
Bank of India, Baker Ganj, Kanpur.	3	364	28.10.85	28.10.88	10	5.00	5.00
							2470.48

Details of deposits with public sector companies as at 31.12.1983

Name of party	Period of		F. D. R.		Date of		Rate of		Amount of	
	Deposit		Number		Maturity		Interest		deposit	
	Yrs.		From	To	Date		%		Lac/Rs.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.	3	17084		24.02.83	24.01.86	14	5.00			
	3	16837	16846	07.02.83	31.01.86	14	100.00			
	3	17191	17195	24.02.83	14.02.86	14	100.00			
	3	17625	17628	05.03.83	22.02.86	14	100.00	305.00		
H. M. T. Ltd.	3	305747		29.05.83	25.01.86	14	5.00			
	3	303843	303846	11.05.83	29.01.86	14	100.00			
	3	305236	305339	29.05.83	25.02.86	14	100.00			
	3	305399	305402	29.05.83	28.03.85	14	100.00	305.00		
Indian Oil Corp. Ltd.	3	316180		04.03.83	24.01.86	14	5.00			
	3	315312		25.02.83	29.01.86	14	100.00			
	3	316720	316727	24.03.83	25.02.86	14	200.00	205.00		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.	3	305670		25.01.83	25.01.86	14	5.00	
	3	306660	306663	04.02.83	04.02.86	14	100.00	205.00
	3	305233	305936	24.02.83	22.02.86	14	100.00	
Rashtriya Chemical & Fertilizer Ltd.	3	3007364	...7367	22.02.83	01.02.86	14	100.00	
	3	3007435	...7438	10.03.83	28.02.86	14	100.00	200.00
Cement Corp. of India	3	102294	102301	21.04.84	22.04.87	14	200.00	200.00
Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.	3	400037	400044	08.03.84	22.02.87	14	200.00	200.00
Madras Refineries Ltd.	3	00985	00988	25.02.83	25.02.86	14	100.00	100.00
		00964	10867					
Mazgaon Docks Ltd.	3	01391	01394	02.02.83	02.02.86	14	100.00	100.00
Indian Telephone Industries Ltd.	3	003211	003214	23.02.83	20.02.86	14	100.00	100.00
Hindustan Organic Chemical Ltd.	3	05649	05652	31.03.83	17.02.86	14	100.00	100.00
Hindustan Zinc Ltd.	3	06499	06502	26.03.83	24.02.86	14	100.00	100.00
						Total		2220.00

Round table of European Management Forum and Association of Indian Engineering Industries

8185. **SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the round-table by the European Management Forum and the Association of Indian Engineering Industry was recently organised in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the major conclusions arrived at there; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes Sir. Such meeting was held on 24th and 25 March, 1986.

(b) and (c) The meeting was private and was not sponsored by Government, though Ministers and Government Officials participated in the meeting to explain India's industrial, fiscal and trade policies to the foreign industrialists and businessmen gathered there. No formal conclusions were arrived at the meeting which were communicated to the Government.

Expenditure incurred for improvement of telephone service in Delhi, Bombay Calcutta and Madras

8186. **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE** : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the expenditure incurred for improvement of the telephone service and/or expansion thereof in the cities of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras during the Sixth Plan period with year-wise break up; and

(b) the proposed expenditure for the said purposes during the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) The telecommunication network of the entire country operates as an integrated network. Therefore, expenditure incurred by any one administrative unit will help improvement of telecommunication services/expansion not only of that administrative unit but also of the network as a whole. The yearwise expenditure incurred during 6th Plan in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras for improvement of telecommunication services expansion of telecommunication network is given below :

Year	1980-81	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85	Total (80-85)
Rs. in crores)*						
Total	63.8	121.8	161.6	203.9	231.8	782.9

*(rounded off to nearest 10 lakhs).

Allotments have so far been made for the year 1985-86 for the 7th Plan for Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras it is Rs. 237 crores (rounded off to nearest 10 lakhs).

Measures to increase oil storage capacity

8187. **SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL** : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state ;

(a) the measures Government propose to take to improve the efficiency and increase the capacity of oil storage facilities;

(b) whether Government propose to send a team of experts to study the system of underground storage of oil as prevalent in advanced countries of Europe and America; and

(c) if so, the steps being contemplated in that direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Construction of additional crude tankage was taken up in the 6th Plan. To meet the operational requirements product tankage is also being increased.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Feasibility in regard to development of underground storage is being studied.

Optimum natural gas supply programme by Oil India Limited

8188. SHRI K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Oil India Ltd. has chalked out an optimum natural gas supply programme to reduce the flaring of an associated gas in Upper Assam to the bare minimum;

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

(c) to what extent the Oil India will produce gas after this new programme; and

(d) to what extent the shortage of gas will be reduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Eastern Region, associated gas is being flared primarily because of lack of demand and failure of consumers to lift the committed offtake. In view of this, steps are being taken to identify new fall-back users and to over-commit gas supply, so that in case of any slippages in the use of gas by committed users flaring can be avoided. Recently OIL have committed

about 1.00 million cubic metres of gas per day to CEA for their proposed gasbased power station at Kathalguri. To facilitate supply of this additional quantity, OIL propose to create sufficient storage facilities for the excess gas. These facilities are expected to be completed in 1983.

(c) and (d) After the above scheme is completed, from 1988-89 onwards, it is expected that OIL will produce about 4.5 million cubic metres of gas per day. This would be sufficient to meet the commitments already made.

Export of Sandalwood, Cardamom, Cinnamon and Vetiver oils and foreign exchange earned thereby

8189. SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantities of sandalwood, cardamom, cinnamon and vetiver (Khus) oils being extracted in the country per annum;

(b) the main centres for such extraction;

(c) the present process of extraction, and whether Government are considering any proposal for modernising the system for better results; and

(d) the quantity exported and the amount of foreign exchange earned thereby ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Most of the essential oils are being produced in the Small Scale Sector and no authentic record on their extraction is available. Sandalwood is mostly found in Tamilnadu and Karnataka and Vetiver is mostly cultivated in Kerala and the swamps of North India.

(c) The extraction of the above essential oils are done using both volatile and non-volatile solvents. Government has set up a Committee for Development and Establishment of Perfume Industry (Essential Oil) which has recommended ways and means for more production.

(d) As per available data in the three years 1978-79, 1979-80 and 1980-81 the exports of Cinnamon Leaf, Sandalwood and Vetiver Oils were of a value of Rs. 364.4 lakhs, Rs. 345.7 lakhs and Rs. 265.5 lakhs respectively. Separate figures for Cardamom oil are not available. The total exports however, for all essential oils during 1983-84 and 1984-85 were 797.6 lakhs and 734.1 lakhs respectively.

STD facilities in Orissa

8190. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) which of the towns of Orissa are inter-connected with STD facilities;

(b) which of the Urban Centres are scheduled to be provided with S.T.D. facilities during the Seventh Plan; and

(c) whether during the first year of the Seventh Plan any new S.T.D. facilities have been provided in Orissa and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) STD service is available to eight towns of Orissa viz., (1) Balasore (2) Berhampur (3) Bhubaneswar (4) Chowdwar (5) Cuttack (6) Paradeep (7) Puri and (8) Rourkela. STD connections available on point-to-point basis are as given below :

1. Cuttack—Bhubaneswar.
2. Berhampur—Cuttack
3. Berahmpur—Bhubaneswar
4. Paradeep—Bhubaneswar
5. Puri—Bhubaneswar.
6. Puri—Cuttack.
7. Chowdwar—Bhubaneswar
8. Chowdwar—Berhampur
9. Bhubaneswar—Balasore

In addition, Bhubaneswar, Chowdwar

Cuttack and Rourkela are connected to the Trunk Automatic Exchange, Calcutta.

(b) Following Urban Centres in Orissa are scheduled to be provided with STD facilities during the Seventh Plan period.

1. Bhadrak 2. Bolangir 3. Baragarh
4. Bhawanipatna 5. Baripada 6. Chatrapur 7. Dhenkanal 8. Jharsuguda 9. Keonjhar 10. Koraput 11. Phulbani 12. Sambalpur 13. Sundergarh

(c) Yes, Sir. Point-to-point STD has been provided between Balasore and Bhubaneswar.

Under-utilisation of capacity by BHEL

8191. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. will have under-utilisation of capacity for the manufacture of thermal and hydel power sets in coming years;

(b) the details of capacity booked against orders from Indian users and abroad; and

(c) the surplus capacity and details of plans for diversification of production capacity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Based on firm orders received as on 31.3.1986, the capacity utilisation of BHEL for the Seventh Plan period would be 59% for thermal and 32% for hydro sets. Product diversification and strengthening of services and spares supply have been taken up by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, for improving capacity utilisation.

Mathur Committee on allocation of kerosene to States and Union Territories

8192. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government had appointed a one-man Committee to advise Government on the matter of principles to be followed in making Kerosene allocations to various States and Union Territories;

(b) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(c) if so, whether a copy thereof will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Reports of Committees, which are appointed to advise Government on specific issues of day-to-day nature, are not normally laid on the Table of Parliament.

Transmission losses

8193. SHRI MUHIRAM SAIKIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether due to high transmission losses and failure to bring about an integrated operation of the regional grids and relatively low (PLF) plant load factor, the target of power generation during the Sixth Five Year Plan could not be achieved; and

(c) if so, the concrete steps taken so far in this direction to achieve the target in the Seventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) During Sixth Plan period, 6,58,780 million units of power were generated as against the target of 6,61,990 million units. As such, the achievement was 99.52% of the target. Though low plant load factor of thermal stations of some Electricity Boards affected their generation, the transmission losses and regional grid operations by and large did not affect the power generation.

(b) In order to improve the performance of thermal power stations, a number of measures have been taken including :—

(a) Assistance to State Electricity Boards/power stations for undertaking plant betterment programmes.

(b) Assisting State Electricity Boards/power stations in procurement of requisite quality and quantity of coal and also spare parts from indigenous and foreign sources.

(c) Visit of Task Force and Roving Teams to identify weak areas requiring improvement and preparation of time bound programmes for rectification.

(d) Training of engineers and operation and maintenance personnel.

(e) Implementation of a centrally sponsored renovation and modernisation scheme covering 32 thermal stations, with Central loan assistance totalling Rs. 500 crores.

Canadian assistance for development of Coal and Power sectors

8194. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Canadian Government have offered assistance for the development of coal and power sectors in the country;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken by the Union Government in the matter if so, the details of the terms and conditions agreed upon for Canadian assistance in the coal and power sectors; and

(c) its likely impact on the indigenous public sector undertaking BHEL which has created sufficient capacity and entered into technological agreement with leading electrical equipment manufacturers in the world?

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

(b) and (c) Offers received from the Canadian organisations for the development of the Coal and Power Sectors are as under :

Coal : An offer has been received from M/s. Met-Chem, Canada for the development of Rajmahal OCP to a capacity of 10 Million Tonnes per year on a performance guarantee basis. The offer is under examination.

Power : Besides the on-going projects, Canadian organisations have evinced interest in setting up additional power generating capacity in India. No formal agreement regarding such assistance, the total capacity to be installed, and the sites has been reached so far for any specific project.

Telephone system in Calcutta

8195. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Calcutta Telephone Authority has requested the Union Government for more modern equipments, technical staff and resources to improve the telephone system at Calcutta;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) and (c) The requirement of funds for executing the full project, works out to about Rs. 250 crores, out of which about Rs. 80 crores only could be provided in the Rs. 4010 crore approved 7th plan outlay for the Telecom. Department.

Additional funds allocation specially for the Calcutta Improvement Project sought for by the Department, have not been accepted by the Government. Hence within the limited resources placed with this Department all efforts will be made to expedite the Projects already on hand and to improve the Telecom. Services at Calcutta.

[Translation]

People's cooperation in mobilising resources to provide telephone connections

8196. **SHRI KUNWAR RAM :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any scheme has been formulated to obtain people's cooperation to mobilise sufficient resources with a view to providing telephone connections as per the demand of the people therefor; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) A scheme to obtain people's co-operation to mobilise resources by floating bonds in the open market for development of Telecommunication services is under consideration.

(b) Details are still being worked out.

[English]

Direct dialling facility to Kanjramkulam exchange with Trivandrum

8197. **SHRI A. CHARLES :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to provide direct dialling facility to Kanjramkulam exchange with Trivandrum; and

(b) if so, the stage at which the matter stands ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

LPG cylinder manufacturing units

8198. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of factories manufacturing LPG cylinders in the country;

(b) the State-wise details regarding the number of cylinders for which orders are placed with the cylinder manufacturers during a year by oil companies;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to give priority to factories in notified backward, adivasi and No. Industry areas in the matter of placement of orders for manufacturing cylinders; and

(d) the circumstances under which orders for supply of cylinders are not being placed with the companies which have been given licences to manufacture LPG cylinders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) During 1985-86, 53 units were manufacturing LPG cylinders for the oil marketing companies.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Unit for manufacture of LPG cylinders do not require a licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 and need only registration with DGTD/State Directorates of Industries. Supply orders for the requirements

during 1986-87 have been placed by the oil marketing companies on 71 units.

Statement

Name of the State	(Figures in Lakhs) Orders placed during 1985-86
1. Andhra Pradesh	17.20
2. Assam	0.10
3. Bihar	0.48
4. Delhi	0.18
5. Gujarat	1.04
6. Haryana	6.97
7. J & K	0.70
8. Karnataka	2.97
9. Kerala	0.10
10. Madhya Pradesh	1.00
11. Maharashtra	9.67
12. Orissa	0.98
13. Punjab	1.20
14. Rajasthan	2.48
15. Tamil Nadu	3.51
16. Uttar Pradesh	4.27
17. West Bengal	0.86
	53.71

[English]

Retail outlets of petrol, diesel and LPG in Moradabad District

8199. SHRI HAFIZ MOHD. SIDDIQ : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) how many retail outlets of petrol/diesel operate in Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether it is proposed to open

more outlets to meet the needs of the people and the farmers;

(c) how many LPG agencies have been sanctioned in the above said district so far;

(d) whether there is any proposal to further augment their strength in order to meet the needs of the people residing in that district; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Presently, there are 59 Retail Outlet (Petrol/Diesel) dealerships including one utility pump in operation in Moradabad District.

(b) Yes, Sir. New Retail Outlets are opened in the country, including in Moradabad, subject to economic viability and the volume-distance norms.

(c) Presently, there are 7 LPG distributorships in operation in Moradabad District.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Four new LPG distributorships are proposed, distributors for two have been selected and the selection process procedure is under way for the remaining two.

Energy conservation in Madras Refineries

8200. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an urgent need for reduced dependence on imported oil, especially lubricants;

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

(c) the specific measures contemplated for energy conservation as far as Madras Refineries is concerned in order to reduce

dependence on imported lubricants when it is available in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) To reduce the dependence on imported oil especially lubricants, various steps are being taken which include increase in indigenous crude production, increase in refining capacity, increase in lube production capacity and promotion of conservation. Conservation of lubricants is achieved through introduction of lubricants with longer life and re-refining of used oils.

(c) Madras Refinery is implementing three schemes for conservation of energy. These include provision of oil skimmers, conversion of cone roof tanks to floating roof and installation of economisers.

Delicensing of industries

8201. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had delicensed some industries in 1985;

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

(c) whether the delicensing of industries in the country is in consonance with the industrial policy of Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delicensing of industries in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The delicensing of industries is considered in respect of industries where there is prima facie need for further capacity, keeping in view a five year perspective; industries which relate to capital goods and are on Open General Licence; and which have been notified under Section 22 A of the Monopolies Restrictive and Trade Practices

Act, 1969 as of national importance, the items being of mass consumption, particularly those of interest to lower and middle income groups, the industries which have export possibilities and where the industries involve high technology or where the technology is changing very fast.

Based on the above mentioned criteria, 25 broad categories of industries and 82 bulk drugs and formulations were delicensed for Non-MRTP and FERA companies in March/June, 1985. Later in January, 1986, some more industries were delicensed in favour of MRTP/FERA companies for locations in Centrally declared backward areas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The delicensing of industries is done in accordance with the exemption provisions of Section 29 B of the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951.

(e) Does not arise.

Assistance from United States for telecommunication network

8202. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether United States has agreed to provide assistance in telecommunication network and in technology to make cost effective and reliable telecommunication in this country;

(b) whether former Senator Charles Percy had a meeting with him in this connection; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The US Government have shown interest to provide services of American Consultants and to finance purchase of US equipment and services through EXIM Bank,

(b) No, Sir.

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

Approval of price of Proxikon capsules

8203. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4265 on 17 December, 1985 regarding sale of proxikon capsules without price approval and state :

(a) whether the price of the proxikon capsules has since been got approved from Government; and

(b) if not, the action taken against the manufacturers of this drug for selling it at a very high price ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) The price of Proxikon capsules produced by M/s. Panama Labs. Pvt. Ltd. has since been fixed.

[Translation]

Exploration of new sources of energy

8204. SHRI R. P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether keeping in view the requirement of the country, new sources of energy are being explored; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this work is likely to be completed ?

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

(b) As a result of intensive R&D activities and demonstration programmes taken up in various areas of non-conventional energy sources, a number of technologies have already been developed

which have been found technically feasible for various applications including generation of electricity. Large scale Extension Programmes such as National Programme on Biogas Development, National Programme of Improved Chulha and Solar Thermal Extension Programmes have been launched throughout the country and are being expanded to the extent that financial resources permit. These are already providing and saving energy for lakhs of individuals and a number of institutions throughout the country. Solar photovoltaic systems have been developed and are being increasingly deployed for electrifying remote villages and other small power needs. A programme for utilisation of wind energy for pumping and electricity generation is being implemented. There wind-farms for large scale electricity production have been set up and this capacity is being expanded. Projects relating to production, conversion and utilisation of biomass have reached the extension stage and biomass gasifiers for electric power production have also started to be commercialised. A number of energy self-sufficient villages have been set up and a programme initiated for a large number of villages, where energy for cooking, lighting and other needs of the entire village could be provided by locally available non-conventional sources of energy.

R & D activities have been intensified further to reduce the cost and improve efficiency of renewable energy systems.

[English]

Exploration of Solar thermal power

8205. DR. K.G. ADIYODI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the proposal for the current Plan period for cost sharing with those who save conventional fuel by their large scale exploration of Solar thermal power; and

(b) the details of the scheme and areas selected for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b)

Under the cost sharing programme water heaters, air heaters, desalination systems, timber kilns, cookers and dryers are being installed in the country. The cost sharing by Government for these systems is as given below :

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| (1) Solar Cookers | Rs. 150/- per piece. |
| (2) Other solar thermal systems installed on | |
| (a) Central Government owned land/ buildings, public trusts, educational institutions, charitable and religious bodies. | 100% |
| (b) State Government land buildings, cooperative autonomous bodies. | 75% |
| (c) Government public sector enterprises. | 50% |
| (d) Water heating system for domestic use | 50% |
| | (subject to the maximum of Rs. 3000.) |
| (e) Private industrial commercial units | 33-1/3% |
| (f) Solar desalination systems in village backward areas. | 100% |
| (g) solar dryers for agricultural produce for agricultural farms/rice mills and individual farmers. | 50% |

[Translation]

Shahdara Telephone Exchange

8206. SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAM-
OOWALIA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Mahanagar Telephone Nigam is not taking the

responsibility of running the Shahdara Telephone Exchange;

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

(c) whether it is also a fact that this Nigam is also not taking the responsibility of running the various telephone exchanges in the east of Delhi which were earlier being operated from Delhi; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) The jurisdiction of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam in Delhi is confined to the Union Territory of Delhi. There were four exchange codes serving Shahdara area, namely 20, 86, 21 and 24. The Shahdara East Exchanges with codes 20 and 86 falls outside the Union Territory of Delhi. Hence this exchange has been transferred to U.P. Telecom. Circle from the old Delhi Telephone system. On the other hand, Shahdara and Lakshmi Nagar Exchanges with codes 21 and 24 fall within Union Territory of Delhi and hence remain part of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam.

(c) and (d) Similar to the case of Shahdara East exchange given above, the other exchanges located outside the Union Territory of Delhi have also been excluded from the jurisdiction of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam.

[English]

World Bank loan for cycle power project

8207. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :

PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank has granted a loan of 485 million dollars for the combined cycle power project to serve the

needs of the Northern and Western regions of the country;

(b) the terms and conditions of the loan; and

(c) the places where these plants are likely to be located ?

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

(b) The loan will be on the standard terms and conditions applicable to IBRD loans. The loan is repayable in 20 years, including five years of grace, and carries a variable rate of interest, which is presently 8.5 per cent.

(c) The plants are proposed to be located at Kawas (Gujarat), Auraiya (U.P.) and Anta (Rajasthan).

Requirement of licence for setting up delicensed industries by MRTP companies

8208. SHRI SALAHUDDIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Company Affairs vide its notification No. 65 (E), dated 21.2.1986 has exempted all industries as mentioned in the Ministry of Industry's Press Note No.6, dated 30.1.1986, from the provisions of sections 21 and 22 of the MRTP Act;

(b) whether MRTP companies, desirous of taking advantage of these two notifications, are still required to make an industrial licence application under IDR Act even though they have been delicensed and exempted under the MRTP Act; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : The notification of 21st February, 1986 issued by the Department of

Company Affairs exempts from the operation of Sections 21 and 22 of the MRTP Act, inter alia the 25 industries delicensed for non-MRTP/FERA companies through Department of Industrial Development Press Note No. 7 of 16th March, 1985. The industries mentioned in the Press Note No.6 of 30th January, 1986 are already exempted from Sections 21 and 22 of the MRTP Act vide Department of Company Affairs notification dated 22nd May, 1985.

(b) and (c) Government had vide Department of Industrial Development notification dated 31st March, 1986 delicensed certain industries for MRTP/FERA companies subject to certain conditions. In respect of these industries, MRTP companies are not required to make an application under IDR Act for grant of industrial licence.

Licensing policy for VCR and VCP for joint ventures

8209. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the Government's licensing policy in respect of the joint ventures in the field of manufacture of VCR and VCP;

(b) whether Non-resident Indians have to invest/initially or upto complete indigenisation in such schemes; and

(c) whether Government prefer foreign research and development participation to foreign capital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Composite applications in the field of the manufacture of

VCR and VCPs were invited from parties prepared to commit sizeable investments for suitable vertical integration with an accelerated phased manufacturing programme and which have the requisite in-built capacity to keep pace with the changing technology. The applications received in response to the Press Note issued will be considered on merits. The policy followed in this regard does not make any distinction between Non-resident Indians and others.

Issue of special Commemorative Postal Stamps during 1986.

8210. SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) approval programme for the issue of special or commemorative stamps during 1986;

(b) the proposals or suggestions under consideration; and

(c) the proposals or suggestions rejected ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The tentative programme for issue of commemorative/special stamps during 1986 is given in the Statement-I given below.

(b) The list of proposals or suggestions under consideration is given in the statement-II given below.

(c) The list of proposals or suggestions rejected is given in the statement-III given below.

Statement-I

Tentative Programme for issue of Commemorative/Special Postage Stamps During the year 1986,

Sl. No.	Date of Release	Subject
	2	3
1.	11.1.1986	Naval Dockyard Bombay

1	2	3
2-3.	14.2.1986	INPEX-86
4.	16.2.1986	INS VIKRANT
5-6.	18.2.1986	75th Anniversary of Aerial Post
7.	22.2.1986	10th Triennale-India-86
8.	13.3.1986	Chaitanya Mahaprabhu
9.	12.4.1986	Mayo College, Ajmer
10-11.	31.05.1986	World Cup Foot Ball 1986
12.	14.8.1986	Bhimsen Sachar
13.	14.8.1986	Veer Surendar Sai
14.	14.8.1986	Sagarmal Gopa
15.	14.8.1986	Alluri Sitaram Raju
16.	20.8.1986	Eye Donation
17.	8.9.1986	Swami Sivananda
18-19.	1.10.1986	Wild Life
20-21.	14.11.1986	Children's Day/UNICEF (Child Development and Survival)
22.	date to be decided	International Year of Peace
23-24.	..	Asian/South Asian Games
25.	..	200 Years of GDO Madras building (on UPU/ World Post Day)
26.	..	Lionism
27-28.	..	125th Anniversary of Indian Police
29.	..	Tansen
30.	..	Khejadi Tree/Forests
31.	..	Black Buck/Bull of Nagpur/Cattle Fair
32-35.	..	India 1989 (including the theme of Postman/ Postal Services)

N.B. Date and month is yet to be decided in respect of issues for which date of release not indicated.

Statement-II

List of proposals or suggestions under consideration as on date

1. Indo-US Space Venture
2. Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlu

3. Jai Rajguru' Buxi Jagabandu
4. Maharaj Saini
5. Centenary of Bengal National Chamber of Commerce & Industry
6. Diwan Hall
7. Indian Breads of Dogs
8. Mahavir Jayanti
9. Dr. Sir Mohd. Iqbal
10. Harchand Singh Longowal

Statement-III

List of proposals or suggestions rejected

Sl. No.	Proposal
1	2
1.	Jambeswar ji
2.	Ansuyaben Sarabhai
3.	Mantena Venkata Raju
4.	Gangadhar Rao Deshpande
5.	Maharaja Ganga Singhji
6.	T. V. Kapali Sastriar
7.	Lion Melvyn Jones
8.	Lala Hanumant Sahay
9.	Dr. Burgula Rama Krishna Rao
10.	Makhen Lal Chaturvedi
11.	Munshi Ankeri ji
12.	Martyrs from Khejadli (Distt. Jodhpur)
13.	M. M. Gopinath Kaviraj
14.	Jaganath Shankershetth
15.	Pandit Sunderlal
16.	Baldev Ramji Mirdha
17.	Swami Keshwanand
18.	Pandit Din Dayalu
19.	Dr. John Richadrson
20.	Baba Banda Bahadur

1	2
21.	Madapati Hanumantha Rao
22.	Pratap Singh Guleria
23.	Sri Sri Thakur Anukul Chandra
24.	Amar Singh Rathore
25.	M. O. P. Iyenger
26.	Sir S. S. Bhatnagar
27.	Prof. Mariadas Rutnasamy
28.	Ramesh Chhaya
29.	Dr. Y. S. Parmar
30.	T. K. Madhavan
31.	Pt. Mukut Behari Lal Bharghva
32.	Salar Jung-III
33.	Dr. S K. Sinha
34.	Dwijendralal Roy
35.	Hooghly Mohsin College
36.	Govind Vallabh Pant Krishi Evam Praudyogik Vishwa-Vidyalya
37.	Central Board of Irrigation and Power
38.	Belgian Embassy Building
39.	Centenary of D.A.V. Movement
40.	Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO
41.	VIIth International Congress of Acarology
42.	Asian Productivity Organisation
43.	Bhagwan Mahakaleshwar Temple (M. P.)
44.	Bahai's Temple, New Delhi
45.	Dharam Rejeshwar Temple & Caves Mandsoor (M.P.)
46.	Institution of awards like Krishi Pandit, Udyan Pandit, best Mahila Mandal etc.
47.	Nagpur Mahavidyalaya (Morris College)
48.	St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Thanjavur
49.	Opium Flower
50.	Jai Satambh, Mandsoor (M. P.)
51.	Caves of Paladungar, Mandsoor (M. P.)

1	2
52.	National Highways
53.	Anand Bhavan
54.	Forest and Forest Inhabitants
55.	Silver Jubilee of the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.
56.	Kamlapatji Singhanian
57.	Sir Soraoji Pochkhanawala
58.	Pt. Shreepad Damodar Satawalekar
59.	La Martinere School
60.	All India Heart Foundation, New Delhi.
61.	Kendriya Hindi Sansthan, Agra.
62.	Namdhari Movement (66 Kura Martyrs)

[Translation]

**Consultation with State Electricity Boards
for increasing coal prices**

8211. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether the Union Government propose to consult State Electricity Boards and other power generating authorities before increasing the coal prices which affect power generation projects directly ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : No, Sir. However, coal prices have been revised taking into account its impact on various coal consuming sectors such as Power, Steel, Railways etc.

[English]

**Composition of NDPDC preparing new
drug Policy**

8212. SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the composition of the NDPDC (National Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Development Council) committee that prepared our New Drug Policy and how many of them are from producers' sections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS ((SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : The composition of the National Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Development Council (NDPDC) under the erstwhile Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is given in the Statement given below. There were four representatives of the Industry Associations.

Statement

Constitution of the National Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Development Council

1. Minister for Chemicals and Fertilizers	Chairman
2. Minister of State in the	Vice-Chairman
3. Secretary, Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers	Member
4. Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health,	Member

1	2
5. Drug Controller, Ministry of Health.	Member
6. Shri Krishan Mohan Bhamidipati, Member of Parliament from Rajya Sabha.	Member
7. Shri Mahendra Prasad, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha.	Member
8. Chairman, Indian Council of Medical Research.	Member
9. Prof. Sharma, Department of Chemicals Technology, Bombay University, Bombay.	Member
10. Dr. Nam Joshi, Specialist in Indigenous Medicines, Bombay.	Member
11. Director, Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow.	Member
12. President, Indian Medical Association, Delhi.	Member
13. President, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India, Bombay.	Member
14. President, Indian Drug Manufacturers Association, Bombay.	Member
15. Shri Jagmohan Singh Kochhar, All India Small Scale Drug Manufacturers Association, Delhi.	Member
16. Managing Director, Hindustan Antibiotics Limited, Poona.	Member
17. President, All India Organisation of Chemists	Member

1

2

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 18. Dr. B.B. Gaitode,
New Delhi. | Member |
| 19. Shri Raja Kulkarni,
Labour Leader,
Bombay. | Member |
| 20. Dr. M.D. Ballal,
Chief Cardiologist, Silver
Jubiles Cardiac,
Rehabilitation & Research Centre
Project Sadar, Nagpur. | Member |
| 21. Shri Yashodhan Kale,
Chartered Accountant,
Bombay. | Member |
| 22. Secretary, DGTD. | Member |
| 23. Chairman,
Export Promotion Council,
Bombay. | Member |
| 24. Joint Secretary and Development
Commissioner (Drugs),
Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers | Member |
| 25. Joint Secretary (Drugs)
Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers. | Member Secretary |

**Joint venture with Vietnam on oil
exploration**

8213. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA VADIYAR : Will
the Minister of PETROLEUM AND
NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have estab-
lished joint ventures on oil exploration
with Vietnam;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) the details of the oil exploration
programme undertaken or proposed to be
undertaken jointly by India and Vietnam ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHAND-
RA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c)

Governments of India and Vietnam have
agreed to consider the possibilities of
cooperation for exploration of hydro-
carbons in Vietnam.

**Licence for production of P.T.A. to
M/s. Reliance Industries Limited**

8214. SHRI RAM SWAROOP RAM:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether Reliance Industries Ltd. is
the only Polyester producer, which has
been granted licences for a PTA plant and
also MEG plant, both raw materials for
Polyester;

(b) if so, the steps Government pro-
pose to take to avoid such monopolistic
situation which is detrimental to public
interest;

(c) whether Reliance is the only Company which has been granted licences for producing LAB, MEG, PTA, HDPE, PVC and several other petrochemical articles; and

(d) if so, what are the raw materials for these articles and from which sources these will be obtained and in case they have to be imported what will be the annual outgo of foreign exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. at present hold an industrial licence for the manufacture of PTA and a letter of intent for manufacture of MEG, DMT and PTA are alternative raw-materials and these raw-materials are used in combination with MEG for manufacture of Polyester. Besides M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd.,

letters of intent/industrial licences have been issued to other parties also for manufacture of PTA, DMT and MEG, as is given in the Statement given below.

The applications of M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. for manufacture of PTA and MEG were also considered under the MRTP Act, 1969 before Letters of Intent were issued.

(c) Letters of Intent/Industrial Licences have been issued to others also besides M/s. Reliance Industries Ltd. for the manufacture of LAB, MEG, PTA, HDPE, PVC, as in the statement attached.

(d) The raw materials for each item of manufacture are different and the outgo of foreign exchange will depend upon the indigenous availability of the raw-materials, the quantity required to be imported and the c.i.f. prices prevailing at the time of imports.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Party	Item of manufacture	Capacity (tonnes/annum)
1	2	3	4
1.	M/s. Indian Petrochemicals Corpn. Ltd.	DMT	40,000
		MEG	20,000
		PVC	55,000
		LAB	43,500
2.	M/s. Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited	DMT	45,000
3.	M/s. Bombay Dyeing & Manufacturing Company Limited	DMT	60,000
4.	M/s. J.K. Synthetics Limited	DMT	4,000
5.	M/s. Reliance Industries Limited	PTA	75,000
		MEG	40,000
		PVC	1,00,000
		HDPE	50,000
		LAB	50,000
6.	M/s. Pradeshiya Industrial and Investment Corporation of U.P. Ltd.	PTA	1,50,000

1	2	3	4
7.	M/s. National Organic Chemical Industries Limited	MEG PVC	12,000 20,000
8.	M/s. U.P. Glycols Limited	MEG	20,000
9.	M/s. Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd.	MEG HDPE	27,000 55,000
10.	M/s. Maharashtra Gas Cracker Complex	MEG LLDPE/HDPE	50,000 1,15,000
11.	M/s. Shri Ram Chemicals Limited	PVC	60,000
12.	M/s. Chemicals & Plastics India Ltd.	PVC	20,000
13.	M/s. Ahmedabad Manufacturing and Calico Printing Co. Limited	PVC	20,000
14.	M/s. Plastic Resins & Chemicals Ltd.	PVC	12,000
15.	M/s. Tamil Nadu Petro Products Ltd.	LAB	50,000
16.	M/s. Polyolefins Industries Limited	HDPE	50,000

Upgradation of Post Offices in Pathanamthitta district of Kerala

8215. SHRI K. KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Post Offices upgraded in the Pathanamthitta District of Kerala during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) the number and names of Post Offices going to be upgraded during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the number of Post Offices functioning in rental buildings;

(d) whether Government have a plan to construct its own buildings in the district and taluk headquarters; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 35 Post Offices in Pathanamthitta district of Kerala were upgraded during the Sixth Five Year Plan.

(b) There are no proposals at present to upgrade Post Offices having regard to the ban on creation of new posts.

(c) The number of post offices functioning in rented buildings is 1266;

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Subject to availability of land and resources and other related factors, construction of buildings in Kerala Circle is proposed to be taken up in 1986-87. However, the actual projects to be taken up Circle-wise has not yet been finalised.

Retrenchment of employees in Indian Telephone Industries

8216. SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of employees of Indian Telephone Industries are facing the threat of retrenchment as a result of the phasing out of the cross bar and straw bar production in the next three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action plan being formulated to absorb these workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) Some of the employees will be rendered surplus in Bangalore Complex during the

course of Seventh Five Year Plan, as a result of phasing out of Crossbar and Strowger Switching equipment under production there. A proposal has been mooted to the Board of Directors of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. (ITI) for setting up manufacturing capacity of 5 lakh lines of Digital Electronic Switching Equipment per annum at Bangalore with a view to absorbing bulk of the surplus employees. The proposal awaits approval by the Board of Directors of ITI.

Setting up refineries based on supply of crude oil from Narimanam and Kovilkalpal in Tamil Nadu

8217. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that high quality crude oil has been found by Oil and Natural Gas Commission at Narimanam and Kovilkalpal in Mannarkudi Taluk, Tanjore District, Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far;

(d) whether it is also a fact that factories connected with refining crude oil etc. are being started at Nagapattinam, Thiruthuraiipoondi, Mannarkudi and Thiruvavur in Tanjore District in Tamil Nadu; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Well Narimanam-I produced 215-325 barrels of oil alongwith 8200-10,000M³ of gas through 12/64" choke during initial testing.

Well Kovilkallapal-1 produced oil at about 27 barrels per day alongwith 21,000 cubic metre of gas through 1/4" choke during initial testing.

(c) Well Narimanam-I has since been put on Early Production System. At Kovilkallapal, 2 more wells were drilled

out of which one is on production testing and the other proved dry.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal to set up a refinery in Tanjore District during the 7th Five Year Plan.

Manufacturing capacity of M/S. Kinetic Engineering Limited and violation thereof

8218. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) when M/s. Kinetic Engineering Limited, Pune was granted licence to manufacture mopeds in the country;

(b) what is the existing manufacturing capacity of the industry;

(c) whether any violations have been detected by Government in regard to misutilisation of licensed capacity by the firm; and

(d) the details thereof and the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) M/s. Kinetic Engineering Limited was originally registered with DGTD in 1971 for the manufacture of mopeds. In 1979 they were granted a COB licence for a capacity of 24,000 Nos. of mopeds per annum. The party is presently holding an Industrial Licence for the manufacture of 2,00,000 Nos. of motorised two-wheelers upto 350cc engine capacity.

(b) A capacity of about 44 lakhs Nos. per annum has been approved for the manufacture of two-wheelers.

(c) and (d) The company was registered in November, 1978 as an undertaking to which provisions of Section 20(b) (i) of MRTP Act, 1969 were applicable (i.e. as a dominant undertaking) and has since been de-registered w.e.f. September, 1983. When the company was a MRTP Company, the Company was found to have

violated Section 21 of the MRTTP Act, 1969 as it expanded its capacity for the manufacture of mopeds without prior approval. As a consequence the company and the Directors of the company were issued a show cause notice in March, 1982. However, after considering the submissions made by the company, it was decided in December, 1982 not to prosecute the company for the violation and the company was let off with a severe warning.

Special Courts for fraud and corruption complaints.

8219. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether special courts have been set up in all the States to receive and enquire into complaints of fraud and corruption;

(b) whether units of anti-corruption bureau are functioning in all the States; and

(c) how many complaints of fraud and corruption have been lodged by anti-corruption bureau in Kerala during the last two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (c) Under the Criminal Procedure Code, courts of Magistrates and Sessions deal with offences under Indian Penal Code and other State and Central enactments. Courts are earmarked by States to deal with the above offences and no consultation with Central Government is necessary in this regard. The courts set up in consultation with Central Government to deal with offences under certain Central Acts are given in the Statement given below. Setting up of courts exclusively to deal with cases investigated by Central Bureau of Investigation is engaging the attention of the Central Government. Information relating to units of anti-corruption bureau and the number of complaints of fraud and corruption lodged by anti-corruption bureau in Kerala is not available, as, such information is not monitored.

Statement

S. No.	State/UT	Place	No. of Courts
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Hyderabad	1
2.	Bihar	Muzaffarpur	1
3.	Karnataka	Bangalore	1
4.	Kerala	Ernakulam	1
5.	Maharashtra	Bombay	2
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Indore	1
7.	Orissa	Cuttack	1
8.	Rajasthan	Jaipur	1
9.	Tamil Nadu	Madras 2 Madurai 1	3
10.	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	1
11.	Delhi	Delhi	1

Employment to land losers by B. C. C. L.

8220. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Coking Coal Limited has fixed norms of two acres for giving employment to land losers;

(b) whether due to this policy poor peasants were being evicted without giving any compensatory livelihood or employment; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Coal Companies were earlier offering employment to land losers at the rate of one employment for every 2 acres of irrigated or 3 acres of non-irrigated land acquired for the Company, in accordance with the procedure prescribed for the purpose. In addition, those who lost their dwelling houses as a result of land acquisition were also being given house sites (0.01 to 0.02 hectare) and a lump sum grant of Rs. 750. However, in terms of present policy of Govt., the practice of offering employment to those whose land is acquired for public sector projects has since been discontinued with effect from 3.2.86 in accordance with the guidelines prescribed in BPE's Circular No. 15/13/84-BPE (C) dated 3rd February, 1986.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The land losers are entitled to cash compensation for their acquired lands in accordance with the provisions of law.

Joint inspection by representatives of Ministry and State Drug Authorities before grants of manufacturing licence

8221. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the representative of his Ministry alongwith the representative of State Drug Authorities make joint inspection before grant of manufacturing licence to drug companies;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of licences were issued to drug companies which did not possess quality control facilities; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Drugs and Cosmetics Act and the rules under which manufacturing licences are issued, is administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Relevant information would be collected from that Ministry and laid on the table of the House.

Review of MRTP Act

8222. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to review the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act (MRTP) and allow industries to increase their production capacity; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the reasons for reviewing the MRTP Act ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The M.R.T.P. Act does not prohibit industries from increasing their production capacity.

Proposal to appoint Government lawyers by Andaman and Nicobar Administration

8223. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases are lying in the High Court of Calcutta against Government and the Andaman and Nicobar Administration is finding it difficult to deal with these cases effectively because Government

lawyers have to be appointed through the office of the Ministry at Calcutta;

(b) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has proposed to his Ministry for permission to maintain a panel of their own;

(c) if so, the details of the proposal; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) There are approximately 250 matters of the Andaman and Nicobar Administration pending with the Calcutta High Court. Most of them are service matters and are being transferred to the Central Administrative Tribunal, Calcutta Bench, where three panel counsel are looking after all service matters of Central Government Departments, including the Andaman and Nicobar Administration. The difficulties if any, faced by the Andaman and Nicobar Administration will be sorted out in consultation with the concerned authorities.

(b) to (d) It is a fact that Andaman and Nicobar Administration has proposed to this Ministry for permission to maintain a panel of their own; and the proposal is being examined.

Power stations in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

8224. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) how many power stations in Andaman and Nicobar Islands are running under-staffed; and

(b) the details and reasons thereof;

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

Industrialisation of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

8225. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been conducted for industrialisation of the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar islands;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to conduct a study for the industrial development of the Islands considering the large increase in unemployment in the island;

(d) whether Government are aware of the problems of the existing industries in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(e) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(f) the remedial steps proposed to be taken in that regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A Team of senior officers had visited Andaman & Nicobar Islands in 1982 with a view to recommend measures for accelerating the pace of industrialisation of the Islands. The recommendations included *inter-alia* preserving the ecology of the area; utilising renewable resources such as timber, hydroelectric power, tidal power etc; exploiting the untapped resources of the ocean such as marine, fishery and careful tapping of the timber resources; providing an economy which would be complementary to the national needs would further strengthen the national economy.

(d) to (f) Yes, Sir. The problems of industrialisation include locational disadvantages of 319 big and small islands and inadequate infrastructure like power, skilled man-power, transport, limited demand of industrial products etc. The remedial steps include establishment of a District Industries Centre under the Centrally-spon

sored scheme; setting up of a Branch Small Industries Service Institute to provide techno-economic consultancy and training to entrepreneurs; declaration of the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands as backward area under Category 'A' for fiscal concessions, subsidies etc.; approval for setting up the Industries Promotion & Investment Corporation for the Islands and enhanced outlay for small industries for the Seventh Plan. The National Small Industries Corporation, New Delhi have also set up a field office at Port Blair.

Filling up of vacancies in Karnataka High Court

8226. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to fill up the vacancies of Judges in the High Court of Karnataka;

(b) whether it is a fact that the recommendations made in this regard by Government of Karnataka have not been considered;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being contemplated by the Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) to (d) Recommendations made by the Government of Karnataka for filling up of the vacancies of Judges in the Karnataka High Court are engaging the attention of the Government of India.

Expansion of Neyveli Lignite Mines, Thermal Power capacities and Briquetting Plant

8227. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the existing capacity of Neyveli Lignite Mines, Thermal power capacities and Briquetting Plant in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Schemes to expand the Second Lignite Mine from 4.7 million tonnes to 10.5 million tonnes per annum capacity and the Second Thermal Power Station from 630 MW to 1470 MW were sanctioned by Government in February, 1983 and work on these schemes in in progress.

The feasibility reports submitted by Neyveli Lignite Corporation for opening a third lignite mine of 11.00 million tonnes per annum capacity linked with a third thermal power station of 1500 MW (3x500 MW), expansion of first lignite mine from 6.5 million tonnes to 10.5 million tonnes per annum and a briquetting & coking plant of 4 lakh tonnes per annum capacity are under consideration of the Government but due to resource constraints it has not been found possible to accommodate any of these new schemes/projects in the Seventh Plan period.

[Translation]

Production of spare parts of Maruti Cars

8228. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAI-RWA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether manufacturers of Maruti cars have raised the prices of cars and abandoned the production of spare parts also as a result of which India will have to depend on Japan completely in the matter of Maruti cars and also suffer financial loss;

(b) whether Government propose to make or are making such arrangements under which we get foreign cooperation, but we have not to depend completely on foreign countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) to (c) Maruti Udyog Ltd. who revised upward the car prices in

March 1986 will continue to make available the spare parts. Government have approved a phased manufacturing programme which aims at 95% indigenisation by fifth year to avoid dependence on imports.

[English]

Expansion of Chombala automatic telephone exchange in Calicut

8229. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to expand the line capacity of the Chombala Auto Telephone Exchange in Calicut district in Kerala;

(b) how many applicants are there on the waiting list at the Chombala exchange; and

(c) whether a permanent building will be constructed for housing the Chombala exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) There are 83 applicants on the waiting list at present in Chombala exchange;

(c) There is no proposal under consideration to construct a permanent building for Chombala exchange.

Commissioning of thermal plants

8230. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of thermal plants that have been commissioned during 1985-86 and their respective locations and capacity;

(b) whether these thermal units have achieved the target set for them during the first year of functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) The desired information in respect of coal based thermal units commissioned during the year 1985-86 is given in the statement given below.

Statement

Coal based thermal units commissioned during 1985-86

Sl. No.	Name of the thermal plants and capacity	Location	Generation during 85-86 Target Actual (Figure in MU)		Reasons for non-achievement of Target
1.	Panipat Unit-3 (110 MW)	Haryana	30	7	Failure of Generator. Transformer Non-readiness of Cooling Tower, etc.
2.	Anpara A Unit-1 (210 MW)	U.P.	—	—	

1	2	3	4	5	6
3.	Wanakbori Unit-4 (210 MW)	Gujarat	100	—	Delay in unit commissioning etc.
4.	Korba West Unit-4 (210 MW)	M.P.	—	—	
5.	Chandrapur Unit-3	Maharashtra	200	90	Problem with BHEL equipment etc.
6.	Chandrapur Unit-4 (210 MW)	Maharashtra	—	—	
7.	Raichur Unit-2 (210 MW)	Karnataka	—	—	
8.	Neyveli Second Mine Cut Unit-3 (210 MW)	N.L.C.	—	—	
9.	Kolaghat Unit-2 (210 MW)	West Bengal	—	—	
10.	Muzaffarpur Unit-2 (110 MW)	Bihar	—	—	
11.	Bokaro 'B' Unit-1 (210 MW)	D.V.C.	—	—	
12.	Durgapur Project Ltd. Unit-6 (110 MW)	West Bengal	—	—	
13.	Farakka Unit-1	N.T.P.C.	200	1	Delay in Unit commissioning etc.
14.	Patratu Unit-10 (110 MW)	Bihar	—	—	

Cost of production of power from hydel,
thermal and nuclear power plants

8231. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-
CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of
ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the ratio between the cost of
production and respective output, from
Hydel, Thermal and Nuclear Power Plants
in the country; and

(b) the percentage of electricity gene-
rated in India from Nuclear Power Reac-
tors ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY
(SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The
cost of production of power varies from
State to State and from station to station
on account of the following factors :

(i) Capital cost of the project;

- (ii) Age of the plant;
- (iii) Capacity utilisation;
- (iv) Type of station whether peaking or base load;
- (v) Operation and Maintenance expenses; and
- (vi) Establishment costs etc.

accounts of which are available are given in the Statement given below. Present tariff for sale of power from Atomic Power Stations to the Electricity Boards is in the range of 35-40 paise per unit. The total power generation in 1983-84 in Utilities was 149,956 MU comprising 49,842 MU from hydro, 86,622 MU from thermal and 3492 MU from nuclear power stations.

Cost of production from hydro-electric and thermal power stations in 1983-84 in respect of 15 State Electricity Boards,

(b) The power generated from Nuclear Plants was 2.93% of the total power generation during 1985-86.

Statement

Cost of generation (Hydro and Thermal) during 1983-84

Sl. No.	State Electricity Boards	Cost of Generation	
		Thermal Power	Hydro Power
1.	Andhra Pradesh	33.55	6.79
2.	Bihar	48.01	33.15
3.	Gujarat	38.85	6.56
4.	Haryana	77.59	8.22
5.	Himachal Pradesh	—	11.68
6.	Karnataka*	—	6.32
7.	Kerala	—	8.13
8.	Madhya Pradesh	31.57	8.98
9.	Maharashtra	40.37	5.84
10.	Orissa	22.69	6.93
11.	Punjab	51.1	5.80
12.	Rajasthan	34.80	8.45
13.	Tamil Nadu	70.55	15.08
14.	Uttar Pradesh	56.24	17.40
15.	West Bengal	30.37	30.29

*Based on 1982-83 accounts. The accounts for 1983-84 have not yet been audited.

Setting up oil refineries by private companies

8232. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether permission has been given to some private sector companies to set up oil refineries in the country; and

(b) if so, the places in which these refineries are proposed to be set up along with names of such private companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Solar based energy units in Andhra Pradesh

8233. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Solar based energy power units established in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there are any proposals to set up more such units in other places in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) Under a project taken up by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, an experimental solar thermal power generation unit (22 KWe capacity) is being installed in a village near Hyderabad. A solar photovoltaic power plant of 7.30 KW peak capacity already set up in the same village is powering 33 street lights, a community TV unit and three pumps. A further 63 villages have been provided with solar photovoltaic street lighting units. 34 solar photovoltaic pumping units and three community lighting/TV units have also been supplied for installation in different locations in Andhra

Pradesh. This programme is continuing and the locations for installation of additional units are being identified by the State agencies.

Request for setting up salt-based industries in Andhra Pradesh

8234. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have sought Union Government's approval for establishing salt-based industries along the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to establish salt-based industries in the entire coastal belt of the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Development of flow gas automatic analysis and monitoring equipment by BHEL research centre at Hyderabad

8235. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the research centre of the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. at Hyderabad has developed flow gas automatic analysis and monitoring equipment.

(b) whether it is also a fact that this equipment will be useful to the thermal power stations, fertilizer plants and petro-chemical plants; and

(c) if so, the details of the research and the equipment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):

(a) BHEL Corporate Research & Development Division at Hyderabad has developed a prototype unit of online flue gas analyser.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The online flue gas analyser is based on the chromatographic principle and it gives a digital output of the percentage of carbondioxide in the flue gas.

The equipment consists of :

- (i) Gas sample cleaning and purging system.
- (ii) Gas analyser.
- (iii) Electronic processor and percentage indicator.

Criteria for undertaking cost accounting of industry

8236. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 4168 on 25th March, 1986 regarding compulsory cost accounting for major industries and state :

(a) the norms or criteria which are taken into consideration while deciding upon the undertaking of cost accounting of any particular industry; and

(b) under what circumstances these are invoked and cost-accounting undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) While no specific criteria is provided in the Companies Act for selection of industries for the purpose of prescribing cost accounting record rules under section 209 (1) (d) of the Companies Act, 1956, the criteria generally taken into consideration for selection of industries for prescribing cost accounting record rules under section 209 (1) (d) of the Companies

Act, 1956, includes, inter alia, the following :

- (i) whether the industry to be covered is consumer oriented;
- (ii) whether the industry is producing an essential industrial raw-material which is the mainstay of the consuming industries;
- (iii) whether the industry is such which is yielding very high margin of profits; and
- (iv) whether the product manufactured by the industry is one which tends to be monopolistic i.e. whether production is controlled by a single producer and likely to affect consumer pricing.

Opening of new post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh

8237. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the new post offices, telegraph offices and telephone exchanges proposed to be opened in the Eastern Districts of Uttar Pradesh during 1986-87;

(b) the places where the existing telephone exchanges are proposed to be modernised and S.T.D. facilities provided within and outside Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the places where digital telephone exchanges will be introduced in Uttar Pradesh during 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) There are no proposals at present to open new post offices in U.P. Circle during 1986-87. Small Rural Telephone Exchanges at twelve places, subject to requisite demand being registered at each place are proposed to be opened in Uttar Pradesh during 1986-87. In

addition, two Departmental Telegraph Offices at Bahraich and Barabanki are proposed to be opened during the year 1986-87.

(b) There is a proposal to modernise ten Telephone Exchanges during 1986-87 as indicated below subject to availability of equipment.

(1) Fatehpur (2) Gazipur (3) Lalitpur (4) Pauri (5) Pithoragarh (6) Orai (7) Sultanpur (8) Banda (9) Ranikhet (10) Maunath Bhanjan.

Sl. 1—9 : proposed to be replaced by Electronic Exchange.

Sl. 10 : CBM to be converted to MAX. II STD facility is likely to be provided at Mathura, Etah and Bijnore during the year 1986-87.

(c) There is no proposal to install Digital Telephone Exchange at any place in Uttar Pradesh during 1986-87.

Office of Chairman Emeritus in Companies

8233. DR.B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have at any stage considered the legality, utility and sanctity of the office of Chairman Emeritus created by certain companies outside the ambit of the Companies Act, 1956 ;

(b) if so, their assessment of the situation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Some instances of persons being designated as Chairman Emeritus in some public companies had come to notice. On examination, it appeared that there was no violation of

any provision of the Companies Act 1956 in those cases. However, the appointment of a managing director, wholtime director or manager, by whatever name called, or a part-time director in receipt of remuneration and/or perquisites in a public company or in a private company, which is a subsidiary of a public company, would require approval of Central Government under Sections 269, 309/198 and 387/888 of the Companies Act, 1956

Installation of Division Junctions/circuits in Dharamsala Telegraph Engineering Division

8239. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the target dates for the installation of new/additional junctions/circuits between (i) Nadaun-Hamirpur, (ii) Gagret-Una, (iii) Hamirpur-Una (iv) Hamirpur-Dharamsala (v) Chintpurni-Gagret and (vi) Sri Naina Devi-Bilaspur in Dharamsala Telegraph Engineering Division in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the installation work on these junctions has been taken in hand; and

(c) the latest progress made in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The target for the installation of direct junctions/trunk circuits between the various stations are given below :

(i) Nadaun-Hamirpur : One trunk circuit is already working between Nadaun and Hamirpur. Another trunk circuit is justified for which necessary estimate has been sanctioned. The additional trunk circuit is likely to be provided during 1986-87.

(ii) Gagret-Una : No direct trunk circuit is working between these

stations. One trunk circuit is justified for which necessary estimate has been sanctioned. The new trunk circuit is likely to be provided during 1986-87.

(iii) **Hamirpur-Una :** One direct trunk circuit is working between these stations. Additional trunk circuit is not justified.

(iv) **Hamirpur-Dharamsala :** Three direct trunk circuits are already working between these stations. No additional trunk circuits are justified.

(v) **Chintpurni-Gagret :** Chintpurni is a small automatic exchange of 99 lines capacity and is parented to Dehra Trunk exchange. No direct trunk circuit is working between Chintpurni and Gagret. One direct trunk circuit is justified for which estimate has been sanctioned. This trunk circuit is likely to be commissioned during 1986-87.

(vi) **Sri Naina Devi-Bilaspur :** Sri Naina Devi is a small automatic exchange of 25 lines capacity and is parented to Anandpur Sahib Manual exchange. No direct trunk circuit is working between Sri Naina Devi and Bilaspur. To provide this direct trunk circuit a survey was carried out but there is no line of sight between these exchanges. Now this trunk circuit is proposed to be built up on Sri Naina Devi-Nangal-Chandigarh-Bilaspur route. This trunk circuit will be provided after commissioning of a Radio system (VHF) between Sri Naina Devi and Nangal. A Radio system (UHF) is under commissioning between Nangal and Chandigarh. A UHF system is already working between Chandigarh-Bilaspur. The target for commissioning of a direct trunk circuit between Sri Naina Devi and Bilaspur depends upon the availability and commissioning of the Radio system (VHF) between Sri Naina Devi and Nangal.

(b) The installation work wherever required for the above junctions, has not yet been taken in hand.

(c) Not applicable in view of reply at (a) and (b) above.

**Closing of East Barisha Post Office
under South Calcutta Division**

8240. **SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an order has been issued to close down East Barisha Post Office under South Calcutta Division;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is a proposal to close down other Post Offices in the area; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

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

(b) No, Sir, not at present,

(c) Does not arise.

**Supply of spurious spare parts by
M/s. Jessop & Co. Ltd.**

8241. **SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a case of alleged supply of spurious spare parts for Model 810, Wt. 8/10 tonnes Road Rollers by M/s. Jessop & Co. Ltd. (Government of India undertaking) and their distributor M/s. Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd., New Delhi to various Government Departments has been brought to the notice of Government;

(b) whether M/s. Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd. are still supplying to various Government Departments such alleged spurious parts;

(c) whether any kind of investigation

has been conducted into the above complaint; and

(d) if so, the nature of such investigation and if not, the reasons for not conducting any investigation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) A complaint was received by the Government that although road rollers model 810 (weight 8-10 tonnes) were manufactured by Jessop & Co. Ltd., Calcutta, spare parts for the above equipments were being manufactured by M/s. New Rightway Machine Tool Co., New Delhi without any patent or licence either from Jessop or from the Government. It was further alleged that these spares were being marketed by M/s. Greaves Cotton & Company.

(b) From November 1985 the DGS&D rate contract for spare parts for Jessop's 8-10 road rollers have been taken directly in the name of Jessop & Company and against orders received from various Government Departments supplies are being made by Jessops directly and for spare parts of Jessop road rollers, Greaves Cotton is no more acting as distributors.

(c) and (d) The matter has been looked into by Jessop & Company. It was found that M/s. New Rightway Machine Tool Company have been receiving occasional orders for over 8/10 years from M/s. Greaves Cotton & Company Limited for the manufacture of certain spare for fitment to road rollers on the basis of samples provided to them by M/s. Greaves Cotton & Company Limited, but at no stage these were marked as Jessop's products.

Revision of production target for Seventh Plan period by public sector undertakings

8242. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production target of all the manufacturing public sector undertakings of the Department of Industrial Development has been revised for the Seventh Five Year Plan and higher target has been fixed;

(b) if so, the number of public sector undertakings expected to achieve profit during 1985-86; and

(c) the target of production fixed for each public sector unit in 1986-87 and also in the Seventh Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. Higher targets for the terminal year of the Seventh Plan have been projected by a few undertakings which were earlier a part of the Department of Industrial Development.

(b) The provisional (unaudited) profit and loss figures reported by these undertakings show that four manufacturing undertakings have earned profit during 1985-86.

(c) A statement indicating the production targets of these undertakings for the year 1986-87 and the projected targets for the terminal year of the 7th Five Year Plan is given below.

Statement**Production targets of manufacturing Public Sector Undertakings
earlier under the Department of Industrial Development**

(Rs. in lakhs)

S. No.	Name of Public Sector Undertaking	1986-87	7th Plan (1989-90) (Tentative)
1.	Andrew Yule & Co.	6346	13058**
2.	Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd.	386	455
3.	Hindustan Cables Ltd.	23322	43307
4.	Hindustan Photo Films Mfg. Co.	13000	20700
5.	Hindustan Paper Corporation Ltd.	18330	23532
6.	Instrumentation Ltd.	4800	5500
7.	National Instruments Ltd.	1342	1693
8.	National Bicycle Corporation Ltd.	700	1320
9.	Cycle Corporation of India Ltd.	1865	4250
10.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd.	15927	28800
11.	National Newsprint & Paper Mills Ltd.	4828	8200
12.	Tyre Corporation of India Ltd,	2569	6124
13.	Tannery & Footwear Corporation Ltd.	632	1513
14.	Hindustan Salts Ltd.*	—	—

* Hindustan Salts Ltd. is a seasonal industry. Its accounting year is from Oct-Sept. Hence figures not included in the statement.

** Based on the assumption that 6 Tea Cos shall merge with AY & CO on 1-4-86.

Note : National Industrial Development Corporation (NIDC) and Bharat Leather Corporation are Consultancy/Contracting and Non-manufacturing units.

**Shortfall in production of Thiacectazone,
anti-T.B. drug**

8243. SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of Thiacectazone, an anti-TB drug, is going down year by year;

(b) whether Thiacectazone is the safest and an effective anti-TB drug;

(c) the total production of this drug at the time of announcement of Drug Policy, 1978 during 1978 and 1979;

(d) the total production during 1984 and 1985; and

(e) the reasons for the shortfall of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The

production of Thiacetazone bulk drug has been fluctuating during the last three years.

(b) Thiacetazone is one of the anti-TB drugs used in the country.

(c) The total production of Thiacetazone in the organised sector during 1978-79 and 1979-80 was 11.7 and 12.55 tons respectively.

(d) and (e) The total production of this bulk in the organised sector was 12.40 tons in 1983-84 and 20.39 tons during 1984-85,

Shortfall in production of Piperazine

8244. SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Piperazine and its salts have been classified an essential drug under the Drugs Price Control Order, 1979;

(b) whether the Drug Companies which are licensed to produce this drug have either stopped the production or reduced the production of this drug;

(c) the reasons for shortfall of production; and

(d) the steps that have been taken by his Ministry in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Piperazine and its salts are specified in the 1st Schedule to the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979. Piperazine formulations are classified as Category II formulations.

(b) The total production of Piperazine and salts was 53.45 tonnes in 1983-84 and production in 1984-85 was 28.78 tonnes.

(c) and (d) No shortage of Piperazine formulations has been reported and a number of never Anthelmintic drugs like Pyrental Pamoate, Mebendazole and Fenbendazole etc. have been introduced in the country in the recent years. In

general, growth in production of bulk drugs going into Category I/II formulations has been lower than that of other bulk drugs, because of the differential mark up under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979.

Parallel postal service run by private organisations or persons

8245. SHRI JAGANNATH PATT-NAIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that parallel postal services are being run in the country by private organisations or persons;

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

(c) the steps Government have taken to curb this practice and prevent the private organisations or persons from running such services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS : (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIR-DHA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reports of many such services operating in the country have been received.

(c) In some cases prosecution has been launched against such organisations or persons. As and when such cases come to notice, they are reported to the police for prosecution under the provisions of Indian Post Office Act. Instructions have been issued to tighten up supervision and take strict action under the law in such cases.

Expansion of Madras Refineries

8246. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the crude refining capacity of the recently expanded Madras Refineries Ltd. (MRL) is being raised further;

(b) if so, by how much and what is the debottlenecking programme of this Refinery; and

(c) which are the other refineries whose capacity is also being raised during 1986-87 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Expansion programmes of Koyali, Mathura and Bongaigaon Refineries are included in the VIIth Plan.

LPG connections in Orissa

8247. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa lags behind many other States in the matter of LPG connections apart from the time-lag involved in the supply of refills at certain places in the State; and

(b) if so, the total number of LPG connections proposed to be raised to Orissa during 1986-87, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) As on April 1, 1986 the LPG customer population in Orissa was more than in 13 States/Union Territories in the country. While LPG refill supplies are met satisfactorily in Orissa, occasional backlogs develop owing to operational reasons.

(b) Release of new connections in the country including Orissa is made under the annual customer enrolment programme of the oil industry and is determined by augmentation in availability of LPG, bottling capacity, transportation and other infrastructure facilities. The oil industry has a plan to enrol around 16 lakhs customers during 1986-87 including around 33400 in Orissa. District-wise break up has not been finalised.

Financial performance of Coal India Ltd.

8248. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to improve the financial performance of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) in view of the World Bank likely to finance some of its coal projects; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Several steps have been initiated to improve the financial performance of CIL which inter-alia, include :—

- (i) Better utilization of existing manpower.
- (ii) Reduction in overtime costs.
- (iii) Pegging down administrative expenditure.
- (iv) Control of stores costs.
- (v) Saving in power consumption.
- (vi) Stepping up of overburden removal.
- (vii) Maximising utilization of existing manpower and equipment.

The steps taken will yield benefits from the current financial year 1986-87.

Places linked with S.T.D. in and outside Orissa

8249. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the places in Orissa where the existing Telephone Exchanges are likely to be upgraded and modernised; and

(b) the places likely to be linked with S.T.D. facilities both within and outside the State of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS ((SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The information is given in the statement given below.

(b) The places in Orissa likely to be provided with STD facilities during 7th Plan period subject to availability of switching and transmission equipment are :

Bhadrak	Baragarh
Baripada	Bhawanipatna
Bolangir	Chattarpur
Dhenkannal	Tharsuguda
Keonjhar	Koraput
Pulbani	Sambalpur
Sundergarh.	

Statement

Names of the places in Orissa where existing telephone exchanges are proposed to be upgraded and modernised during 7th Plan subject to availability of equipment, stores and buildings :

1. Electronic exchanges proposed at :—

Keonjhar, Koraput, Phulbani, Sundergarh
Baripada, Dhenkanal and Chattarpur.

2. MAX-II type automatic exchanges are proposed at :

Jeypore, Hirakud, Burla, Jatni, Rayagada
Vikrampur, Joda, Barbil, Titagarh,
Bhajanagar, Talcher, Bajagangapure,
Khurda, Aska, Jaipur Road, Balugaon,
Kendrapara, Paralakhammdi, Rairangpur,
Kanlabaji, Kesinga and Nawarrangaur.

3. Expansion of exchanges at :

Behranpur, Rourkela Plant, Rourkela Township, Balasore, Paradeep,
Jharsuguda, Chandwar, Sunabeda, Puri, Bolangir, Bhadrak and
Bhawanipatna.

Import and requirement of Vitamin B-6

8250. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated total requirement of the country for Vitamin B₆ for 1986-87;

(b) the total production during 1985-86;

(c) the names of the companies which are licensed to produce Vitamin B₆ alongwith licensed capacity of each and the production of each during the last three years, year-wise;

(d) whether the technology for Vitamin B₆ is available in the country; and

(e) if so, the reasons for import of this drug in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The 7th Five Year Plan Working Group on Drugs and Pharmaceuticals have estimated the demand of Vitamin B₆ for 1986-87 as 60 Tonnes.

(b) and (c) To the extent details are available, IDPL is producing Vitamin B₆ in the organised sector. Details are as under :—

Production (Tonnes)			
Licensed Capacity	1982-83	1983-84	1984-85
30 T	—	0.995	1.170

(d) IDPL has developed the technology for the production of Vitamin B₆.

(e) Indigenous production has been inadequate, mainly because of inadequate availability of industrial alcohol.

Closing of Railway Mail Service sections

8251. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the Railway Mail Service sections in the country were closed down from the 1st week of March, 1986;

(b) if so, the number and names of each of such Railway Mail Service sections in each post Master General Circle, and the reasons thereof;

(c) whether there are norms to establish or close such Railway Mail service sections, if so, details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to reconsider the decision,

(e) whether Jaleswar Railway Mail Service section under Orissa Post Master General circle was also closed down from 1st March, 1986; and

(f) whether there is delay in delivery of postal articles and letters etc. after closure of this Railway Mail Service, if so, the action taken by Government for opening of this Railway Mail Service for prompt delivery of dak ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (f) Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House shortly.

Complaints from Chandrapura Thermal Plant of D.V.C. regarding outlay of coal

8252. SHRI BASUDEV ACHARIA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of complaints received from the Chandrapura Thermal Plant of the Damodar Valley Corporation in the last six months on the quality of coal and details thereof;

(b) whether the rejects of the Barora Washery under Bharat Coking Coal Limited were mixed with the coal and supplied and the samples of coal for testing ash percentages were changed regularly in the same period; and

(c) whether Government propose to probe into the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Setting up of pigment grade Titanium Dioxide Plant at Orissa

8253. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a pigment grade Titanium Dioxide Plant at Chhatrapur in Ganjam district, Orissa;

(b) whether the above proposal is pending before the Union Government for clearance;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in giving clearance to set up the pigment grade Titanium Dioxide Plant; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite the implementation of the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Government has no proposal to set up a Pigment Grade Titanium Dioxide Plant at Chhatrapur in District Ganjam in the State of Orissa. However, M/s. Reliance Steels Limited has been granted a Letter of Intent for establishing a new industrial undertaking at Chhatrapur in District Ganjam in the State of Orissa, for the manufacture of 20,000 tonnes per annum of Titanium Dioxide Pigment (Rutile Grade).

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Escalation in cost of coal due to absenteeism and overtime

8254. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether absenteeism, heavy overtime and low productivity have been contributing heavily in escalating the cost of coal;

(b) if so, the figures of absenteeism, overtime and low productivity in Coal India mines during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether with a view to ensure that there is no heavy escalation in the price of Coal Government propose to bring substantial improvement in the aforesaid three spheres of productivity; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d) The absenteeism, overtime and low productivity to some extent contribute to escalation in the cost of coal among others. During 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 total overtime paid by Eastern Coalfields Limited, Bharat Coking Coal Limited, Central Coalfields Limited, Western Coalfield Limited and North Eastern Coalfields was of the order of Rs. 73.58 crores, Rs. 84.01 crores and Rs. 100.63 crores respectively. Productivity (OMS) in Coal India Limited has increased from 0.79 tonne in 1982-

83 to 0.81 tonnes in 1983-84 and to 0.87 tonne in 1984-85. Absenteeism in coal mines varies from month to month and from category to category of workers.

Efforts are being made to reduce overtime by the coal companies. Productivity has increased and efforts are being made to increase it further. For reducing absenteeism among the workers, the company managements are regularly reviewing the position and measures taken in this regard include educating the miners/loaders and other workers and to enlist the positive cooperation of the trade unions in improving attendance, to take action against the workers who unauthorisedly absent themselves, to take various welfare and safety measures and to implement them phase by phase and to improve the working conditions for workers and gradual improvement in their living conditions.

Assessment for reducing cost of small hydel units

8255. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the potential of small hydel units to provide cheap power supply to rural and remote areas has been assessed, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also proposed to develop simple design and construction methods to reduce the cost of these projects and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The potential that could be exploited through small hydro electric units has not been fully assessed. However, rough estimates place this potential at about 25 Twh per annum.

(b) Yes, Sir. Simple designs like trench and boulder type weirs for diversion of stream flows, simple power house structure and standardisation in the generating equipment to the extent permitted by site conditions are being adopted. An alternate hydro energy centre has also been set up in the University of Roorkee with

the main objective of development of new technology in the micro hydel field. This Centre has successfully used centrifugal pumps in reverse direction as turbine, governorless turbine with micro processor control and electronic control.

Design Improvement of thermal equipment by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

8256. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the boilers and steam turbines manufactured and supplied by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., units to the various thermal power plants during the last few years were found defective in design to consume Indian coal containing more ash;

(b) if so, the number of customers who made complaints in this regard; and

(c) the effective steps the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd., has taken to improve the basic design of these equipments as well as to improve the thermal efficiency of those units already supplied ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The basic designs of boilers and turbines supplied by BHEL have not been found defective. However, some power stations have been receiving coal inferior to that specified at the design stage. The high ash content in such cases led to accelerated erosion of some components. BHEL have been carrying out the requisite modifications.

Escalation in cost of Muzaffarpur power plant

8257. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen reports that the cost of Muzaffarpur power plant has gone up by almost 100 per cent due to delays; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The latest estimated cost of Muzaffarpur Thermal Project is about Rs. 203 crores as against the original sanctioned cost of about Rs. 84.39 crores. The increase in cost cannot be attributed solely to delay in project completion. The main reasons for increase in the estimated cost and delay in commissioning of the project include delay in finalisation of turn-key contract, delay in completing piling work due to unfavourable soil conditions, paucity of funds, price escalation etc.

(b) The need to ensure timely completion of power projects is being constantly emphasised on State authorities. Central Electricity Authority is also monitoring the on-going power projects and rendering necessary help and advice to the State authorities in overcoming the constraints in the timely completion of the projects.

Losses and profits of public sector undertakings in Kerala

8258. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have any statistics regarding the losses and profits of the public sector undertaking in Kerala, which are under his Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) HMT has a unit in Kalamassery in Kerala. No separate statistics of Profit/loss for this unit are separately published. All units of HMT had earned an overall profit of about Rs. 800 lakhs (before tax) during 1985-86. Hindustan Paper Corporation has a manufacturing subsidiary viz. M/s. Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. at Mevoldor,

Distt. Kottayam. It incurred an estimated loss of Rs. 171 lakhs during 1985-86. Instrumentation Ltd. has a unit at Palghat in Kerala. Profit (before tax) during 1985-86 is estimated at Rs. 48.04 lakhs.

Clearance of combination of medicines without following procedure

8259. SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that any combination of two or more drugs is treated as a new drug for marketing permission according to the guidelines issued by his Ministry;

(b) whether the manufacturer has to comply with all the formalities mentioned in the guidelines;

(c) whether any combinations of two or more drugs were cleared for marketing without following the set procedure during the last two years; and

(d) if so, how many ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) (a) and (b) Approval of new drugs is granted under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act and the rules thereunder which are administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. According to information received from that Ministry, explanation under Rule 30A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules, although covers the various possibilities which would constitute a 'new drug', the "Guidelines for Introduction of New Drugs", very clearly mentions what would constitute a new drug, namely (i) a new chemical entity (NCE); (ii) a drug which has been approved for certain indication by a certain route, in a certain dosage regimen, but which is now proposed to be used for another indication, by another route, or in another dosage regimen; (iii) a combination of two or more drugs which, although approved individually, are proposed to be combined for the first time in a fixed dose formulation. The guidelines

give the detailed procedure and data required regarding the safety and efficacy of a new drug molecule including other requirements such as the status of the drug in other countries etc. before permission is granted to conduct clinical trials in India as well as marketing permission in the country.

(c) and (d) Licences for the manufacture and sale of the formulations are granted by the State Drugs Control Authorities. This Ministry is not aware whether certain permissions were granted by them ignoring the set procedure outlined in the guidelines.

Procedure for obtaining permission for marketing of new drugs or combination of two or more drugs

8260. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure for getting permission for new drugs or combination of two or more drugs proposed to be marketed for the first time in the country which are not being marketed anywhere in the world; and

(b) the formalities required to be observed by the manufacturer for obtaining the permission for marketing of such drugs or such combination of drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) (a) and (b) Approval for new drugs is granted under the Drugs & Cosmetics Act and the rules thereunder which are administered by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. According to information received from that Ministry, the procedure for getting permission for new drugs or combination of two or more drugs proposed to be marketed for the first time in the country which are not being marketed anywhere in the world, is as indicated below :—

(i) The various Rules of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act under which import or manufacture of a new

- drug is granted by the Drugs Controller (India), who under Rule 21 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules is the licensing authority to approve a new drug.
- (ii) The various situations under which a new drug is required to be clinically tried in India notwithstanding whether such a drug is already approved in other countries.
 - (iii) The various formalities and the data that are required to be submitted to the concerned authority for obtaining permission to carry out different phases of clinical trials in India.
 - (iv) The responsibilities for sponsor/investigator involved in clinical evaluation of a new drug in the country.
 - (v) Data required to be submitted with an application for obtaining permission to carry out clinical trial in the country which includes chemical and pharmaceutical information on the drug, animal pharmacology, animal toxicology, clinical trial reports from abroad, special studies if any, regulatory status of the drug in other countries.
 - (vi) Guidelines also gives explanation under every classified requirement that are to be submitted and outlines quantitatively and qualitatively the extent of data that are required to be submitted both for obtaining permission to carry out clinical trials among Indian population and also for obtaining marketing permission for a new drug from the Drugs Controller (India).
 - (vii) For clinical trials of a new drug in India, the guidelines on the design of the study that is to be approved by the Drugs Controller (India) have also been mentioned in the guidelines.
 - (viii) The guidelines on the details of animal toxicity studies that are required to be generated before initiating clinical trials in man, have also been given.
 - (ix) The text of the consent form which is required to be signed by the patient/his relatives for participation in clinical trials have also been given in the guidelines.
 - (x) Appendix VII of the Guidelines classifies fixed dose combinations into 4 groups depending on the nature of combinations. The various data that are required to be submitted for each group of combination for the purpose of registration is given in the guidelines.
- Development of coir industry in Kerala**
8261. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :
- (a) the amount of foreign exchange earned by the export of coir yarn and coir products in 1985-86; and
 - (b) the amount spent by Government for the development of coir industry in Kerala during 1985-86 ?
- THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :** (a) The amount of foreign exchange earned by the export of coir yarn and coir products in 1985-86 is estimated at Rs. 3145 lakhs.
- (b) An amount of Rs. 202.36 lakhs was released during 1985-86 for the development of coir industry as a whole. In addition, under a centrally sponsored scheme of cooperativisation of coir industry, an amount of Rs. 25.75 lakhs was also released to the Government of Kerala for matching contribution during 1985-86.
- Development of industrial satellite towns for low-income labour force**
8262. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal for development of industrial satellite towns by Union Government for low-income labour force; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Role of public sector in micro-electronics computers and bio-technology

8263. DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has emphasized the need that public sector should play a catalytic role in some emerging areas like micro-electronics, computers and bio-technology in the country; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Public Sector Undertakings thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) In the Seventh Five Year Plan, Planning Commission has envisaged an important role for the Public Sector in the emerging areas like micro-electronics, computers and bio-technology etc. and the reactions of Public Undertakings are favourable.

[Translation]

Employment to Indian persons in South Eastern Coalfields, Bilaspur

8264. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons likely to be provided with employment in the office of South Eastern Coalfields Limited, Bilaspur during the year 1986-87;

(b) whether any policy has been laid

down to provide jobs to local unemployed persons;

(c) whether huge amount is being spent for providing housing and other facilities to the officers working in the Headquarters of South Eastern Coalfields Limited; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The South Eastern Coalfields Limited Bilaspur has been formed by merging Bilaspur Division of Western Coalfields Limited and Talcher area of Central Coalfields Limited. The requirement of additional staff for the office of South Eastern Coalfields Limited 1986-87 will be met initially by transfers from Western Coalfields Limited and Central Coalfields Limited. Until availability of personnel from Western Coalfields Limited/Central Coalfields Limited is fully established, it is not possible to indicate the quantum of fresh recruitment that may be necessary.

(b) The present policy is to requisition candidates from local employment exchanges and, if necessary, call for applications through newspaper advertisements. Selection is made by a Selection Committee which includes an officer nominated by the State Government. There is, however, no specific policy to employ local unemployed persons; but they can always compete along with others.

(c) and (d) Company's own houses are yet to be constructed for the officers of the Headquarters Office at Bilaspur. As an interim measure, residential and office accommodation are being hired at rates not exceeding those approved by the State Government. Rents are determined by a Committee which includes a representative of the State Government also.

Theft of coal from South Eastern Coalfields, Bilaspur

8265. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether huge quantity of coal is stolen from the coal mines which fall under the South Eastern Coalfields Limited, Bilaspur;

(b) if so, whether the theft has since been detected; and

(c) the action taken against the persons involved in such thefts ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) During 1985-86, about 16,866 tonnes of coal was stolen from South Eastern Coalfields Limited, of which 16,450 tonnes of coal was stolen from Talcher area alone between Jagannath Colliery siding & Talcher Railway station over distance of about 8 Kms.

(b) and (c) All cases of theft are invariably reported to the police. So far 49 cases have been detected, 51 persons arrested and nearly 416 tonnes of coal recovered.

[English]

Complaints against officials of M/s Indian Petrochemicals Limited, Baroda

8266. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints from public and also from some Members of Parliament against the officials of M/s. Indian Petrochemicals Limited of Baroda (Gujarat); and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Complaints have been received regarding irregularities in the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited. In three cases, the CBI, Ahmedabad registered enquiries and these cases were closed after due investigation in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission

(CVC) by the disciplinary authority. Since no malafide was noticed, no further action was taken. However, in one case the disciplinary authority issued a recordable warning to concerned official in consultation with CVC.

[Translation]

Telex services in Almora and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh

8267. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether facility of telex service has been provided in Almora and Pithoragarh districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to provide telex facility at these places during the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, the time by which this facility will be provided there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) There is no demand for Telex in Almora and Pithoragarh Districts.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present, in view of (b).

Closing down of Post Offices in hill districts of Uttar Pradesh

8268. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to close down some branch Post Offices and sub Post Offices in hill districts of Uttar Pradesh on account of their not being economically viable;

(b) if so, the number thereof district-wise; and

(c) whether Government are aware that there is great discontentment among the people of these backward areas against the proposed step ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) One departmental Sub-post office in Dehradun Division and one extra departmental branch post office in Pithoragarh Division may be closed. However, no final decision in this regard has been taken.

(c) No, Sir. There are no reports to that effect. Moreover, since the matter is only at the consideration stage and concerns only two post offices in a large area, there is no occasion for great resentment among the people.

Thermal, hydel and atomic power generation in U.P.

8269. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the estimate of additional power (in megawatts) to be generated in Uttar Pradesh in the field of thermal, hydel and atomic power separately during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the nature of assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government to the State Govt. for this purpose during this plan period;

(b) whether this additional power is sufficient to meet the power requirement of the State; and

(c) if not, the alternative arrangements Government propose to make to make up this shortage ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) A total capacity addition of 1794 MW comprising 304 MW from hydro plants and 1490 MW from thermal plants is envisaged during the Seventh Plan period in Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh has a share in Singrauli Super Thermal Power Station which is in operation. The State will also have share in some other Central Sector Projects

which will get commissioned during the Seventh Plan period.

(b) Based on the demand assessment of the Twelfth Power Survey, Uttar Pradesh is likely to be deficit in power by the end of the Seventh Plan period.

(c) In order to reduce the gap between demand and supply, a number of measures have been initiated. These inter-alia include the setting up of gas-based combined cycle power plants in the Northern Region, improving the performance of thermal power plants through the renovation and modernisation of power stations, and reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

[English]

Establishment of cement plants during Seventh Plan

8270. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cement plants in public sector and in private sector functioning in the country and the annual production capacity of cement in each of those plants;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the plants are not functioning properly and those are not utilising their full capacity, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of cement plants in public sector or in private sector under construction and when those are likely to start functioning;

(d) the present requirement of cement in the country annually and the estimated production of cement annually;

(e) whether there is any proposal to establish more cement plants in the country in the public sector during the Seventh Plan period; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The position regarding large cement units in production as on 1.4.86 was as follows :

	Number	Capacity (lakh tonnes p.a.)
1. Public Sector	19	78.75
2. Private Sector	62	340.45

[Translation]

Interest rate on deposits made for
Telephone connection.

8271. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAI-
RWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in some of the exchanges in Delhi telephone connections are readily available under OYT category whereas telephone connections are not available under general and special categories;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the interest paid by Government on the money deposited by the registered persons and when these rates of interest were prescribed;

(d) whether Government propose to enhance the rates of interest as applicants have to wait for 5 to 10 years for a telephone connection; and

(e) whether there are some persons who could not be provided with telephone connections even after waiting for 20 years; if so, the reasons therefor;

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

(b) Telephone connections under 'OYT' 'General' and 'Special categories

are released at prescribed percentages which are at present 40%, 40% and 20% respectively. The demand of telephones in OYT category in some exchanges is less than in General and Special categories. Therefore, telephone connections in those exchanges under OYT category are readily available.

(c) The advance deposit for new telephone connections carries an interest for the period commencing on the date of deposit and ending with the date immediately preceding the date of installation of the telephone connection at the same rate payable by the State Bank of India on fixed deposits made for a period of one year and the interest is calculated for the completed number of months at the rate in force on the date of deposit. The above mentioned rate of interest payable has been in effect since 5.9.75.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

Opening of new telephone exchanges
in Tonk district Rajasthan.

8272. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAI-
RWA : Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the district-wise and category-wise demand of telephones in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government propose to open new telephone exchanges to meet this demand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the places in Tonk district where new telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :
(a) The District-wise and category-wise demand of telephones in Rajasthan as on 28.2.1986 is given in the statement given below.

(b) There are proposals to open new telephone exchanges and to expand the

existing ones wherever feasible to meet the present demand, depending upon the availability of resources.

It is proposed in commission 59,700 lines of exchange equipment (including 9200 lines at Jaipur) of all types in various towns of Rajasthan during the 7th plan.

(c) It is proposed to open following telephone exchanges in Tonk District during the next two years :—

1. Aligarh	...	25 lines.
2. Tehsil Unjara	...	25 lines.
3. Tonk	...	400 lines Small Electronic Ex- change which will replace the existing 300 lines Manual exch- ange.

Statement

Annexure

Waiting List for Telephones

Sl. No.	Name of District	O.Y.T.	Special	General	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ajmer	40	115	2413	2568
2.	Alwar	36	117	979	1132
3.	Banswara	13	—	39	52
4.	Barmer	11	67	267	345
5.	Bharatpur	27	34	214	275
6.	Bhilwara	87	121	557	765
7.	Bikaner	131	279	964	1374
8.	Bundi	4	8	82	94
9.	Chittorgarh	22	24	146	192
10.	Churu	15	21	195	231
11.	Dholpur	10	1	26	37
12.	Dungarpur	—	—	1	1
13.	Jaipur	489	1141	10446	12076
14.	Jalore	—	1	67	68
15.	Jhalwar	4	—	43	47
16.	Jhunjhunu	1	4	43	48
17.	Jodhpur	135	676	3067	3878
18.	Kota	257	330	2068	2655
19.	Nagaur	22	21	333	376
20.	Pali	2	45	854	901

1	2	3	4	5	6
21.	Sawaimadhopur	9	3	75	87
22.	Sikar	22	41	387	450
23.	Jaisalmer	—	—	—	—
24.	Sirohi	6	1	153	160
25.	Sriganganagar	30	67	874	971
26.	Tonk	—	2	39	41
27.	Udaipur	121	364	2252	2737
Total		1494	3483	26584	31561

[English]

Working of PCOs and telephone exchanges in Madhya Pradesh.

8273. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number and names of places where new rural public call offices and telephone exchanges were opened in Vidisha, Raisen and Sihore districts of Madhya Pradesh during the Sixth Plan period and in 1985-86;

(b) whether they are working satisfactory;

(b) if not, how many of them had registered complaints regarding the defunct system; and

(d) the proposed plan for the year 1986-87 regarding new public call offices and telephone exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :

(a) The information is given in the statement given below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

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

(d) Plan for opening Public Call Offices and Telephone Exchange during 1986-87 is given below. Opening of exchanges is subject to requisite demand being registered at each place.

District	Public Telephones	Telephone Exchanges
Vidisha	4	2
Raisen	5	2
Sehore	3	1

Statement

Names of villages where IDPTs & Exchanges have been opened during 6th Plan and Year 1985-86.

Names of Distt.	Opened during 6th Plan		Opened during year 1985-86	
	PCOs	Exchanges	PCOs	Exchanges
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
1. Vidisha	1. Satapach Kalan	1. Lateri	Nil	1. Shamshad
	2. Teonda			

1

2

3

4

5

3. Mungaf Sarai
4. Parsoora
5. Bhuria
6. Bhatwar
7. Pipalkheda Kalan
8. Roshan Pipariya
9. Sankal Kheda
10. Ahmad Nagar
11. Chirkhedl
12. Rasoliya Shahu
13. Masoodpur
14. Mahoo
15. Mahoti
16. Bheeldana
17. Chatoli
18. Phuper
19. Ghatara
20. Sojna
21. Unarasi Kalan
22. Siyalpur
23. Mirjapur
24. Khamkheda
25. Tharra
26. Atari Khejada
27. Pancheda
28. Layara
29. Barbai
30. Sehot
31. Balbamora
32. Hasua
33. Bhidwasen
34. Ahmadpur
35. Johad
36. Luskerpur

1. Raisen

1. Sultanganj
2. Gadhi
3. Bankhedl
4. Modki
5. Chainpur
6. Parwarliya
7. Beerpur
8. Chandwad

1. Gairatganj
2. Sultanpur
3. Dehgaon

1. Jathari
2. Hardoot

1. Likalpur.

1	2	3	4	5	6
---	---	---	---	---	---

9. Kharwai
10. Dabargmliya
11. Pemat
12. Samarapur
13. Mankpur
14. Chiklod
15. Sewasini
16. Dobi
17. Bangaon
18. Bhainsa
19. Papda
20. Jujharpur
21. Bamori
22. Chunetia
23. Kheri

3. Sehore

1. Larkui
2. Pilikrar
3. Banyan
4. Ranguraria
5. Tillod
6. Jamaspur Kajan
7. Kulhar
8. Chich
9. Soyat
10. Jwahar Khda
11. Majar Kuri
12. Tiladiya
13. Dhamarra
14. Dhoulpur
15. Bhadakui
16. Khedi
17. Bharkach
18. Bando
19. Sardar Nagar
20. Kurinarayanpur
21. Rampur
22. Bhorra

1. Baktara
2. Syampur
3. Rehti
4. Maina

1. Ahmadpur
2. Nimota
3. Ariya
4. Nipania

1. Khacrod
2. Ahamadpur
3. Dohrah

1	2	3	4	5	6
		23. Jatakheda			
		24. Baktal			
		25. Hakimabad			
		26. Bardhi Kalan			
		27. Nipaniya Dham Khedhi			
		28. Khandwa			
		29. Jhatki			
		30. Khachrod			
		31. Bijlone			
		32. Gawakheda			
		33. Somliya Jadid			
		34. Laras Khurd			
		35. Sodi			
		36. Muravar.			

**Modernisation of telephone system
in Madhya Pradesh**

8274. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to modernise the existing tel phone system of the fast developing industrial growth centres of Madhya Pradesh namely, Mandideep (Raisen), Pithampur (Dhar) and Bijaypur (Guna) in the near future;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh and industrialists of these areas have submitted some proposals in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) The information is given in the statement given below.

(c) Yes, Sir. Some proposals in respect of Mandideep and Pithampur have been received.

Statement

1. Mandideep (Raisen) : Presently it is a 150 lines manual exchange with 122

working connections and 7 in the waiting list. Due to limited availability of automatic switching equipment there is no proposal under consideration for automation of Mandideep.

2. Pitahampur (Dhar) : Presently it is a 200 lines manual type exchange with 91 working connections and 138 in the waiting list. Another exchange named Sagar Kutti in the same area is a 90-lines MAX-III automatic type exchange with 48 working connections and 40 in the waiting list. There is no proposal under consideration for instaliation of medium type automatic exchange at Pithampur due to constraints in the availability of automatic switching equipment.

A 20-lines telex exchange at Pithampur and an 8 channel carrier system between Pithampur-Indore has been planned for commissioning during 1986-87.

3. Bijaypur (Guna) : At present it is a 90-lines MAX-III type automatic exchange with 39 working connections and nil on the waiting list. There is no proposal for expansion of the exchange for want of demand.

3—Channel system between Bijaypur and Guna has been commissioned.

A satellite Earth Station has also been installed for National Fertilizer Limited.

**Purchase of units for Ghataprabha
Power House, Karnataka**

8275. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the purchase of two units of 16 MW for the Ghataprabha Power House has been much delayed due to want of proper sanction from the Union Government;

(b) whether several representations have been made to the Union Government by the Government of Karnataka in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) when and to whom the order of purchase is likely to be given ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d) The issue of procurement of generating equipment for Ghataprabha Power House (2×16 MW) in Karnataka has already been considered and the Karnataka State authorities have been advised in September, 1985 to place orders on M/s BHEL. The above decision has also been reiterated personally during discussions with the Karnataka authorities.

Setting up of mini cement plants

8276. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of mini cement plants functioning in each State at present and the total production of cement produced in mini cement plants in the country during 1985;

(b) the number of applications received from each State Government for approval for issuing licences for establishing new mini cement plants in the country during 1985 and the action taken by Government to clear those applications;

(c) whether it is a fact that many mini cement plants which had been sanctioned earlier, have not been started yet; and

(d) if so, their number State-wise and the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) A statement giving the required information is given below.

Statement

Details of mini cement plants in production

(a)	State	No. of mini cement plants in production
	1	2
	Andhra Pradesh	9
	Bihar	1
	Gujarat	11
	Jammu & Kashmir	1
	Karnataka	6
	Madhya Pradesh	6

1	2
Orissa	1
Rajasthan	3
Tamil Nadu	2
Uttar Pradesh	2
	—
Total	42
	—

Mini cement plants produced 7.09 lakh tonnes of cement during 1985.

(b) No applications were received from the State Government during 1985 for setting up of mini cement plants. Application were, however, received from private entrepreneurs. Details of such applications and the disposal given to those applications are shown below :

(i) Applications for the grant of Industrial Licences :

State	No. of applications received	Letters of Intent issued	Rejected
Andhra Pradesh	7	2	5
Assam	3	1	2
Gujarat	2	1	1
Madhya Pradesh	1	—	1
Maharashtra	1	—	1
Meghalaya	1	—	1
Orissa	1	—	1
Rajasthan	1	1	—
Tamil Nadu	1	—	1
Uttar Pradesh	1	—	1**
	—	—	—
Total	19	5	14

**Advised to seek DGTD registration.

(II) Applications for registration with DGTD :

State/U.T.	No. of applications for registration received	No. of applications registered	No. of applications rejected
Andhra Pradesh	8	2	6
Assam	12	5	7
Karnataka	10	7	3
Madhya Pradesh	6	2	4
Rajasthan	7	2	5
Tamil Nadu	8	5	3
Maharashtra	3	1	2
Orissa	2	1	1
Uttar Pradesh	3	—	3
Gujarat	2	—	2
Pondicherry	2	1	1
Meghalaya	2	2	—
	—	—	—
Total	65	28	37

(c) and (d) The details of Industrial approvals etc. accorded for the setting up of mini cement plants which are under implementation as on 31.3.1986 are given below :—

State/U.T.	Industrial Licences	Letters of Intent	DGTD Registration	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	4	4	39	47
Assam	—	6	13	19
Bihar	—	1	6	7
Gujarat	5	3	15	23
Himachal Pradesh	1	1	16	18
Jammu & Kashmir	—	—	10	10
Karnataka	4	8	26	38
Maharashtra	1	—	3	4
Madhya Pradesh	1	1	37	39

1	2	3	4	5
Meghalaya	—	2	3	5
Orissa	1	2	5	8
Rajasthan	1	2	11	14
Tamil Nadu	—	—	11	11
Uttar Pradesh	—	2	4	6
Pondicherry	—	—	3	3
Total	18	32	202	252

The approvals accorded are time bound and the entrepreneurs are expected to commission production within the time limits specified therein. Implementation of the approvals is monitored with reference to these time limits. Special reviews are also conducted to assess the progress made and to cancel/revoke approvals where adequate progress has not been made by the entrepreneurs in the implementation. Extensions are given in deserving cases.

**Expansion of Pulicunnoo Telephone
Exchange in Alleppy District,
Kerala**

8277. SHRI VAKKOM PURU-SHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal pending with Government for the expansion of 'Pulicunnoo' Telephone Exchange in Alleppy District of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

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

**Expansion of Harippad Telephone
Exchange (Kerala)**

8278. SHRI VAKKOM PURU-SHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for

the expansion of Harippad Exchange in Thiruvalla Sub-division of Kerala; and

(b) whether STD facilities are proposed to be arranged in Harippad Exchange during the Seventh Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :
(a) Yes, Sir. There is a proposal to expand the Harippad exchange in Thiruvalla Sub-Division of Kerala during 7th Plan period.

(b) No, Sir.

**Installation of platform in Bay of
Bengal on Andhra Pradesh
coast**

8279. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an offshore drilling platform in the Heera Offshore oilfield has been dedicated to the nation recently;

(b) if so, the annual production of oil expected by this platform;

(c) whether there is a proposal under

the consideration of Government to install a similar platform in the Bay of Bengal on the Coast of Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 1.25 million tonnes per annum.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Exploration in offshore Andhra is still in exploratory stage.

Setting up LPG plants in Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh

8280. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Rupees nine-crore LPG plant has been opened in Gujarat recently ;

(b) if so, the annual LPG supply capacity of the plant ;

(c) the extent to which foreign exchange will be saved ;

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up similar plants in Andhra Pradesh; and

(e) if so, the detail thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir, at Ankleshwar.

(b) About 48000 tonnes per annum.

(c) About Rs. 14 crores per annum.

(d) to (e) Not at present, because further exploration has to be done to establish adequate reserves of natural gas.

World Bank loan and IDA credit for cement projects and its share to Andhra Pradesh

8281. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :
SHRI V. SOBHANADREES.
WARA RAO :

SHRI BHATTAM SRI RAMA
MURTHY :

SHRI T. BALA GOUD :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Bank will give two loans of 331 million dollars and the International Development Association credit of SDR 127.5 million to help India to finance projects in the cement industry;

(b) if so, the details of terms and conditions of the loans and the time by which the loans will be received by India;

(c) the State-wise break-up of the loans and what will be share of Andhra Pradesh and the extent to which it will meet the State's requirement in cement production; and

(d) the extent to which the prices of cement will come down in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) World Bank has approved in March 1986 a loan of \$ 200 million to be repaid over a period of 20 years with a grace period of 5 years at the standard variable rate applicable to all World Bank loans (current rate 8.5% per annum), details of which are as follows :—

Conversion of wet to dry process of following cement plants (loan through ICICI and IDBI—\$ 163.3 million)

-
- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Associated Cement Co. Ltd.,
Madhukkarai, Tamil Nadu | — \$12.1 million |
| 2. Associated Cement Co. Ltd.,
Shahabad, Karnataka
(Plus) Training and Technical
assistance | —\$ 28.0 million
—\$ 1.8 million |
| 3. India Cement Ltd.
Sankarnagar, Tamil Nadu | —\$ 38.6 million |
| 4. Birla Jute & Industries
Satna, Madhya Pradesh | —\$ 24.7 million |
| 5. Cement Corporation of India,
Mandhar, Madhya Pradesh | —\$ 24.9 million |
| 6. K. C. P. Limited, Macherla, A. P. | —\$ 4.7 million |
| 7. Shree Digvijay Cement Co. Ltd.,
Sikka, Gujarat. | —\$ 28.7 million |
- II. Grant of \$ 1.5 million to ICICI for carrying out sub-sector level training and technical assistance.
- III. \$ 35 million direct loan to ICICI (with Government of India guarantee) for re-lending to projects undertaking a programme of modernisation, rehabilitation, energy conservation, productivity improvement, etc., of cement plants.
-

(d) It is not possible to indicate the direct impact of the above schemes of modernisation on the prices of cement in the country for the reason that firstly, the cost of production depends on several other factors such as cost of inputs, level of wages, etc. and secondly, these schemes would constitute only a small segment of the production from various cement plants in the country.

Delay in implementation of Arjun Sen Gupta Committee report on public sector enterprises

8282. SHRI V. TULSIRAM :
PROF. RAMKRISHNA
MORE :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Arjun Sen Gupta Committee report has been kept in cold storage as reported in the Economic Times of 30 March, 1986;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the hurdles which are coming in the way of implementation of the recommendations made in the committee's report; and

(d) when Government propose to implement these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of

the Committee are being examined by the Government.

Revision of cement production target for 1986-87

8283. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have revised the cement production target fixed for 1986-87;

(b) whether the cement production target for 1985-86 has not been achieved;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the cement output in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir. The target for 1986-87 has been fixed for the first time at 36.5 million tonnes.

(b) The production of cement during 1985-86 was about 33.1 million tonnes against the target of 33.5 million tonnes. Thus, target has been achieved to the extent of about 99 per cent.

The marginal shortfall in the cement production compared to the target during 1985-86 was mainly due to the heavy and prolonged power cuts in some of the major cement producing States particularly Karnataka and Rajasthan, labour problems in some of the parts, shortage of coal and wagons in certain cases and delay in the commissioning schedule of some of the new projects.

(d) With a view to increase the cement output in the 7th Five Year Plan, efforts are being made to encourage maximum utilisation of existing capacity, by removing the infrastructural constraints, inhibiting production. The progress of new schemes which have been sanctioned is periodically reviewed to ensure commissioning of the projects as per schedule.

Optimum Plant Load Factor of thermal power units

8284. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the acceptable optimum plant load factor (PLF) in respect of various Thermal Power Units/Stations in the country;

(b) the names of the major thermal power stations in the country having low PLF-below 55 per cent during the last two years;

(c) the main reasons for low PLF working;

(d) the remedial steps taken to achieve the optimum generation from such units; and

(e) in which cases optimum generation could not be achieved and reasons for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Committee on Power set up by the Government had recommended that Plant Load Factor of 58 per cent should be considered as the norms for the system.

(b) The desired information is given in the statement given below.

(c) There are various reasons for low plant load factor of Thermal Power Stations which include deterioration in quality of coal, deficiencies in equipments, inadequately trained operation and maintenance staff, system load conditions etc.

(d) For improving the performance of thermal power stations, Roving Teams and Task Forces comprising engineers from CEA, BHEL & ILK periodically visit the power station and time-bound action plans are drawn to remove the deficiencies. In addition, a centrally sponsored Renovation and Modernisation Scheme has been initiated covering 32 thermal power stations to improve their performance.

(e) The thermal power stations whose

plant load factor was less than the National average of 52.4 percent during 1985-86 are indicated in statement given below.

The broad reasons for poor performance are indicated in reply to part (c) above.

Statement-I

Name of thermal power stations having PLF less than 55% during 1984-85 and 1985-86

1984-85		1985-86	
Name of Station	PLF (%)	Name of Station	PLF (%)
1	2	3	4
Badarpur	47.8	Badarpur	46.0
Faridabad Extn.	27.9	Faridabad	25.2
Panipat	39.7	Panipat	39.0
Obra	29.7	Obra	41.6
Panki	48.8	Panki	34.2
Harduaganj	32.0	Harduaganj	23.5
Harduaganj B&C	29.5	Harduaganj B&C	34.8
RPH Kanpur	24.8	RPH Kanpur	14.2
		Paricha	28.2
Ukai	50.5	Ukai	49.9
Gandhi Nagar	39.8	Wankabori	47.3
Nasik	51.9	Khaperkheda	32.0
Koradi	36.0	Paras	45.9
Khaperkheda	18.6	Chandrapur	44.7
Paras	34.4	Uran G.T.	27.4
Bhusawal	45.7	Trombay	54.8
Chandrapur	45.2	Satpura	51.7
Satpura	48.5	Korba-I	54.9
Korba II	44.3	Korba West	45.7
Korba West	47.2	Kothagudem A	54.0
Kothagudem B	32.1	Kothagudem B	36.0
Kothagudem C	38.2	Kothagudem C	54.9
Nellore	44.5	Nellore	45.3
Ennore	36.2	Raichur	33.5
Basin Bridge	14.2	Ennore	52.2
		Basin Bridge	3.6
Patratu	33.0	Patratu	40.0
Baruani	21.3	Barauni	21.3
Talcher	32.2	Muzaffarpur	42.8

1	2	3	4
Santaldih	48.4	Talcher	31.7
Kolaghat	24.7	Santaldih	51.3
CESC	45.6	Kolaghat	28.6
Chandrapura	52.8	CESC	49.8
Durgapur	40.3	Chandrapura	47.1
Bokaro	51.0	Durgapur	52.6
Chandrapur	35.0	Bokaro	51.8
Namrup	38.2	Chandrapur	50.3
		Namrup	46.6
Bongaigaon	15.9	Bongaigaon	1.9

(Statement-II)

Station having P.L.F. less than National average during 1985-86

Station	PLF (%)
1	2
1. Badarpur	46.0
2. Faridabad Extn.	25.2
3. Panipat	39.0
4. Obra 1-13	41.6
5. Panki	34.2
6. Hardua Ganj A	23.5
7. Hardua Ganj B & C	34.8
8. R.P.H. Kanpur	14.2
9. Paricha	28.2
10. Ukai	49.9
11. Wanakbori	47.3
12. Khaperkheda	32.0
13. Paras	45.9
14. Chandrapur	44.7
15. Uran (GT)	27.4
16. Satpura	51.7
17. Korba West	45.7
18. Kothagudem B	36.0

1	2
19. Nellore	45.0
20. Raichur	33.5
21. Ennore	52.2
22. Basin Bridge	3.6
23. Patratu	40.0
24. Barauni	17.0
25. Muzaffarpur	42.8
26. Talcher	31.7
27. Bandel	51.3
28. Santaldih	28.6
29. Kolaghat	50.3
30. D.P.L.	26.3
31. Chandrapura	47.1
32. Bokaro	51.8
33. Chandrapur	40.3
34. Namrup	46.6
35. Bongaigaon	1.8
36. Lakwa (Assam)	40.1

Study made in divorce cases

8285. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA :
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE
be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study of divorce
cases had been conducted in the light of
causes and decisions on divorces;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to
conduct any study now; and

(e) how many times laws/rules in
respect of divorces have been modified
during the last ten years ?

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

No study of divorce cases had been conducted in the light of causes and decisions on divorces. However, since the passing of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 and the Special Marriage Act, 1954, various suggestions were received from Members of Parliament and the general public regarding the grounds of divorce. In the light of these suggestions, the Law Commission had made a study of these matters and given its recommendations in its 59th and 71st Reports.

To give effect to the recommendations of the Law Commission in its 59th Report, the Marriage Laws (Amendment) Act, 1976 was passed mainly to liberalise the provisions relating to divorce and for the expeditious disposal of such proceedings.

The Marriage Laws (Amendment) Bill, 1981 was introduced to give effect to the recommendations of the Law Commission as contained in its 71st Report which

provided for irretrievable break-down of marriage as a ground of divorce in the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 and the Special Marriage Act, 1954. The Bill was referred to a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament and it recommended the withdrawal of the Bill till such time the necessary infrastructure like the establishment of Family Courts, etc., is provided for.

The Hindu Marriage Act was also amended in 1964 to insert therein a provision for dissolution of marriage on the ground that there has been no resumption of cohabitation as between the parties to the marriage for a period of one year or upwards after the passing of a decree for judicial separation or there has been no restitution of conjugal rights as between the parties to the marriage for a period of one year or upwards after the passing of a decree for restitution of conjugal rights.

No other amendments were taken up in respect of divorce during the last ten years. There is also no proposal at present before the Government to undertake any study in the matter.

Bifurcation of Posts and Telegraphs Department

8286. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) when the bifurcation of Posts and Telegraphs Department occurred and the objects of bifurcation;

(b) the advantages and disadvantages thereof;

(c) the staff position before and after the bifurcation in Class I posts and Districts and Circles; whether there has been an increase and if so, how much;

(d) the profit and loss statement of Posts and Telegraphs Department, yearly

finances before bifurcation in respect of two preceding years; and

(e) the financial position in the Departments of Posts and Telecommunications separately till December, 1985 showing yearly figures after the bifurcation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The Ministry of Communications was reconstituted into two separate departments, viz. Department of Posts and Department of Telecommunications vide Government of India orders issued on 4-1-1985.

The object of bifurcation was to improve the efficiency of Telecom. system in operational, technological and management aspects. The Postal service was labour incentive while Telecom. service was highly technology oriented.

(b) The advantages of bifurcation are that both the Postal and Telecom. services will be able to devote better attention for the improvements of the services in their respective departments. There are no disadvantages of the bifurcation scheme.

(c) Postal Service.

No. of Class I posts before bifurcation.	No. of Class I posts after bifurcation.
441	443

There is an increase of 2 posts after the bifurcation.

Telecom. Service

There is no increase after the bifurcation.

(d) and (e) The information is furnished in the statement given below.

Statement

The Revenue, Working Expenses, Surplus/Deficit for the year 1983-84 and 1984-85 are as follows :

(Rupees in crores)

	1983-84 Postal service	(actuals) Telecom. service	1984-85 Postal service	(actuals) Telecom. service
Revenue Receipts	434.54	1028.12	444.41	1191.32
Working Expenses	507.77	681.38	568.66	810.89
Dividend	9.07	87.89	11.84	123.13
Total Expenditure	516.84	769.27	580.50	934.02
Surplus (+)				
Deficit (—)	(—) 82.30	(+) 258.85	(—) 136.09	(+) 257.30

For 1985-86 and 1986-87 the Revised Estimate & Budget Estimate are as follows :

(Rupees in crores)

	1985-86 Postal	(RE) Telecom.	1986-87 Postal	(BE) Telecome.
Revenue Receipts	500.00	1360.00	550.00	1370.00
Working Expenses	689.29	925.00	773.60	904.50
Dividend	—	166.18	—	191.70
Total Expenditure	689.29	1091.18	773.60	1096.20
Surplus (+)				
Deficit (—)	(—) 189.29	(+) 268.82	(—) 223.60	(+) 273.80

Detection of spurious gas cylinders

8287. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) how many cases of spurious gas cylinders have been detected so far in the country;

(b) the action taken against the defaulters; and

(c) how many cases of insurance against LPG explosion have been dealt with during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) While no separate statistics about spurious LPG cylinders are maintained by the oil industry, weeding out of defective, including spurious, cylinders is done at the bottling plants during the course of visual inspection and water bath test.

(b) wherever a spurious cylinder is tendered by or can be traced to a transporter or distributor action is taken against the party which ranges from recovery of penal rate to termination of contract.

(c) No statistics are maintained by the oil industry in this regard; such claims

are dealt with by insurance companies directly with the claimants.

Payment of royalty in foreign exchange

8288. SHRI D. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that continued royalty payment for foreign companies is agreed to in rare cases involving high technology and industries which are export-oriented or on any similar consideration;

(b) if so, the details of the guidelines followed in this connection;

(c) whether a list of items with names of foreign companies, which were paid royalty in foreign exchange during the last three years, has been compiled, Ministry-wise; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the total royalty paid year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) As a general policy of the Government, royalty payment to foreign companies is normally allowed for an initial period of 5 years. However, a higher rate of royalty may be considered on merits in exceptional cases, where the technology involved is sophisticated or a major part of the production is exported.

(c) and (d) No Ministry-wise list of items with names of foreign companies which were paid royalty in foreign exchange is prepared by the Government. However, the total royalty paid during the last few years is indicated below :

(in rupees
crores)

1980-81	...	8.88
1981-82	...	15.99
1982-83	...	39.72

Complaints regarding faulty telephone services in Calcutta

8289. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of complaints from subscribers in regard to telephone services have been constantly rising;

(b) whether the Calcutta Telephones have been passing on the responsibility for such large number of faulty telephone services to other departments like Calcutta Electricity, CMDA and municipal departments for their digging roads and thereby damaging telephone cables; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof and the details of complaints received during the last six months alongwith the total number of telephones, exchange-wise, which remained unserviceable constantly for more than 30 days during the period of six months ending on 31-3-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. On the contrary there is an improvement over past 5 years in this parameter of performance as per statement-I given below.

(b) it is a fact that a large number of faults are caused due to damage on telephone cables by various utility agencies.

(c) (i) Average number of complaints per month during October, 1985 to March, 1986 was 33.9 per 100 telephones.

(ii) Total number of telephones remained un-serviceable constantly for more than 4 weeks during the six months period ending 31-3-86 are shown as per statement-II given below.

Statement—I

Complaints per 100 stations/Month during last 5 years.

Year	Average/Month
1981-82	44.6
1982-83	35.7
1983-84	41.4
1984-85	42.6
1985-86	37.7

Statement—II

Telephone faults pending more than 4 weeks as on

Exchanges	31-10-85	29-11-85	31-12-85	31-1-86	28-2-86	31-3-86
21/24/29	87	61	67	59	6	5
23	29	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
25/26/27	837	487	78	61	56	80
31/32/33/34	942	518	133	53	198	341
35/36	269	25	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
41/42/46	153	79	16	7	17	7
43/44	219	16	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
45/49	410	188	116	3	Nil	14
52	96	7	Nil	1	3	Nil
54/55	1209	243	103	58	77	73
57	14	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
64	19	2	10	Nil	Nil	3
66	234	155	106	57	43	42
67	203	105	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
72	42	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
77	140	54	4	Nil	5	1
S/Suburban Exgs.	48	8	Nil	1	Nil	6
H/ " "	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
N/ " "	110	50	1	2	Nil	Nil
Total	5072	2004	634	302	405	572

L.P.G. agencies in West Bengal

8290. **SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA** : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the distributorship or agency for 'Indane' domestic gas planned to be allotted under the Marketing Plan of 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86 in the region of West Bengal has not so far been allotted at different places;

(b) whether large and thickly populated areas under the districts of Hooghly, 24-Parganas and Murshidabad have still not been included in those marketing plans;

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

(d) the steps being taken to identify the areas in these districts in the next Marketing Plan of Indian Oil Corporation Limited for the purpose; and

(e) the total number of LPG consumers in West Bengal during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) In the state of West Bengal IOC has planned a total number of 47 LPG distributorships in its Marketing Plans 1982-84 (Pt. II), 1984-85 & 1985-86 out of which 17 have been commissioned and for 11 distributorships Letters of Intent have been issued. The remaining 19 distributorships are at various stages of the selection process.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The oil industry is introducing LPG in a phased manner in towns with a population of around 20,000, including such towns in the districts of Hooghly, 24 Parganas and Murshidabad, subject to adequacy of potential for an economically viable distributorship.

(e) The total number of LPG consumers in West Bengal during the last three years was as under :

1.4.84	1.4.85	1.4.86
3,44,785	3,87,705	4,96,099

Setting up of holding companies by merging sick Public Sector Units

8291. **SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY** : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to merge sick public sector units with healthy ones and to set up holding companies with units operating on similar production lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any other proposals to restore health to sick public sector units are being examined; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) It is presumed that the question relates to the Central Public Enterprises under the Administrative control of the Ministry of Industry. There is no proposal at present to merge sick public sector units with healthy ones. The feasibility of forming holding companies in certain sectors is under examination of the Government.

(c) and (d) Government is constantly endeavouring to restore health to sick public sector units. The steps taken in this direction include, inter-alia, regular monitoring of performance, arrangements for captive generation of power wherever considered feasible, investment in balancing facilities, upgradation of technology, modernisation and rehabilitation of plants, product diversification, training and retraining of personnel, adoption of various cost control and cost reduction measures and encouragement of workers participation in management.

Plans for Improving performance of public sector undertakings

8292. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any long-term and short-term plans have been prepared by Government for improving the performance of the public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Performance of each Public Enterprise is reviewed by Government periodically and remedial measures both long-term and short-term are taken which include, inter alia, technology upgradation, modernisation of plant and equipment, diversification of product-mix, provision of investments in balancing facilities and captive power plants, changes in structure of the organisation wherever considered necessary, and formulation of corporate plans.

Reservation of jobs for handicapped persons

8293. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a legislation for reservation of jobs for the handicapped was recommended by a Committee of his Ministry constituted in 1981;

(b) if so, the reasons given for reservation;

(c) the details of the other recommendations of the committee; and

(d) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) No such Committee has been constituted by the Ministry.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Improvement in plant load factor

8294. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is feasible to improve plant load factors of State Electricity Boards from present 50 per cent to 60 per cent;

(b) whether the energy transmission losses can be reduced from 21 per cent to 10 per cent; and

(c) if so, whether it would eliminate the present power shortage (H.T. 31.3.86)?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Committee on Power set up by the Government had recommended that plant load factor of 58 per cent should be considered as the norm for the system. Efforts are being made to improve the plant load factor to this level.

(b) The transmission and distribution losses in the country can be reduced by implementing system improvement projects for strengthening of transmission and distribution systems and checking the theft of energy. Strengthening and improvement of the systems will require adequate funds and implementation of the schemes for the same will take time.

(c) Subject to availability of funds, efforts are being made to see that the power situation is considerably ameliorated during the next 4 to 5 years.

Reduction in prices of Vitamin formulations

8295. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADHAK PATIL :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the press reports about Vitamin formulations price cut by 40 per cent;

(b) if so, the names of the vitamin products whose prices have been reduced;

(c) the earlier prices fixed for each of these vitamin products and the revised prices fixed for each product; and

(d) what is the price at which each is being sold at present ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND

PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-
CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is given below.

(d) Manufacturers have represented against the reduction in prices and have not yet complied with the reduced prices so far.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the formulations	Pack Size	Earlier Price	Revised Price
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I. Pfizer Ltd.				
1.	Becasule Caps.	20's B.	8.85	7.58
2.	Becasule Caps.	100's B.	33.13	33.30
3.	Becasule Syrup	50ml	4.98	4.80
4.	Multiviplex Forte	20's	8.67	7.00
5.	Multiviplex Forte	100's	32.12	30.43
6.	Multiviplex Forte Drops	15ml B.	4.49	4.25
7.	Multivitaplex Elixir	100ml B.	9.61	9.44
8.	Dumasule Caps.	20's B.	7.96	6.03
9.	Dumasule Caps.	100's B.	29.52	25.87
10.	Terramycin SF Caps.	25x4's Strip	63.72	68.44
II. Sandoz (I) Ltd.				
1.	Calcium Tablets with Vit. C, D & B ₁₂	50's B.	5.78	5.78
2.	—do—	200's B.	16.41	18.84
3.	Mutrisan Caps.	30's B.	9.52	8.03
4.	Mutrisan Caps.	90's B.	23.70	21.6
5.	Mutrisan Cap.	450's B.	104.80	92.40
6.	Hematrine Caps.	40's B.	11.57	9.72
7.	Hematrine Caps.	500's B.	112.36	93.04
8.	Hematrine Liq.	85ml. B.	5.11	5.19
9.	Hematrine Liq.	200ml B.	9.22	9.33
10.	Metules Caps.	30's	11.68	9.84
11.	Metules Caps.	90's	30.19	27.09

1		2	3	4
12.	Calgufar Tabs.	100's	7.47	8.00
13.	Calgufar Tabs.	500's	27.39	28.19
14.	Macalvit Syrup	85ml	7.00	6.54
15.	Macalvit Syrup	200ml	13.15	12.51
III. Abbott labs. (I) Pvt. Ltd.				
1.	Iberol-500	90ml	11.11	9.43
2.	Iberol-500	240ml	24.30	22.28
3.	Iberol Tablets	25's	7.62	5.97
4.	Iberol Tablets	100's	23.05	20.71
5.	Optilets-M	25's	9.57	7.94
6.	Pramilets	25's	8.37	6.05
7.	Surbex-T	25's	9.88	8.08
8.	Surbex-T	100's	33.00	29.18
9.	Vidaylin Syrup	90ml	7.04	5.35
10.	Vidaylin Syrup	240ml	13.97	11.38
11.	Vidaylin Syrup	480ml	26.21	19.77
12.	Vidaylin M Drops	15ml	5.22	4.74
13.	Vidaylin Drops	30ml	8.00	7.22
14.	Vidaylin Drops	15ml	5.15	4.66
15.	Vidaylin Drops	30ml	7.82	7.05
16.	Vidaylin M Syrup	90ml	8.46	6.43
17.	Vidaylin M Syrup	240ml	17.83	14.26
18.	Vidaylin M Syrup	480ml	34.05	25.53
19.	Iberol Liquid	90ml	8.83	6.64
20.	Iberol Liquid	240ml	18.38	14.83
21.	Optilets Tabs.	25's	10.24	8.42
22.	Surbex Syrup.	90ml	10.73	8.19
23.	Surbex	25's	5.97	4.10
24.	Surbex	100's	16.75	13.26
25.	Surbex	500's	64.03	53.69
26.	Bevidox Liquid	90ml	13.15	10.77
27.	Surbex T Liquid	90ml	10.02	8.05

Violation of provisions of drugs prices control order by drug manufacturing firms in Kerala

8296. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any drug manufacturing firms in Kerala which have violated the provisions of the Drugs (Prices) Control Order, 1979;

(b) the nature of such violations and the names of such firms; and

(c) whether any action has been taken against those firms ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No instance of violation of provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1979 by drug manufacturing units in Kerala has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Provision of domestic electricity connections in Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands

8297. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications for providing domestic electricity connections which are pending in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands despite all the requisite conditions having been completed and for how much time;

(b) how many villages are affected thereby;

(c) the reasons for the delay; and

(d) whether any time frame has been laid down to provide connections to all applicants ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House,

Proposal to set up LPG distribution centres at district Headquarters

8298. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to set up at least one LPG distribution centre at each district headquarters in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Oil marketing companies have been advised to accord priority in providing LPG facilities to district headquarters subject to economic viability.

Ultra high voltage power house in Uppal village near Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh

8299. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Power Research Organisation has a proposal to establish an ultra high voltage power house in Uppal village near Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) how much power from this power house will be allocated to Andhra Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : No, Sir. The Central Power Research Institute, Bangalore, are setting up a laboratory at Uppal village near Hyderabad in Andhra Pradesh for undertaking research in the field of Ultra High Voltage A. C. transmission lines.

(b) Does not arise.

Import of Penultimate in the name of Intermediate for Manufacture of Ethambutol

8300. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that certain Drug Companies were found importing penultimate under the name of intermediate for the manufacture of Ethambutol; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Organisation to assess technology requirements

8301. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up an organisation to assess technology requirements and to identify areas for development of technologies and promote research and development skills in the industry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Government have set up in March, 1986, nine Technology Development Advisory Group in the following fields to render advice on the technology thrust to be made in these sectors:

1. Agricultural Machinery (particularly Tractors and equipment);
2. Electronics & Electro-mechanical Instruments.
3. Energy Efficient Power Transmission and Distribution Equipments (Motors, Transformers and switchgears).
4. Information Technology, its hardware and software.
5. Carbide, Ceramic and Diamond Tools;

6. New Forging and Casting Technology.

7. Fermentation technology & Industrial Applications of Bio-Technology.

8. Patented operations like continuous poly condensation for plastics synthetic fibre industry.

9. Bagasse based paper.

The terms of reference of these groups include assessment of existing technology in the country and contemporary international technology, identification of technology gaps, finalisation of technological goals for 1990 and identification of leading organisations for specific tasks with time-bound programme.

Telephone services in Calcutta

8302. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the telephone services in the Capital as also in other metro cities, particularly Calcutta, continue to be unsatisfactory and whether this is due to inadequate training of operators and supervisory staff and if so, corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken;

(b) whether introduction of high density of telephones as in other large cities such as Tokyo and London will reduce the running overheads, increase the efficiency and reduce the investment; and

(c) whether we expect to have one telephone per family in all the State Capitals as against 1.7 phones per person in New York?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The Telephone Services in the Capital (Delhi) and in other Metro cities viz. Bombay, Madras and Calcutta are by and large satisfactory. However, in Calcutta, complaints about

unsatisfactory telephone services are received from time to time. But these complaints are not generally attributable to inadequate training of operators and supervisors.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Manufacture of alcohol from agricultural Waste products

8303. SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANG-LAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research and other laboratories had evolved and claimed alcohol manufacture from other agriculture waste products including tapioca;

(b) if so, whether these processes are being used now; and

(c) if so, quantity of alcohol manufactured therefrom ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) The Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Trivandram, under the ICAR has developed process for using tapioca for production of power alcohol (ethanol).

(b) The process has not yet gone into commercial use.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Supply of tyres to farmers at concessional rates

8304. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of tyres in the country;

(b) the percentage of total production utilised by farmers;

(c) whether Government are formulating any scheme to make tyres available to farmers at concessional rates through grants;

(d) if so, the outlines thereof; and

(e) if not, how Government propose to provide tyres to farmers at concessional rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The total production of all categories of tyres during 1985 was 123.03 lakhs. Production of tractor and Animal Driven Vehicle (ADV) tyres was 9.50 lakhs and 4.50 lakhs which corresponds to 8% and 4% respectively of the total production. Details about percentage of tractor & ADV tyres used by farmers are not maintained.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Allotment of land by Directorate of Industries, Delhi at low rates

8305. Dr. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directorate of Industries, Delhi Administration has allotted land at the rates lower than that fixed by Urban Development Ministry;

(b) if so, whether this has caused great loss to the Department;

(c) whether applications were not invited from the general public before doing so :

(d) if so, whether this has been done against the rules; and

(e) if so, the action taken against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. According

to Delhi Administration, the Ministry of Urban Development fixed the rates of residential and commercial land only and not for industrial land. However, Directorate of Industries, Delhi Administration allots land on pre-determined rates in accordance with its policy.

(c) to (e) According to Delhi Administration, only one industrial plot has been allotted in Badli Industrial Estate—Phase III without inviting applications from the public. The said plot has been allotted to a polished rice exporting unit on the recommendations of the Government in their efforts to boost India's export of agricultural items. Certain allegations made in regard to allotment of this plot were gone into but no irregularity was found.

Demand for increase in prices of tyres

8306. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether owners of tyre industry have made any request to increase prices of tyres;

(b) if so, whether their request is under consideration of Government;

(c) if so, the percentage of price Government propose to increase;

(d) whether keeping the interest of farmers in view, Government are trying to keep the prices of tyres balanced; and

(e) if so, how and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) There is no statutory control on the prices and distribution of tyres.

(d) and (e) Government are constantly reviewing measures including fiscal reliefs so as to stabilise the prices of automotive tyres at a reasonable level.

Use of foreign names by Food Speciality Limited for their products

8307. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Food Speciality Limited, an international company had taken prior permission of the Union Government for using foreign names for their products like Lactogen, Maggi, Nestle, Nestum, Nescafe, etc;

(b) if not, the basis for giving exemption to this company and whether Government ensure that these products are of international standard; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to ensure compliance of law of the land and also safeguard the interests of consumers with regard to quality as well as standard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) M/s. Food Specialities Limited was promoted by M/s. Nestle SA of Switzerland and they have been, therefore, using most of these trade marks almost from the inception. Under the provisions of the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 prior approval is also not necessary for the use of trade marks.

In regard to maintenance of quality, it is for the owners of the trade marks to ensure that the products which carry their reputed trade marks are of the requisite quality to maintain the reputation of the trade marks.

[English]

Pollution in Andhra Cement Factory in Vijayawada

8308. SHRI V. SOBHANADRESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the residents near Andhra Cement Factory in Vijayawada city are suffering due to the pollution from the smoke emanating from it;

(b) if so, the action taken against management which failed to install precipitator pollution preventing equipment; and

(c) the likely date by which such equipment will be installed by the Andhra Cement Factory, Vijaywada ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Andhra Cement Company, Vijayawada was set up as far back as 1938 & the township has grown around the factory since then. To contain dust and smoke, Andhra Cement Company has already installed three Electrostatic Precipitators (ESPs) in the kilns, one ESP for their cement mills and bag filters for coal mills. However, an ESP at one of their kilns got damaged in February, 1986 which is expected to be repaired/rectified by May, 1986.

Heavy Demurrages in Eastern Coal-fields Limited and Bharat Coking Coal Limited

8309. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether an expenditure of Rs. 94.31 lakhs was incurred by Eastern Coal-fields Limited and Rs. 73.4 lakhs by Bharat Coking Coal Limited during 1984 as demurrages;

(b) if so, the reasons for these heavy demurrage charges;

(c) whether this heavy demurrage is justified; and

(d) if not, the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Demurrages are leviable on detention of wagons beyond the free loading time prescribed by Railways. Detentions are caused by operational difficulties such as break down of loading equipment, strikes, power failure, constraints in road transportation

to the sidings, unrealistic free loading timings and non adherence to time schedules for supply of wagons by Railways etc.

(c) and (d) Constant efforts are being made to reduce detentions by improving loading efficiency and streamlining the procedures in respect of free loading time, adherence of time schedules by Railways and maintenance of sufficient coal stocks at the sidings.

Plants for production of Ampicillin and Amoxycilline Trihydrate lying idle for want of raw materials

8310. DR. B. L. SHAIKESH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that plants of many Drug companies for the production of Ampicillin and Amoxycilline Trihydrate are lying idle for want of raw materials;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) when the raw materials required by these units will be made available ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) 6 APA is the raw material required for the manufacture of Ampicillin and Amoxycilline Trihydrate. As per the available information no unit is lying idle for want of this material.

Memoranda from officers of Central Public Sector Undertakings

8311. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received memoranda from the officers of many of the 238 Central Public Undertakings urging to accept their certain demands including that Government should suitably amend its policies responsible for underutilisation of the capacity of many undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The Officers Associations of individual Public Enterprises as well as Federation and Confederation of Officers Associations have submitted several memoranda to Government. These primarily relate to removal of ceiling for coverage under the Bonus Act, provisions of job security, nomination of officers on the Board of the public enterprise enhancement in ceiling for payment gratuity and introduction of superannuation scheme in addition to the existing retirement benefits. These suggestions have been examined in the Government and it has not been possible for the Government to accept them. But no specific suggestion has come from them for improvement in the capacity utilisation of the public enterprises. However Government of its own have taken several measures to improve capacity utilisation of the public enterprises.

Declaration of category 'A' 'No industry' districts and supply of raw materials to small industries

8312. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which have been declared as category 'A' for giving special consideration by the Union Government for industrialisation in view of their backwardness ;

(b) whether it is a fact that all the 14 districts of Jammu and Kashmir have been categorised as industrially backward by the Union Government;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government organisations which are responsible for supplying basic raw materials like iron & steel, plastic materials, paraffin wax etc. for the small scale industries of the

States are not supplying the above items as per allocation made by the Government; and

(d) whether a State-wise list of the above items indicating the demand made, allocation made and actual supply made will be placed on the Table of the House ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The list of districts included in Category 'A' is available in Appendix-I of the Booklet on "Incentives for Industries in Backward Areas—April, 1984" read with Press Note No. 14/2/83-DBA.I dated 9.4.85 copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

The entire territories in the States of Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura and Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Goa, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep, Mizoram and Pondicherry have been included in Category 'A' as 'No-Industry Districts' and 'Special Regions'.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Iron & Steel materials are supplied to SSI Units either through State Small Industries Corporations or directly as per the capacity/past off-take proportioned to actual availability. There is at present no system of allocation of plastic materials and paraffin wax.

(d) Statements I and II showing demand, allocation and supply of iron and steel materials through State Small Industries Corporations during the year 1984-85 are given below :

Statement-I

**Demand, Allocation and supply of Pig Iron on Account of SSI Corporation for
the year 1984—85**

(Figures in M.Ts.)

Sl. No.	State SSICs	Demand	Allocation	Supply
1.	Assam	3,000	1,000	50
2.	Bihar	5,000	5,000	—
3.	Orissa	20,300	1,000	21
4.	West Bengal	60,000	60,000	3,433
5.	Chandigarh	10,000	4,500	3,210
6.	Delhi	—	12,000	—
7.	Haryana	3,45,000	44,000	19,911
8.	Himachal Pradesh	7,000	1,500	164
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	1,800	1,800	559
10.	Punjab	3,80,100	1,62,000	26,815
11.	Rajasthan	65,000	16,000	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	15,000	7,000	2,214
13.	Uttar Pradesh	—	1,04,000	1,995
14.	Gujarat	4,00,000	1,56,000	1,29,379
15.	Maharashtra	1,80,000	48,000	16,962
16.	Andhra Pradesh	50,000	22,000	5,564
17.	Karnataka	1,18,800	22,000	—
18.	Kerala	10,000	4,500	498
19.	Pondicherry	3,000	450	40
20.	Tamil Nadu	—	66,000	—
		16,74,000	7,38,748	2,10,815

Source : Iron & Steel Controller.

Statement-II

**Demand, Allocation and supplies of Steel Materials on Account of
SSI Corporations for the year 1984-85.**

(Figures in MTs)

Sl. No.	State	SSIC	Demand	Allocation	Supply
1	2		3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh		1,01,380	29,100	15,025
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		N.A.	1,400	175
3.	Assam		17,914	12,000	728
4.	Bihar		15,460	10,600	3,150
5.	Chandigarh		26,240	14,600	17,357
6.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli		N.A.	1,400	Nil
7.	Delhi		4,56,400	33,500	20,674
8.	Goa		6,350	5,400	174
9.	Gujarat		3,00,000	53,000	14,525
10.	Himachal Pradesh		26,760	6,000	2,232
11.	Haryana		2,38,000	41,000	24,114
12.	Jammu & Kashmir		13,440	13,600	6,328
13.	Karnataka		1,12,196	29,900	13,107
14.	Kerala		31,000	14,400	653
15.	Madhya Pradesh		34,125	21,500	12,760
16.	Maharashtra		1,01,500	45,700	25,210
17.	Manipur		N.A.	1,400	Nil
18.	Meghalaya		N.A.	800	164
19.	Mizoram		3,100	1,300	95
20.	Nagaland		910	1,500	422
21.	Orissa		31,322	16,600	9,275
22.	Pondicherry		21,500	3,510	777
23.	Punjab		1,04,160	47,000	21,366
24.	Rajasthan		1,00,550	26,900	7,456
25.	Tamil Nadu		34,172	28,100	12,732

1	2	3	4	4
26.	Tripura	2,790	3,300	150
27.	Uttar Pradesh	52,300	28,000	11,632
28.	West Bengal	66,475	30,000	6,665
		18,98,046	5,29,214	2,26,946

Source : Iron and Steel Controlller

Progress of Koyna Hydro-electrical generation fourth stage

8313. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the progress of Koyna Hydro-electrical generation fourth stage;

(b) whether under this project new technology is being experimented for generation of energy;

(c) the salient features of that technology; and

(d) the quantum of energy that is proposed to be generated on completion of fourth stage of Koyna Hydel Dam ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Koyna Hydro-electric Project (750 MW) in Maharashtra has been cleared techno-economically by Centrally Electricity Authority and has been recommended to Planning Commission for investment approval.

(b) and (c) No new technology is involved in the generation of power under Koyna Stage IV Project.

(d) The annual energy potential of Koyna Project is estimated at 2085 Gwh. The existing installation of 560 MW under Koyna Stage I & II would be adequate to exploit this potential. Koyna Stage IV is mainly for providing peaking capacity to the Maharashtra/Western Regional Power System and no additional energy generation would be available under this stage.

Generation of energy through wind mills

8314. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many suitable locations in Western Coast for generation of energy through non-conventional media of wind mills;

(b) whether a preliminary survey has been made of possible locations of these sites and the State-wise break-up of the same; and

(c) the quantum of energy that is expected to be generated through wind mills during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Available wind data and preliminary wind surveys indicate several favourable locations for wind power generation on the Western Coast, particularly on the Saurashtra and Kutch Coasts in Gujarat, and Konkan Coast in Maharashtra.

(c) Already 3 wind farms of aggregate capacity of 2.1 MW have been commissioned. Two more wind farms of total capacity 1.1 MW are expected to be commissioned shortly. Large scale generation of wind electric power is feasible. However, the extent of installed capacity during the Seventh Plan period would depend on the availability of financial resources.

Shortage of coal supplies to thermal power stations

8315. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased State :

(a) whether thermal power stations are run on huge recurring expenditure;

(b) whether on account of great tension of railway traffic for movement of foodgrains, oil and other essential supplies, coal gets last priority in movements;

(c) whether on account of shortages of coal supplies, some thermal projects are not in a position to use their full capacity of generation; and

(d) whether any research has been made by Government to substitute coal?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The recurring expenditure in thermal power stations is high as the operating expenses include cost of fuel which depends on the location of the power station and the consumption per unit of generation.

(b) No, Sir. Movement of coal is given the highest priority by the railways.

(c) Coal requirements of the power stations were, by and large, met during 1985-86.

(d) Coal based thermal power generation constitutes a major share in the total generation and this position would continue.

Amendments in provision of ratio-parameter

8316. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry amended the provisions of ratio-parameter;

(b) whether certain drug companies were allowed re-endorsement of capacity with certain conditions which did not fulfil ratio parameter;

(c) whether these companies did not fulfil the conditions;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) the action taken by his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) M/s Abbot Laboratories (India) Limited, M/s Dabur (Dr. S.K. Burman) Pvt. Ltd., M/s Amrutanjan Limited and M/s Laboratories Vifer (India) Limited were granted re-endorsement of capacities with conditions to fulfil the ratio parameters within a period of two years from the date of issue of re-endorsements. Notices were issued to all these companies except M/s Laboratories Vifer (India) Limited for non-fulfilment of the condition.

Drug companies having foreign equity

8317. SHRI HARI KRISHNA SHASTRI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in other countries even if a foreign shareholding is more than 5 per cent, it is treated as a foreign company;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in our country only more than 40 per cent foreign equity treats the company as a foreign company;

(c) if so, whether there is any proposal to provide more facilities to 100 per cent Indian Drug Companies than the drug companies having foreign equity upto 40 per cent; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) It is difficult to generalise as national regulations on foreign investment vary from country to country.

(b) Under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973 and the 1978 Drug Policy, only a company with more than 40% direct foreign equity is treated as a foreign company.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Project & Capacity	Estimated Cost	Present Status
1.	North Madras (3 × 210 MW)	Rs. 547.79 crores	Techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority.
2.	G.T. Sets at Basin Bridge (4 × 30 MW)	Rs. 56.48 crores	Techno-economically cleared by the Central Electricity Authority, subject to availability of fuel oil.
3.	Neyveli Thermal Power Station (Third Stage) (3 × 500 MW)	Rs. 1401.24 crores	The scheme is under examination in the Central Electricity Authority in consultation with the agencies concerned and could be techno-economically appraised after various inputs have been tied up and necessary clearances have become available.

Honey production

8326. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States where honey is produced indicating the quantity produced annually in each; and

(b) the details of financial and other assistance given to these States by the Union Government to improve honey production ?

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

(b) During 1984-85 financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 40.99 lakhs was provi-

ded for the development of Beekeeping Industry to State KVI Boards, registered institutions and Beekeepers Cooperatives. Apart from this, technical assistance was also provided for the purpose. The assistance included distribution of Bee-equipment, bee-boxes and honey extractors, setting up of Bee nurseries, providing funds to set up medium-scale and semi-commercial apiaries, helping introduction of beekeeping in schools and construction of honey houses. In addition, bee migration to increase honey production and agro horticulture harvest is being encouraged. The Central Bee Research Unit at Pune and its centres located in different parts of the country also provide professional assistance in this regard. Training courses are conducted and Institutions/societies are assisted in the marketing of honey which includes Working Capital loan for the purchase of honey from beekeepers.

Statement

Sl. No.	States and Union Territories	Honey	
		Quantity	Value (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3	4
A. States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1,39,286	23.68
2.	Assam	2,93,896	49.96
3.	Bihar	1,71,203	29.10
4.	Gujarat	159	0.03
5.	Haryana	3,710	0.63
6.	Himachal Pradesh	14,900	2.53
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	71,266	12.12
8.	Karnataka	6,61,254	112.41
9.	Kerala	18,61,865	316.52
10.	Madhya Pradesh	32,712	5.56
11.	Maharashtra	55,872	9.50
12.	Manipur	1,25,507	21.34
13.	Meghalaya	34,696	5.90
14.	Nagaland	9,418	1.60
15.	Orissa	3,56,783	60.65
16.	Punjab	45,316	7.70
17.	Rajasthan	33	0.01
18.	Sikkim	3,147	0.53
19.	Tamil Nadu	12,56,816	213.66
20.	Tripura	45,425	7.72
21.	Uttar Pradesh	10,191	1.73
22.	West Bengal	3,03,223	51.55
Total (A)		54,96,678	934.43

1	2	3	4
B. Union Territories			
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	6,087	1.04
2.	Delhi	543	0.09
3.	Goa, Daman & Diu	154	0.03
4.	Pondicherry	1,720	0.29
Total (B)		8,504	1.54
C. Others			
	Central Bee Research Institute, Pune,	2,184	0.37
Total : (A) + (B) + (C) =		55,07,366	936.25

Extension of facility of providing piped LPG in Delhi

8327. SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend the piped gas facility already existing in certain colonies in South Delhi to other colonies/areas;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the colonies/areas which are proposed to be covered by this facility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi is supplying piped sewage gas (Not LPG) in certain colonies in South Delhi. There is no proposal to supply LPG through pipelines at any place in the country.

Anticipated energy from new projects

8328. SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) with an outlay of over 30 per cent

for energy in the Seventh Five Year Plan how much of the anticipated increase will be met by new projects and how much by streamlining and upgrading the present projects; and

(b) what will be the shortfall, if any ?

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

Import of change of model of Maruti Vehicle on availability of spares

8329. SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the decision of Maruti Udyog Limited to change the model will result in a problem of spares for owners of the present model; and

(b) whether the present hike by over Rs. 7,000/- per car is realistic in view of the reported belief that fiscal levies and the appreciation of the Yen has actually raised the cost by Rs. 12,000 per vehicle ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Fixation of prices is a commercial matter to be decided by the board, who have taken into consideration impact of fiscal levies and appreciation of Yen.

Super Thermal Project under negotiation with World Bank

8330. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up any Super Thermal Power Generation Project in the country during the Seventh Plan and if so, the location of the

project so decided with estimate of financial involvement and generating capacity;

(b) whether any power project to be installed during the Seventh Plan is under negotiation with the World Bank for financial assistance and if so, the details of the project, the capacity of generation and the progress of negotiations with the World Bank; and

(c) whether the project of Orissa has been broadly approved by the World Bank and they have decided to finance the project, and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The following seven Super Thermal Power Stations are under execution by the National Thermal Power Corporation :

Sl. No.	Project/Location	Capacity (MW)	Approved Investment (including transmission system) (Rs. crores)
1.	Singrauli, U. P.	$5 \times 200 + 2 \times 500$	1001.17
2.	Korba, M. P.	$3 \times 200 + 3 \times 500$	1138.44
3.	Ramagundam, A. P.	$3 \times 200 + 3 \times 500$	1702.18
4.	Farakka, West Bengal	$3 \times 200 + 2 \times 500$	1626.21
5.	Vindhyachal St-I, M. P.	6×210	1110.42
6.	Rihand St-I, U. P.	2×500	1614.70
7.	Kahalgau St-I, Bihar	4×210	1058.64

Of the above projects, 5×200 MW units at Singrauli, 3×200 MW units at Korba and 3×200 MW Units at Ramagundam are under operation; one unit of 200 MW was synchronised at Farakka in January, 1986.

(b) and (c). It is proposed to set up three combined cycle gas-based power stations with a total capacity of 1630 MW at Kawas (Gujarat), Auraiya (U.P.) and Anta (Rajasthan). The World Bank have agreed to provide financial assistance amounting to US \$ 485 million for those gas-based power projects. The National

Capital Thermal Power Project Stage I (4×210 MW) near the Union Territory of Delhi and the Talcher Super Thermal Power Project Stage-I (2×500 MW) in Orissa have been accorded techno-economic clearance by the Central Electricity Authority and await investment approval. These projects are in the pipeline for World Bank assistance.

Construction of departmental buildings for Sub Post Offices in rural areas

8331. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(c) and (d) The new Drug Policy has not been finalised.

Monetary losses in State Electricity Boards

8318. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether various State Electricity

Boards have incurred huge monetary losses during the last few years; and

(b) if so, the total loss as it stood at the end of 1985 in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b) The cumulative profit/losses of different State Electricity Boards upto 31st March, 1986 are as given below :

(Figure in Rs. Crores)

Sl. No.	Name of the Board	Profit (Positive) Loss (Negative)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	+ 76.3
2.	Bihar	—129.3
3.	Gujarat	+ 7.8*
4.	Haryana	—291.0*
5.	Himachal Pradesh	— 93.1
6.	Karnataka	+123.8
7.	Kerala	+ 24.2
8.	Madhya Pradesh	— 50.7*
9.	Maharashtra	— 51.3*
10.	Orissa	— 34.6*
11.	Punjab	— 96.1
12.	Rajasthan	—161.9
13.	Tamil Nadu	+ 73.0
14.	Uttar Pradesh	—683.7*
15.	West Bengal	—151.4*
16.	Assam	—221.1*
17.	Meghalaya	— 30.9*
Total		Losses —1998.1 Profit + 305.1 Net —1693.0

*Provisional/Unaudited

[Translation]

Target fixed by K.V.I.C. gobar gas in
Maharashtra

8319. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has been entrusted with the task of encouragement of gobar gas;

(b) if so, the district-wise target fixed

for Maharashtra during the last three years in this regard; and

(c) the success achieved in fulfilling this target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. Biogas Scheme is one of the scheduled industries under the purview of K.V.I.C.

(b) and (c) A statement is given below.

Statement

S. No.	Districts	Years					
		1983-84		1984-85		1985-86*	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Ahmednagar	750	621	1000	1153	750	1025
2.	Aurangabad	20	49	20	7	20	13
3.	Amravati	50	32	50	18	50	6
4.	Akola	100	22	100	56	50	39
5.	Bhandara	58	8	50	13	50	8
6.	Beed	20	4	20	2	20	—
7.	Buldhana	100	129	100	56	50	19
8.	Bombay	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Candrapur	50	35	50	1	50	—
10.	Dhule	100	60	100	60	60	40
11.	Gadchiroli	20	—	20	—	20	—
12.	Jalgaon	50	14	50	4	50	—
13.	Jalna	20	—	20	—	20	—
14.	Kolahapur	750	928	900	686	750	666
15.	Latur	20	—	20	—	20	—
16.	Nagpur	~100	10	100	46	100	13
17.	Nasik	150	49	150	66	150	79

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Nanded	50	25	50	13	50	1
19.	Osmanabad	20	21	20	3	20	—
20.	Parbhani	20	47	20	6	20	2
21.	Pune	250	159	250	104	250	67
22.	Raigarh	100	36	100	38	100	6
23.	Satara	50	9	50	14	50	3
24.	Tatnagar	100	73	100	45	100	34
25.	Solatpur	150	38	150	120	150	8
26.	Sangli	100	11	100	30	100	62
27.	Sindhudurg	50	—	50	—	50	38
28.	Thane	160	249	160	32	160	19
29.	Warda	50	13	50	6	50	5
30.	Yeotmal	50	67	50	29	50	12
Total		3000	2709	3500	2608	2860	2173

*Provisional.

Demand of Indian Ayurvedic medicines in foreign countries

8320. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is demand for Indian Ayurvedic medicines in foreign countries also;

(b) if so, the names of the Indian medicines which are in demand in foreign countries, country-wise;

(c) whether Government have made some provision in the Seventh Five Year Plan to meet this demand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c) Information to the extent available, would be collected from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the administrative Ministry concerned with Ayurvedic Medicines, and laid on the table of the House.

[English]

Indo-Hungary agreement for boilers for power plants

8321. SHRI K.V. SHANKARA GOWDA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hungary has offered boilers for power plants in India;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted the offer;

(c) if so, whether any agreement with Hungary has been reached; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (d) This Ministry has not received any offer from Hungary for only boilers; however, Hungary has shown interest in participating in setting up of Thermal Plants in India.

Increase in cost LPG phase III marketing projects

8322. SHRI K. V. SHANKARA GOWDA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the cost of LPG phase III Marketing Project of Oil Companies;

(b) whether the phase III project was originally estimated to cost Rs. 528.50 crores;

(c) if so, the latest estimated cost of the project; and

(d) the main reasons for the escalation in the cost ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The LPG phase III Project was originally estimated to cost Rs. 529.2 crores.

(c) Rs. 846.2 crores.

(d) The main reasons for increase in cost are;

(i) Implementation of additional safety recommendations made by the Vasudevan Safety Committee.

(ii) Escalation in prices.

(iii) Change in scope of the project.

Extension of time to foreign companies for giving bids for oil exploration in 27 off-shore blocks

8323. SHRI K.V. SHANKARA GOWDA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether foreign oil companies have asked for extension of time to submit their offers to Government for exploration of oil and natural gas in 27 off-shore blocks in India;

(b) if so, the reasons for asking extension of time;

(c) what is the extended time given by government for submission of the bids; and

(d) how many foreign companies had submitted their bids for exploration of oil in the country on that date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (d) The foreign oil companies have not asked for extension of time to submit their offers for exploration of Oil & Natural Gas in 27 offshore blocks in India. The last date for submission of bids is November 30, 1986. No bids have been received so far.

Proposed Thermal Power Stations in Tamil Nadu

8325. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the proposed thermal power stations in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the financial assistance given by Government and various world financial institutions for these projects; and

(c) what expertise consultancy services these power stations have and the basis on which the expertise are selected ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Details of the Thermal Power Projects proposed in Tamil Nadu are given in the statement given below.

(b) Financial assistance is provided to the States in the form of block loans and block grants and is not related to any specific programme/project. Assistance from World financial institutions has not been tied up for any of these projects.

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

(a) whether rural areas had been given due share in the construction of departmental buildings for Sub Post Offices in the Sixth Five Year Plan and have also been given due weightage in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the names of the Sub Post Offices in each of constituent units of N.W. Postal Circle for which the construction of buildings has been approved and taken in hand, State-wise and the estimated cost in each case in the Sixth and Seventh Five Year Plans; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government would ensure ade-

quate weightage in the construction of departmental buildings for rural areas in the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

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

(b) The names of the Sub Post Offices in N.W. Circle for which the construction of buildings has been approved and taken in hand during 6th Five Year Plan and 7th Five Year Plan with the names of States and estimated cost are as follows :

A. Sixth Five Year Plan

Sl. No.	The Names of the Post Offices and Postal Division	State	Estimated Cost (In Rs.)
1.	Nangal Chowdhary (Gurgaon Dn.)	Harayan	2,96,000
2.	Pooh (Shimla Dn.)	Himachal Pradesh	6,93,615

B. Seventh Five Year Plan

1.	Nagar Castle (Mandi Dn.)	Himachal Pradesh	10,00,000
2.	Killar Pangi (Chamba Dn.)	Himachal Pradesh	8,00,000
3.	Sarahan Bushehar (Shimla)	Himachal Pradesh	5,00,000
4.	Tabo (Shimla)	Himachal Pradesh	8,00,000

(c) Question does not arise in view of replies to parts (a) and (b) above.

Workload in Telegraph Engineering Divisions in Himachal Pradesh

8332. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the workload as on 1 April, 1986 in each of the Telegraph Engineering Divisions in Himachal Pradesh as also in each of the Telegraph Engineering Sub Divisions in Dharamsala Telegraph Engineering Division;

(b) whether any of these Sub Divisions in Dharamsala Telegraph Engineering Division are under bifurcation or are due for bifurcation and whether any new sub-Divisions have been proposed for sanction;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) If not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Workload as on 1.4.86 as reported by the Circle Office is as follows :

(i) Shimla Telegraphs Engineering Division

— 12237 units on Grade 'A' scales

(ii) Dharamsala Telegraphs

— 12870 units on Grade 'A' scales

Workload of Sub-Divisions under Dharamsala Telegraph Engineering Division :

(1) Chamba	—	6200 units on Grade 'B' scales.
(2) Mandi	—	11950 -do-
(3) Dharamsala	—	11900 -do-
(4) Hamirpur	—	11580 -do-

(b) to (d) Due to the introduction of the Secondary Switching Areas Scheme the jurisdiction of the existing Divisions/Sub-Divisions in Himachal Pradesh has to be reorganised. This is being worked out and the viability of new Sub-Divisions will be known after finalisation of the reorganisation.

(b) if so, the names of the offices (i) closed and (ii) downgraded, division-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether *status quo ante* would be resorted on the payment of non-refundable contribution by the State Government ?

Downgradation and closing of Departmental Sub Office/Railway Mail sorting offices and extra Departmental Branch Offices in Himachal Pradesh

8333. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Departmental sub offices/Railway Mail sorting offices and Extra Departmental Branch Offices in Himachal Pradesh have either been downgraded or closed during 1985 and in the months of January, February, March and April, 1986 causing inconvenience to the public even though the Himachal Pradesh Government has offered to pay the non-refundable contribution;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) The number and names of post offices/sorting offices closed down/downgraded during the period together with the reasons therefore are indicated in the statement given below. The State Government have offered NRC in respect of Nabha Estate EDSO after its closure. Public representations have been received in respect of 3 offices, namely Nabha Estate, Dagshai Bazar and Purani Mandi.

(c) NRC scheme is not applicable to sorting offices. In other cases, State Government's offer of NRC if made can be considered after the present ban on creation of posts is relaxed/lifted,

Statement

I. Post Offices Closed

Sl. No.	Name of the Division	Name of the Office	Reasons
1	2	3	4
1.	Shimla	Nabha Estate EDSO	Post office situated in urban area, work less than 4 hrs.
2.	Solan	Dagshai Bazar EDSO—	as above
3.	„	HG R&T Factory EDSO Nahan	„
4.	Mandi	Purani Mandi EDSO	„
5.	Shimla	Koorik Bo	Due to earthquake, civil population had shifted Nearest P.O.
6.	„	Rohini EDSO	at 1 KM.
7.	RMS I Divn.	Morinda sorting office	To eliminate delay in transport of mail

II. Offices Downgraded

1.	Shimla Dn.	Nabha Estate EDSO	Due to non-payment of N. R. C. Rs. 117050.69
2.	Solan Dn.	Bolora EDSO	Work load less than 4 hours
3.	„	Bagtan EDSO	„
4.	„	Kaithlighat EDSO	„
5.	„	Kothar EDSO	„
6.	„	Mamligh EDSO	„
7.	„	Salogra EDSO	„
8.	„	Shya Chabron EDSO	„
9.	„	Syri EDSO	„
10.	„	Trilokpur EDSO	„

1	2	3	4
11.	Shimla Dn.	Marog EDSO	"
12.	"	Choog EDSO	"
13.	"	Kupri "	"
14.	"	Samdoo "	Work load less than 4 hours
15.	"	Doha-Belson EDSO	"
16.	"	Shillaroo EDSO	"
17.	"	Deori Khanti EDSO	"
18.	"	Monda Ghat EDSO	"
19.	"	Gumma EDSO	"
20.	;	Chhalila EDSO	"
21.	"	Jubber Hattl EDSO	"
22.	"	Bahli EDSO	"
23.	"	Gaura EDSO	"
24.	"	Luhri EDSO	"
25.	"	Ghana Ghatti EDSO	"
26.	"	Sharambal EDSO Camp	"
27.	Dharamsala Dn.	Ghandwal EDSO	"
28.	"	Banuri EDSO	"
29.	Mandi Division	Bajaura EDSO	Work load less than 4 hours.
30.	"	Chambi EDSO	"
31.	"	Giri EDSO	"
32.	"	Kangoo EDSO	"
33.	"	Pangna EDSO	"
34.	"	Pansara EDSO	"
35.	"	Tikkar EDSO	"
36.	"	Janjehli EDSO	"
37.	"	Jagat Sukh EDSO	"

1	2	3	4
38.	Dehra Division	Baggi EDSO	"
39.	"	Masroor EDSO	"
40.	"	Chalali EDSO	"
41.	"	Kathog EDSO	"
42.	"	Kunhet EDSO	"
43.	Chamba Division	Khajjiar EDSO	Due to less than 4 hours work load
44.	"	Kiani EDSO	"
45.	"	Sarol EDSO	"
46.	Kamirpur Division	Bohni EDSO	Work Load less than 4 hours.
47.	"	Awah Devi EDSO	"
48.	"	Jhaniari EDSO	"
49.	"	Kungrat EDSO	"
50.	"	Deoth Sidh EDSO	"
51.	"	Naswal EDSO	"
52.	"	Swahan EDSO	"
53.	"	Bassal EDSO	"
53.	"	Palkwah EDSO	"
55.	"	Lohara EDSO	"
56.	Shimla Division	Chango BO (Dept.)	As per general policy to eliminate department (BO)
57.	"	Nako "	"
58.	"	Wangto "	"
59.	"	Namgia "	"

Checking of methods of storage and supply of LPG cylinders in Kolhapur

8334. SHRI R.S. MANE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any surprise checks of the methods of storage and supply of LPG cylinders to consumers have been made in Maharashtra particularly in Kolhapur during the last three years;

(b) if so, how many cases of mal-practice by the dealers were detected; and

(c) the number of agencies cancelled on this account ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Separate statistics regarding malpractices in the methods of storage and supply of LPG cylinders are not maintained. However, depending upon the nature of the malpractice established, action against the erring distributors is taken under the Marketing Discipline Guidelines. During the last 3 years, 4 distributorships in Maharashtra have been terminated.

[Translation]

Utilisation of wastes to prevent environmental pollution

8335. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state whether Government propose to produce cooking gas and manure from rubbish in cities at cheaper rates with a view to preventing environmental pollution ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : Yes, Madam. An experimental plant for extraction of biogas from a sanitary land fill has been successfully commissioned by the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources in Delhi. The extracted gas is used for generation of electricity but could also be used for cooking. Consideration is being given to scaling up the pilot plant. Compost plants for production of manure from municipal solid wastes have already been set up by some municipal corporations.

[English]

Pollution caused by drilling operations

8336. SHRI SUDARSAN DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether drilling operations of Oil and Natural Gas Commission in Assam are causing considerable environmental damage; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to mitigate such damages ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. Special measures have been initiated to protect the environment through an integrated Environmental Management Programme. It include :

- (i) Strengthening and raising of ring bunds around the sites and provision of polythene lining on the pits.
- (ii) Recycling of water near deep drilling rigs for minimising the effluent generation.
- (iii) Incorporation of oil collection systems at drill sites.
- (iv) Introduction of an organised tree plantation scheme.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Imposition of wage freeze in public sector units

1. DR. DATTA SAMANT : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are seriously contemplating imposition of wage freeze in all the public sector units;

(b) whether one of the proposals is that annual increments will no longer be given automatically and will be governed by productivity index; and

(c) whether Government have discussed this issue with various Trade Unions ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour): Sir, regarding the killings of Harijans in Bihar, what do we have to do to get a statement from the Minister?... [Interruptions]. Ten days have gone since then.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have to say one thing regarding this. I am not satisfied so far. You can come and talk to me if you have got argument to impress upon me or convince me whether this is that problem which you have been voicing on the floor of the House because I want a law and order situation.....

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. No question. Not at all.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow. Don't do it.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not allowed.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No. It is wrong. There are not twenty Harijans. That is basically wrong, absolutely incorrect.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No, not allowed...

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Whatever these gentlemen say does not form part of the record.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No, I cannot. I will not.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing goes on record.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No question. Not allowed. I have not allowed anybody to

say anything on the subject. I am not convinced.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Not at all. Not a single word goes on record. I have not allowed anybody.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: No questions of Harijans. Absolutely wrong.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Why are you doing this?.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: If you listen to me once, two things we discuss on the floor of the House—concerning a thing which has affected the Harijans; secondly, if there is a communal tension, we have discussed on the floor of the House. These are the two things. This thing is not particularly Harijans.....

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Because I am convinced of this fact.....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Don't speak when I am speaking. Just listen to me.....

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER: That is what I am saying. If you can convince me, come to me and say, "Sir, this is what it is". and if I convince you that it is five Harijans and fifteen are other people.....

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER: But look here. I am explaining certain things now, you have to listen to me.....(Interruptions)

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: (Parvathipuram) Are you to go by quantity?

MR. SPEAKER: No, I only want, Mr. Deo.....

(Interruption)

**Not recorded,

**Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER : Listen to me.....
(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit
down.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot. No. It
is not your saying which goes, it is the
rule, the law of the land which is prevail-
ing under the Constitution. I do not want
that the law should be taken into their
hands by people through the barrel of a
gun. It is your rule... ..
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : No, I won't
allow.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : You come to me
and convince me.....
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No, I not convin-
ced. I am perfectly sure of my ground.
I know the facts and if any facts come
otherwise, I will be convinced, and I will
go according to it
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Come to me. This
is not the way.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Central Govern-
ment does not come into that at all.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Absolutely not. I
have not allowed any hon. Member to say
anything.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : No, not allo-
wed.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : For me the life of
every person is very important.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. You
are not allowed. If you want to say some-
thing, go outside and say.....
(Interruptions)**

Mr. SPEAKER : Not allowed.....
(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER : No, I am not con-
vinced. My ruling is final. If you do
not get me convinced, I am not going to
allow.....
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed.
Wherever the interests of the Harijans
are concerned, I will allow them but not
otherwise.....
(Interruptions)**

SHRI ASHUTOSH LAW(Dum-Dum):
Sir, it is a staggering figure—the arrears
of the Provident Fund in the Private Sec-
tor on the account of...(Interruptions)

It is a staggering figure. It has been
reported, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER : You give it.
(Interruptions)

PROF. K.K. TEWARY (Buxar) : I
am raising a very serious matter and I
want the entire House to listen to me...
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. I have already
given my ruling.

PROF. K.K. TEWARY ; One of our
eminent Congress-I MLAs. has been
gunned down in Punjab and extremists
are operating from the Golden Temple and
other important centres of worship in
Punjab. Sir, we have demanded action
against the extremists that temple should
be freed from the activities of the exter-
mists (Interruptions) Government has
not done anything so far. Therefore, Mr.
Speaker, Sir, this is an extremely serious
matter. (Interruptions) Therefore, Sir, we
want some direction from the Chair. There
is a limit. We were waiting that the Gov-
ernment will take some action and ulti-
mately Golden Temple and other places
of worship in Punjab will be freed from
these extremists and murderers, but no
action has been taken so far. Therefore
this House, and particularly you, Sir.

should give some direction. We should know what is happening in Punjab.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is a State subject.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Tomorrow you may have to face problem.

[English]

You will be facing the same thing tomorrow. No. I will not. I cannot infringe my rules. I cannot infringe upon the powers of the State Government.

(Interruptions)

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : I seek your intervention in this matter.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : No. I am not convinced.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The State Assembly should know. The State Assembly should be representative of the people of the State.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now, Papers Laid.

12.06 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notification under Supreme Court Judges (conditions of service) Act

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) ON BEHALF OF (SHRI A. K. SEN) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Supreme Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Amendment Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in

Notification No. G.S.R. 484(E) in Gazette of India dated the 7th March, 1986 under sub-section (5) of section 24 of the Supreme Court Judges (Conditions of Service) Act, 1958. [Placed in Library See. No. LT/2571/86]

Notification under Indian Electricity Act. Annual Report and Review on Power Engineers' Training Society, New Delhi, for 1984-85 and a statement.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I beg to lay on the Table :—

(1) A copy of the Indian Electricity Amendment Rules, 1986 (Hindi & English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 117 in Gazette of India dated the 8th February, 1986 under sub-section (3) of section 38 of the Indian Electricity Act, 1910.

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Power Engineers Training Society, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85 along with Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) of the Government on the working of the Power Engineers Training Society, New Delhi, for the year 1984-85.

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.
[Placed in Library See No. LT 2573/86]

Notification under Indian Post Office Act

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Post Office (Third Amendment) Rules, 1986 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R.

637(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th April 1986 issued under the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2574/86]

Notifications under Industries (Development and Regulations) Act, Review and Annual Report of Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. Kanpur for 1984-85 and the Annual Report and Review and Khadi and Villages Industries Commission for 1984-85

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (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 (2) of section 18A of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 :—

(i) S. O. 142(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Alok Udyog Vanaspati and Plywood Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2575/86]

(ii) S. O. 144(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Lily Biscuit Company (Private) Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2576/86]

(iii) S.O. 145(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Indian Health Institute and Laboratory Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years. [Placed in Library See No. LT 2577/86]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-sections (2) of section 18AA of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 :—

(i) S.O. 47(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th February, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of Management of Messrs Indore Textiles Limited, Ujjain, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2578/86]

(ii) S.O. 66(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 24th February, 1986 regarding extension of period of take-over of management of Messrs Brentform Electric (India) Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2579/86]

(iii) S.O. 77(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th February, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Bengal Poteries Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2580/86]

(iv) S. O. 116(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Mahadeva Textile Mills, Hubli, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2581/86]

(v) S.O. 118(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Somasundram Super

Spinning Mills, Muthenendal, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 2582/86]

- (vi) S. O. 119(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs India Belting and Cotton Mills Limited, Serumpore beyond five years.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 2583/86]

- (vii) S.O. 143(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Gluconate Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT. 2584/86]

- (viii) S.O. 146(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Apollo Zipper Company Private Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2585/86]

- (ix) S. O. 180(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 9th April, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Dr. Paul Lohmann (India)Limited, Calcutta, beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2586/86]

- (x) S. O. 188(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 1986 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Sri Durga Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills Limited, Konnagar, beyond

five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2587/86]

- (xi) S.O. 934(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st December, 1985 regarding extension of period of take over of management of Messrs Somasundram Super Spinning Mills, Muthanendal beyond five years.

[Placed in Library See No. LT 2588/86]

- (3) 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 Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited, Kanpur, for the year 1984-85.

- (ii) Annual Report of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited, Kanpur, for the year 1984-85 alongwith Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

- (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 2589/86]

- (5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the year 1984-85 under sub-section (3) of section 24 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956.

- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) regarding Review by the Government on

the working of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the year 1984-85.

- (6) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (5) above.

[Placed in Library See No. LT. 2590/86.]

12.07 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

[English]

Forty-Second, Forty-Third, Forty-Fourth, Forty-Fifth, and Forty-Sixth Reports

SHRI RAJ MANGAL PANDE (Deoria) : I beg to present the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Public Accounts Committee :

- (1) Forty-Second Report on Paragraph 41 of the Advance Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1983-84, Union Government (Railways) relating to Railway Recruitment Boards.
- (2) Forty-Third Report on Paragraph 2.68 of the Report of the comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1983-84, Union Government (Civil), Revenue Receipts, Volume I, Indirect Taxes relating to central Excise-Impact of reduction in duty on prices of refrigerators and tyres.
- (3) Forty-Forth Report on Paragraph 5 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1982-83, Union Government (Defence Services) relating to Review on the working of the Department of Defence Supplies.
- (4) Forty-Fifth Report on Paragraph 18 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

for the year 1983-84, Union Government (Defence Services) relating to Construction of a sub-standard airfield.

- (5) Forty-Sixth Report on paragraph 39 of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 1982-83, Union Government (Civil) relating to National Highway by-pass, Srinagar,

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

[English]

Seventh and Ninth Reports and Minutes

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY (Krishnagiri) : I beg to present the following Reports and Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Public Undertakings :—

- (i) Seventh Report of the Committee on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Eighty-Ninth Report of the Committee (7th Lok-Sabha) on Durgapur Steel Plant.
- (ii) Ninth Report of the Committee on Bharat Electronics Ltd—Objectives and Implementation of Projects and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

[English]

Thirteenth and Sixteenth Reports

SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI (Simla) : I beg to present the following Reports

(Hindi and English versions) of the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :—

- (i) Thirteenth Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Welfare-working of Integrated Tribal Development Projects in Andhra Pradesh.
- (ii) Sixteenth Report of the Committee on the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Forty-Seventh Report of the Committee (7th Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Energy (Department of Petroleum)-Reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the allotment of Distributive agencies by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and other oil companies.

COMMITTEE ON PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Eighth Report and Minutes

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : (Kanakapura) : I beg to present the Eighth Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.

I beg also to lay on the Table Minutes (Hindi and English versions) of the sittings of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table relating to their Eighth Report.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : I am not convinced. Absolutely not. Now, 377.

[Shri C. Madhav Reddi and some other hon. Members then left the house]

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. Not a single word forms part of the record.

(Interruptions)**

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : This House should know what is happening in Punjab. It is an extremely serious matter. Every day people are being killed. Why is no action being taken ?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Tewary, I have said in this House many a time and till the moment I am able to speak I will go on saying that unless the cancer of communalism—be it from within or from without—is not got rid of and unless exploitation by outsiders in the name of religion be it in a temple, mosque, gurudwara or church, is not stopped, the future of this country cannot become bright. You may keep this in mind and this House as well as others are aware of this. If we do not do this collectively and indulge in politically motivated activities, nothing tangible will come out. The Government as well as the Members should engage in such activities as are in the interest of the country.

[English]

PROF. K.K. TEWARY : Some action should be taken as they are continuing to operate.

MR. SPEAKER : We have to tackle this problem once for all. Mr. Vijayaraghavan.

SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : Sir, under rule 377, I raise the following matter.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Think of the country. Legal battle should be fought legally. I am always prepared to get such thing discussed here, I never come in the way. Whenever there are atrocities on the Harijans at any place I allow discussion and even now I can allow but there

**Not recorded.

should be something concrete to discuss. If some people take law in their hands and attack the Harijans and want to rule by totting guns where then will your democracy go?

[English]

I do not want this to come out of the barrel of a gun. It should flow from the people's own hearts because you are their representatives. They must be the ruler. It is their wirt which must run in this country, not through the barrel of a gun. I cannot allow that. That is what I am against.

Yes, Shri Vijayaraghavan, you can continue now.

— —

12.11-1/- hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[English]

- (i) Demand for setting up the proposed electronic switching equipment factory at Palghat in Kerala.

*SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Indian Telephone Industries, a public sector unit at Palghat was started in 1976 with a capital investment of Rs. 2 crores. The original plan was to manufacture 6,000 lines per annum. The annual turnover of this unit is a mere Rs. 3 crores. Although this unit has great potential for development, it remains only a token of a public sector unit.

12.12 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

It is understood that the ITI has a proposal to augment the production of electronic switching equipment. In this connection, it is said that preparations are on for setting up a third electronic switching factory during the 7th Plan. The most suitable place for that factory is

*The speech was originally delivered in Malayalam.

Palghat in Kerala. The main reason is that if this factory is set up near the ITI, the capital investment could be reduced by half. The infrastructural facilities available in the ITI could be used for this factory. The ITI at Palghat is already manufacturing Digital Trunk Exchange lines in collaboration with CIT-ALCATEL company. Since there is similarity in the technology used for DTAX as well as electronic switch, the technical facilities available there could be used for both.

Therefore, considering the industrial backwardness of Kerala in general and Palghat in particular, it is requested that the proposed electronic switching factory should be set up at Palghat itself.

- (ii) Demand for stoppage of Nilachal and New Nilachal Express trains at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road Station in Orissa.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Sir, from religious and historical point of view, Jajpur is an important town not only in Orissa but in the whole of India. Thousands of pilgrims visit this town every day. Its nearest railway station is Jajpur-Keonjhar Road. The 175/176 Nilachal Express and 915/916 New Nilachal Express introduced between New Delhi and Puri are passing via Jajpur-Keonjhar Road Station. The passengers from Northern States come to Jajpur town to perform the religious rites by these trains are experiencing great difficulty as there is no stoppage of these trains at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road. A number of sponge iron plants, iron ore and manganese mines are located in Keonjhar district. Similarly, one of the biggest coal-bearing area in the country and thermal power plant at Talcher and a major Aluminium project at Anugul are located in Dhenkanal district. Thousands of people working in these districts depend on Nilachal Express to go to Delhi and to the northern States. Jaipur-Keonjhar Road is the most convenient station for them. It is also an important trade Centre in Orissa.

As such, there is every justification to provide a stoppage of these two trains at Jajpur-Keonjhar Road.

This will provide a great relief to the people of these two districts and people of Cuttack district living nearby JK road as they are at present travelling a long distance to board the trains at Cuttack Railway Station.

In the circumstances stated above, I demand that a stoppage of these trains should be provided at Jajpur Road without any further delay.

- (iii) Demand for measures to prevent pollution of air and water at Brajarajnagar and Talcher in Orissa.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, it is a matter of grave concern that most of the industries both in public and private sector located in different areas of the country especially in Orissa are quite indifferent to the environmental aspect. As many as 236 major and medium industries have been presently identified by the Orissa State Prevention and Control of Pollution Board from their pollution potential point of view for specific attention. But these industries, by and large, do not appear to respond favourably to the suggestions of the Board and the Government in the matter of taking anti-pollution measures. As a result, air and water pollution is developing as a serious menace at different industrial centres of which specific mention may be made of Brajarajnagar in Sambalpur district and Talcher in Dhenkanal district. At Brajarajnagar, the effluents of the Orient Paper Mills are flowing into the river and at Talcher the effluents of Thermal Power Station and Fertiliser Plant are flowing to the river Bramhani together with the ash coming out of the Thermal Power Station are responsible for such pollution.

Considering the gravity of the situation and the mounting resentment and discontent of the workers and the general public, adoption of necessary measures both to prevent and control air and water pollution at these two places should be ensured without any further delay.

[Translation]

- (iv) Demand for developing Bithoor town near Kanpur as a tourist centre.

SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI (Bilaur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, 30 kms away

from the industrial city of Kanpur, there is an ancient and historic Bithoor town on the banks of the Ganga. The place has been sanctified by the activities of Mahrishi Balmiki, Lav and Kush, Nanasaheb, Laxmi Bai of Jhansi and Tantia Tope. Thousands of pilgrims and tourists flock the place every day. The people from the industrial town of Kanpur also go there for picnics at weekends. Huge fairs are held there where lakhs of people come from far off places as token of their devotion. The town has now been reduced to ruins. The ancient pucca 'ghats', old and historic sites on the banks of the Ganga have now become ruins.

In such a situation I want to draw the attention of the Tourism Department so that facilities for the tourists should be provided in this ancient historic city. 'Yatri Aavas Vikas Samiti' should also be directed to construct dharmshalas there. Boat clubs should be set up for the tourists for sailing in the Ganga. Shuttle trains should be introduced for the convenience of the travellers between Kanpur and Bithoor. One diesel car which is at present running there is insufficient. It is hoped that the Government of India by doing the needful will declare Bithoor as a tourist centre as early as possible.

- (v) Need to bring about necessary modification in the Schedule for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is great discontent among the people of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has not been amended, which is a matter of concern. Actually, the Government had brought a Bill in the Parliament to amend the list in 1967 but that could not be passed because it was referred to a Select Committee and after submission of its report the Lok Sabha had been dissolved. In the meantime Government have been continuously assuring Parliament that by amending the list, deficiencies will be removed. But for one or the other reason the amendment has not so far been brought, with the result that lakhs of Harijans and Adivasis remain deprived of the constitutional facilities. At the same time developmental

works have also been hampered due to Scheduled Tribes remaining in the Scheduled Castes category and the Scheduled Castes remaining in the Scheduled Tribes category. For example, in Uttar Pradesh apart from 5 Scheduled Tribes all other Tribes are in the list of Scheduled Castes. It obviously is creating many difficulties.

I, therefore, demand from the Government that a comprehensive Bill to amend the aforesaid list should be brought before Parliament.

[English]

- (vi) Need for completion of inter-State Durgapur-Jamshedpur 400 KV line to meet power requirements of Orissa

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Sir, Orissa has a share of 75 MW from Farakka Supper Thermal Power Project and 30 MW from Chukha Hydel Project in Bhutan. To evacuate power from these Stations, there is no direct line to Orissa. In the absence of appropriate transmission lines, Orissa will get its share of power only to a limited extent through D.V.C. and West Bengal transmission system leading to operational and commercial problems. Since Joda-Jamshedpur 200 KV line has already been completed, smooth evacuation of power to Orissa will be possible only after the inter-State Durgapur-Jamshedpur 400 KV line is completed early.

The proposal has been sent by the Government of Orissa to the Centre to complete the above-mentioned inter-State line. I request the Union Minister of Energy to take early steps to complete inter-State Durgapur-Jamshedpur 400 KV line as early as possible. As the power position in Orissa is very critical, this inter-State line should be completed at an early date.

- (vii) Demand for providing alternative employment to the Yoga teachers being removed from service by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

DR. SUDHIR ROY (Burdwan) : Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan had in

1980-81 introduced a scheme of yoga teaching in 500 Kendriya Vidyalayas spread all over the country. About 800 yoga teachers were appointed and posted in these Vidyalayas in the pay-scale of Rs. 425-750. They were appointed temporarily and were granted extension on every 30th April till further orders.

The scheme became very popular and the yoga teachers have been awaiting regularisation of their service. But the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan at the instance of the Ministry of Human Resources Development has decided to discontinue teaching of yoga in these Vidyalayas and has decided to terminate the services of these 800 yoga teachers many of whom have become age-barred for appointment in the meanwhile.

I urge the Government to provide these unfortunate teachers alternative employment in the name of justice.

- (viii) Need for expansion of insurance service in the State of Sikkim.

SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI (Sikkim) : There is a crying need for expansion of insurance service in the State of Sikkim. Till today the service is minimal. Not much attempt has been made to educate the people of the State on the benefits that insurance schemes bestow to the people and at the same time the much-needed infrastructure has not been set up in the State. The pity is that none of the subsidiary companies of the General Insurance Corporation of India have undertaken any constructive functioning almost for the last decade in its apportioned fields. It is, therefore, extremely desirable that, to give a fillip to the insurance service, a divisional office needs to be set up at the State Capital, Gangtok, at the earliest. It has been keenly felt that settlement of insurance claims in Sikkim takes a long time giving much hardship to the claimants, as they have to run to the offices which are located outside the State. There is a genuine and legitimate demand of the people of the State that local youths should be given chance for appointment in the offices located in the State. There is

also the need that crop insurance facilities should be extended in Sikkim. This is particularly so in respect of cash crops like cardamom, oranges, ginger and the like. It is to be hoped that the Government would consider these matters sympathetically and take action to spread the benefits that accrue from insurance schemes.

12.25 hrs.

TEA (AMENDMENT) BILL

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now we shall take up Item No. 12, Tea (Amendment) Bill.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill further to amend the Tea Act, 1953, be taken into consideration."

The main objectives of the Board, which was set up under the Tea Act, 1953 include besides regulation of production and exports of tea, measures for development of the tea industry, such as increase in productivity, improvement in quality, undertaking research projects, promotion of Indian Tea and provisions of incentives for planned increase in tea production and modernisation of tea industry. For this purpose the Board incurs expenditure on tea promotion activities and number of other schemes. In order to defray this expenditure there is a provision under Section 25 of the Tea Act for levy of cess at a rate of not exceeding 8 paise per kg. Over the years expenditure of the Tea Board has been increasing and rate of cess was increased from 4 paise per kg. to 6 paise per kg. on 27.11.1975 and 8 paise per kg. with effect from 11.8.1978.

The average tea prices in 1978 when cess was fixed at 8 paise was Rs. 14 per kilogram. In 1985 average auction prices were Rs. 25 per kg.

Although the rate of cess levied is near the maximum allowed under the Tea Act, the cess collections are no longer sufficient to meet the expenditure of the Tea Board on its developmental schemes. The shortfall in cess collection in 1983-84 over the net expenditure was of the order of Rs. 47 lakhs, and in 1984-85 was of the order of Rs. 115 lakhs. If the current rate at which cess is levied is maintained, the gap is likely to increase because of a higher level of expenditure envisaged in the 7th plan. Further, the lower cess collections will limit the capability of Tea Board to extend its operations for promotion of tea in India and abroad as well as its developmental activities for increasing production—especially so—in the context of resource constraints with regard to plan outlays.

Taking into account the increase in prices and profitability over the last seven years which has enhanced the capability of the industry to bear a higher rate of cess, as well as the need for increased incentives and expenditure by the Tea Board, upward revision of rate is fully justified. Teas produced in certain weak areas where profitability is low, for which concessional excise duty has been extended, can be exempted from the increased rate and continue to pay a cess at 8 paise per kg. This differential is justified keeping in view the peculiar topography and agroclimatic factors and special developmental needs of the tea industry in these areas.

There is, at present, no express provision in the Tea Act to provide for powers of the Tea Board to write off losses as irrecoverable. The Bill also seeks to incorporate a provision to this effect in the Tea Act.

I take leave of the House for consideration of the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill further to amend the Tea Act, 1953, be taken into consideration."

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO (Sidipet) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I thank

[Dr. G. Vijaya Rama Rao]

you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Tea Bill.

Sir, taking of tea has become a traditional habit in our country. Even in the utmost rural areas you find tea stalls throughout the country. A common man also consumes tea everyday twice or thrice not only in rural areas, but in urban parts also. Even the poor people take tea. What does it contain? Why do they take tea? Chemically it contains some caffeine, nicotinic acid and tannin. These things stimulate the brain and creates an euphoria for the man.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : There is a case of phobia also.

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : With the temporary euphoria, the person goes on working and it improves the nature of the work, quality and quantity of the work also. In our country, students, teachers lecturers, doctors and in fact, everybody, takes tea. In the early part of this century, Indians were not used to taking tea, but the Britishers used to offer tea free of cost. After catching the habit for taking tea, they started charging reasonable rates. But after independence, the Tea Board came into existence in 1953, and the people have to pay more now for the tea.

The Tea Board has come into existence with wonderful functions. They have to regulate the production and extent of cultivated area for tea in tea growing areas. They were also to improve the quality of tea. But what has happened during the last more than thirty years? If you go through the production figures of tea from 1972 to 1983, you will find that there has been a constant stagnation of production.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Who told you? Have you got any figures?

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Yes, I have.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I am sorry, then you are totally mis-informed. You do not know anything about tea.

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : The production was stagnant at 560 million kilograms for all these years. The export in 1970 and 1971 was 199 million kilograms whereas in 1983, it has come down to 187 million kilograms. The export depends on the production of tea in our country.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : What is the present position? It is 222 million kilograms.

DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : The Tea Board has to assist the farmers, encourage the farmers in adopting latest scientific techniques to improve the production, but according to the figures for the last ten years, the production is not much; it is going up only by 15 million kilograms every year. The measures taken by the Board are not effective. They are not reaching the farmers. The existing plants have been planted some time fifty years back. There has been no replantation for the last fifty years. The Board has got some propaganda units in India and other countries also. According to the report of the Tea Board, they have their units in Parliament House, Yojana Bhavan etc. but not in rural part of the country. The consumption of tea in our country among the people is not due to the propaganda of the Board, it is because of peoples' awareness, and because there are now good living conditions for certain people. They are taking tea because of this, not because of the propaganda of the Board.

The present rate of collection of levy on tea is 8.8 paise per kilogram. In 1983, it was 4 paise only. It was again raised in 1978 by about 0.08 paise. Now the Minister wants to raise it upto 0.5 paise, which is almost six times more. So, with this increased cess, the rate of tea goes up and the common man will find it very difficult to consume even one cup of tea per day. Not only that. The Minister wants to increase the cess depending upon the quality of tea. If that is the case, it may lead to corruption. So, it is not advisable that the tax be raised in this manner. I therefore, oppose this Bill and I request the hon. Minister to withdraw this Bill for the benefit of the common man.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, the Statement of Objects and Reasons says that the amount of cess collected has become insufficient to meet the expenditure of the various developmental and other activities of the Tea Board. I would have been happy if the Government had placed a statement in the House about the developmental activities of the Tea Board. I have my own doubts in this regard and I have a little bit of knowledge also. But I do not want to go into all these things for want of time. But further clarification is necessary. What developmental activities is the Tea Board carrying on ?

First, I must submit that the increase suggested by the hon. Minister is very sharp and high. It will not only raise the price of common tea consumed inside the country, but a far greater fear is that it will also hit the small tea gardens and the sick tea gardens will find it difficult to recover. This will be the effect of this hike in the cess.

Now, they have suggested that there would be different rates for different categories depending upon their quality. Yes, qualities differ according to climate, according to soil and according to the seeds and according to many other factors. But in these matters, the Tea Boards plays politics. I want the Government and the hon. Commerce Minister to take care of this aspect. Because of this clause introduced in the Bill, the Tea Board can play politics in favour of some gardens and some big companies and against the smaller ones.

Section 28A of the Bill says :

"...the Board may, with the previous approval of the Central Government, sanction the writing off finally of the said amount or loss."

So long as it is with the prior approval of the Central Government, I remain assured because the Commerce Minister will take care of it. But then, the subsequent proviso is very dangerous. It says :

"Provided that no such approval of the Central Government shall be necessary

where such irrecoverable amount or loss does not exceed in any individual case and in aggregate in any year such amounts as may be prescribed."

I consider this to be a very dangerous clause in the whole Bill. To whom is the Tea Board accountable ? Ultimately, the Government will have to be accountable. If Tea Board is given full rights to write off loans and losses and all that without the prior approval of Central Government, I think that we will land in serious trouble. Therefore, the Government should reconsider this particular clause of the Bill.

The Tea Board is a cesspool of internal politics. Big companies dominate there and the funds are used for favouring some particular companies and gardens while others are neglected or injustice is done to others. This is the overall picture. The enhanced cess may seriously hit the tea producing areas of South, Cachar District of Assam and Duars of Bengal.

The Tea Board should take steps to help in the matter of supply of foodgrains to the tea labour because the rice supply to the tea labour is not regular and adequate. Sometimes, bad rice is supplied by the FCI in collusion with either the Tea Board or some officials of the State Government—I do not know.

I congratulate the Government for opening an inland container depot at Gauhati. That will certainly make Gauhati auction centre more attractive. This is a very important step taken by the Government and I congratulate them.

About production of tea, India is at the top in the world. The other countries like Sri Lanka second, USSR third, Turkey fourth, Kenya fifth, Indonesia sixth and so on. Tea is very important for us. If I am not wrong, tea today is the highest foreign exchange earner in the country.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : In 1985 we earned Rs. 711.90 crores.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : I find from a document supplied by the Indian Tea

[Shri Bipin Pal Das]

Association, a very important organisation in this industry, that comparing between 1984 and 1985 the tea production has gone up in the Brahmaputra valley, Cachar District, Duars and Terai. But in all the other areas the tea production has fallen. I can quote the figures, but for want of time I do not intend to do so. Why is it so? The Tea Board is accountable for that. They have to explain what developmental activities they have undertaken and whether the Commerce Ministry has also taken care of that. In only four areas the production has gone up and in other areas the production has gone down.

So far as exports are concerned, they are going up. The highest export value of tea was in 1984 when the tea prices were Rs. 34.12 per kg. Again in 1985 the unit export price had gone down. That also has to be looked into as to why it is so.

The tea production in Cachar is quite high but the prices are also very low. What is the remedy? The Tea Board must take care of that and something should be done about that.

The ITA is asking for further relaxation of duties mainly in excise. I cannot agree to that, because both production and export market is rising. If this relaxation in duties is agreed to by the Government, this will only help the big companies and not the State or the small companies or sick tea gardens.

I want to know from the Government and through the Government from the Tea Board why the excise duty on Darjeeling tea must be reduced. Darjeeling tea is world famous. When ever I go abroad, I hear a lot of praise for Darjeeling tea. Why was the excise duty on Darjeeling tea reduced? What is the result because of this reduction in duty on Darjeeling tea? The need is now for a stable and long term export policy. That must be firmly laid down.

I would say a word about Pakistan with whom we are trying to build up good relations and some trade agreement is being signed with them. In 1984, Pakistan

imported 158 metric tonnes of tea from India whereas from Bangladesh it imported 11,137 metric tonnes, from Sri Lanka 6976 metric tonnes, Indonesia 10668 metric tonnes and odd, China 10,000 metric tonnes, Kenya 22732 metric tonnes and Argentina 10611 metric tonnes. They have gone so far as to Argentina to purchase 10611 metric tonnes of tea whereas from India they purchased only 158 metric tonnes in 1984.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Political reasons.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : What political reasons? Our negotiations are going on. We should take care of it. And we should insist that they should buy more tea from India as we are the highest producer of tea in the world.

Spurious tea is being sold as Darjeeling tea. I want the hon. Minister to take care of that.

There is a suggestion from some experts about alternative methods of packaging tea which, according to them, is cheaper and lasting. Have the Government and the Tea Board examined this proposal? I want the Government to examine this proposal. If it is really cheaper and lasting, it will help the industry very much.

There is a levy on inter-State movement of goods and materials. Now the ITA and the Tea Board leaders, the barons of tea who dominate this ITA, want this levy to go. If this levy goes, who will suffer? If this goes away, the Gauhati action centre will be completely paralysed. I warn the Government that this should not be agreed to in spite of pressures from ITA or the Tea Board.

The Gauhati auction centre needs to be further strengthened. The demand for abolition of levy by the vested interests should be rejected. I hope the hon. Minister and his Ministry and the Tea Board will throw some light as to the developmental activities that are being undertaken by them. Why is the Tea Board allowed to be dominated by big companies?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : The amendment is so small and the speech is so long.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : The implications are very large. Therefore, I thought of bringing this to the notice of the hon. Minister for necessary action.

SHRI AJOY BISWAS (Tripura West): The Bill seeks to amend sections 25 and 49 of the Tea Act, 1953.

The main purpose of the Bill is to increase the ceiling on cess from 8.8 paise to 50 paise. The Minister has stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill that it has become necessary because the Tea Board has taken up various developmental and other activities during the Seventh Plan. I think, raising the cess from 8.8 paise to 50 paise is a big jump. If this is the decision of the Government, then we must review the activities of the Tea Board. Without reviewing the activities of the Tea Board, it will not be proper to allow the Government to increase such a cess.

The tea industry is a very important industry. It is playing a vital role in our economy. It earns a lot of foreign exchange for the country. In 1985 it earned Rs. 711 crores in foreign exchange. In 1984 it earned Rs. 745 crores. About 11.6 lakh people are directly employed in this industry. So it is a very important industry.

I apprehend that if the cess is increased from 8.8 to 50 paise, then that shall have a serious effect. You can rationalise that but that is not the main point. But you have come to this House to raise it from 8.8 to 50 paise. That is the maximum ceiling.

I apprehend that the price of tea in the internal market will rise again and there will be a serious effect over the export of tea and that will create some problems also to our foreign exchange earning which is a major industry.

The total collection of tea cess during 1984 was Rs. 4.90 crores. If the new rate is introduced, then, it will be Rs. 30

crores. What is the Government contribution to Tea Board? It is Rs. 6.20 crores only.

During the Seventh Plan, you want to develop tea industry and you want to expand the scope of the tea industry. But why did not the Government give more money to the Tea Board for this purpose? If the Tea Board requires the money, that can be done from the budgetary support. You are giving only Rs. 6.20 crores to the Tea Board. So, I shall request the Government without imposing more cess, to come forward and help the Tea Board.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : By taxing the people?

SHRI AJOY BISWAS : You are helping the monopolists. You are giving crores of rupees to them for the development of the industry and other things. You can do that.

The total expenditure of the Tea Board is Rs. 5.60 crores in 1984-85. Out of that, the expenditure for tea promotion outside India was Rs. 2.81 crores. Total expenditure was Rs. 5.66 crores. Out of Rs. 5.66 crores, the expenditure for tea promotion outside India was Rs. 2.81 crores. What does it mean? It means that the officers of the Tea Board undertook foreign tours.

About Rs. 2.81 crores, the major portion was spent on the foreign tours of officers. Their purpose was to promote the tea industry outside India. What did the officers do during this period? They undertook so many foreign tours. The expenditure was Rs. 2.81 crores—half of the total expenditure. In 1984, the world export was of the order of 926 million kgs and our contribution was 215 million kgs only. We are the main tea exporting country. In 1985, the U.K. imported tea only to the extent of 19.30 million kgs in comparison with the previous year 1984 in which the U.K. imported 43.90 million kgs. So, you spent Rs. 2.81 crores on account of foreign tours and other things but in U.K. our export declined. If you increase the cess, that will not help the industry. But that will help the bureaucrats and officers for their various

[Shri Ajoy Biswas]

purposes. The top bureaucrats go round the foreign countries and enjoy at the cost of the Exchequer. Some of the officers have their vested interest and they have got some links with the traders.

Another point I would like to make. That is about the Darjeeling tea. Not only about the Darjeeling tea but also about the other varieties produced throughout the country. 51 to 52 per cent bushes are about more than 50 years old. So, my main point is to develop the tea-gardens, and the tea plantations and all these things. But there is a total failure on the part of the Tea Board in this respect.

Now, I come to Tripura. There are about 40 to 45 tea gardens and most of the tea-gardens are sick. The Government have decided to take over the sick tea-gardens and to run them with the workers cooperatives. Already 10 tea-gardens have been taken over by the Government, in Tripura. What the funny thing is that our Government has approached the Tea-Board for marketing all the tea—about 1 lakh kg. of tea. But now it is not possible to sell without the help of the Tea-Board. That is lying in Tripura. My point is this. I shall request the Government not to increase the cess from Rs. 8.80 upto 50 paise because that shall have serious effect on tea industry; that shall have serious effect on the price of tea. So, our main demand is to nationalise the tea industry and without that the problem of tea industry will not be solved. I shall request the Government to withdraw the Bill and bring forward a Bill that will nationalise the tea-gardens in the country.

13.00 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned for lunch to meet again at 1400 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for lunch till Fourteen if the clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Five Minutes past Fourteen of the clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

TEA AMENDMENT BILL—Contd.

[English]

PROF. P.J. KURIEN (Idukki) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill which is brought forward for raising the tea cess from 8 paise to a maximum of 50 paise. Certain amount of flexibility is allowed for the Government in this Bill. The Government, by notification, can decide the quantum of cess. So, I hope the Hon. Minister will not use this flexibility to the detriment of the growers.

From 8 paise the limit is increased upto 50 paise. I hope you will increase in the first instance. Only 4 paise that is, 50% and not more than that. Since the authority is vested in the proper hands, I have no objection to the flexibility.

Coming to the new provision in the Bill that is, Clause 28 (a) which empowers the Tea Board to write off a certain amount—which may be sometimes required also—I do not object to that. But writing off any amount should be done with the prior approval of the Government. In such cases if it is so warranted, the prior approval of the Government should be obtained.

There is an additional proviso where it is said that in some cases, in individual cases, the Government can delegate the Board. That is, for writing off certain amount. They need not come to the Government at all. I beg to disagree with this. In all the cases, whatever may be the amount and whatever may be the reasons, for writing off, each individual case should be brought forward before the Government and prior sanction of the Government should be obtained. Otherwise that will lead to mis-use of funds. I hope the Minister will take note of this.

Coming to the performance of the last year—I am saying from the report of the Commerce Ministry—it is true that our export earnings have increased. The increase in export earnings is due to the higher unit value realisation in the last two years. But there is no increase in the export quantity-wise.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : It is the other way.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : I am quoting from the last year's report.

"The increase in the export earnings for the last two years was attributable mainly to rise in world prices of tea which enabled higher unit value realisation".

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : That is 1983-84.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Yes, that is for the last two years. I am coming to the current year. In the first half of the current year also there is a decrease in the quantity of export.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : In the current year the position is that we have exported 222 million kgs. as against 217 million kgs. of last year

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : That is the latest figure; I do not have the latest figure; I stand corrected. Therefore, the export earning has also increased I suppose.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : The unit value has gone down. That is why instead of Rs. 740 crores of export we earned Rs. 711.90 crores.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Thank you Sir. That is the latest figure. I stand corrected.

I am happy that quantumwise this year there is increase even though for the last two years quantumwise there was a decline.

In this connection, I have to give some suggestions for increasing of our exports further. I understand that our tea has a good market in the world, especially the Darjeeling tea. I know, it is the best in the world and we should be proud of that.

Coming to South, the Niligiri tea is also comparatively good, but the tea gardens in the South other than the Niligiri

gardens are producing tea of inferior quality. The South Indian tea industry is facing a crisis. The cost of production of the South Indian tea is higher. You know the obvious reasons. These are higher wages, DA linked to the cost of living, distance from the collieries, transportation of the coal etc. All these contribute to the higher cost of production. but at the same time, the quality is inferior, and that fetches a low price.

I also want to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister, that the restrictions imposed on export last year were detrimental to the South India tea industry. There are special problems for the South India tea industry, because of low quality, higher cost of production and low productivity and all that. Last year we had imposed the control of the minimum export price. Even though the minimum export price has actually been removed now, it went to the detriment of the South Indian tea industry. What happened because of this minimum export price? The South India tea, whose price is otherwise low because of the low quality, could not be exported to the traditional markets. The traditional markets are UK, the Netherlands, Federal Republic of Germany, Canada, Australia etc. Because of the minimum export price, we could not export tea to these countries. In this gap of our nonperformance, Sri Lanka came in and they exported tea to these countries and we lost these markets. Therefore, it is very important that we should take steps to recapture these markets. Minimum export price is, of course, removed, but the damage is already done. These markets should be recaptured by effective action from Commerce Ministry.

Again, there is a tea marketing control order. I agree with the purpose of that order. The tea marketing control order is also detrimental to the interests of the South Indian tea industry. After the imposition of this order, the blenders are mostly keeping away from the auction centres in South. These blenders also bargain in the lowest price. But the margin they get is not passed on to the consumers. Thus, buyers are at an advantage and the growers are at a disadvantage. I wanted to bring this position to your notice.

[Prof. P. J. Kurien]

With regard to the development activities of the Tea Board, one hon. Member has already mentioned that it is not satisfactory. The Tea Board is not extending its activities throughout the country. The developmental activities conducted by the Tea Board in the South are negligible. Since the inception of the various schemes the total amount sanctioned for the tea plantation scheme was Rs. 1855 lakhs and the amount spent in the South was Rs. 130 lakhs only, that is only seven per cent. For replantation also, only 14 per cent of the total amount spent is used for development in South. It is the same story for tea machinery, hire-purchase and so on. The total amount spent for development of tea by the Tea Board in South is only 14 per cent of the total amount spent. This clearly shows that the Tea Board is not functioning properly. There are so many reasons for that. One of the reasons is the distance between the Southern tea estates and the Calcutta Office of the Tea Board. Therefore a suggestion was made earlier that there should be a regional office of the Tea Board in the South and the Government of India was pleased to sanction a regional office at Coimbatore. This office was sanctioned two years ago but I am sorry to say that even today, it is a non-starter. It is not functioning.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Professor, you please conclude.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Give me some more time so that I can speak about your State.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, no. As the Presiding Officer, I am representing all the States here.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : As I have been saying, Coimbatore Office is still a non-starter. I would request the hon. Minister to take immediate steps in this regard. Sufficient funds should be given to the office in Coimbatore so that they can start inviting applications and processing the applications. Assistance should be decided then and there at the Coimbatore Office. Then only will it help increasing production. In south, there are a number of small tea growers. It is not

like the Northern areas and West Bengal. Out of a total of 30,000 small tea growers, 20,000 are from Kerala.

(Interruptions)

These small growers should get special assistance from the Tea Board. The Tea Board is not having a proper programme for assisting these small holders. They should chalk out special programmes for them so that the growers can be benefited.

I would like to mention one point more regarding tea research. Tea research is being conducted by the Tea Research Association in Northern India and by Upasi in the Southern India. I know that there is a proposal from the Government to change it. It should be reviewed. If they are doing it in the best and the most proper way, then they should be allowed to continue the research and it should not be taken away, just for no reason.

I have to say what some more points, but due to lack of time I have to stop and with these words I support the Bill.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Howrah) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Bill with some observations and suggestions. The hon. Minister is dynamic. He is also very judicious. I shall appeal to the hon. Minister that he should judiciously examine certain parts of this Bill.

First of all, this Bill seeks the sanction of the House to increase the cess from 8 paise per Kg. to look after the overall expenditure of the Tea Board. The Minister at the outset has stated that the scope of the debate on this Bill is limited. I would like to differ with him respectfully on this issue, in the sense that the scope is very large indeed when you are bringing the entire activities of the Tea Board within the scope of this cess.

As the time is short, I do not want to go into details. I will make just a few points for the consideration of the hon. Minister. The first point is with regard to powers that you would like to give to the Tea Board authorities, to write off loans. Please do not do it. I request you. If

you are thinking of making some amendments or some provisions, you do it. This same Parliament will have to debate on this issue within a year or so. There are a lot of scandals about corruption in terms of writing off the loans. Please don't do it because the composition of Tea Board is such that even if you wish judiciously, they cannot get out of the vested interests linked with it. This is my first submission.

Secondly, the cess which you like to increase to 50 paise, six times more than the usual rate, will definitely create a sensation in the tea industry circles. I would, therefore, suggest to the hon. Minister that while he imposes the cess on respective quality of the tea—I do not want to question your 50 paise, nor do I want to oppose it—please do take the tea assesses into confidence from time to time and at least they should also be given an opportunity to express their views while he imposes the cess from time to time otherwise *suo motu*, at their own discretion, if the Tea Board goes on doing it, it may not create a good atmosphere for the productivity in the industry.

I would now deal with the most important point for the benefit of the hon. Minister and for the benefit of the hon. Members of this House. This is a point for which I am keen to participate in this debate, and I came for this only.

Sir, the Tea Trading Corporation of India (TTCI) was formed with the sole objective of exporting tea outside. If the hon. Minister goes into the merits of this organisation, he will find a pathetic scene. STC is also under his Ministry and TTCI is also under his Ministry. But STC has not given for the last one year even one kilogram of export through TTCI whereas they are engaging sub-contractors from the private sector. The fate is so horrible that the TTCI is about to wind up the whole show. Why it is being done when your own organisation is there? That is what is happening.

So far as the Soviet tea is concerned, the TTCI's selling is only three per cent. Why don't you make it at least ten per cent? I do not say cent per cent because

you have many other agencies also, but the TTCI should have at least ten per cent share in it which is only three per cent. In the matter of procurement of exports, as I have said, STC is deliberately trying to see that TTCI gets killed. I know there was an inquiry about the corruption in TTCI and for that he had taken enough action against some officials. I do not want to go into those matters but the organisation as such is now dying.

I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister another important point. Under the same Government there are two public sector units. One is called Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd. It has a tea wing. Another unit is called Andrew Yule & Co. Ltd. This also has a tea wing. These are very profit earning tea wings. Balmer Lawrie is being looked after by the Ministry of Petroleum and Andrew Yule is being looked after by the Ministry of Industry because of their engineering activities. My submission is why not the tea wing of Balmer Lawrie and the tea wing of Andrew Yule be operated through TTCI under the command and jurisdiction of this Ministry? Why it is being delayed for years and years, I do not know. Those who manage the affairs, hardly understand what tea is. That is why they always give step-motherly treatment to these unit. That is my third suggestion for consideration.

In regard to the tea gardens, Bipin Pal Das Ji has rightly stated that the productivity and the general production and growth in Terai and Duars areas of North Bengal have gone up comparatively better than that of Kachhar and other areas of Assam. Factually speaking, the Tea Research Unit will have to look for new plantation programme in view of the climatic changes. Because of deforestation, in many parts the rain water is not being unlogged. The result is that in some parts of Duars and Terai—don't take it otherwise, I am not accusing any government—very soon you will find a serious crisis—of course, Tiraky Ji will also agree with me—for expansion of the plantation programmes in that area. So, if you are serious to see that tea plantation is further expanded, tea production is further increased, you have to have a corporate

[Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsii]

body with the representatives of the Ministry of Forestry or Environment, Ministry of Commerce and the NABARD. If they give a comprehensive proposal for the expansion programme taking all things into account, things will be all right. On the one hand if deforestation will continue, much more bright and sunshine will come, water will not be logged and even if it is logged, it will not go away. Then tea will not grow in that area after 5 years. I am from that area. From my boyhood, I have stayed in that area. It is very difficult to see the fate after 10 years. These two things you should take care of.

Lastly, I submit that the financing authority is not in your hand, I know. It is in the hand of the public sector banks. Why not this financial authority be a definite and a regular statutory authority? Let it be within the Finance Ministry, but in coordination with you. You know what is happening in Bengal today. I hope the hon. Members will agree. The United Bank of India is deliberately determined to see that the Tea Gardens of Bengal must go into the hand of the blackmarketeers through their third-hand channels. These poor people might have made profit in one year and loss in another year. I know at last about 10 gardens. In the boom period the machinery got broken because they were old machinery. They went to United Bank. The United Bank through their corridor, created some dalals as agents. If they are not satisfied they will not get the machinery advance in time. The result is, they could not manage the cash loss. Suddenly UBI Chairman goes from Delhi. He is posing to be the only honest man in the country and all others are thieves and decoits. He is trying to deal with them in such a manner, on the one hand he is giving them, on the other hand his dalals are waiting outside to grab the garden at throw-away price. This is a pitiable condition. I pleaded this case every time. I wrote letters. I don't represent any tea garden. I have no vested interest in it. Tea industry as a whole in Bengal will utterly collapse if this attitude goes on year after year. I am not talking in any parochial terms. Many

people have said that Tea Board should be shifted to Gauhati. Mr. Minister I humbly submit and I respectfully submit this to you, and to the other hon. Members. Calcutta is a city where people never talk of provincialism, caste, creed and religion. We have no shiv sena like Bombay. We have not got some other Sena like Ahmedabad. We have no other corporate city. Calcutta is not only for Indian people, but Calcutta is free for everybody in the world. They can go and settle there, thanks to its culture. Tea Board is in Calcutta because the port is there. Communication network is there. Tea Board should not even remotely thought of to be shifted or changed. Some of the other things you can give to somebody else. I do not mind. Tea Board's development project should be spelt out in the House. I request the Minister while replying to explain out of this, what are the new programmes of the tea Board in terms of modernisation and other development works in the Tea Gardens.

The point of rice supply was referred to by other Members. I knew it. We know the poor quality of rice; we know how it is distributed to workers. I know how horrible it is. Always third-hand dealing is going on every day. Mr. Piyus Tiraky is here; he is from a different party. You visit the place and see the things yourself. You see the condition of the workers, where they live, what they eat, and when I see the rice they take, I shed my tears. Third rate quality is supplied to them. Best quality is taken away by some others and only the third rate quality is supplied to them and they have to eat it, digest it. If the trade union leader comes to defend them, the police comes and shoots them. We always think here of the Textile labour, coalmine workers, P & T workers etc. But these conditions of the tea garden workers are always forgotten. You should go into it. Otherwise you cannot understand under what conditions they live. These are some of the points of mine. You please consider it in the right perspective and take appropriate steps.

With these words I conclude. I hope after passing the Bill the Minister will take into account and judiciously consider the

viewpoints which I have made. In the end I would request him kindly to see that the TTCI develops more and more. Please don't allow it to die.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I cannot support this amending Bill because it is a sudden jump from 8 to 50 paise at a time. It will not hamper the Management or the Tea Board or anybody else, but it will hamper the poor labourers. Always the pressure is coming only on the labourers. Much workload is extracted from them to balance this money. What they do is not office work or desk work. It is a manual work. 8-hour duty is something very much for them. It is 8-hour manual work. How can you imagine it? He is not a machine. He has to work for 8 hours continuously. But if there is no working hours, the management will give over work-load to the labourers and it is very difficult to fulfil that also. The employment avenues will totally be stopped because these people have come. Now, the Indian planters have entered into the field for profit because tea market in the world is good. They are not actually the original planters. They have no love for the tea bushes. Some changes in the plantation and re-plantation are not being done by them. They only know plucking and selling it because it has a good market. Tea garden should get good nourishment. Manures are needed for a good growth. Irrigation is also needed. Replantation is also needed. Now, the capitalists and the Indian people have entered because the market is good. In this position, it is quite a different industry and it depends on the production and the weather also because you cannot manage irrigation everywhere. If the weather is all right, season is all right you will get better crop. But once you tax so much per kg., perhaps it is too much and you must think over it. It should not get hampered and it should not be a losing concern as other industry, as you have public sector undertakings. So, don't try to make it a losing concern. Many of the small gardeners will try to get rid of it and perhaps would think of getting money and their capital may be shifted to some other industries. If the tea garden gets sick or any sort of mishap is happened to it, the major employment

opportunity is lost to these people who are illiterate, especially the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes people. They are illiterate and they have been till now kept like slaves. There are no chances of education for them; even primary education is not there. Because they are thinking that if the labourers get education, they will not be willing to work in the tea garden. That is the motive. Now, after 40 years of our independence, you must think of equality of the people. How can they progress? The children of the labourers are given only labour work. They are not even allowed to give a chance to the office work, even if they are qualified for clerical job or maistry or such other work. For these posts, they get people from outside. There should be reservation of 80-90% for the workers' children in the offices right from tea garden to the office, and even upto the Board itself. You will not find a single person, man or woman or anybody coming from the working class, labour class, even if they are qualified, in the office of the Tea Board or in the management itself. Naturally, unemployment problem is there because they are illiterate and they do not know any other work. These tea companies are making profit. Subject to correction, in 1985, you have made Rs. 745 crores of foreign exchange and this money is coming to Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and such other cities. But why don't you look after this area for providing cottage industries measures or some other ancillary measures just to give employment to these people and to have a decentralised sector. They are giving so much money to the country. At least, you must look back to their conditions also. I am very happy that a person like Mr. Shiv Shanker has come and he is looking after it. I hope there must be some change in the conditions of tea garden workers. At least, they should live as human beings and they can come to the level of other communities. They are supposed to be most-neglected people. They are kept neglected because then only, they will be willing to work. That is the impression created by these employers. So, they are forced, because in the beginning, perhaps you know the history, they have been brought from Chhota Nagpur, Santhal Parganas, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh. Now, still those

[Shri Piyus Tiraky]

conditions are continuing. They are still living like that. It is the look out of nobody. They are only making profit. The management is getting pressure from the Government. The industry is itself in danger. It is in a very difficult position.

You can pass this Bill because you have a brute majority. But after passing this Bill, please see that the interest of tea labourers is served and that they are given education and other things. Earlier, Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi has already said that the tea garden labourers should be supplied tooth-paste, soap, kerosene oil, sugar and other materials. The tea garden labourers are the only people who are not being provided with this facility of getting essential commodities. All other workers in the country are getting these facilities. What is the reason for this ?

The tea garden labourers should be provided with free education. It will take even 200 or 300 years for the present tea labourers to come up educationally to the level of the present society.

Tea industry is not a losing industry. You are making lot of profit. I wish this industry should flourish. You can earn not only Rs. 700 crores or Rs. 800 crores but a thousand hundred crores. But, at the same time, all those who are working in tea industry should also flourish. We are also thinking of having a Pay Commission for the office workers of the tea industry. You are giving them only Rs. 2/- after getting three hours work. They are also Indians and their interests must be kept in view. This is my request. Tea garden workers should be given incentive. It is the only industry which is giving you the money. These people working in the tea industry must be respected as free Indians and socialist Indians.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV (Silchar) : Sir, I rise to support this Bill. Two leaves and a bud is a sweet word in our part of the country. Specially I come from that part of India where there are 113 gardens. 35 of them are sick in my Constituency and we produce 30 million Kg. of tea per year.

This Bill which has been brought today if I remember right, was recommended by the Tea Board in 1982 when I happened to represent the Parliament in the Tea Board. When Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi raised a point regarding discussion of the Bill with industry. Tea Board is represented by consumers, trade unions, industrialists as well as the Government of India. This Bill has been duly passed and recommended by the Tea Board. This Bill has come after it has been thoroughly debated in a forum called Tea Board. I do not think there should be any objection to this 50 paise. The money should be raised by this Bill and this will be spent for the development of the tea industry, for its research as well as for raising its production.

But I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister of Commeree why is it that for the last three years the Tea Board is without a permanent Chairman ? There is ad hoc Chairman working there and no permanent Chairman has been selected as yet. The sooner the permanent Chairman is appointed, the better. I urge upon the hon. Minister to look into this particular point.

Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi, a colleague of mine and of the same party, has objected to the demand of shifting of Tea Board to Assam. I also think that the Tea Board should be in Calcutta. But why not, an Officer from Assam should not be the Chairman of the Tea Board ? This was the demand of Assam from a long time. You are giving an Officer of UP cadre who has never seen tea bush before. Each and every district of Assam has got a tea garden. So each and every officer working as Deputy Commissioner has got an idea about tea.

I request that the present Tea Board Office in Assam should be strengthened and more powers should be given to the officers concerned so that more and more decisions can be taken at Guwahati instead of sending the proposals to the Head Office at Calcutta.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : He can be from Scheduled Caste or from Scheduled Tribe. That you can do.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You could have said it when you were given the chance to speak.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : They should be given more powers so that decisions may be taken at the higher level for financial grants to the tea gardens from the Guwahati office than shifting to Calcutta office.

One of the aspects of this tea-board is to develop more areas. In order to develop these areas, you are gaining more and more in non-traditional areas. I would request you since you are raising more funds and in the Seventh Plan many new schemes are being taken up in the tea growing States, there are fallow lands available, and these fallow lands should be utilised first for development. There should be new schemes like re-plantation and rejuvenation. In West Bengal there is fallow land; in the South it is available; in Assam, it is available. There are fertile lands available in the tea estates. Some new schemes should be introduced so that they get financial help and the technical know-how to develop because they have better infrastructure to develop such areas.

Another thing is you are increasing the cess. When we debated in the Tea-Board meeting, one of the main reasons advanced was the welfare of the tea-garden people. Now we are giving some help for the hospitals; we are undertaking some welfare measures. Further, the people who are working in the tea-gardens in West Bengal or in Assam, they are mostly from Orissa, U.P. and Bihar. They have gone there long years back. They have settled there. Now, they do not want to go back to their respective places. There should be some scheme whereby these people who are working in the tea-gardens, after their retirement, they should get some rejuvenation scheme. The Central Government with the respective State Governments should make some scheme for such people.

In my areas, most of the tea-garden labourers have not crossed the border of my own district. They have not seen what is Calcutta; they have not seen what is Delhi;

they have not seen the various places in the country. So, in your welfare scheme, like the Nehru Yuva Kendra, organise the Bharat Darshan. Out of the cess money, when they do the welfare work, they should implement some schemes whereby the tea-garden labourers are taken from the tea-estate to other parts of the country. You can organise a trip from Bengal to Assam; Assam to Bengal; South to Bengal, etc. whereby they can know about the larger parts of our country.

Another point I would like to say about the value added tea in the world trade. In TRA and other areas, it must make more research so that we can go into the world market with better value added tea. This is the most important need today. If you want to compete in the international markets, you have to detain your market and also you have to catch more market. During the Janata Government period, suddenly they imposed excess duty and we have lost the target in the international market. In order to maintain this international market, the value added tea should be more introduced.

I would like to say one thing. That is, the Tea Marketing Control Order has been implemented. As per that order, from the Cachar area and Karimganj area we have to sell 75 per cent in the auction market and the remaining 25 per cent in the open market. We have been appealing to the Government to change this ratio to 50:50 because Cachar is definitely growing 30 million kgs. of tea. But unfortunately, Cachar tea's quality is not as good as that of Assam tea. As a result, when the buyer goes into auction, if he cannot get the price in the first auction, he has to compete in five or six auctions. It puts him into paying bank interest. So, I would request the Minister to consider this particular aspect. It is a very important thing for our survival. As I said already, 35 gardens have been closed down and some gardens are facing serious difficulties because of the auction price we are getting. Sometimes we are getting from Rs. 2 to Rs. 17 per kg. which is the highest whereas in other areas they are getting from Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 per kg. There are two tea gardens called Chargola and Sighlachera,

[Shri Sontosh Mohan Dev]

which were originally taken over by the TTCI, but for some reason, they have given up the management. The labourers in those tea gardens are actually starving. During the Prime Minister's visit in the last election, the labourers met him and submitted a memorandum to him and the Prime Minister assured that it would be thoroughly examined and something would be done to redress their grievances, but unfortunately nothing has been done. I myself have sent a memorandum to the Ministry. The INTUC, Cachar, has also submitted a memorandum. But nothing has been done so far. I would appeal to you that the TTCI should be asked to take over those tea gardens or something should be done to redress the grievances of the labourers there.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please conclude.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : I have already requested about the Tea Marketing Control Order regarding Cachar, because our tea gardens are small gardens and they are not economically viable. In our tea gardens the management is good, they are looking after the tea gardens well and the labour relations are also good. But this policy is creating a very difficult situation for us. So, I would request you to consider this. As per section 17 of the Tea Act, the Chairman, Tea Board, is entitled, the Ministry is entitled, to make changes in the ratio sale of tea; the ratio should be made fifty-fifty.

With these words, I support this Bill.

[Translation]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I will submit only one or two points. You may ask how people coming from Bihar can be interested in tea? As the hon. Minister has said that this is a small amendment but the speeches being delivered are quite long. I would, therefore, not deliver a lengthy speech. I would submit one or two points.

I understad that you are going to increase the cess from 8.8. paise to 50 paise which is six fold increase so far my knowledge goes during the last few years at no time six fold increase has been effected.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : The value of the rupee has come down to 15 paise only.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : I have to make one more submission. All our colleagues have forgotten and no one has paid attention to this fact that during the last three or four years the prices of tea have skyrocketed. I drink a particular brand of tea, that is 'Lepchu'. Our friends from Bengal will be knowing that this tea is available in Bengal and Bihar and here it is not freely available. Four years back its rate was Rs. 15 per 100 gms, three years back its rate was Rs. 25 per 100 gms and nowadays it is available for Rs. 60 to 70 per 100 gm. and that too in the black market. I am not talking only of 'Lepchu'. You can take any variety of tea and try to find out how rates have increased during the last three or four years. Earlier even a beggar used to ask for 10 paise for having a cup of tea but now he would beg for one rupee to have a cup of tea. Today it is difficult to have a cup of tea even for one rupee. What I mean to say is that the tea prices have increased phenomenally and this imposition of cess is going to put extra burden on the consumer; no one else is going to be affected. It is true that India is the biggest exporter of tea but we are competing with East African countries. They will see how exports would be affected with the increase in price. What I want to say is that they may increase the cess and fix an upper limit but in actual practice the increase should be only that much which is proper. They can increase the efficiency of the Tea Board by reducing the expenditure on overheads. Have they constituted any committee to go into the working of the Tea Board? Tea Board consists of 30 members, in addition to the Chairman, who are tea garden owners, representatives of the tea garden employees, trade unions and and also of Parliament but

only the interests of the tea garden owners are taken care of.

One thing more. Have Government noticed that during the last 3 to 5 years the prices of the tea gardens have increased steeply and certain vested interests have purchased the tea gardens. The hon. Minister must be aware of this. The purchasers include very big names. The scope for creating black money is more in the tea gardens than in any other business. I have seen the working in this field. I would, therefore, tell you about this. New machines are installed and within a year those are thrown as scrap and it is said that these machines have become useless. Government do not have any check to find out whether the machines have actually become useless or not. Machines are sold to scrap dealers and they are then re-purchased very cheaply. The scope for earning black money is maximum in tea gardens as to other lines and if I start telling about this it will take hours to give a full account. The workers are exploited. The labourers coming from Bihar, Bengal and other places are exploited. It is said in Bihar that the labourers who go to the tea gardens of Assam are converted in rams. How? People say that they are not converted into rams by tea garden owners who provide the labourers liquor for three or four days in a week and extract work from them like animals. That is why it is said that they are converted into rams.

I would submit one thing more. Other Members have also spoken on this point. Government should not give this right to the Tea Board that it can write off certain amount, may be it is Rs. 2 lakhs, without permission. This writing off business is quite a dubious one and I know the ins and outs of it. In private companies, the General Managers are not given the right to write off even 5 paise by the Board of Directors. Here if you allow to write off amount upto Rs. 2 lakhs, 5 lakhs or 10 lakhs, the management by giving one or the other excuse will write in the books that the amount is unrecoverable and as such it should be written off. On the one hand it will be written off and on the other hand, bargaining

will be made with the person from whom the amount has to be recovered. Therefore, in no condition the power of writing off should be given to the Board.

I wanted to submit many things but due to paucity of time I will conclude by saying that there is 'wheel within wheel' in the tea gardens and Government should try to find out about this. There is a big racket in it and huge amount of foreign exchange is being repatriated. I will tell the hon. Minister about this separately. The poor are very badly exploited in this field. The cess which they want to raise to 50 paise should not be in actual practice be more than 10 or 11 paise. This is my request to the hon. Minister.

[English]

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, first of all, I would request the hon. Minister to recall some of my requests made at the time of discussions on the Demands of the Ministry.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Prof. Kurien has already put forth some of your demands.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN: And you are supporting them, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am neither supporting them, nor opposing them.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Firstly, I would like to know, why the Tea Board is not having a permanent Chairman. The post of the Chairman, Tea Board has been lying vacant for the last two years, but the Government has not come forward with a proposal to fill it up for reasons best known to it.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: He has now been selected.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU: Thank you. I would, however, like to mention that if suitable persons are not available from amongst the IAS officers, you can have non-official Chairman from the Treasury Benches.

[Shri P. Kolandaivelu]

Secondly, there is a zonal office of the Tea Board at Coimbatore, but there is not even skeleton staff for that office. The zonal office looks after three States. There is no car, no telephone facility for the Officers. The zonal office is there without any facilities. Necessary facilities therefore need to be provided to enable this office to work effectively.

You have said that you want to utilize the cess fund for developmental purposes. What are the developmental activities for which you want to use this fund? I know fully well that no developmental activities are taking place in the Tea Board. I am a Member of the Tea Board for the last one year and I know it.

AN HON. MEMBER : That means you are also partly responsible.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : There are only two Members from this House in the Tea Board. We are raising our voice, but there are big bosses inside the Board. Already they have got vested interests in the Tea Board. They are selling their products for a very good prices, but the small growers are not able to do that. The small growers are mostly in Tamil Nadu and Kerala in the south. They are suffering a lot.

This Bill seeks to amend Sections 25 and 49. You are now adding Section 25(a). By this the Central Government can collect cess at any rate from 8.8 paise per kilogram to 50 paise per kilogram. Already, the Tea Board is collecting cess, which totals up to Rs. 6 crores. If it is raised to 50 paise per kilogram, how much would be the amount. We can calculate; it would be more than Rs. 30 crores that they would be getting by way of cess. With Rs. 6 crores already available, they are not at all taking up any development work. You have, however said that the funds are not sufficient for the developmental activities, and that is why the cess has been raised from 8.8 paise to 50 paise per kilogram. I want to know what actually you are going to do with Rs. 30 crores. You are earning foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. seven

hundred crores from the export of tea. We are exporting to the tune of 220 million kilograms per year. Though we are earning so much foreign exchange in the Tea Board, the Tea Board has, however, not been streamlined in order to suit the conditions of the tea growers in the country.

15.00 hrs.

With regard to replantation also, funds which are supposed to be utilised for purposes of replantation are not utilised for the same purpose. I know about it fully well. Big companies like the Birlas, Tatas, Lipton, Brookebond, Kannan Devan, etc. are actually getting these loans and they are not utilising the loan for this purpose but for some other purposes only. This is what is happening actually in the Tea Board.

(Interruptions)

Today as 150 tomorrow, the Tea Board is having a meeting at Darjeeling. But I am unable to go over there because of this Tea (Amendment) Bill here. Otherwise, I would have gone to Darjeeling in order to enjoy the climate at least, if not to have a look at the activities of the Tea Board.

You are giving so much of powers to the Board. Even with the prior approval of the Central Government, the power to write off loans may be misused. Whether it is Rs. 2 lakhs, or Rs. 5 lakhs or Rs. 10 lakhs, they may actually write off the loan and we would not be able to know the real reason because the Minister or the officers will not be able to know about it. So, I want to say to the hon. Minister that the powers of the Board have to be curtailed.

The other point that I would like to mention is that we should have permanent Chairman and that too a non-official Chairman. He must be having the public interest in view, and not an official one. Therefore, I again request that a non-official chairman should be there on the Tea Board.

Now days, tea is not getting good prices. Even in yesterday's paper also it

was reported "Tea prices seek to lower levels". We are not getting good price. So, the Government must come forward to fix an assured price at least for the small tea growers. Then only we can save the tea growers.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I support this Bill and I would like to know from the hon. Minister that when the tax used to be 4 paise how much money was collected and how much out of that was spent on development when the tax used to be 8 paise how much money was collected and how much out of that was spent on development and now when you are going to make it 50 paise how much out of that will be spent on development? We should know about this so that people may feel assured that after this hike something would be spent on development.

All the hon. Members have stated that not a single paisa has been spent on development by the Tea Board. The Tea Board has not made any provision to increase the productivity of tea and to give relief to the poor tillers. Therefore, first of all I want to know whether the money you are going to realise will be spent on officials and Directors or will any thing be spent on the poor also? We have come to know that the Tea Board has not done any work till now. It has not done anything in the interest of the growers their development or for increasing tea production. If not, the hon. Minister tell us about this as we are not aware. We only know that the Tea Board collects money and spends it on its employees and the officers and does not do any thing worthwhile.

My next submission is that it has been provided in it that different rates will be fixed for different varieties of tea. If fixation of rates is left to the Tea Board officers, they will not look after the interests of the growers. Therefore, he should decide before hand the rates of the different varieties of tea. Otherwise, as the Tea Board is already known for corruption and if this job is left to the Board, then we can very well imagine the consequences.

Therefore, he should make this arrangement before hand after getting full details about this so that they may not get any chance to manipulate things.

My third point, Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, is that the hon. Minister has stated that if the loans given by the Tea Board are not recovered in full and there are some losses, the Tea Board will have the power to write off such amounts. I request that such wide powers should not be given to the Tea Board. On the other hand, this power should remain with the Government. Because if the Tea Board is allowed write off to the loans, they will start misusing this power and will give loans to their favourites only. Later on, they will be shown as bankrupt and money will not be recovered from them. Therefore, he should reconsider this provision so that he may be able to recover full amount and utilise it on extending the activities of the Tea Board and on increasing the production of tea.

The entire country wants that tea production in India should increase and alongwith that the export of tea should also increase so that we may earn more and more foreign exchange and also the country my progress. This should be our primary aim. If we spend money for this purpose then nobody will object even if he imposes a cess of one rupee instead of 50 paise. But we must take steps to increase production and help the tea labourers and growers in a positive manner. Only then our system will be streamlined.

[SHRI V. PURUSHOTHAMAN
in the chair]

When Government realising so much money, they should pay proper attention to the welfare of the labourers also. The bigwigs are earning a lot of money from the tea estates and several new companies have entered this field. As Dr. Rajhans was telling us, many top capitalists have purchased tea gardens. Why Government do not contemplate categorising it as an industry so that tea labours are provided all facilities which are available in other industries. They should get minimum wages,

[Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas]

provident fund facility, ESI facility, bonus and gratuity etc. When Government are able to get all these facilities available to them from the tea garden owners, only then the system will function smoothly because all the capitalists who are trying to enter this industry are coming with the sole purpose of earning more and more from it. Alongwith this, it is Government's responsibility to see that the poor labourers get their rights.

Just now one hon. Member Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi, was mentioning about the Tea Trading Corporation and I also agree with him that Government have not been able to manage properly all trading corporations like the Cotton Trading Corporation, Mica Corporation, STC or for that matter any other corporation. They, in league with the capitalists, want to abort its purpose. As one hon. Member has said—I do not know how far it is true the hon. Minister should himself find out the truth—it is correct that the main aim of the setting up the Tea Trading Corporation was to export tea to the maximum to foreign markets and to ensure fair price to the growers. But what we have seen is that instead of doing that the Corporation has appointed certain agents or export is being resorted to through certain other agencies. What then is the use of the Corporation? If it is of no use then it should be wound up because the purpose for which it was set up and lakhs of rupees were spent and officers and other people are being paid, has not been achieved. We wanted to help the poor. The Hon. Minister is busy in talking. Who will then listen to us and who will pay attention to the suggestions I have given? Therefore, the Tea Trading Corporation is proving to be white elephant. My submission is that either this should be wound up or such arrangement be made so that it proves to be of some utility.

I am talking of his Department. If he wants to benefit from my suggestion he should pay attention. Otherwise he may do whatever he wants to.

My next submission is that its loaning system should also be streamlined. In

South as also in Assam, small farmers grow tea. Just now the representative of Cachar was also mentioning that there also small farmers grow tea, though now a days big capitalists are also purchasing tea gardens because they want to earn big profits. Therefore, he must improve the loaning arrangements—for this he may even increase this cess from the proposed 50 paise to even one rupee—so that the farmers are able to get loans. In the present set up they are not getting loans. I would suggest that Government should provide interest-free loans or subsidy to the farmers for development and new plantations so that they are able to increase the production and earn more profit. This will strengthen his Department and it will be in a position to spend more on their welfare as well as on increasing production. He should pay prompt attention to all these things.

I also feel that more and more representatives of the people should be included in the Tea Board. The labourers' representatives should be taken in more numbers and growers' representatives should also be included. At present certain persons have been included in the Tea Board who are either rich people or they are tea-garden owners. Labourers' representation is less. Their representation should be increased. Growers' representation should also be increased. He should also increase the representation of the Members of Parliament. The Members of the Assemblies of the States where tea is grown should also be taken so that they are able to safeguard their interests. If these things are done, the Tea Board will be strengthened and people will be benefited more and more from it.

Lastly, I would request the hon. Minister to make this Board strong and vibrant. Let us not let this Board remain weak and good-for-nothing whose only function may be to spend lavishly and send its members on foreign jaunts. This Board should ensure how production of tea can be increased, how it can be strengthened, how the growers can be helped and given all the facilities. If these things are done by the Board, that will be a welcome step. I hope that he will make this Board strong and powerful and will try to provide genuine help to the people.

With these words, I support the Bill and take my seat.

[English]

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor) : Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to participate in the Tea (Amendment) Bill, 1986. May I draw the attention of the hon. Commerce Minister that at one time the Indian tea was very famous in the world market because of its quality and that is why it has earned its reputation in the world market, but at present it has gone down. Why? Because of the inefficiency of the management and the adulteration in the tea manufacturing. And that is why it cannot compete in the world market now.

After remaining stagnant at around 560 million kgs, the production of tea in India has registered a steady increase from 581.5 million kgs. in 1983 to 645.1 million kgs. in 1984. The production level of 645.1 million kgs. which was reached in 1984, showed an increase of around eleven per cent over the previous year and that has set aside all previous records. Improved cultivation practices, application of fertilizers, adoption of pest control measures and use of high-yielding plants have all been the contributory factors for this record production.

The tea garden labourers are the most ill-paid labourers in the country. The Government has the obligation and duty to improve their socio-economic conditions in respect of the prevailing laws of the land. You are dealing with the prices of tea but what about those people who are rendering their services in the interest of the country? The workers are giving their sweat and blood in the interest of the country. But their socio-economic condition has not been improved at all. We have the obligation to see that their condition improves. If you go on increasing the prices but if you do not look into the living condition of the workers our country cannot progress. You have enacted many laws, like the Minimum Wages Act, Workmen's Compensation Act, Maternity Benefit Act, Factories Act, Contract Labour Regulation and Abolition

Act, Payment of Bonus Act, Employment of Child Labour Act, Equal Remuneration Act, Payment of Wages Act, etc. All these Acts have been made but you have never implemented these laws. In India there are 1300 tea estates. 20 lakhs of people are employed. But till today you have not made any efforts to have separate Ministry for the Tea Industry. I submit that the Minister that he should properly look into the interests of the workers of the tea industry, as well as the Tea Industry in general. Merely increasing the prices or levying a cess will not help to improve the condition of these people. I demand that Tea Board office should be shifted to Assam immediately, as it has got the highest percentage of tea production in the world. There are 775 tea estates in Assam and 10 lakhs workers are involved in it. The Chairman of the Tea Board should be from Assam. The Board's financing needs a review. We should see whether Tea Board has become a top-heavy bureaucratic machinery. This should be examined. Care must be taken to see that the increased cess does not lead to increase of prices in the domestic market. We are not inclined to support the cess as Tea Board's expenditure should be curtailed and the tea companies should not be made to suffer.

In the end I would like to say that the headquarters of the Tea Board and Head Offices of the tea companies should be shifted to Assam immediately. There should be a separate Ministry for the Tea Industry. The economic problems of the workers of the Tea Industry should be considered properly without delay. With these words I conclude.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati) : The Chairman should be from Assam cadre; this has been the demand of everybody in this House. Everybody has subscribed to this view.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : He should be a tribal or a scheduled caste.

15.18 hrs.

[**SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN** in the Chair]

[Translation]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on this occasion I would like to make only one point that the matter regarding Provident Fund of the Tea-Estate employees has become very serious.

Shri Anjiah had assured on 7th January that Government would take stern action and would also take stringent legal action in this matter. Now the situation has become very tragic. The management of the Tea Estates is bungling with the Provident Fund accounts of the workers. Due to the carelessness of the management Rs. 14.40 crores was in arrears in 1977 in West Bengal alone which has increased to Rs. 73.70 crores in 1985. The workers' representatives have raised this matter again and again and have demanded that Government should pay attention towards it. If it is not looked into, these workers will meet the fate of the workers of Jute and other industries who were deprived of their provident fund on closure. At present there are 775 tea estates. If the total provident fund amount of the workers is taken into account, a huge amount would be found involved therein. The workers' union has also been complaining since long that the Government takes a long time to file the claims. Until the present Employees Provident Fund Act is amended and a penal provision is made to punish the offenders, this problem cannot be solved. Therefore, I request the Government to take this matter seriously and amend the Employees Provident Fund Act. The management should be sternly dealt with so that the workers may get their blocked money.

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN (Cooch Behar) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to oppose this Bill. I know, Mr. Shiv Shankar is a judicious Minister in the Central Cabinet. But I am sorry and I am surprised rather, when I find that he is bringing forward this Bill. It is to increase the cess from 8.8 paise to 50 paise. It means, it is a big jump can it be justified after this budget? The prices would get pushed up in that way. *(Interruptions).*

They say, the amount of cess collected has become insufficient to meet the expenditure of the various development and other activities of the Tea Board. What are the activities of the Tea Board? This is the 31st report of the Tea Board, for the year 1984-85. The total expenditure for the year 1984-85 comes to Rs. 5,66,83,017.58 paise. Out of this, how much has been spent for the Tea Promotion in India? It is Rs. 15,67,002.65 paise only. Now, let us take the Tea Promotion outside India for which the Members of the Tea Board are very much interested, the Tea Board executives are very much interested to go abroad, to have their dinner and lunch and their dances. It is Rs. 2,81,63,378.03 paise only. The total expenditure is Rs. 5.66 crores. So, this is more than 50% of the total money which has been spent abroad, not inside India. Where will the tea grow—outside? Will it be grown in U.K., U.S.A. or some other country? Whatever it may be, let me come to that point also. Let me come to the promotion of Tea plantations.

Mr. Chairman, do you know what is the present position of the tea bushes? Upto three years, the tea bushes should be under planting position. Between 3 and 5 years, the bushes may be plucked. 5 years to 20 years is the best period of plucking when flavour, liquor, everything will be the best. During 20 years to 50 years bushes, there is plucking at the normal rate. After 50 years the bush, should be uprooted gradually and new bush should be planted. There may be tea bushes of more than 100 years and even more than that. What is the present position of the age group of tea bushes in India at present 5 to 20 years of tea bush is only 21%. More than 50 years of age tea bush is 53%. This is the condition. What have you done so far? The Tea Board did not do anything for the development of tea. Tea is earning more than Rs. 700 crores per year as foreign exchange. I do not find any justification to make more cess for this purpose.

Secondly, what is the functioning? The Darjeeling Interest Subsidy Scheme for revival of Darjeeling tea garden up to 31st October, 1985 in 31 schemes, has

given an assistance of Rs. 8.67 lakhs and NABARD Refinance has given an assistance of Rs. 7,80,00,000/-. Can you tell me when this money was allotted and sanctioned? The bargaining was going on in between the Tea Board and the tea gardens for a long period of time. Who will pay more silver tonic to the Tea Board? They did nothing.

(Interruptions)

Now I would like to draw your attention to tea auction. The entire tea produced did not come to the auction centre. In 1984, according to the Government figure, the total production is 645 million kg. But only 470 million kg. reached the auction centre. To stop black in the tea, I think the entire tea should be taken into auction.

We are earning foreign money on the label of Darjeeling tea, the best tea in the world. It may be Nilgiri tea or Assam tea or Dwars or terai tea! But on the label of Darjeeling tea, we are earning foreign money. Do you know what is the total production? It is about 13 million Kg. per year.

Will the hon. Minister tell us what is the total tea sold either in the country or abroad on the label of Darjeeling tea which was prepared either by Brooke Bond or by Liptons? It is about 100 million kg. But you do not pay much to the Darjeeling tea growers. That is the tragedy.

I cannot support this Bill.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : Can I ask two questions?

MR. CHAIRMAN : When the hon. Minister speaks you can ask.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS : If the hon. Minister does not agree, I will sit down. Since the Bill is going to strengthen the hands of Tea Board financially, why some gardens are taking advantage of IRDP and NREP and thereby depriving other sections of kisans from getting aid?

(Interruptions)

My second question is, there are two types of tea labour. One is regular

employees of tea gardens. The other is called ex-tea labour who are very poor. What is the Government or Tea Board doing to improve the lot of these ex-tea labour?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : Sir, various hon. Members have been pleased to participate in the debate. I presume that the amending Bill is a very innocuous Bill. But hon. Members had expressed themselves on diverse issues. In a short time, it cannot be possible for me to answer each and every question. But I have condensed the points generally raised by the hon. Members. I will try to answer them.

I would like to deal with the provisions themselves and the various apprehensions that have been expressed by the hon. Members, so that the matter is clear. Under Section 25, the amendment that is sought is that instead of 8.8 paise per kg. the power is sought for 50 paise per kg that is upto 50 paise per kg. Now, the point is that does not necessarily mean that the cess would be fixed at 50 paise per kg.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : You have got the power.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : To have the power is something different. The position is that we have decided to increase it to 15 paise per kg. as a result of which what would happen is.....*(Interruptions)* In fact, you have been pleased to see, according to the topography, climatic conditions and according to production, these figures will vary from place to place. I am not going into it because the provision itself has taken care of. One of the main arguments that has been advanced was that it will affect the price of the tea. I do not see how it affects the price of tea because today the price of the tea is at Rs. 27 per kg. Now, if from the Rs. 27/- seven paise is increased, I do not see how the price of tea will increase. In fact, my own information after going into the details—because I had asked my authorities to go and examine the whole condition

[Shri P. Shiv Shanker]

and report to me—our feeling is that this would be absorbed by the producers themselves. An increase of 7 paise per kg. where its cost is Rs. 27/- per kg. is not going to affect the market price in any form. I have gone into the statistics of it, I have been satisfied. I thought that this much power we should have and why we should have it is a different thing. I am going to answer. But I assure the hon. Members that 7 paise increase per kg. on Rs. 27/- per kg. is not going to affect the market price of tea. The point is actually, under the law, why I thought that I should go right upto 50 paise at this stage itself is that I did not want to come everytime before the Parliament for the purpose of again increasing by 5 paise or 6 paise. It was in 1953 that 8.8 paise per kg. was fixed and, from then on, quite a lot of changes have taken place and it is precisely for this reason, after going into the whole economics of it that the producers can absorb the 7 paise per kg. more than we decided that we should go up to 15 paise. I have come before the Parliament to seek power to increase it upto 50 paise per kg., in future and about the contingencies I cannot say at this stage. We should have this power to increase.

The second part of it is that a lot has been said with reference to Section 28-A.

(Interruptions)

I am just going to say why it has to be explained. Today the Tea-Board under its administrative powers has a right to write off the various claims. In fact the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the Lok Sabha has gone into this and generally they have made a report that in all the laws, under all the laws, where the claims are written off, instead of exercising the executive power, it is desirable that a provision should be made in that regard. In fact, this provision has been made only in conformity with the views expressed by the Subordinate Legislation Committee of the Lok Sabha. Supposing if the provision is not there, even then the power was to be exercised. This power is not only being exercised under this law but there are other laws also where administratively, the authorities had written off the claim.

It was thought that it should be brought on the anvil of the law itself.

That is why, there is an addition of this section. It is nothing new. It is not as though that a new section is sought to be incorporated in order to invest the Board to exercise undue powers. That is not the point.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about the proviso ?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : Even today the Board exercises certain powers with reference to writing off of the claims. Maybe, having regard to the provision, the hon. Members might be exercised over the power that is being given to the Board—which in fact is there even today. I am aware that hon. Members have always been pleading that there should be decentralisation of power. Even with reference to the public sector undertakings where discussions had been going on, arguments have been addressed from across the House that powers should be decentralised. In a case like this what has only been done is that upto a particular level, as prescribed under the rules, to that much extent, the Board would be entitled to write off the claims. What it should be, what that amount should be, is a matter which has got to be gone into. I will take care to see that an amount is fixed in such a fashion that it does not give cause for concern or to make grievance from any quarter whatsoever. That part of it, I will take care. But otherwise the main part of the section invests the power in the Government or the other authorities for the purpose of writing off the claims. I was only trying to make this submission that what is actually happening in practice is sought to be transformed into a provision of law having regard to the recommendation of the Subordinate Legislation Committee.

Now, an argument was addressed as to what exactly are the functions of the Tea Board. With reference to the functions, I must submit that the Board regulates the production, tries to improve the quality of tea, promotes cooperative efforts, undertakes scientific, technological

and economic research, controls the pests, regulates sale and export of tea, registers the licences and the manufacturers, dealers, etc., tries to improve the marketing of tea and secures labour welfare...

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Daimond Harbour): These are the objectives for which the Tea Board has been constituted.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: These are the functions which the Tea Board is expected to discharge.

SHRI AMAL DATTA: But they are not discharging.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: The functions of the Board are these. This is what I have said. I have never said that it is discharging them to the satisfaction of at least Mr. Amal Datta.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Is it to your satisfaction? That is what he is asking.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: It is not to the satisfaction of Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Banskura) Are you satisfied?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I will come to that.

When it comes to the question of labour welfare, they have got to discharge certain functions. I have information that it had been following quite a few welfare schemes which supplement those provided under the Plantation Labour Act. The schemes include educational stipends to the children of workers, ration at subsidised rates, capital grants to educational institutions and hospitals in tea plantation areas, reservation of seats in vocational, training institutions for wards of workers and reservation of beds in specialised hospitals for treatment of cancer, tuberculosis, etc. If the hon. Members are interested, I will just give the figures. During 1984-85, stipends were given

to 401 students/wards of the workers. I am giving figures so that if they are wrong, I will be grateful if you bring it to my notice. When I am supplied some figures, I cannot be at that place for the purpose of doing it. May be that you are closer, you could give me some more figures.

The daily wages of tea plantation labourers are Rs. 9.05 in Assam, Rs. 10.59 in West Bengal, Rs. 15.59 in Kerala, Rs. 16.32 in Tamil Nadu. If there is a little subsidy which has got to be given that is also taken care of.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS: They are trying to take advantage of the funds belonging to the 20 point programme.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER: I have said that these are the functions that this institution is expected to discharge. It is possible that there might be infirmities. Many an Hon. Member have made very wild allegations and I do not think that that is a responsible allegation--that this a den. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Das, will you listen to me for a while? I am not yielding. I hold the Floor. You had been a very old Parliamentarian.

They have brushed the organisation by saying that it is a den of corruption. I am not prepared to accept this type of very wild allegations. If they were in possession of the material and if they were to say, well these are the cases I would have certainly considered. It is very difficult for me to just brush the whole organisation by saying that it is a den of corruption. I cannot proceed on this type of allegations. I do not presume that everything is perfectly all right. It is possible that there might be infirmities.

Some of the Hon. Members have very rightly said that for quite sometime the Chairman had not been there. We now see to it that the Chairman is appointed within a few days. The name has been approved. Only the notification has to take place. It will certainly take place. (*Interruptions*) He is an Indian Sir, that much I can say. I do

[Shri P. Shiv Shanker]

not know whether he belongs to Assam, Kerala. I am not sure about this.

Some Hon. Members were also referring to the production figures. In fact, I thought that I should correct these figures because I found that some of the Hon. Members were not quoting the correct figures. I must submit that in 1951 the production figure was 285.4 million kgs. In 1982 it was 560.7 million kgs. In 1983 it was 581.5 million kgs. In 1984 it was 645.1 million kgs. and in 1985 it was 657 million kgs. Therefore, it is a case of increasing production.

The other part of it that some of the Hon. Members were trying to say that so far as exports are concerned, they are dwindling. That is not correct. In fact, I have already intervened to submit that in the year 1985 it was 222 million kgs. of tea that was exported of the value of Rs. 711.90 crores. In 1984 it was 217 million kgs.; but the unit value at that time was more as a result of which it was Rs. 741 crores. Now the unit value has gone down; but so far as the quantum is concerned there is an increase in it.

Some of the Hon. Members have said that tea association should be taken into confidence when the cess is increased. I have already submitted that the cess has been increased to 50 paise; but not at a flat rate, subject to the conditions that have been made in the section itself which seeks an amendment. About that also as I have submitted, this decision was taken at the level of the Cabinet, after we have gone into the whole statistics. In fact, I have gone into the statistics myself and after coming to a conclusion only this decision was taken.

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Why should you raise when there is the Cabinet decision for 15 paise? There should be an amendment for raising it to 50 paise.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I have taken the power from the Cabinet to raise it to fifty paise so far as the amendment of the section is concerned, I have also

taken the power now that I should be permitted to raise it to 15 paise, subject to the variations that I have referred to in this section. The point is this. I may tell you that in the earlier stage also why we had to do this. The cess was around Rs. 6 crores. But what had happened was, actually it so happened that in the year 1983-84, the expenditure was Rs. 47 lakhs more than the cess. That was collected and, therefore, there was a drain. When it came to 1984-85, the expenditure exceeded Rs. 115 lakhs. Now, the point was what should be done, how to adjust this expenditure in order to help Mr. Kolandaivelu and his colleagues in the Tea Board? I have come forth with this amendment.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Are you satisfied that there is no possibility of cutting down the expenditure, because the allegation is that a lot of expenditure are made in areas where it is not necessary?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : The point is that there are various areas where the expenditure is made. In fact, Mr. Pradhan was right when he read out certain portions. But he only read out a small portions of it. I thought I had not been bad lawyer. He read out about the internal expenditure with reference to Tea promotion. But then the amount is also spent on labour welfare measures, not only the marketing part of it, but the production part of it also where raising the cess, taking to new areas for the purpose of plantation and all these things should be reckoned with. I also feel that when it comes to the question of expenditure, outside the country, it appears on the high side. But we have some offices also, particularly office in London and other places where we have got to promote our Tea. But whether it should be there with so much expenditure, well, it is still a question mark. I am not saying that this expenditure should be justified.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : We are ready to go and examine this.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I have no objection if Mr. Goswami would like to have all the papers concerning this. I am

prepared to give them to him, not in London but in Delhi. But nonetheless I would certainly look into whether Rs. 2 crores of expenditure are justified and it is a matter which all the hon. Members are concerned with and it is a case one should go into it.

Then, some points have been raised. But they were all of general arguments with reference to the so-called offices, etc. One important point made by the hon. Member is with reference to the Provident Fund. I see a very great force in that argument and I will look into it as to why the provident fund has not been paid to the Labourers. This is a matter which has to be gone into and I will take an appropriate occasion for the purpose of answering this point in this House.

I would not like to go into this further in details. I think it is an innocuous amendment. I am only making a submission that only two clauses are added substantially, that is one raising it from 8.8 paise to 50 paise per kilogram. The other is bringing a provision on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation for the purpose of writing off losses as irrecoverable.

I am sure, the hon. Members would pass this Bill and see that the powers which the Government is seeking are granted to it in the larger interests.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Are you going to increase the cess to 50 paise per kilogram for all varieties of tea ?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : If the hon. Members are pleased to see the amendment to Section 25, the proviso says :

“Provided that different rates may be fixed for different varieties or grades of tea having regard to the location of, and the climatic conditions prevailing in, the tea estates or gardens producing such varieties or grades of tea and any other circumstances applicable to such production.”

These are the guidelines based on which

the cess will differ from place to place, from tea to tea having regard to the climatic conditions etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That the Bill further to amend the Tea Act, 1953 be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 3 and 4 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER : I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

The Motion was adopted.

— — —

15.52 hrs.

COAL MINES LABOUR WELFARE FUND (REPEAL) BILL.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : I beg to move :

“That the Bill to repeal the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947 and to provide for certain matters incidental thereto, be taken into consideration”.

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

The hon. Members would have gone through the Statement of Objects and Reasons attached to the Bill, which gives the background on the formulation of this Bill, which seeks to repeal the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947. With your permission, I would like to briefly mention a few salient features of the Bill.

The principal Act was enacted as far back as 1947 when the coal sector was almost entirely in the private sector. As hon. Members are aware, the coal industry was nationalised in 1973 and now barring a few captive mines of TISCO, the entire coal industry is in the public sector. Compared to what the erstwhile coal mine owners used to spend on the welfare of their workers which was less than Rs. 6 crores when we nationalised the coal industry, after nationalisation and uptil now, we have spent more than Rs. 400 crores. In one year, now the expenditure is Rs. 105 crores. In the 7th Plan, we propose to spend Rs. 800 crores on the welfare purposes. Therefore, you will kindly see that the welfare activities have now been taken over by the nationalised coal companies, Coal India Ltd. and its subsidiaries. The short question is there was this Act when there was no protection for the welfare of employees in the coal industry in the private sector, in the private hands. That is why, an Act called the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund was brought into force. The idea was to impose a cess on per tonne of coal, which varied from time to time. At that time it was 4 annas and it has now come to 75 paise per tonne. The amount collected from this cess is used as a fund for welfare activities. But what was the total amount? The total amount from that cess now comes to hardly Rs. 12 crores. As the hon. members are aware, very often, most of this fund is spent on the establishment itself and a very little amount reaches the beneficiaries actually. So, we felt that it is only leading to duplication of activities. A small fund under a small body is carrying out some welfare activities and the same activities are being done on a very large scale. Hospitals and housing schemes are the two major purposes for which the fund was mainly

being used. About 40 per cent was used for housing and 60 percent for general welfare. That was the break-up of that Rs. 12 crores fund. It was a paltry sum as far as the 7½ lakhs of workers and their families are concerned. Therefore, we felt that it has outlived its purpose. The activities have been taken over and the old Act has become redundant after nationalisation because the entire welfare activities have been taken over by the nationalised companies and it is their obligation to look after these welfare activities. That is why, instead of having this as a formality, (because this Bill which has been unnecessarily there on the Statute is creating problems in the sense that it leads to duplication of the same activities), we have brought this Bill to repeal this provision. That is the only purpose of this Bill.

Welfare activities will continue and they will grow. I gave you the figures. Where is Rs. 6 crores and where is Rs. 100 crores that is now being spent per annum? Even then, one can never be totally satisfied. I believe that we have to do a lot more and there we have to take the workers into confidence. You may say that it is my pet theme. I have been constantly saying that in the entire working of the public sector, the representatives of the workers must be involved. Unless there is real participation of workers in the management welfare programmes also cannot be successfully implemented. I myself am very keen on that and I am sure the hon. members of the House are also very keen. Therefore, we will try our best to improve things. I will always be guided by the advice and views of the hon. members.

With these remarks I suggest that this Bill be considered and passed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

“That the Bill to repeal the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947 and to provide for certain matters incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

[Translation]

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY (Peddapalli) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, if Shri Vasant Sathe a

is taking the responsibility to look after the coal-mine workers, we have no objection. Instead we are with him to look after the welfare of the workers. In the residential localities of the coal mine workers, private doctors open their clinics and nursing homes and some people open other shops too. More damaging is the opening of liquor shops there. More liquor licences are issued for these localities because of the mine workers which causes great harm to the worker. They ask the Government officials to raid these areas and as a result thereof, disorderliness prevails in the locality, since there are thousands of workers there and many of them drink in the open ground. There is an open ground like parade ground there where some people sell liquor and the workers go there on the pay-day alongwith their full pay packets and drink in the open. The thieves also go there alongwith so many stray animals like dogs, pigs, donkeys etc. roaming there in search of food and spread filth and lawlessness. I, therefore, request the Government to prohibit the sale of liquor and drinking in the open area. There should be a club or restaurant for the workers there where they might sit and drink so that some kind of decorum is maintained there.

16.00 hrs.

Sir, Government must provide good housing colonies for the labourers and due care should be taken of their health. We should not limit our thinking to increasing production only. We have not been able to increase production to the desired extent. However, Government should consider increasing production as well as adequate housing facilities for workers.

The number of policemen is more in areas where coal mines are located. The policemen round up the workers on the pretext of drinking by them or on some other pretext and take them to the police station and take away their money. There is no one to look after the development of their residential areas. Therefore, I would request the Government to look to the problems of the workers who dig coal from the mines at the risk of their lives which is used for the deve-

lopment of the country. The Government which does not look after the welfare and development of these people cannot make any progress. I also request the Government to open Super Bazars in the worker's colonies, so that they may get essential commodities of good quality at a fair price. Those who want to drink in the open, let them do so because they will not listen to our advice, but we must atleast open a club or restaurant where they can sit and drink. It will also be helpful to improve the local environment and some decorum can be maintained. Atleast Government should show this much consideration to them, so that they may not drink in the open and may sit inside the restaurant.

Government have taken several measures to boost coal production but till now we could not achieved the stipulated targets. Therefore, Government should make more efforts and take further steps to increase the coal production.

Sir, we have been noticing for the last 3-4 years that accidents are occurring frequently in the coal mines. Sometimes the accident occurs due to the leakage of carbon monoxide gas and sometimes due to the falling of the roof of the mine. In this regard I have also asked the hon. Minister through a supplementary question as to how many labourers have died in coal-mine accidents during the last three years, but till now I could not get a reply. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister to arrange good machinery for the coal mines and send competent people there so that such accidents may not recur.

Sir, I would like to mention one more point regarding the workers of the coal mines that due to the non-availability of good medical facilities, they are facing problems. Sometimes due to non-availability of proper medical facility and good doctors, they have to take the patient to other places at their own expenses. Therefore, I request you to send good doctors especially specialists to these areas so that complete medical care may be available there for tests or diagnosis of all diseases and proper treatment thereof. The hon.

[Shri G. Bhoopathy]

Minister must make such arrangements. There should be cleanliness around the house and those people should be helped in every way. Many brokers promise them jobs and they charge as much as four to five thousand rupees from each individual. Such people should be checked from doing so.

The health of those coal-mine workers who go inside the mines is not sound. We have no objection to the Bill which has been brought forward to amend the Act so as to improve their condition and look after their welfare. We support the Bill.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazari-bagh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, while introducing the Bill here, the hon. Minister has rightly said that after the nationalisation of coal mines, there is no need of different departments and agencies for carrying out the welfare schemes of the workers of coal mines. Therefore, it has been felt that the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation should be wound up. But one thing has not been kept in view. There are some activities of the Coal Mines Welfare Association which the Coal Company is unable to carry out. There are some other activities in which both the Coal Company and the Association participated. There is no provision in the Bill in regard to the arrangement to be made in future in this respect.

In my opinion, the matter should have been discussed before winding up the Association. At least the labourers and the Advisory Committee of the Coal Mines Welfare Fund should have been consulted in regard to implementation of the programmes in future. This organisation consisted of the representatives of workers and the Government as well as the Coalmine company. They used to consult one another before taking any measure and used to work unitedly. I have had personal contacts with this organisation for the last 25 years in one or the other capacity—as a member of Advisory Committee or Housing Board or as a member of Coal Field Sub-Committee. Therefore, I know that all the representatives of the organisation used to deliberate

on the issues concerning the Welfare of labourers. You will find that some welfare measures which were initiated with their consultation in 1947 benefited them later on. It would be better to consider how he can carry out the task of their welfare.

I would cite one example. The Coal Company undertakes welfare schemes but it has no provision for running multi-purpose institute. It has also no provision for constructing a boarding house. Multi-purpose schools are functioning there. Coal Companies run such schools at one or two places. But there is no mention in it regarding these schools in the Bill. There is no provision for holiday homes in the Bill which are run only by this organisation. Similarly, there is no provision for further improvement in the welfare schemes for women workers. Only this much has been mentioned that the assets and liabilities of the company will now be taken over by the Government. Government will have the ownership of the coal mines which was already with them. But it would have been better if this arrangement had been mentioned in detail.

The Coal companies undertake malaria eradication programme and they have opened hospitals also. But, some provision should be made in the Bill to see that it is made compulsory. There is no arrangement to ascertain the needs of the labourers and welfare measures to be taken up for them.

Government talks of partnership and wants them to accept the concept of partnership. I want that more serious thought should be given to it. Till now the opposition parties and the unions belonging to the opposition tide over all their difficulties by blaming the INTUC. We want that the concept of partnership should be further clarified. I do not agree that partnership is the only solution for all welfare schemes. Advisory Committees can be formed even now for the welfare schemes as was done earlier. We do not think that there will be any difficulty in that. When there is partnership, we will also have a Director amongst us and then

we will talk of partnership to run the company. I would request the hon. Minister to take a decision in this regard without delay. This year a sum of Rs. 12 crores was spent. Our partnership is there in this expenditure also. We all decide collectively what to do and what not to do. We feel deeply satisfied by doing all these things. Therefore, I am also prepared to agree that there should be partnership but there should be some changes in it.

Government want that drinking water must be made available to all but they have not mentioned in the annual report when the drinking water will be available to all. 14 to 15 years have passed since coal Industry was nationalised. We do not know for how many more years we will have to wait. Therefore, the hon. Minister should make a mention of this also.

The Coal industry has been nationalised and it has come under public sector. But the norms in the public sector should be applied here also. In the public sector when some project is undertaken, housing facilities are also provided for the workers and the norms etc. for the designs of houses to be built are also laid down. The houses are built according to the wages of the workers. But unfortunately, when the question of housing for coalmine workers comes, they talk of providing barracks and cheap houses. When we raise this matter, they say that it is a temporary phase. But for how long they will live in cheap houses and barracks? What kind of arrangement is this where we have not been able to provide houses to even 40 per cent of workers even so long after nationalisation? What is our concept of the public sector?

In regard to recreation, we say many things. Of course, we spend money on recreation. But except construction activity there is no other activity on which the allotted money does not lapse. The money is spent through the General Manager and managers (*Interruptions*). They want the welfare activities through the General Manager, manager and agent. They want to increase the production through them. They want to ensure safety

through them. We agree that he is a capable man. That is why he became the manager or General Manager. But after all his capacity is limited and he cannot look after all the activities. If production falls, he will be asked to explain the reasons and adverse entry is likely be made in his service books. If there is any lapse in safety, its responsibility will also come on him. Lastly, when he thinks that all is going well, he undertakes welfare activities also as a last priority. They have given last priority to the welfare activities of the labourers.

There was a huge backlog when the hon. Minister took over. There were seven lakh mine workers who had all along been exploited by thousands of mine owners. Government has raised an organisation for their benefit and imposed a cess on the consumers, in order to collect the required amount as the mine owners were not prepared to help at all. They collected the money by imposing the cess on the consumers so that these poor labourers could at least have basic amenities like drinking water, housing and medicines. The programme that Government had undertaken was not only gigantic but also a great liability. But, unfortunately, the necessary arrangements for completing the programme have not been made. It is mentioned in the Annual Report, which he must have seen, that all such activities are going on through the welfare Boards. I do not know, I asked a high official of his Department where the welfare Board is, or who are its members or who is the Chairman because although I have spent my entire life among the mine workers, yet till today we are not aware as to where these Boards are. Yet it has been said that the welfare Boards are there in every Company except Coal India Limited. If this is so, we are very happy. However, if the case of the Board is similar to that of God who is no where yet we can feel his omnipresence, then we have nothing to say. This fact should be given due consideration as such a state of affairs cannot continue for long.

It is our considered opinion that the body which is meant to look after the welfare of those have no share in it, must

[Shri Damodar Pandey]

have a predominant role to play, because they are spending money for them only. I assure you that if they are entrusted with the responsibility of running the Board it will show better results. I myself contributed in the fund for which the labourers of a company also contribute. The labourers collected the amount at the rate of only Rs. 2 per person per month. They ran the Board with their own contribution. I do not know how far he agrees with labour participation but we are successful in initiating the various welfare programmes, with the help of this scheme. He must be aware of the scholarship programme which we have provided under our welfare scheme and the extent of assistance that we render through this scheme to the labourers during time of distress. Such programmes have not been made in any other company. Thus we have proved that we can also implement such programmes. We only want that he should have some faith in us. On the other hand we have always trusted him. We have deposited money in public funds and we get our expenses audited also and thus ensure against wasteful expenditure. Government propose to spend Rs. 800 crores during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Therefore, such programmes must be taken up to the satisfaction of workers. He should tell us whether Government propose to take the labourers into confidence while implementing these programmes and allow them to play a predominant role and act according to their decisions? We do not regret the winding up of the Coalmines Welfare Organisation. I am a member of its Advisory Committee even today. I am grateful to all the old members for the good work they had done. All the work which has been done till today is praiseworthy. At present, we are bidding them Good-bye and it is my belief that such people would be provided with total protection. Again, we should try to get better work from them and also think about companies taken over by the Government, the conditions of service of the people have to be clearly laid down. These are my suggestions. What more can I say When the bell is ringing hard. Finally, I hope that the hon. Minister would give due consideration to all the points. We have no doubt about his intentions but we

want that steps should be taken to ensure that those are properly implemented.

[English]

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Sir, production, development and welfare are closely linked. Hence in order to exploit these mineral resources, the welfare of the miners is to be looked into.

The basic policy of the Government is to raise the standard of living of the working classes, the weaker sections and other backward classes. It is a very important aspect of the coal industry that the workers' welfare has to be looked after.

With a view to improve the living and working conditions of the coal miners and providing the basic amenities and facilities in respect of housing, water supply, health, education etc., the Government of India had promulgated in 1944 an Ordinance, subsequently replaced by an Act known as the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947.

As the hon. Minister has said, Coal Mines Welfare Fund was formed at a time when the coal mines were in the hands of the private owners. At that time, the idea was not that it should be for the total welfare. The only idea was to provide something for the working classes. Actually there was no serious effort to look into the total welfare of the workers.

Anyhow, coal is nationalised. In the public sector, there are minimum responsibilities to be performed by the Government to look after the welfare of workers. Keeping this objective in view, the public sector of such a hazardous industry tried to abide by the recommendations of Committees, Conferences, Standing Committees and so on, for the industry, like the Committee or Conference on Safety in Coal Mines. The Mines Act and the Rules and Regulations are there which constitute the statutory base for regulating safety and working conditions of workers in coal mines.

There are the Mines Act and rules and

regulations and the statutory bodies for regulating the safety and working conditions of the coal mines and to look after the welfare of the workers. So there should not be duplication. Now, instead of a small body, a larger body is to work into the welfare of the workers. That is why, the repeal of the Act of 1947 is necessary and we welcome this.

In order to look after the welfare of workers, inside and outside the mines, various measures were recommended by the Committee on Safety on Coal and those recommendations should be taken seriously. Those recommendations are like the setting up of internal safety organisation in coal mines, development of open cast mining and activation of pit safety. The Committee also recommended that the fatality rate of one per million tonnes of coal raised should be achieved by 1990. They also recommended that the fatality rate of 1 per million tonnes of coal raised should be achieved by 1990. There is a steady decline in the fatality rate from 1976 to 1981. We are glad about that. Since we are marching ahead, by 5 years, there should be some improvement in this situation. But during the year 1982-83, the situation is not such because the fatality rate in 1981 was 1.28; in 1982 and 1983, it increased to 1.31 and 1.33 respectively. Or course, afterwards it decreased.

Sir, we are talking about the welfare of the workers. So we should see that there should be some improvement as far as the fatality is concerned.

Further, we should go for open cast methods where the technology is safer compared to the underground mining technology. Of course we are having underground mining technology. On underground mining also there should be some suitable technology so that it will reduce the number of men exposed to hazardous conditions. The safety measures should be strengthened to save the coal-mine workers from the accident. Whenever death occurs due to accident, their family members should be immediately absorbed in the job and sufficient compensation should be given to them.

Sir, the housing, medical, drinking water facilities, education facilities and other welfare measures should be taken up seriously by the Public Sector. As far as housing is concerned, we see that 27 percent of coal-miners have been provided with this facility. Compared to other public sector industries, it is very low because in the other public sector 40 per cent employees get housing accommodation. But as far as coal-miners are concerned, even in some places, we do not find this 27 per cent. I would like to say that this housing accommodation is most important thing.

Regarding medical facilities, I would like to say that the medical facilities to the coal-miners are practically limited in the distribution of routine medicines and that is not adequate also. The coal-miners are actually working in hazardous conditions. They do not live in the proper accommodation with proper sanitary facilities. The sanitary condition is very poor. The incidence of Tuberculosis is highest among the coal-mine workers. Curative as well as preventive measures should be taken up. Even today the workers find it difficult to get admission in the hospitals; they have to wait for a long time, some times even more than a year, to receive sanatorium treatment. We do not have ambulances in each collieries. If it will not be possible, the requirement could be met by the system of pooling in certain collieries.

It is said that arrangements already exist for periodical medical check-up. But it is not so. For this purpose, special camps for medical check-up should be organised with the help of specialists—even with the help of private doctors—to provide full and complete coverage to the workers within the reasonable time-frame under proper monitoring system. Besides this, there should be a regional health centre or hospitals built up so that from the neighbouring areas, they can be transferred for proper treatment because the present arrangement is insufficient and inadequate.

About drinking water, I would like to say that it is not properly available and it is very disheartening to see the plight for

[Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik]

drinking water. Everybody should get potable water. This is the 'Sanitation Decade'. Specific steps should also be taken to provide water to these workers. The workers face accidents when the mine is full of water. In order to ensure safety, the water in the coal-mine has to be pumped out. There is no conservation of water in a better and scientific way. If the water is properly used and conserved, then this water can be used for irrigation purposes. I do not know whether it is possible or not. In this connection, I would like to know the hon. Minister whether any such comprehensive scheme has been made.

16.30 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the chair*]

About educational activities, we are glad that multi-purpose institutions have been set up in these areas. Government should see that women are educated in a large scale and some incentives should be given, if required. Besides this, vocational training should be given to the female workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is only a Bill to repeal the Act. You need not speak about all labour welfare measures now. Please conclude.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : In Orissa there are many coal-fields. In order to be employment-oriented and welfare oriented, IB Valley should be exploited and should be linked with IB Valley project. The people of Orissa have been pleading for a long time for the creation of a separate Coal Company in view of the large potential and programme for the working class residing in these areas. With the separate company their welfare can be looked into. This should be favourably considered; at least, pending creation of a separate company, a Coal Division should be created for Orissa.

With these words, I support this Bill for repealing the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947,

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : The welfare aspect of the workers, particularly of the coalmine workers, is very important because you know in what condition the coalmine workers live. They live in 'Dhauras'—the quarters of the miners are called 'Dhauras'; only one single room with no proper sanitary arrangement, no ventilation and no supply of pure drinking water. Several lakhs of colliery workers, coalmine workers, were on strike on 9th April, and the strike was a complete success. What were their demands? Their demands were mostly relating to the welfare of the workers such as formulation of a pension scheme for coalminers, finalisation of uniform standing orders for the entire coal industry, removing of ceiling on bonus, time-bound promotion schemes, and so on. One of the major demands was recruitment of one of the dependents of the coalmine workers, to which the Government have said that it is unconstitutional. But there was an agreement; both the parties, the representatives of the Trade Unions and the CIL management, represented on the JBCCI, signed the agreement. Before that Agreement was signed, the CIL and the Government did not think that would be unconstitutional. Already three years have elapsed after this Agreement was signed. After three years, only 40 per cent of the promised houses have so far been constructed. Though it has been claimed that Coal India management are supplying water to the 16 lakhs people, most of the coal mine workers are to rely on the accumulated impure water of collieries.

In regard to education, the required grant of schools which was agreed upon in NCWA has not been disbursed. There has not been any improvement in the educational facilities of the children of coal mine workers. Why the CIL do not have their own schools when other public sector undertakings like Steel Authority of India or the Bharat Heavy Electricals have their own educational institutions? Why the Coal India Limited do not have any schools?

The medical facilities available for the coal miners have not been improved so

far after that agreement. Even an ambulance is not available for the needy coal miners. Sanitary facilities also are non-existent in the worker's colonies and Bastis.

In the name of curbing absenteeism, workers are now being dismissed. For one day's absence eight days' wages are deducted. Workers are being dismissed and then recruited afresh. The money deducted under CDS (Compulsory Deposit Scheme) has been deposited to the provident fund of the workers and they are not getting their refund. The Hon. Minister once assured me that he would bring a suitable legislation so that the amount which was deducted under CDS will be deposited in the provident fund account of the workers and that amount can be refunded to the workers.

Uptil now, it has been admitted in the report, after nationalisation only 125927 houses have been added till 31st December 1985 thereby raising house satisfaction to 32.29% of the total workforce.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Is it all relevant?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It is related to the welfare measures of the workers Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are repealing.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Yes, you are repealing; but you are taking the responsibility of the welfare of the workers after repealing the Act.

Sir, a few days back Shri Sathe assured that by the turn of the century all the coal mine workers will be provided with accommodation. I do not know how this can be done when uptil now only 32.29% of the workers have been provided with accommodation. Sir, one of the important aspects is the safety of the coal miners. Even after nationalisation, this unscientific mining is still continuing and due to inadequacy of the staff of the Directorate General, Mines safety, the inspection is not carried out properly. Even some posts of Director General, Mines Safety,

have been abolished, as a result a number of mines have been coming up and they have increased in the last five years. The staff strength of the Directorate General, Safety Mines, has declined. The situation regarding the fatal accidents shall continue to be serious even with the amendment to the Mines Labour Welfare Fund Bill. In 1980, the number of accidents that took place was 141 and the number of persons killed was 160. In 1981, the number of accidents was 165 and the number of persons killed was 184. In 1982, the number of accidents was 158 and the number of persons killed was 185. In 1983, 156 accidents took place and 191 persons were killed. In 1984, 160 accidents took place and 171 persons were killed.

Sir, some of the recommendations of the Safety Conferences have not been implemented, despite the lapse of several years and even the inquiry report of the accidents available are only 5 and no action has been taken by the Government so far with the result that similar accidents occur again and again. Sir, observation of Safety Week is only soapy and it does not help develop safety consciousness among the workers. The question of education of workers on safety aspect is generally neglected by the management of the mines. It is the usual practice of the management to have the same officer in-charge in both production and safety. In this way, the aspect of production does get priority and the safety aspect goes to the background.

Sir, he has already said that what is needed is workers' participation. Though initiative was taken by the Minister, no progress has so far been made. I do not know why this has been stopped. The process has been stopped. Why is it that the secret ballot for sending the representative not being considered? One of the important and serious matters is the subsidence, particularly in Ranigunj area. Two Committees were constituted and they submitted their report. The whole Ranigunj township is in danger. Government must take concrete steps to save Ranigunj township and save the loss of people who are living in the unsafe area in Ranigunj. Sir, I hope that after repeal of this Bill, after nationalisation of Coal, this Act is still in existence. Now, Government wants

[Shri Basudev Acharia]

to repeal the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act.

After the repeal of this Act, Government must take the responsibility of the welfare measures, particularly to provide housing, accommodation to the coal miners, to provide drinking water, to improve educational facilities, to improve medical facilities and to improve the working conditions of the coal mines. I hope, the Minister will take concrete steps in this regard.

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I welcome the Bill, though I feel that it has been introduced very late. The coal industry was nationalised in 1973 but the Government is bringing forward this Bill in 1986, after 13 years. In any case, I welcome the Bill.

The Bill says that the coal companies in the public sector have assumed responsibility for looking after the welfare of the employees. I am very sorry to say; it is anybody's guess what type of welfare work is being done in the coal mines. If anybody has visited the coal mines, he or she will agree with me that there is hardly any welfare work. There are hardly any medical facilities; hospital, is of course, out of question. There are no creches for the children; hardly any school worth the name; the housing facilities are very limited and whatever is there, it is not good at all. There is scarcity of water, and there is no arrangement for entertainment for the children and elderly people. These hard working people need proper arrangements for their entertainment. The result, in the absence of any entertainment facilities, is that they have no other alternative but to go for the drinking and consequently, the women at the house suffer economically and also suffer physically. I request the hon. Minister to go to any coal mine without informing them. It is not a question of this party's Government or that party's Government, Congress(I) or any other Government. Whenever a Minister goes anywhere, everything is stage-managed. The Minister may belong to Congress(I) party or may belong to any other party, because there are so many parties in our country, and

we have Governments of different parties in certain part of the country.

The arrangement for safety is distressing. I wanted to speak on the safety arrangements also, but the previous speaker has spoken at length and, therefore, I am not going into that any further.

I would request the Minister to see that proper community halls are established in different areas. These community halls should not be in name only. I have visited a number of community halls being run by the different industrial houses in the industrial areas. Community halls must be a place where men, women and children can spend their leisure time with different type of educational, cultural and playing arrangements, both outdoor and indoor. The Government has said that by the end of this century, all the people should be literate. With that in mind, arrangements should be made for proper education of men, women and Children in the coal mine areas. There should be adult education centres, functional education centres and schools for the children.

I would like to say that there must be arrangements for the cultural development of these people. Many of them are very talented and they learn things intuitively. But they do not have the facilities. Some of them can sing, some of them can dance and some of them can play different instruments. But they do not get any facilities in their life to develop their skills. Hence I would request the hon. Minister to provide some opportunities for these people. It may not be possible for you to do it just now. But if you have a plan, gradually it can be done. And out of these people, we may get very talented people.

With these words, I welcome this Bill.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Thank you Mr. Chairman, for calling me. I rise to support the Bill. This Bill is meant to repeal the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947 which was enacted much earlier for providing facilities to the workers employed in the coal mining industry, in terms of housing, water

supply, medical, educational, recreational and transport facilities.

The hon. Minister has already stated that the private sector did not attach much importance to the welfare of the labourers. Since it is now in public sector, it is the duty of the public sector as well as the Government of India to look after the welfare of these labourers. This is also the motto of our Government. As stated rightly by the hon. Minister, for carrying out these welfare activities, this Act is not at all necessary because in the Seventh Plan alone more than Rs. 800 crores are meant to be spent on these welfare measures.

I would like to invite your attention to Clause 5 of the Bill regarding the power of the Central Government to direct vesting of rights in a Government company. May I suggest one thing in the interest of all the workers? Why not a comprehensive Bill be brought for having a Central Welfare Board to look into the affairs and welfare of all the workers including that of the coal sector? Of course, different companies can have their own separate welfare boards. But to coordinate all the welfare activities more effectively and to give the necessary instructions to these welfare boards, a comprehensive Bill may be brought for the benefit of the workers who are working not only in coal mines but in other factories, etc. also, so that the real benefit can reach the workers. I request the hon. Minister to kindly think over this aspect.

Similarly in Clause 6(2) it is stated, "...proceeding on such cause of action or the filing of such appeal was not barred before the appointed day..." I would like to say here that there may be cases where for obvious reasons appeals have not been filed. There may be cases also where appeals have not been filed in time which may have become time barred. So, I submit through you that the Minister may consider whether this sentence 'appeal was not barred before the appointed day' can be omitted, so that the appeals, if time barred for any other reasons and there are valid reasons, can be filed with an application to exonerate time bar.

The nationalisation of coal industry took place in 1973. Certainly the workers in the coal industry were very much benefited by this and we want that they should be given more benefits. But this is an achievement of the Government.

In India the formulation of labour policy mainly depends on the deliberations and recommendations of the Labour Conference. Recently there was a Conference on safety of workers in mines. The hon. Minister also attended that Conference. Not only did he attend the Conference but he also participated in the discussions and made some valuable suggestions. There was participation of the working class, employers, government officials and the hon. Minister himself in this Conference. The recommendations made by this Conference should be implemented. On several aspects the Conference made recommendations. I need not repeat them here. The Minister knows it. All these matters have been discussed in detail. The hon. Minister has also raised the point of labour participation in the management. This is envisaged in article 43A of the Constitution which states :

"The State shall take steps by suitable legislation or in any other way, to secure the participation of workers in the management of undertakings, establishments or other organisations engaged in any industry."

As early as 1956 the industrial policy resolution was :

"In a socialistic democracy, labour is a partner in the common task of development and should participate in it with enthusiasm. There should be a joint consultation and workers representatives should, wherever possible, be associated progressively in management."

As such I request the hon. Minister, who is also in favour of labour participation in management, that this may be implemented soon,

[Shri Somath Rath]

About the safety aspect, this has also been discussed in the Conference. And the Joint Director-General of Mines has been entrusted with the task of enforcing the Mines Act of 1952 and rules and regulations framed thereunder. Yet the safety of workers in mines is not complete. The number of fatal accidents in different years are as follows and I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this respect. In 1961, the number of fatal accidents was 222, whereas in 1983 it is 149; the number of persons killed in 1961 was 268 and in 1983 it is 182;—I am talking about coal, not others—in 1961, the number of persons seriously injured was 36, whereas in 1983 it is 30. I am not going into the details of all other statistics. So, this shows that there is a reduction in the number of accidents to some extent. But still necessary attention should be paid to this aspect. The hon. Minister knows the various reasons for the accidents and also how to avert them. This also has been discussed threadbare in the recent Conference where he was also present.

17.00 hrs.

In Orissa, there is poverty in the midst of plenty. The hon. Minister has stated in this House that there is availability of suitable coal in Orissa which is best suited for generating power. In Orissa there is an acute shortage of power. Times without number, many Members in this House have requested for super thermal power station at Talchar where coal is available in plenty and for a power generation plant in Ib valley. So, this urgent matter may be considered because coal suitable to generate power is available in plenty in Orissa. It is necessary to have a separate coal company and a coal division as demanded earlier.

It is said that drinking water is not available to the workers in coal mines, but from inside the coal mines, water is pumped out. This very water which is pumped out can be treated in such a manner that it can be made suitable for drinking purposes, besides for irrigation, if possible. That process may be taken up. So, the problem of the workers and the

employers not getting drinking water can be solved by this process, leave apart irrigation. Irrigation can be looked after later but the problem of drinking water can be solved by this process.

Housing problem is a problem which needs immediate attention of the Government. I suggest that the National Council for Safety in Mines should be activated and education should be imparted to the workers about safety so that there will be less accidents. This can be done through publicity and propaganda mainly with audiovisual aids.

Members have stated that thefts of coal are taking place in coal mines and they have also mentioned about the other problems in coal mines which I need not repeat. Those matters may please be taken into consideration and suitable action taken.

17.02 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJ KUMARI RAI (Ghosi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for granting me this opportunity to express myself. I support the Coal Mines Labour welfare (Repeal) Bill. The whole House is aware that the old Act was unable to cope with the present day needs fully. That is why we had to amend it. By amending it, the old act would end and other more important steps could be taken.

I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister of Energy for his decision to make use of the cooperation of the mine labourers in respect of which, as has been pointed out by our other friends, they have got a majority. He deserves to be congratulated for that. Our Government is fixing a new target till the year 2000 A.D. with Soviet cooperation, so that there is no shortage of coal and we could march forward. Again, it is a matter of added pleasure that, coal prospecting is going to get primary importance in the Seventh Five-Year Plan. It is also heartening to note that in 1985, there has been a record

production of coal. In 1985, 17 crores and 22 lakh tonnes of coal had been produced. The rate of production has increased in 1986 and I would congratulate the hon. Minister of Energy for that. But this bill is concerned with Labour Welfare and its funds. India is a Welfare State. Whenever we talk of taking the country to the 21st Century with the help of modern technology, we must ponder over as to what is being done to provide amenities and for the welfare of the people of this country. When this be so, the labour class receives top priority. The plight of the mine workers is the worst amongst the various categories of labourers and we should have first consideration for them. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister through you, that although there are other priorities like increasing production with Soviet Collaboration, yet the welfare of the labourers must receive due attention.

When the Coal industry was nationalised in 1973, it was hoped that the labourers would get better facilities as the industry had shifted from the Private Sector to the Public Sector. What I want to say is that high hopes were raised then but soon they were dashed to the ground because the situation and pace of work in the Public Sector is no different even 13 years after from that of the Private Sector. There is neither any provision for the education of children of mine workers nor are many houses available to them. I understand, that if the hon. Minister visits those areas he would find small houses without any ventilation, or even windows or balconies and with low ceilings, where one would freeze during winter and burn like a hot-plate in summer. No human being can live in such a house in the 20th century. Due to nationalisation of the coal industry, the wages of mine workers have certainly increased, but despite a number of assurances, they have not been given their due share in a Welfare State. They are being exploited in the same manner by money lenders even today. I would submit that in a Welfare State, Government and the Nation are committed to protecting the rights of the working class but in reality, something quite contrary is happening. The Mafia Groups, by getting protection from some officials and even political

leaders, have become so daring that the welfare of the labourers has been lost sight of. Government have not been able to wipe the tears from their eyes. That is why I would like the hon. Minister to pay special attention to this.

So far as the health of the mine workers is concerned, you might be aware that a deadly disease like black lungs (T.B.) has still not been eradicated from their slums. The mosquito menace is also there. Therefore, the Government should first, look after their health, education and sanitation. Again, when Government increased the price of coal by Rs. 27 per tonne two-three months back, the price of bricks increased as a consequence in the rural areas. Therefore, the persons who wanted to construct their own houses have now shelved it.

Sir, there is the problem of black-marketing of coal. I belong to an eastern district of Uttar Pradesh which has direct connection with the coalfields of Raniganj, Jharia and Dhanbad. The labourers from our areas, go there in thousands leaving their houses and their villages. They live there for years working hard throughout the day and earn only Rs. 500 to Rs. 1000. The Mafia people, on the other hand, earn lakhs and crores. They live in Dhanbad and are protected by Government officials and political leaders. Therefore, our first task should be to look into this matter. The other category of people are those who get coal issued by fictitious D.Os and then sell it in the black market. If you go to Ballia, Ghazipur, Azamgarh or Jaunpur, you will find that people draw coal on fictitious D.O.s issued by Officers in the Supply Department and sell the same there itself at double and treble the prices. Coal is not at all available there, either by railways or by trucks. Therefore, two categories of people have come up. Officials as well as Mafia groups have progressed who are involved in fictitious D.O. business. The hon. Minister must consider how to control them.

The hon. Minister has outlined a very comprehensive scheme and has promised to do something concrete, but I would emphasize, before I conclude, that there is no dearth of coal in our country. He

[Shri Raj Kumar Rai]

must pay heed to the suggestions that I as well as other Members have given in the House. Coal production is important and it will not come down till 2000 A.D. What important is to regulate its supply. If misuse of coal is controlled and it is distributed properly, then I think there could be no difficulty. The most important issue at present is the welfare of the labour force. Till their welfare is not properly looked after, we cannot make any head way in this regard. Even today, in the 20 Century, they are living in poverty, illiteracy and malnutrition. A day will come when the volcano within them would erupt and it would envelop the whole society. How long would they tolerate this suffocation and live in this society? After all they are our children and a part of this society and have a role in building the nation. Therefore, they must be made partners and given due importance and welfare measures must be undertaken for them as early as possible.

With these words, I support the Bill.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I understand the limited purpose of this Bill. Even then, the purpose is to deal better with the welfare measures. While introducing the Bill, the Minister has said that the workers must be made to participate in the management to make the welfare measures a success. May I ask the hon. Minister whether one of the principal demands of the strike by the 7 lakh coal workers called by all the trade-unions of all hues—belonging to the ruling Party, belonging to the Opposition—was this, and that strike was cent percent success practically.

Now, one of the principal demands of that strike was precisely this welfare question. After that strike, what is being done? Hundreds and hundreds of show-cause notices are being served to the workers as to why their wages should not be cut for this strike? This is being resorted to. Is this the way the participation is being sought from the workers? May I know, if this is the way, then how are the workers brought to

participate in the management? They were on strike for this very measure. Not that, it is not very relevant. It is very relevant to this Bill.

Let us see what was done with regard to these very welfare measures, after signing the agreement. How much has been done in regard to housing? In the three year wage agreement, there was a stipulation.

Is it also not a fact that in the minutes of the JBCCI meeting held on 24th December, 1985 it is written that the TU representatives, that means all the representatives of TUs, have pointed out that even 50% of that stipulation is not going to be fulfilled? And that is true. It is not yet fulfilled.

The other day, prior to the day of the strike, when the grant for the Ministry of Steel and Mines was debated, I had the misfortune of taking up the very same thing, the issue of the strike. The hon. Minister, I know, is really personally sympathetic to labour. That is why, I am making this special plea. On that day itself, the hon. Minister told me how many taps have been given and how many areas have been covered by supply of water. In the JBCCI meeting, the workers' representative pointed out—and had it not been pointed out, even then all of us know—that it necessarily does not mean water. I had gone from colliery to colliery to see that there may be taps but there is no water. That was pointed out by these workers.

On the question of medical facilities, they pointed out that—other things have been said and I will not repeat them—specialists were not there, adequate number of doctors were not there and there were not adequate number of ambulances. The workers are suffering from a special disease of the area from which they come. The Pneumoconiosis Board was set up to deal with this particular disease and that Board is not even functioning in the medical sector. Were the workers wrong when they went on strikes?

On the question of education, there is the stipulation that in these three years

of this wage agreement, cumulative amount of Rs. 2 crores each year will be spent. That has not been spent. It is true that it was more or less worked out that per head Rs. 300 will be spent. Only Rs. 100 were spent. Were the workers very much in the wrong when they protested against this? Therefore, it is good that now you are taking over the entire responsibility. The responsibility has been yours. But it is not a question of repealing that Act and thereby you will be able to encompass the situation.

Therefore, I have no objection to the Bill itself. I support it. But I make a particular plea to the hon. Minister not to go in for these hundreds of show cause notices that you are now giving to the workers, because of the cent per cent strike that they took part in. That is not going to bring the workers' participation nearer and there it is the Government which is to be blamed, which did not fulfil its commitments with regard to these various welfare measures which are stipulated.

Therefore, please improve the situation and make a gesture not to persecute workers for trying to implement their old commitments in their terms.

I hope the hon. Minister will remember this act accordingly. Thanking you for the time given.

I support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, unfortunately, when this Bill was being introduced by the hon. Minister, Shri Panday ji spoke on behalf of our party, as I was not present, I believe he has already left. He is looking after the Rashtiya Mazdoor Congress. Sir, I support this Bill. It is true that the present situation is quite different from the one prevailing in 1947. There is also no doubt that nationalisation has helped in accelerating labour welfare programmes. For this the Coal India, our Government and the hon. Minister deserve to be con-

gratulated. But there are two or three issues which are agitating our mines today. One is about the agreement which has been signed and everybody knows about it. Just now Shrimati Mukherjee pointed out that the need of the hour is to negotiate with their representatives. The agreement did not help in resolving the issues and as a result they went on strikes as a mark of protest against it. The Government should not proceed against them in a revengeful manner and try to negotiate with them. If this is not constitutional, a middle path should be followed. If the Government acts otherwise it would not be proper.

Two different policies cannot be adopted for over 100 public sector undertakings in the country. It hurts when we find that the employees of NTPC get every facility whether it is housing, school and college, education alongwith good grades, whereas the workers of Coal India do not get anything. Unless the Government do not provide all those facilities to our workers and bring them at par with other undertakings we cannot satisfy them. I, therefore, demand that a High school should be opened in the Singrauli Coal Mine area—where children have to go far to study. Similarly, I would urge to adopt the same norms for Coal India, as are being adopted for NTPC or the Ministries. The workers of Coal India should be provided houses, drinking water, fuel and medical care. Medical centres should be opened to provide them health care. The Government say that Rs. 800 crores have already been sanctioned but we are not concerned with that. We want that the norms adopted in NTPC should be implemented here as well. Pandey ji, who has dedicated his entire life to the cause of workers must have spoken about their problems in greater detail. A basic programme needs to be formulated in this regard. The Coal mines are generally in the forests. It was an accepted principle everywhere that employment to at least one person per family will be offered to those whose land is acquired for mining purpose. I was pained to see the orders issued by Coal India on 3rd February wherein the local...

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You are not going to the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : This is a basic question. The order deprives the local people of employment. The entire management was extremely happy over it. But if Coal production has to be increased, Government will have to reconsider its decision regarding not employing more than 50 per cent local employees. I fail to understand how the C.I.L. circulated this decision. This decision of the Industry Department cannot work. So far as the Singrauli Coal Field is concerned, I am highly obliged to the Government for converting it into a company. But I fail to understand that in spite of an agreement with us and between the management and the local people—wherein it is provided that if work is available, every family will be given work and efforts will be made to rehabilitate them and provide them other facilities as well. How then a circular was issued that local people will not be given anymore employment? As a result, there is acute resentment in the coal fields throughout the country. I, therefore, strongly demand that this should be reconsidered in view of maintaining harmonious relations with the workers. The hon. Minister should declare here and now, that this decision will not be implemented and the old agreement will continue to operate.

The Government has created two Coal companies in Madhya Pradesh but I would like to suggest that one of it should go to Madhya Pradesh while the other—the Northern coalfields—should have due share for Uttar Pradesh also. Already there are five-six mines in that State. Separate infrastructure will have to be created wherever these coal companies are established. Otherwise, it will be the same old story—people demanding facilities, schools for children etc. Therefore, one of these companies should be set up in Bilaspur while the other can be anywhere in U.P. Besides, a chairman should be appointed for each of these

companies. This is a genuine demand. Unless all these facilities are provided no system can function properly. How strange it seems that when Shri Pandey ji goes there and he is gheraoed. People tell him that while quarters are given to each and every NTPC employee, no attention has been paid to the conditions of workers in the coalfields, which is a key sector. Sometimes they are agitated and say that NTPC cannot work if they do not provide coal to it. Therefore, I would like to give 3 or 4 suggestions in this regard. At the outset, a time bound programme should be formulated under the Seventh Five Year Plan to provide accommodation, drinking water, hospitals and educational facilities for children. At least one Degree College of Coal India or the Central Government should be opened in each area. Good schools like Central Schools should be opened at every project for boys and girls because when one comes across an NTPC schools one is envious of it. If the hon. Minister can assure of these facilities, I can also assure him that we will increase coal production manifolds and will not let you down as we are working under the able guidance of Pandeyji. I am happy that today every power house has coal reserve for 20-25 days. Therefore, attention should be paid to welfare measures. With these words I thank you.

[English]

SHRI A.C. SHANMUGAM (Vellore) : Sir, on behalf of the All India Anna DMK, I wish to say a few words on the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund (Repeal) Bill, 1986.

I am not in a position to accept the proposition to repeal the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947. Just because the coal companies in the public sector have assumed responsibility for looking after the welfare of the labour employed in the coal mines, it is being proposed to abolish the cess which is now being levied under the said Act. The Coal Mines Labour Housing and General Welfare Fund is being repealed. The Housing Board is also being wound up.

When the accumulated loss of Coal

India is more than Rs. 1000 crores, how do you expect the Coal India to look after the welfare of coal mine workers ?

The former Chairman of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation has become the Chairman of Coal India. Immediately after assuming that office, he has appointed several Consultants who have worked in the private sector coal companies. They are all being given fat consultancy fees. I do not mind their appointment, but the officials of Coal India who have been found inefficient and who have been indulging in corrupt practices should be dismissed, if Coal India is to be run efficiently. I say that in the interest of coal mines, by just appointing consultants you cannot make the Coal India a profitable unit.

The coal mines were nationalised in 1973. During the past 13 years the working conditions of the coal mine workers have not improved. It has been universally accepted that even the basic safety measures are not being implemented in coal mines. The coal mine workers continue to live in primitive conditions, in hovels nearer to coal mines.

The Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha had submitted a report also about the coal mines in the public sector.

Sir, it is not enough that the cess is abolished. If the price of coal is not reduced to the extent of cess, what is the meaning of abolishing the cess and the welfare fund ?

I would also like to point out here that unless the coal mine workers' representatives are on the Board of Management of the Coal India, the lot of coal mine workers is not going to improve. The Hon. Minister should endeavour to bring about a reconciliation among the unions and ensure that the workers' representatives are nominated on the Board of Management.

I suggest that coal mine workers should be given housing loans on nominal rate of interest by Coal India. The LIC and HUDCO should encourage the housing cooperative societies of coal mine

workers and give substantial loans for house building.

The third mine at Neyveli Lignite Mines in Tamil Nadu should be sanctioned by the Government. The Government of India should formulate a policy of gradual replacement of outdated coal-mining machinery. The workers are giving their best; but the machinery is not supplementing their efforts.

Similarly, the coal washeries should also be modernised. Modern technique of coal washing should be adopted for reducing the high ash content in our coal. It has been accepted that coal worth Rs. 100 crores is lost in continuing fire in some coal mines. The Government should endeavour to save the coal from being burnt like this. Sir, coal is called the black gold. It must be preserved and protected.

In spite of the fact that coal mine workers give out their best, the large accumulated stock of coal at pit-heads is not cleared within a time-schedule. It must be cleared.

In the end I would say that goondaism in coal mine areas must be tackled effectively, and seven lakh coal mine workers must be protected from such anti-social elements.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have full confidence in our able and dynamic Minister but I fail to understand why he has brought this Bill seeking to repeal the Act? According to him, this is being done because coal industry has been nationalised. But, Sir, it was nationalised in 1973 and I fail to understand why he wants to repeal it now in 1986.

Sir, it was the function of the Advisory Committee, appointed by the Central Government to levy cess and ensure that

[Shri Mool Chand Daga]

the cess so collected—Rs. 12 crores—was spent on the welfare of the workers. How did the Central Government think that it was not functioning properly and incurring losses. Seven times the prices were raised. How do the Government expect that repealing this Act will improve the situation and serve the interests of workers in a better way? Moreover, it has now—where been stated that construction of houses for workers will be undertaken or the company will share a specified percentage or funds will be allocated for the welfare of workers or a substitute system will be formulated.

Sathe Sahib, the question is that before depriving the workers of their rights or facilities that they are enjoying at present, we should consider how these can be ensured for them. But he has not mentioned any such proposal. I wanted that he should have taken the workers, political parties and those working for the cause of workers into confidence prior to bringing this Bill. Then, it would have been better. The worker community would have benefited at large.

The entire work of construction of houses will come to a grinding halt because the Government officials do not take that much interest or have dedication for the work. There might be some shortcomings in our organisations like the Advisory Committee etc. but it could have been improved. Some amendments in the Act would have improved the situation. Now—where has it been clarified what will be the source of income. But only this much has been said that this Bill be repealed.

I want to submit that, even if this Bill is passed and the President gives his assent, still prior to repeal an announcement should be made in the press regarding the substitute system wherein it should be provided that the Government will work only in the interest of workers. If this is not done, the workers will revolt. Even now, the company is incurring loss of Rs. 1 crore every day and one does not know how many more crores of rupees will be added to it as a result thereof. Moreover, there will be no improvement in coal production or coal supply in the

country. I, therefore, urge upon the Government to reconsider it. After the Bill is repealed and prior to implementation, Government should consider how it can be implemented so that the workers' interests are safeguarded.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL (Kota) :
Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Coal Mine Workers' Welfare Fund (Repeal) Bill. This Bill was passed in 1947 and was quite appropriate keeping in view the prevailing circumstances. In those days almost all the Mines were privately owned and the Mine owners used to exploit the workers. They earned a lot but did not spend even a single penny on workers' welfare. That is why this was enacted.

Coal Mines were nationalised in 1973. It was a right step and it was thought that this would help in accelerating the pace of welfare activities for Mine workers. Government had proposed to provide education, medicare, transport and housing facility to the workers but unfortunately, after 13 years, today, Government has reached this conclusion that this Act should be repealed. Shri Sathe has pointed out that though Rs. 12 crores were collected from the Cess, yet the entire amount was spent on maintaining the assets. If it is so, Government should have woken up much earlier so that it would not have become a point of criticism today.

I want to submit to the hon. Minister to step up the welfare activities for the workers. I demand, as my previous speakers have also done, that Government should formulate a time-bound programme in respect of housing, education and health care for the workers whether they belong to NTPC or any other Public Sector undertaking. Government should not think that as the Coal India and its subsidiaries are in a sound financial position and have been nationalised, they can take up these welfare activities on their own.

Those who are made incharge of welfare activities should not be entrusted with the added responsibility of production. If this is done, they will give priority to production and as a result thereof they ask

the labourers to work for more hours and neglect their welfare activities.

In this context, I feel that the entire working of provident fund scheme of Coal mine workers should be reviewed, specially the procedure relating to payments etc, be simplified and better services be made available to the subscribers and beneficiaries. Even after making amendments in the Coal Mines Provident Fund Act in 1984, labourers and employees are facing several difficulties. In regard to purchase of houses or flats the entire process comes to a standstill when instalments are not paid due to nonavailability of advances on the plea that funds are not available or for some other reasons. Thousands of workers and employees have so far not been issued pass books by the Provident Fund Organisation. The disposal of the claims is very slow. Cases are not disposed of for years on the pretext of incomplete information.

Moreover, some mine-owners adopt wrong mining procedures endangering the life of workers. 25 colonies in the coal-belt of Raniganj and Dhanbad have been facing such danger since January 1986. A committee was constituted in 1979, under the chairmanship of a Joint Secretary, Shri S. P. Gogani, to examine the safety conditions in coal fields. The Committee had stated in its report that such areas should be immediately vacated. But it has not been implemented so far. I request the hon. Minister to pay greater attention towards welfare activities otherwise it would bring a bad name to the Government. With these words, I conclude.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): I am highly obliged to the hon. Members for their most valuable suggestions. I know they took advantage of this simple repeal Bill to practically convert it into a discussion, as if it were a discussion on the Demands of the Ministry. But I always benefit by the valuable suggestions made by the hon. Members. They have done in the best interest of the coal sector and the coal industry.

There is a mistaken notion probably; unwittingly, criticism was made that there was no consultation with the trade union leaders or working class representatives before this repeal Bill was brought.

Actually, the fact is that a one-man Committee under the chairmanship of Shri K. K. Ray was appointed in July 1982 to go into this whole question and give a report. It is on the basis of this report that we have taken this measure. We did not want to do anything in haste. If a welfare measure is serving a good purpose we were reluctant to take any step against that. It was a very small amount; where you are spending Rs. 100 crores per year, you collect Rs. 12 crores and that too by cess. That means you add to the price! A small committee operates and the same activities are being done, which on a much larger scale are to be done by the coal companies. It is their duty to do that. Therefore, I thought that this was a redundant thing. This was what the report submitted. The Committee held discussions with six central trade union organisations, viz. INTUC, CITU, Akhil Bharatiya Khan Mazdoor Sangh, HMS, the other group of the HMS and the All India Trade Union Congress and also all their representative unions in the coal sector. Memoranda were invited from them by issue of personal letters. The Committee had visited the coal fields and it is only after a detailed study of all the activities, that they gave a report and based on that report only this Bill is being brought.

I entirely agree with the hon. members that all that is required for welfare must be accomplished. It is the responsibility of the nationalised sector to ensure full satisfaction regarding housing, full satisfaction regarding drinking water, in terms of basic medical amenities and even specialised facilities for the type of ailments that are caused in the coal fields. All these things are an absolute must. That is why, I said that progressively larger and larger sums have been put in. But I entirely agree that merely putting money and that too even 10 times more, will not serve the purpose. We have put in ten times more money. Where is Rs. 6 crores and where is Rs. 100 crores? Now, as

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

against a total amount of Rs. 300 crores spent in the Sixth Plan, we are going to increase it to more than Rs. 800 crores in the Seventh Plan. In one Plan alone, we have increased so much. But I know that all this amount, unless it achieves the objective that we have in mind, will serve no purpose. But Sir, as I said the other day while discussing the Demands, we all must take a wholistic and total view of the public sector. It is high time that irrespective of which side of the spectrum we belong to, we must take a total view of the responsibilities. It is also high time that we should take a view on what we want to achieve in the public sector. We use public money. Don't we have some responsibility, responsibility towards the public of India, to the people of India? What is that responsibility? As I said the other day, before nationalisation the total amount that was spent in private sector for producing 77 million tonnes of coal was Rs. 50 crores, since nationalisation, the public has invested more than Rs. 6000 crores in coal sector alone. And how much additional production has been brought about? 70 million tonnes more. Please consider this. Nation's money, people's money, poor people's money we have invested in one sector and additional production is not even double though investment is hundred fold. Where are we going? What are we trying to achieve? I entirely agree that workers must be provided with houses and all the facilities. But if you say that there should not be any workman output ratio, what is known as OMS—we are the lowest in the world, less than 1% as OMS—then we should run coal sector in heavy losses. The cumulative loss in just ten years is more than Rs. 1000 crores. We should increase the prices, as Dagaji was saying, seven times and make it so high i.e. Rs. 210 per tonne today as against Rs. 27/- so that as an input to energy everything becomes costly. Even the workers cannot get it at reasonable prices. Please give a thought to it. As I said the other day, we have reached 154 million tonnes of coal whereas China has reached 800 million tonnes though we started at the same level. The moment I say this, you say, do not talk about that China has a different system. That means, in our democratic country, we as a public

sector, we as a representatives of the people should have no responsibility to the people. *(Interruptions)* I agree that some of the hon. Members are more knowledgeable and have greater experience. If they had an opportunity, probably they would have brought about a miracle. What I am saying is that this is a question that has to be considered by all afresh and with a little open mind. It is not a question of this Government or that Government, this party or that party. The hon. Member, Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee mentioned that they went on strike and for legitimate reasons and all that I know the strength of employees. I know they are united. I respect their feelings. I appealed, "What is this show-down? For what? You have lost your wages and the production loss has been Rs. 10 crores worth of production in one day." How do we benefit? Who has been benefited by this? I was willing to listen to everything. I went to the JVC meeting myself. I have been willing to listen, to meet as many times as the people want, to sort out, and we have agreed to all the eleven demands that were there. I have agreed to everything except one on which I have a genuine doubt and that was regarding giving employment to every worker who retires. As against a person who dies, we have considered it. Even for those who retire, I said, we will give priority but don't treat it as a right. The moment you do that by virtue of that agreement, then you are going to militate against article 16 of the Constitution which says in very clear terms that :

"No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth, residence or any of them..."

'Descent' is one of the grounds.

"...be ineligible for, or discriminated against in respect of, any employment or office under the State."

Now, this is the principle and there is some meaning to that principle. Therefore, I was submitting that here also we could sort it out. In practice, we shall

try to see that maximum number of children of our own workers, when there is a vacancy, get opportunity, but don't try to rub it as a right. This is the point. On this one issue they had a show-down. And in that show-down also, Sir, all unions had agreed that those who are in essential services—there are some services like fire fighting operations, preventive measures, safety measures which are required all the time—will not go on strike, but in some sectors even they went on strike. What will happen to the coal sector and if an accident takes place who will be responsible then? Therefore, show cause notices have been issued only to such type of persons and not to all, not to all the seven lakhs of people. Therefore, it is very easy to say. I have said I am next to none. I have spent all my life fighting for the cause of employees and I am next to none in championing the cause of employees... (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Is it not a fact that the welfare clauses of the agreement were not fulfilled?..... (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You continue.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I will come to that.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : What about the welfare clauses of the agreement? That was the question which was being debated... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : As far as the other parts of the agreement are concerned, I said that they were not completely fulfilled and, therefore we were willing to sit with the representatives of employees to find out how that could be done how much additional funds will be needed. At many places for housing we did not get land. With State Governments and in other areas there have been some problems. Now, all this we were willing to discuss with the representatives of the employees. What was the cause for a show-down? We were not hostile to each other. And it is not my contention that every clause of the agreement has been implemented hundred per cent. I am not saying so. I know there is a lacuna. I know there is a

shortfall. But for this if we have such show-downs and strikes, than what will happen to the industrial peace and relations? Therefore, my general submission is that if you want the coal sector to benefit to advance, let the Parliament tell me. We invest and you say on the one hand 'mechanise open cast mines', bring in the latest equipment, machinery etc., spend thousands of crores, and on the other hand, you say, let this equipment work only for one hour as against 8 hours, with 10% or 20% capacity utilisation, because, we must simultaneously also have more workers, every single person of the displaced family must be employed, every single person of a retiring man must be employed. every single person of a person who dies must be employed. That is to say you continue with 7½ lakh people all the time, keep on employing more and more people and keep on adding also more and more machinery!—Then, how to achieve all this? Could you tell me the miracle? As I told you other day, output man shift is the real test. Output man shift in China is three times more than in India. And the wage that they get is 4 times less than what our workers get in India. 24 Rupees per person for producing 3 times more. And our man gets 90 Rs. per person per shift for producing less than one tonne. What are we talking of? I am not finding fault with anybody. All that I am saying is this. As a nation you must think of productivity, of our responsibility to the people whose money we are utilising. By all means produce well and earn well and from that, utilise for welfare also. That is what we want.

18.00 hrs.

In spite of all this, as far as welfare activities are concerned we are devoting the maximum that we can do and I can assure the hon. Members about this. Damodar ji has raised a very pertinent point. Uptill now there was this Advisory Council. 'Workers' representatives were there. They were consulted. I assure you that in the scheme that we have—after this repeal the entire thing will be taken over by the companies—we will also bring in this element of co-opting the representatives of employees so that we can have the benefit of their coope-

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

ration in the management of welfare activities.

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara): How the staff of the welfare fund is going to be accommodated?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I had just requested you not to disturb me while I am speaking. You may ask when I have finished.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS: I thought you have finished.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: No, let me finish first.

AN HON. MEMBER: Please, tell me in Hindi.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: All the staff working there would be accommodated in the company with an option either to go into Government service or C.G.S. Nobody will be deprived of his job. All the current projects would continue.

[English]

As I was saying, again, don't miss the basic thing. Don't miss that. Otherwise you miss the whole bus!

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is always missing the bus. That is the problem.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is the trouble, Sir, regarding the participation of labour, so many hon. Members have spoken. And Mr. Basudeb Acharia and Geetaji asked, why you are not accepting that demand of elections by secret ballot. Now the question which arises is this, after all the parleys that we have had. They are saying that the INTUC is opposing the secret ballot. Now, the INTUC has come round and they are saying, we

will accept secret ballot. Representations, in our most democratic style or fashion, must be by the workers of the workers. They must elect their representatives from among the workers if election is to held. But CITU union says, No, no. This we will not accept. We will not accept that workers' representatives must be elected from among the workers. No. They say, workers will vote and will elect outsiders. How can this be accepted? This is the whole crux. I have presented it very squarely. You please try to persuade the CITU representatives. There can be easily an agreement on this issue of participation. They have discussed it. They have come very close. What was suggested was, if you want that the trade union should represent, let only the unionised people, those who believe in unionism only vote for whichever union they want and let respective unions give their own list and that total lists will form the electorate and they will elect the union according to their choice. That is not acceptable. I am willing to accept that also. If you want that all workers must vote and elect their own representatives, then let them elect the workers as their representatives. We are willing to accept either of the formulae, and now it is for them to decide. I want to take everybody into confidence. The participation is not a thing that can be imposed. Therefore, if the representatives of the CITU will agree to either of these formulae, I think, we can find a solution and once we find a solution, once we get proper representatives of employees in the management, many a problem, that today plague the coal sector, I feel, can be resolved.

With these words, I once again thank all the Members who have participated in the debate for their valuable advice and suggestions, and I request that the Bill be passed.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now the question is:

'That the Bill to repeal the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1947 and to provide for certain matters incidental thereto, be taken

into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

The question is :

"That clauses 2 to 8 stand part of Bill."

*The motion was adopted.
Clauses 2 to 8 were added to the Bill.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause I, the Enacting Formula and the title stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.
Clause I, the Enacting Formula and the title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That the Bill be passed."
He wants to ask one clarification.
Don't make any speech.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Sir, in fact, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity. Really, I missed the bus because I was absent from the proceedings of the House when this Bill was being discussed here. I was away in connection with some meeting, some matters relating to coal industry working etc. There was a meeting and I was busy there.

Anyway, the Minister has clearly explained the circumstances under which he has come up with this Bill before the House. When such an Act is being repealed, it might be in a limited manner that the organisation was doing social welfare

work. Now the Minister's responsibility has been to that extent increased. The Coal India and the other nationalised coal organisations responsibility has also been increased in a limited sphere. This organisation was doing the work of the order of fourteen-point-some crores. Anyway that was involving the workers. An element of participation of workers was there.

I am happy and I congratulate the Minister that he has conceded and he has readily agreed here that in the new set up also, the workers' representatives will be taken, and due attention will be paid to their opinion. This should be ensured well in time. Much time should not be left and as quickly as possible, the representatives of labour should be associated with these bodies so that work will go on effectively.

I would pointedly bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister with the request that only last week he was kind enough to make a declaration that by the turn of the century, the problem of housing and the problem of drinking water will be solved totally in the coal field. That means every coal miner will be provided with a living house and also drinking water problem will not be there.

While welcoming this announcement, I would like to add that yesterday only in this House there was a question answer. Hon. Minister Shri Abdul Ghafoor, speaking about drinking water said that our national objective is to provide drinking water to the entire population of the country by 1990-91. Of course, in real terms the performance will be to the tune of 85% in rural areas. When in unorganised sector, in the rural area, this will be the performance, why not in an organised area like coal field, coal workers, it should not be cent percent. Drinking water facility should be provided by the turn, not of the century, but of the Seventh Five Year Plan. This is my request.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I cannot allow more. The hon. Minister will reply.

[Translation]

**SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY (Hazari-
bagh) :** Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want a clarification here. He mentioned about a basis and K. K. Roy Committee also recommended that instead of that a fresh beginning should be made. But I want to know whether there was any representative of workers in the K.K. Roy Committee? If not, what could be the reasons thereof? Similarly, we expect that we will have a welfare board in future but one cannot say for sure that it will not be controlled by a person in the democratic set up, whose order we will have to carry out? Since it is an important question and we feel concerned about our future, therefore I want to know from the hon. Minister what would be the basis in future?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am obliged to both the hon. Members for their suggestions. First of all I want to inform them that since the Committee was a one-man-committee, therefore the question of taking other representatives does not arise. Secondly, I have always requested the hon. Members that they should come to a conclusion themselves and I do not want them to wriggle out of this responsibility. When I talk of the participation of the workers, it also includes the responsibility of all the workers of the country and their representatives. They have a responsibility towards their country and they should shoulder it. The entire coal-sector is their and they have been given as much public money as they demanded. Now, it is their responsibility to run it and make it economically viable by increasing production. Then from the profits they might utilize as much amount as they like on the worker's welfare. This is the only basis we want. When it is adopted by the entire country, the shape of public sector will undergo a radical change.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

18.15 hrs.

STATEMENT RE STEPS TO CON- TAIN AIDS

[English]

**THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOH-
SINA KIDWAI) :** The House would be aware that we had earlier informed the House in response to a question from a member that no authentic case of AIDS had so far been reported from our country. The nation-wide surveillance studies for AIDS disease and AIDS virus infection initiated by the Indian Council of Medical Research has revealed that while it is still true that authentic cases of AIDS disease have not yet been found in India, evidence has just now been obtained of the presence of AIDS virus infection in 6 females in Tamil Nadu who have been known to have promiscuous heterosexual behaviour. The situation is under close and constant surveillance. The Indian Council of Medical Research has already established AIDS Surveillance Centres in 7 places in the country—Pune, Vellore, New Delhi, Delhi, Srinagar, Madras and Calcutta. The number of Surveillance Centres is proposed to be immediately increased to cover all parts of the country adequately, eventually leading to the establishment of one centre in each State. A separate cell is being established in the Directorate General of Health Services which will work in close liaison with a Cell in the ICMR which is already functioning. An intensive educational campaign about the nature of AIDS infection, how it is transmitted and what measures should be taken to prevent the spread of infection is being mounted. The medical profession in the country both in public and private sector is being mobilised along with the public through a nation-wide educational campaign. Scientific institutions have been identified and are already engaged in work leading to the identification of the virus in precise terms, its relationship to related AIDS viruses prevalent in other parts of the world. The required number of test kits are being made available to the Surveillance Centres. At the same time the 6 cases identified as carrying the infection are being attended to with the cooperation of the State Government to ensure that the infection

does not spread from these sources. Instructions have been issued to stop the import of blood and blood products from outside the country without certification of their freedom from AIDS virus contamination. Advance action has been initiated to have Indian scientists trained in sophisticated methods of investigation of this disease and it would no longer be necessary to have the confirmatory test done abroad.

I am making this statement to enlist the cooperation of the hon. Members and through them, the public at large in mounting a national effort for the control of AIDS virus infection. I would like to assure the House that our scientists are

fully geared to face the task and it is to their credit that in such a vast country like ours, they have been able to trace down these cases at this stage of infection without any outward manifestation of disease. We are fully geared to face the task before us.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The house stands adjourned to meet again at Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 30, 1986.

18.18 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, April 30, 1986/Vaisakha 10, 1908 (Saka)