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Bhadra 7, 1910 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES (English Version)

Eleventh Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)



(Vol. XLI. contains Nos. 11 to 20)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, August 29, 1988 [Bhadra 7,
1910 (Saka)]

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Cost of IA Tickets

*386. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the wage structure in Indian Airlines is low as compared to that of foreign Airlines;

(b) the reasons for consistently high air fare in spite of lower salaries; and

(c) the economy and efficiency measures Government propose to take to bring down the cost of tickets Indian Airlines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

Statement

- (a) No data is available regarding the wage structure of foreign airlines. Mere comparison of wage structure would not be meaningful without taking into account other relevant and significant factors such as the perquisites enjoyed by employees of other airlines, the cost of living index and other conditions existing in foreign countries, etc.

(b) Salaries is only one of the several constituents that are taken into account while determining fares. Indian Airlines fares are not high when compared to those of other airlines; In fact the fares of Indian Airlines are amongst the lowest in the world.

(c) Government as well as the Airlines' management is constantly endeavouring to introduce economy and efficiency measures. In the recent past, expenditure has been curtailed by shortening of flight routes, optimisation of flight techniques to reduce fuel consumption, enhancement of the cycles of inspection and effecting control on overtime, travelling allowance, food services, hotel accommodation, conveyance, etc.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in response to question (a), "Whether the wage structure in Indian Airlines is low as compared to that of foreign Airlines", the Hon. Minister has replied, "No data is available regarding the wage structure of foreign airlines."

Sir, we have got our Air India offices outside the country and there is no reason why the data could not be collected.

In response to question (b), "The reasons for consistently high air fare in spite of lower salaries", the Hon. Minister has replied, "Indian Airlines fares are not high when compared to those of other airlines." So, the Hon. Minister despite his saying that the fares compared to other countries is lower could say that the data regarding the salaries and remuneration could not be collected. It is really a sorry state of affairs.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that Pilots, copilots, engineers and navigators who are working

in the Indian Airlines have expressed their job dissatisfaction because remuneration given to them is lower than what they expect. As such, they have opted to work outside India. So, there will be a dearth of hands as far as the Indian Airlines or Air India is concerned. I would like to know specifically what action the Government is going to take to provide job satisfaction to all these employees.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I must say that it is a very good question. I would like to compliment the hon. Member for this question. At the same time, I would like to say that the information about the wages paid and allowances and other perks given to the officers and crew members in all other airlines of other countries is not available. We do have information about some other countries. This information is not collected from all the countries because pay and wages given to the officers depend on many other factors such as the economic factor, strength of the Airlines, the increasing cost of living and so on. So, at times it is relevant and at times it is not so relevant. That is why the information about the pay and wages given to the crew and the pilots in all other countries is not collected and is not readily available. But we do have some information from other countries.

I would like to say that the wage bill per tonne-kilometre has gone up from 75 paise to 89 paise between 1983-84 and 1987-88. That means the wage bill has gone up. The Airline is trying to pay them more and at the same time the available tonne-kilometrage per employees also has gone up now from 45,513 to 55,185. This goes to show that we are paying more and they are also contributing more to the efficiency and productivity of the Airlines. It is a fact that they have been asking for more wages and more facilities and this matter is being discussed with the representatives of all their trade unions and an appropriate decision will be taken at an appropriate time in an appropriate manner.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : We do not know when that appropriate time will come. It may be months, it may be years;

Nothing is definite. We only wait for the appropriate time.

In reply to part (c) of the question, the hon. Minister has stated that they are endeavouring to take measures to improve efficiency. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether his attention has been drawn to a news item published in today's *Economic Times* where in it is reported that the delay in flights is about 65 per cent and on an average, one flight per day is cancelled. Further it is stated that promotions to engineers are given with scant consideration for merit.

Apart from that, the hon. Minister has replied that the fare in India is the lowest in the world. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that in Air India and Indian Airlines, the major portion of travellers comprise employees of the Airlines, government servants, semi-government servants like company employees and Members of Parliament because they have the privilege of travelling by Air. Since this is a monopoly, what action is the Government going to take to see that the common man also can travel by Airlines? Unless the fare is less, common man cannot travel by air. In this context, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether any exercise has been made to work out the percentage of government servants semi-government employees, etc. and the percentage of common men who travel by Air. What steps are being taken to see that common men also can travel by air?

Also, the amenities are deteriorating day. All the Members know this. . .
(Interruptions)

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : Sir, I would like to say that the efficiency and the productivity of the Airlines has gone up. I would like to give the statistics in this regard. The load factor has gone up from 66.9 per cent in 1983-84 to 72.9 per cent in 1987-88. The seat factor has gone up from 72.6 per cent to 76.4 per cent in 1983-84. These are two criteria which I have given. I am not disputing that the flights have been delayed at places and delayed in a manner in which probably it would have been better if they would not have been delayed. But there are other factors which are contributing to the delays which have been occurring in the

country. One of the most important factors is that there is paucity of aircraft. From 50 aircraft, it has come down to 48 aircraft. We have to meet the demands coming from all parts of the country. We are transporting one crore of passengers from one place to another place. At times, if the delay occurs at one place, it goes on piling up and the consequential delay is also very painful and very inconvenient to the passengers. The steps we are taking is to purchase more aircraft and get more aircraft on lease also and to meet the demands. I would like to say that so many demands have come from so many Members and from so many parts of the country asking that new routes should be started and more flights should be started in all those places. Now here, because of these things, this is happening. I am really sorry and I have been saying that we are sorry that there have been delays but at the same time I would like to say that sincerely we are making efforts to see that there are no delays also. We have increased the efficiency and productivity on the one side but this is happening.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : You will be shocked to note that the basic wages of the Indian Airlines staff is somewhere around Rs. 168 to Rs. 250. It may be the lowest in any category in the Government of India or in any public sector undertaking. Even yesterday the people who were at the Airport told me that their salary is like this. Their basic wages are very less. Some perks are given on the basis of the increase in the cost of living index. I would like to ask, whether on the basis of the Fourth Pay Commission's Report to the Government staff and also the revision made in other public sector undertakings, their Dearness allowance and other allowances will be merged in the basic wages and their basic wages will be increased on the basis of the working hours—because if there is a delayed flight and all that it will have to be regulated—and will they be paid over time allowance for the work which they put in during the odd hours? When they work for more than eight hours per day, are you compelling them to sit late? I want a detailed answer.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : With respect I must say that the information

given by the hon. Member about the wages which are given to the workers and the officers in the Indian Airlines and Air India is not correct.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : What about the basic wage?

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : What is the basic wage of the field staff?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : After the Fourth Pay Commission's Report was given that was applicable to the Government servants. It was not applicable to the public sector undertakings. The matter was raised and then the ad hoc increase was given to the officers and ad hoc increase was given to other employees also. To the extent of 10 per cent of their wages ad hoc increase had already been given and this matter is being looked into again and they are talking to each other. I hope that some agreement will be arrived at very soon and this matter will be looked into.

As far as paying to those who are working over time and all those things are concerned, we have our rules. According to the rules overtime is paid to them and this matter is certainly looked after properly and there is no difficulty.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : What is basic wage of the Indian Airlines staff?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL : There are many categories. I can give you the chart which is available with me.

Sale of Expired Date Medicines in Remote Areas

*388. **SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that some medicines are being sold in remote parts of the country after their expiry dates;

(b) if so, whether any investigations were made into the matter;

(c) the names of the companies found to be involved in such malpractices; and

(d) the preventive steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ
KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). Information
received from the States is given in the
statement below.

(d) Sale of date expired drugs is an offence under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Rules. Whenever any such case comes to the notice of State Drugs Controllers appropriate action under the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules is taken against the offender.

Statement

Particulars of cases of stocking/sale of Date expired drugs during the period 1987-88

Name of the state	No. of Cases of stocking/Sale of date expired drugs	Name of the dealer involved	Action taken by the State Drugs Controller
1	2	3	4
1. Andhra Pradesh	Nil	—	—
2. Delhi	Nil	—	—
3. Gujarat	2	(i) M/s Sankalp Medical Stores, Ahmedabad	Licence suspended for 5 days.
		(ii) M/s Bharat Medical Stores, Ahmedabad	Licence suspended for 7 days.
4. Karnataka	1	M/s Renuka Medicals, Mysore	Prosecution launched.
5. Madhya Pradesh	Nil	—	—
6. Maharashtra	1	M/s Rajendra Medical Stores, Pune.	Sale licence suspended. Matter under investigation

1	2	3	4
7. Tamil Nadu	21	Not available	21 dealers prosecuted for having stocked for sale date expired drugs. 14 convicted and 7 cases are pending. However, no case of sale of date expired drugs was found.
8. Haryana	15	Not available	Informed by State Drugs Controller that in each case action has been taken and it will be warning or suspension of licences. The details were not immediately available.
9. Rajasthan	Nil	—	—
10. West Bengal	Nil	—	—

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question is concerned with the lives of human beings. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that Government have not received any complaint from Andhra Pradesh or Delhi regarding the sale of date expired or the spurious drugs. Two complaints have been received from Gujarat and one from Karnataka. The 75% of the total population lives in remote villages and the people living in villages do not know anything about the spurious or the date expired drugs. Out of the total production of medicines 40 per cent medicines which are spurious and date expired, are being sent to the remote villages. For example, spurious and date expired medicines are being supplied to the Adivasis in Chhota Nagpur belt of district Ranchi but they do not know anything about it. Press clippings indicate that in Banaras, Kanpur and Delhi, the spurious-drugs...

MR. SPEAKER : Please ask the question.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Before asking my question I want to tell you the background and history of spurious and date expired medicines being supplied in remote villages. The newspaper writes : "Open sale of poison in the name of medicine." In view of the serious situation arising out of all these facts whether the Government propose to undertake any concrete programme to check the supply of date expired and spurious medicines to remote villages.

[*English*]

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE : As the hon. Member has seen from the statement laid by us on the Table of the House there are the provisions of the Drugs and Cosmetic Act, and the Rules...

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : You have stated in your reply that licences have been suspended only for 5 or 7 days. In this way they can take like of any body. They should have convicted for 10—15 years.

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE : I fully agree with you. I alongwith my hon. Minister and other senior officers of the Ministry were discussing in the morning today that the conviction for 5 or 7 days or the suspension of licences is not sufficient. Government will try its best to give them maximum possible punishment.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : In view of the seriousness of this matter, a committee was constituted in 1974 under the Chairmanship of Shri Jaisukh Lal Hathi. The committee had made their recommendations on seven points.

MR. SPEAKER : Under whose chairmanship the committee was constituted ?

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : It was constituted under the chairmanship of Shri Jaisukh Lal Hathi.

MR. SPEAKER : Parliament is working under my chairmanship.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : The committee was constituted in 1974 under the chairmanship of Shri Jaisukh Lal Hathi. It had presented its report within one year wherein it had recommended on seven items suggesting ways of putting a check on the spurious and date expired medicines. Are the recommendations of Jaisukh Lal Committee still pending with the Government and Government have taken no steps in this regard. Have the Government taken any action on the recommendations of the Committee ? By what time the Government will prepare a concrete programme on the basis of these recommendations ? A period of 14 years has already passed.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has expressed his concern about the sale of spurious and date expired medicines in market and particularly in the villages. The matter comes within the purview of the State Governments. Therefore, directions in this regard had been issued to the State Governments on the basis of the recommendations of Jaisukh Lal Hathi Commission. Controlling of Drugs is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government issues directions

to the State Governments from time to time and seeks information from them. The Hon. Member has rightly said that conviction of 5 or 7 days is not sufficient because such drugs may prove fatal for the individuals. A meeting of the Health Secretaries is going to be held tomorrow. Leaving apart the cases which are sub-judice, the issue of sale of date expired drugs will be raised and discussed with them. A discussion will also be held with the Controller of Drugs on the point as for how long we can suspend the licences of those who are dealing in spurious drugs. It will be particularly discussed tomorrow.

[*English*]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : The question of spurious has often been raised in this House even before. I will not go to the steps taken but the fact remains that even in the Union Territory of Delhi only a few days ago a person belonging to the medical profession died after she was given an injection. And it is our experience that normally we do not purchase loose tablets, and normally we do not take the loose tablets which our own dispensaries give because these tablets do not have any effect. I myself had the experience that when these tablets were given my son's fever did not come down. I had to purchase tablets from stores outside and then that fever came down. When this question was raised in this House we were promised that the matter would be looked into and that we would be informed about the real position. I would like to know whether that matter was looked into and what is the outcome of it. (*Interruptions*) My next question is that a number of drugs which are today banned by the developed countries are still being permitted to be used in this country, have we got any agency like the Federal Drug Agency of the United States of America to evaluate whether the drugs are now today not being permitted in other countries are still being permitted to be used here, because of the influence of multi-nationals ?

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : As regards the first part of the question, regarding the death of one doctor, we have already constituted an inquiry committee. The doctors of the hospital met me and they showed their anger; immediately we constituted the

committee. The report is expected from the Committee.

About the spurious drugs being sold in the market, as and when it comes to the knowledge of the Government, and the Drug Controller, action is taken immediately. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Why as and when it comes to the notice of the Government ?

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : Until the matter comes to the knowledge of the Government how can we or the Drug Controller take action ? (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Choubey ji there is no remedy of this disease of yours.

[*English*]

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA ; Generally, as and when anything comes to the knowledge of the inspectors, action is immediately taken. We do not want to hide anything. We want to take action against that person or such stores which are selling spurious drugs.

Here, the question is about the sale of drugs the expiry date of which has expired, not of the spurious drugs. But as far as I know, I can assure the hon. Member that we will take stern action and we will ask the Controller of Drugs to conduct a survey, especially here, so that we can find out whether the medical stores are selling such drugs as in the towns, and if they are found guilty we will give them proper punishment.

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU : Mr. Speaker Sir, in view of to the shortage of quantity of drugs which is being marketed in the rural areas and the quality also being of very low calibre, is there any proposal before the Government to go in for labelling these drugs on generic names rather than the labels and the brand names so that the number of drug formulations could come down, there could be some standardisation, the cost could come down and it would be available more in the rural areas ?

MR. SPEAKER : We had this question earlier also...

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU : It is about generic names. It is connected with the quality of medicine.

MR. SPEAKER : We got it answered on the floor of this House.

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU : No Sir, it is not answered. (Interruptions)

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : Sir, the suggestion is very good. We will definitely look into it because it relates to generic names.

Ban on Sale of Agricultural Land in Delhi for Residential Purposes

*391. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI† :

SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to put a complete ban on the sale of agricultural land for residential purposes in Delhi; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). There is no such proposal because under the provisions of the Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954, no agricultural land can be used for residential purposes.

SHRI C. MADAV REDDI : Sir, under the Delhi Land Reforms Act, the conversion of agricultural lands into industrial land or for any other purposes is prohibited. He is only stating the actual position of the law. But the point is that thousands of acres of agricultural lands are being converted into industrial purpose and for other purposes. Under the scheme of National Capital Region, a large number of people are selling away their lands for industrial purposes. I would like to know whether there is any restriction on the conversion of land from agriculture to industrial purpose,

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Member has said that in view of the scheme of National Capital Region a very large portion of the agriculture land is being converted for industrial or residential purposes. It is not correct. It has been clearly stated in Delhi Land Reforms Act, 1954 that agricultural land will not be used for any other purpose. Therefore, it cannot be converted.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : I did not talk about the conversion of the agricultural land. What I said was that most of the cultivable land is being sold for industrial and other purposes. Will the hon. Minister stop it ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : If the hon. Member has any specific report, he may please send it to the Government. It will be fully investigated.

Additional Railway Lines on S.E. Railway

*394. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the surveys for laying third railway line on the Kharagpur-Panskura and fourth on the Panskura-Santragachi section of the South Eastern Railway, have been completed; and

(b) if so, when these survey were started and the time by which the construction work on these projects is likely to start ?

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

(b) The survey was taken up in July 1985. Since it has not yet been completed it is not possible to say when the construction work is likely to start.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, this section, as the Minister knows himself, is the most congested section in the Indian Railways. It is noted that the survey was

taken up in July 1985. We are now today at the end of 1988. More than three years have passed. Even now, the survey has not been completed. So, whenever we say that eastern part of India is being ignored, all the Ministers flare up; and whenever we say that West Bengal is being ignored, the Minister will flare up. But what is this? The survey of 116 kms, I think not even 116 kms—it will be something like 110 kms, started as early in July 1985 is not yet completed, and he does not know when it is going to be completed. So, if it is not ignoring that area, then what else it is. I would like to put a question to him that when do we or you expect to have this survey completed.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Sir, I have stressed time and time again that West Bengal is certainly not being ignored as far as Railway projects are concerned. I have given the statistics time and time again and in accordance with the statistics, it is very clearly demonstrated that West Bengal is in fact getting a very high priority in railway project. However, I do not want to go into that particular argument because obviously Choubeyji will not be prepared to accept it even on the basis of clear evidence. So, I do not want to go into that argument. As far as this survey is concerned, this is a very busy line. It I agree with Choubeyji on that. It may not be the busiest line on the Indian Railways, but it is a very busy line. There is a lot of traffic on this line. Therefore, with exhaustive data having to be compiled, it sometimes takes a little time for surveys on very busy lines to be completed. However, Part I of the Howrah-Panskura third line survey, I am expecting to be completed by December, 1988.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Sir, you do not know.

[*English*]

Howrah-Panskura, already there are three lines. So the question of making survey for the third lines does not arise at all. The question arises for fourth line from Howrah to Panskura and third line from Panskura to Kharagpur. This is the third line. Does it mean that the survey

for the third line from Kharagpur to Panskura is not yet started?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I am sorry, it is Kharagpur to Panskura. The survey will be completed by December, 1988.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : What about the survey of the fourth line from Panskura to Santragachi or Howrah?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : I am expecting complete survey to be completed in 1989 and we will try to expedite it.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Before elections?

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Though my question does not have direct link with the main question, yet it concerns all the members who are interested. I would like to know the names of the conversion projects which are surveyed and approved by the Planning Commission but have not been taken up due to lack of funds, and the return of the project mentioned in the survey report itself?

MR. SPEAKER : Does it concern this question?

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : If the information is not with the Minister, he can send that to me.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : You give a separate question. That will be replied to where is one difficulty in it? I do not need to get a survey report I will get it done early.

[*English*]

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Survey is already there. If the information is not with the Minister, he can send it to me.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : We will send it to you.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : It is not only because of my constituency

that I am standing. It is true that this is the goose which lays the golden eggs for the South Eastern Railway? If so, this is the line which is most essential for traffic goods. Given that situation and with the rising of the traffic, let alone internal passengers, after the completion of the survey as you are promising, will you immediately start the work or not?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Decision will be taken after the survey is completed.

Community Involvement in National Health Policy Implementation

***395 SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) how active community involvement in implementation of National Health Policy is being actually achieved;

(b) whether any measures have been taken by Government to involve non-Government agencies in a massive health education effort; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) For the effective implementation of the National Health Programmes enunciated under the National Health Policy, active community involvement is obtained through :

- (i) Leaders Organisation Training Programme;
 - (ii) Mobilising community for the acceptance of services provided to them;
 - (iii) Involvement of voluntary organisations like Mahila Mandal, Youth Clubs, Welfare Associations, etc. and
 - (iv) Other Governmental and Non-Governmental and Cultural Associations.
- (b) and (c). Voluntary Organisations have been involved in health education

efforts. The Ministry have been conducting workshops of various Non-Governmental agencies to seek their active involvement in health education efforts. It may be mentioned that a National Workshop on 'Role of Voluntary Organisations in Health Care Delivery' was held at New Delhi on January 4-5, 1988.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Sir, I am very grateful for the answer given by the hon. Minister. In my first supplementary question, may I ask the hon. Minister to tell as to in which States are these organisations involved, the names of the organisations in the respective States in the country, and also how many organisations are there?

KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE : Sir, I do not have the exact number of organisations in the country, but I would like to request the hon. Member to any time come and see my Minister and myself. We will definitely give him the Statewise data so that he can get the answer to his supplementary question.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Sir, my second supplementary question will be about the quality of the functioning of the Ministry so far as the health education of the people in the country is concerned. The family welfare programme is a programme of the World Health Organisation and the Government of India is also involved in it. So, the Government of India and the respective State are involved in it. Last year, twenty lakh immunisation cards were printed for the State of Assam. I have a sample of the card here. These cards were printed both in Assamese and in English. The language printed in the card is neither Assamese nor Bengali. Nobody understands it I will place this card on the Table.

MR. SPEAKER : Hybrid variety.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Nobody understands the language of the card. I would draw the attention of the hon. Minister to look into the matter as to why these twenty lakh cards were printed in an un-known language and for what designs. I want to know why the money has been drained out unnecessarily. Not a single rural woman—illiterate and even literate

also—will understand the language of the card. I had written to the Minister also but even after a lapse of five months, I have not received any letter from him. This is the *modus operandi* of the functioning of the Government so far as Health Department is concerned. So, may I know what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken by the Ministry so far as these immunisation cards are concerned . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : It is all right now.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : and also so far as the loss of money which has been involved in the printing of these cards is concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA) : Sir, we have to achieve 'Health for all by 200 A.D.' and accordingly we are working. As far as this card is concerned, the hon. Member had referred this matter to me and he wanted to discuss with me. I shall be very much thankful to him if he spares some time today, tomorrow or on any day. I will discuss with him in about this card which has been printed in unknown language, as he says. . . (*Interruptions*). So, I will be happy if the hon. Member takes the pain to meet me, or I can meet him. That will solve the . . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : I seek your protection, Sir. This is the highest forum of the country . . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : I am prepared to meet him at any time. Secondly, this immunisation programme in this country is working very good and as far as Assam and other States are concerned, we have get the figures. So, there is nothing to worry because we are taking all adequate steps for immunisation and that will be done as per the targets which have been fixed.

MR. SPEAKER : Will you please let me know the result of the parleys on the hybrid variety of language in which the card had been printed ?

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : This hybrid quality of card has been shown to me three months before.

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : I would request the hon. Minister to enquire into this matter.

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : We will enquire into this matter.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has assured the House that the health for all will be met adequately by the end of 2000 A.D. It is also the National Health Policy. In this context, I would like to mention that the Circular which has been issued provides a health guide in the rural areas. His qualification is that he must not be a matriculate. His academic qualification should be less than matriculate and there is no prescription for training or medical or para-medical training for him. I would like to know whether the Minister is satisfied with that Circular and whether that Health Guide will provide adequate medical facilities and medical assistance to the persons living in the villages and whether he is satisfied with the working of those people in the field. I would also like to know whether he is prepared to modify his Circular and provide well-trained/medical and para-medical men to the people in the rural areas.

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA : The Circular which has been mentioned by the hon. Member has been definitely looked into when it was issued. But if there is any modification required, we will definitely look into it.

[*Translation*]

Minimum Wages for Workers in Bauxite Fireclay and Chinaclay Mines

*396. SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the proposal to increase the minimum wages of workers engaged in the bauxite, fireclay and chinaclay mines in view of the constant increase in the cost of living; and

(b) if so, the time by which the necessary increase in the minimum wages will be made ?

[English]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALAVIYA) : (a) and (b). The proposal revision in the minimum rates of wages in respect of these employments were published on 1st July, 1988 and a period of two months has been fixed under Section 5 (1) (b) of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. The Advisory Board constituted under Section 7 of the Act is to consider the proposals as well as suggestions/objections received from the public. The Government will take a decision in respect of rates of wages after considering the advice of the Board. The exact time for effecting the revision in the rates cannot be indicated at present.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the condition of workers employed in bauxite, fireclay and chinaclay mines. The nature of their work is very arduous because bauxite is found at the height of 3,000 or 3,500 ft. A worker has to walk 10 kms to reach there and he has to cover the same distance while coming back. Thus he has to cover a distance of 20 km in to and fro journey. The hon. Minister has personally seen the arduous nature of this work. He is well acquainted with their living condition. In his written reply, it has been stated that the exact time for effecting the revision in the rates cannot be indicated at present. In view of the constant price rise and the fact that these workers are mostly Harijans and Adivasis, I want to know from the hon. Minister about the time by which the rates of wages of workers engaged in fireclay, chinaclay and bauxite mines will be revised. The situation today is such that many of the employers do not even pay them the existing wages. Please let us know as to by when the proposed revision of minimum wages will be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : Mr. Speaker Sir, as it has been stated that a proposal is

being formulated and according to the statutory provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, it is essential to give two month's notice for its circulation. The Government will take a decision in this respect immediately after the meeting of the Advisory Board.

[English]

DR. DATTA SAMANT : Sir, out of the total population, about 12 crores are workers and out of them 8 crores are below the poverty line, and they are the workers in all sectors. I do not like to take the time of the House by narrating the details, but even in respect of tea, coffee, and sugarcane, they have the capacity to pay. Sir, my question here is whether the Central Government is going to implement this minimum wage. I know part of it is the State Government's concern also, but there is no will, I am noticing everywhere, to see that it will be strictly implemented. The second thing is that it is linked with the dearness allowance because the Central Government is revising the D.A. for its employees, but for the poor workers there is no linking of D.A. in 70 per cent cases and for 8 or 10 years they are not revising the D.A. in many States or even at the Centre. I would like to know whether the Government is going to take this seriously and see that all the minimum wages in the country are linked with the dearness allowance and it will be strictly implemented.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : So far as the employment which comes under the jurisdiction of the Central Government is concerned, we have now proposed to evolve a system which would link the dearness allowance with the consumer price index number and this is the proposal in relation to these three employments also.

Regarding the States, I am calling a meeting of the State Labour Ministers next month and since there are many employments which are in the jurisdiction of the State Governments, I cannot reply on their behalf. We place this question before them and only on the basis of the consensus action can be taken.

**Expenditure on Welfare of Beedi Workers
out of Cess Collection**

Statement

***397. SHRI C. SAMBU :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount collected during 1987-88 and 1988-89 so far by way of cess under the Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1976;

(b) the amount spent therefrom for the welfare scheme of beedi workers during this period; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHA KISHAN MALAVIYA) : (a) to (c). A statement is given below.

The total amount collected during 1987-88 and 1988-89 so far by way of cess under the Beedi Welfare Cess Act, 1976 as reported by the Collectors of Central Excise is as under :

(in lakhs)

Year	Amount
1987-88	1186
1988-89 (upto June '88)	264

The expenditure in respect of Beedi Workers Welfare Fund for the year 1987-88 and 1988-89 (April 1988 to June 1988) is as under :

(Rs in lakhs)

Sl. No.	1987-88	1988-89 April to June* 1988
1. Administration	48.14	14.28
2. Health	224.83	85.45
3. Education	92.52	—
4. Recreation	1.28	0.34
5. Housing	1.36	0.06
6. Water Supply	nil	—
7. Assistance for construction of godowns and worksheds	0.35	—
8. Grants-in-aid to State Governments	48.00	—
Total :	416.48	100.13
1. Loan for housing	2.98	—
Grand total :	419.46	100.13

*Expenditure for Karma Region upto May 1988 only is included.

SHRI C. SAMBU : Sir, the Union Government collected crores of rupees from the beedi workers in the name of cess. But the Central Government did not do anything to the poor beedi workers. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the facilities extended by the Centre for the welfare of a large number of unorganised sector of beedi workers in general and in Andhra Pradesh in particular, and were they efforts made by the Centre to bring the unorganised beedi workers into the organised sector.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : Sir, the schemes and facilities given to the beedi workers are reservation of beds in T.B. Hospitals scheme for purchase of spectacles, scheme for Leprosy relief, maternity benefits, setting up of hospitals and dispensaries, Group Insurance scheme for beedi workers, Build your Own House Scheme, Housing Scheme for economically weaker sections of beedi workers, construction of worksheds and godowns, scheme for award of scholarships to sons and daughters of the beedi workers, supply of one set of school dress, Scheme for supply of colour Television set to cooperative Societies.

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

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : There are various schemes for them.

SHRI C. SAMBU : Sir, though the schemes are there, they are not implemented in proper manner.

My second supplementary is, is there any proposal to issue identity cards to beedi workers and whether minimum wages scheme is implemented for the beedi workers in our country?

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : The question specially relates to the welfare measures taken from the beedi workers cess fund. It does not relate to the minimum wages of the beedi workers.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, the answer given by the hon. Minister itself clearly shows that a lot of amount is being collected as cess, which is expected to be spent specially for

the schemes and programmes mentioned by the hon. Minister just now in the detail. But the expenditure details show that the amount is not spent. I would like to know, in view of the shortages on the expenditure side, whether the Government will take all necessary steps to see that more funds are utilised for various schemes like housing. You have given only Rs. 3 lakhs as loans for housing though there are several crores of rupees lying unspent. Will the Government take necessary steps for providing loans, for housing as well as water supply in those areas where the beedi workers are residing in abundance. There are health hazards due to the beedi making and if you provide drinking water supply, it would be quite essential for them. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether concrete measures will be taken to fully utilise this amount intended for the welfare of the beedi workers.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : It is for the concerned State Governments to send these schemes. There are advisory committees in the concerned States. It is they who prepare the scheme and prepare the budget. These schemes are known to the State Governments. It is their responsibility under the Act. They prepare the scheme and send the budget and when we received this, we always approve the scheme and provide the funds. The responsibility lies with the State Government, not with us.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : The hon. Minister has mentioned a number of schemes for the beedi workers. May I remind him that request for a small 10 bedded hospital for beedi workers in Ghosaiganj in my constituency is pending since 1983. The hon. Minister himself has assured that he would sanction it. But unfortunately it is not even now finalised and not sanctioned so far.

SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY : The proposal for setting up of a hospital at Ghosaiganj has been approved recently.

[Translation]

Flyover at Shamli

*399. **SHRI AKHTAR HASAN :** Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for the constructions of a flyover at the railway crossing on Shamli-Muzzafar Nagar road or Shamli-Budhana road in Shamli (Muzzafar Nagar district);

(b) if so, the reasons for not constructing the flyover so far; and

(c) the time by which Government propose to construct the flyover keeping in view the serious problem being faced by the public ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) A few representations have been received in this regard.

(b) and (c). The Railways have not so far received any proposal for the construction of road-over bridge near Shamli, from the State Government.

SHRI AKHTAR HASSAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it has been stated in Part (a) of the written reply of the hon. Minister that a few representations have been received in this regard. I have been reminding the Government about this matter since 1985-86 and I had raised it during the Budget Session as well but it has not been implemented so far. Shamli is the biggest town in my constituency. The traffic coming from Muzzafarpur, Roorki, Dehradun, Hardwar and Saharanpur and Delhi and Haryana bound traffic passes through this town. The sugar mills are situated here and due to buggies considerable traffic congestion is created and the railway crossing further adds to this problem because the traffic has to wait for hours for the trains to pass and the barriers to be removed. Therefore, it is very necessary to construct the flyover and I request you to do so at the earliest.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has informed me that he has been reminding me about this matter from time to time through his speeches in the House and through letters addressed to me. I would also like to remind the hon. Member that whenever

this matter has been raised in the House, I replied to it and whenever he had written a letter to me in this regard I replied him and the Government is prepared to consider this proposal but it must come to us through the State Government and I thank the hon. Member that he has provided me an opportunity to reiterate our earlier stand that we are prepared to consider the matter provided a proposal to this effect is submitted to us by the State Government (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : Why are discussions being held in separate groups in this House ?

SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : The hon. Minister has stated that the railway crossing is situated near shamli but I want to inform him that it is not situated in the outskirts of Shamli but it is situated in the heart of the town which is a thickly populated area as a result of which the vehicles and the Pedestrains have to wait for the railway crossing to be opened. That is why I have been requesting you since 1985-86 for the construction of this bridge. This railway crossing is not situated in the outskirts of the town but right at the centre of it. As construction of Railway Bridges comes under the purview of the Central Government so the Government should take the necessary initiative and direct the State Government to send a proposal in this regard. Action should be taken as early as possible and I submit that the hon. Minister may assure us as to when action is to be taken in this regard.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Member has reiterated that he has been reminding us since 1986 about this matter and I also like to remind the hon. Members in this connection that whenever this matter was brought to my notice, I wrote the hon. Member that the proposal should be routed through the State Government, only then it will be considered by us.

SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to submit that the hon. Member is keeping on reminding from here and the same is being done by the hon. Minister from there.

MR. SPEAKER : They are doing wrong. I want to submit that if he invites the hon. Minister and all of us during the mango season, his work will be accomplished.

SHRI YASHPAL SINGH : I was about to make this proposal. Will the hon. Minister accept our invitation and pay a visit to that place along with the hon. Chief Minister and in case he finds it necessary to accept the proposal of the hon. Member, is he prepared to issue immediate instructions in this regard ?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to our criteria, we consider the construction of a flyover only when one lakh train vehicle units pass through the level crossing. Still we are prepared to consider this proposal if it comes to us through the concerned State Government. I want to inform the hon. Member that two meetings were held on 4th May and 3rd August respectively under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Public Works, Uttar Pradesh and in these meetings the proposal for the construction of 3 or 4 bridges was approved but this bridge did not figure in the meeting at all.

[English]

Airlink to Port Blair

*400. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start air service from Delhi to Port Blair via Bhubaneswar;

(b) whether Government propose to extend air service from Madras to Port Blair via Car Nicobar at least once in a year; and

(c) if so, when the flight is likely to commence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no such proposal.

(c) Does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : The question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Airport Management

*387. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Airports Authority is responsible for proper management of domestic airports;

(b) if so, the arrangements made at the airports and on the planes for complaints/suggestions by the passengers in regard to problems faced by them at the airports; and

(c) the action taken by the National Airports Authority on these complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Complaint registers are available with Caretakers on duty at airports. Suggestion cards are placed on board all Indian Airlines' flights. To encourage passengers to make constructive suggestions, in flight announcements are made soliciting their views.

(c) As soon as a complaint is received, the Aerodrome Officer incharge or the Controller of Aerodrome incharge takes immediate suitable remedial action.

Prosecution of Newspaper Establishments for Violation of Working Journalists (Fixation of Rates of Wages) Act

*389. SHRI SATENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether some newspaper establishments have been prosecuted for violation of

of the Working Journalists (Fixation of Rates of Wages) Act, 1958 during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) and (b). The Working Journalists (Fixation of Rates of Wages) Act, 1958 was enacted in view of the Judgement of the Supreme Court on the decision of the Wage Board constituted under Section 8 of the Working Journalists (Condition of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955. With the amendment made in 1962, fixation of rates of wages and prosecutions for violation, if any, in respect of the working journalists is done in accordance with the provisions of the Working Journalists and Other Newspaper Employees (Condition of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955 and as such the question of presecution under the 1958 Act during the last three years does not arise.

Urban Loan Ceiling Laws

*390. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : With the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Urban Arts Commission has suggested several changes in the urban land ceiling laws; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's views thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Change in Route of IC-295/296

*392. SHRI V. SREENIWASA PRASAD : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has recently changed its route in respect of IC flight 295/296 diverting the same from Kanpur to elsewhere;

(b) if so, the earlier and the new route of this flight;

(c) whether disconnection of Kanpur with Bombay/Ahmedabad/Calcutta will not seriously affect the business of the industrial town of Kanpur;

(d) whether Government have received representations from different Chambers of Commerce etc. against rerouting of this flight; and

(e) if so, whether Government are considering to immediately restore the earlier route of this flight ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). prior to 25.7.1988, Indian Airlines was operating IC-295/296 on sectors Calcutta-Patna-Ahmedabad-Bombay each three times a week. With effect from 25.7.1988, these services have been combined and presently IC-295/296 is operating on Calcutta-Patna-Lucknow-Ahmedabad-Bombay, 3 times a week.

(c) Passengers desirous of travelling to Bombay, Calcutta and Ahmedabad can do so from Lucknow.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) At present, Indian Airlines is not in a position to reintroduce services between Kanpur-Calcutta and Kanpur-Bombay due to capacity constraints.

Flow to Foreign Tourists to Orissa

*393. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited Orissa during the last three years. year-wise;

(b) the steps taken to fully utilise the State's capacity of attract more tourists;

(c) whether Government propose to contribute a part of the earnings from foreign tourists to State Government of Orissa for maintenance of the rich treasure of archaeological remains; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :**

(a) As per the information available from the State Government the foreign tourist arrivals in Orissa during the last three years were as given below :

Year	Arrivals
1985	26,134*
1986	25,849
1987	26,848

*Figure for 1985 includes even those foreign tourists who did not stay in accommodation establishments within State.

(b) Steps taken for attracting more foreign tourists to the state of Orissa include improvement of tourism facilities in the State and publicit of tourist attractions of the State in overseas markets.

(c) and (d). The question of contributing in foreign exchange does not arise. But the Government are financing a number of schemes for strengthening tourist infrastructure in the State.

Polio Incidence in Delhi

***398. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :**

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a high incidence of polio has been reported in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to contain the disease ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ
KHAPARDE) :** (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, A statement is given below.

Statement

Reports collected from the major medical institutions in Delhi show that there was an increase in Poliomyelitis cases during the month of July and August, 1988 as compared to previous year.

Table below gives the details of poliomyelitis cases in Delhi during the last three years :

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	Jul.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1986	102	118	78	113	186	215	338	309	198	152	161	163
1987	177	128	235	321	371	334	189	182	259	206	111	59
1988	111	88	99	122	175	117	379	312	Upto	24.8.88		

To prevent poliomyelitis in Delhi and other parts of the country, Trivalent oral polio vaccine is administered to children below one year age under the immunisation programme. In Delhi, during April-June, 1988, 27,922 children below one year were immunised. As an additional measure an extra dose of OPV has been given to 5,51,426 children below 5 years age during July-August, 1988.

Staff on Northern Railway Pay Roll

***401. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :**

**SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHI-
MALA BALI :**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item in

"The Times of India" dated 16 July, 1988 captioned "6000 bogus staff on Northern Railway Pay Roll";

(b) if so, the names of the divisions where such fictitious employees are supposed to be working;

(c) whether Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the Book of Sanction which provides information about the real position of employees in the departments is lying incomplete for many years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The position mentioned in the news item is not factually correct. However, some cases of irregular engagement of casual labour and substitutes on Allahabad, Lucknow and Ferozepur divisions including a case of alleged fictitious payment of wages to 29 substitutes on Lucknow division, have come to notice. In one case, investigations have been completed and disciplinary action is in progress against the employees held responsible. Other cases are under investigation either by the Railway Administration or the CBI.

In addition, as a result of CBI investigation, 2 cases each of irregular employment on the basis of fraudulent letters, on Bikaner and Lucknow divisions, have also come to notice. In the case of Bikaner division, charge-sheet has been filed in the court in respect of both the cases.

(e) No, Sir. Incidentally, the Book of sanction indicates number of sanctioned posts : it does not give details of employees.

Non-Deposit of EPF Contribution by Mills under NCT

***402. DR. V. VENKATESH :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mills under the management of the National Textile Corporation Limited and its nine subsidiaries are not depositing the Provident Fund contributions of their workers;

(b) whether representations by the workers in this regard are not given any consideration by the management;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (c). According to information made available by the NTC, three out of nine Subsidiary Corporations of NTC, were in default as on 31.3.88, in the payment of Provident Fund Contributions as below :

	Rs. in crores
1. NTC (MP) Ltd., Indore	1.17
2. NTC (UP) Ltd., Kanpur	3.77
3. NTC (WBABO) Ltd., Calcutta	3.55

Depending upon the NTC's liquidity position, it takes steps to clear its outstanding dues on account of PF contributions.

(d) The EPF authorities have issued revenue recovery certificates and filed prosecution cases against some of the defaulting mills.

[Translation]

Supply of Foodgrains to Desert Areas of Rajasthan at Subsidised Rates

***403. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether rice and wheat are being supplied at subsidised rates in tribal areas of the country since December, 1985;

(b) if so, the rate at which supplies are made;

(c) whether Shergarh and Falodi areas of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur desert districts in Rajasthan face drought situation every year at some place or the other and the condition of these areas is worse than the tribal areas;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to supply wheat and rice at subsidised rates to these desert areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir. A scheme for supply of wheat and rice at specially subsidised prices to people living in Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) areas and the tribal majority states was introduced in December, 1985 and is under implementation in these areas.

(b) The end-retail prices to the consumers fixed by the Government of India under the scheme are as follows :

	Rs./quinted
Wheat	164
Rice (Common)	185
Rice (Fine)	208
Rice (Superfine)	223

(c) The Government of Rajasthan has reported that the districts of Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur had been facing drought conditions during the years 1984-85 to 1987-88.

(d) and (e) The areas referred to in part (c) of the Question are not covered under any Integrated Tribal Development project (ITDP) in Rajasthan. As such, the scheme for supply of specially subsidised foodgrains in ITDP areas is not applicable to these areas. However, Government of India has allocated to the Government of Rajasthan 3.2 lakh tonnes and 1.1 lakh tonnes of wheat during 1987-88 and 1988-89 (till date) respectively by way of drought relief. The State Government is responsible for distributing the food-

grains allocated by the Central Government in the affected areas according to the needs and availability.

[English]

Sex Discrimination in Air India Airlines

*404. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received a representation from the National Campaign Committee of Trade Unions regarding sex discrimination to which air hostesses of Indian Airlines and Air India are subjected to; and

(b) if so, details thereof and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation mainly alleges sex discrimination to which airhostesses are subjected to, on the following grounds :

- (i) age of super annuation;
- (ii) not being allowed to marry upto four years after joining service;
- (iii) not being allowed to have more than two children;
- (iv) not being allowed to supervise in-flight services; and
- (v) having to report to Flight pursers who may be their juniors.

Courts have been moved on these issues and the Government has acted in accordance with the decisions/judgements of the courts.

Study on Rail Links in Madras

*405. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) has completed the traffic density/potential study on the Luz-Taramani rail link and St. Thomas Mount-Villivakkam corridors in Madras; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Government of Tamil Nadu had engaged Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) for the preparation of a Project Report on Inner Circular Corridor (Rail) between Taramani and Villivakkam, which includes study of traffic density. The Ministry of Urban Development has not received the final Project Report either from the RITES or from the Government of Tamil Nadu.

It is understood from RITES that an engineering feasibility study on the Luz-Taramani Rail Link has been carried out by them in November 1987 on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

(b) Further steps in the matter will be considered on receipt of the report/recommendations from the Government of Tamil Nadu/RITES.

Implementation of Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986

3989. DR. B.L. SHAIKESH :

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the private builders in Delhi are complying with the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act, 1986; and

(b) if not, the action being taken against erring builders ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a). The Delhi Administration, who are the authority to administer the Act, have brought to the notice of Government of India certain legal problems in implementing the Act. Suitable

action has been initiated to sort out the matter. Some procedural steps are also to be finalised before the Promoters and Builders will be required to comply with it.

(b) Does not arise.

Taking Over of Sick Sugar Mills

3990. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number and location of sugar mills in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to take over the sick mills; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and by when ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) A statement giving the position is given below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Number of Installed Sugar Mills in Each State

Sl. No.	State	Number
1	2	3
1.	Uttar Pradesh	104
2.	Bihar	30
3.	Punjab	13
4.	Haryana	8
5.	West Bengal	2
6.	Assam	3
7.	Nagaland	1

1	2	3
8. Rajasthan		3
9. Madhya Pradesh		8
10. Orissa		3
11. Maharashtra		100
12. Gujarat		17
13. Goa		1
14. Tamil Nadu		26
15. Karnataka		28
16. Pondicherry		2
17. Andhra Pradesh		34
18. Kerala		3
Total		386

**Indian Airlines, Vayudoot Service in
West Bengal**

3991. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to connect Asansol, Durgapur, Panagarh, Haldia, Digha and other places in West Bengal with Indian Airlines or Vayudoot services;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Shortage of aircraft capacity with Vayudoot and Indian Airlines and paucity of resources with the National Airports Authority do not permit inclusion of these stations in the immediate expansion plans of the airlines.

**Non-Achievement of Targets of National
Leprosy Eradication Programme**

3992. SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether majority of States and Union Territories have failed to achieve their respective commulative targets upto 1986-87 in connection with National Leprosy Eradication Programme;

(b) if so, the names of such States and the reasons therefor;

(c) the follow-up action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) In order to maintain the tempo of activities under the programme the State Governments are requested to intensify their efforts. This is also impressed upon them in the various meetings held to review health programmes.

Utilisation of Employment Exchanges

3993. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government insist for full utilisation of Employment Exchange network for recruitment and all the State Government Departments, Quasi-Government bodies and Statutory bodies have been instructed to make recruitment through Employment Exchanges only;

(b) if so, whether all the Central Government Corporations/Statutory Bodies also fall in line;

(c) if so, whether Government have received any complaints against violation of the instructions and whether certain departments have filled up the vacancies by-passing the Employment Exchanges;

(d) if so, the details of complaints received from each State and the action taken by Government against those departments; and

(e) whether Government have issued appropriate instructions to the Corporations and Statutory Bodies under their control to implement the instructions strictly and fill up the vacancies only through the Employment Exchanges ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (e). The recruitment through Employment Exchanges in Central and State Governments including Quasi-Government Organisations is regulated through administrative instructions issued by them, respectively. Such instructions, however, do not bind the statutory bodies. According to current instructions issued by the Central Government all vacancies other than those required to be filled through Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission and Recruitment Boards, etc arising under the Central Government offices, Quasi-Government institutions, should not only be notified but also filled through the Employment Exchanges.

In the case of Central Public Sector Undertakings, all vacancies, the maximum of scale of pay of which does not exceed Rs. 1250 (Revised) are required to be filled through Employment Exchanges.

The recruitment in the offices under the State Governments is governed by the instructions issued by the respective State Governments.

The Government of India from time to time have emphasised upon the Central Organisations and State Governments, the need for fuller utilisation of Employment Exchange machinery.

The cases of recruitment, in violation of executive instructions, in Central Government Organisations are referred to the concerned departments for suitable action. The cases of default, in the State Government Departments, are dealt with by the respective State Governments. The State-wise data about complaints are not being maintained.

Modernisation of Visakhapatnam Airport

3994. **SHRI T. BALA GOUD :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Visakhapatnam Airport is to be equipped with the sophisticated navigational equipments as a part of its modernisation plan;

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

(c) by when it would be taken up and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). Visakhapatnam airport belongs to Indian Navy and is maintained by them. The National Airports Authority has no plans for provision of additional navigational equipment at Visakhapatnam.

Production Capacity of Hindustan Latex Limited Trivandrum

3995. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the annual production capacity of Hindustan Latex Limited, Trivandrum;

(b) whether the entire production is consumed in the domestic market;

(c) if not, the names of the countries importing condoms manufactured by Hindustan Latex Limited, Trivandrum; and

(d) the details of profit/loss of the above unit for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) 608 million pieces per annum.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Canada and Mozambique have imported about 0.4m. pcs. and 0.9m. pcs. respectively through the State Trading Corporation in 1988.

(d) The Company made profit during the last three years as under ;

Year	Profit (in lakhs)
1985-86	Rs. 94
1986-87	Rs. 44
1987-88	Rs. 100
	(Provisional)

EPF Arrears Outstanding Against Employers in West Bengal

3996. SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total E.P.F. amount of workers due from the employers in West Bengal as on 30 June, 1988; and

(b) the steps being taken to realise these dues ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) The information as on 30.6.1988 is not readily available. However, the arrears of EPF contribution as on 31.3.1988 were as given below :

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| (i) Unexempted establishments | Rs. 8.59 crores |
| (ii) Exempted establishments | Rs. 95.86 crores |

(b) The E.P.F. authorities are generally taking the following action for realisation the outstanding dues :

- (i) Issuing of Recovery Certificates under section 8 of the EPF Act, for recovery of dues, in respect of unexempted establishments;
- (ii) Filing of prosecution cases under section 14 of the EPF Act in respect of unexempted establishments;
- (iii) Filing of prosecution cases under section 14(2A) of the EPF Act in cases of default on part of exempted establishments;

(iv) Filing of complaints under section 406/409 IPC in cases of non-payment of contribution deducted from the wages of the employees;

(v) Levying of damages under section 14B of the EPF Act.

Land to EPDP Cooperative Group Housing Society in Chittaranjan Park

3997. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi EPDP Cooperative Group Housing Society Limited has been representing to Government for allotment of land within the vicinity of Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi since long;

(b) whether Government had assured the members of the society of early action in the matter;

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

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d). The request of Delhi EPDP Cooperative Group Housing Society Limited for allotment of land in Chittaranjan Park was considered in 1985 but was not agreed to. The Society has made further representations and have also filed a Writ Petition in the High Court of Delhi. No further action can be taken as the matter remains subjudice.

Railway Routes to Trivandrum

3998. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the State capitals have been connected with Trivandrum, the Capital of Kerala by rail;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which the remaining State Capitals are likely to be connected with Trivandrum ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Not feasible.

(d) No time bound plan has been formulated.

[Translation]

Harmful Effects of Synthetic Cloth

3999. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the effect of man made yarn and synthetic fibre on health;

(b) whether use of synthetic cloth is also a source of skin diseases; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). The Government of India has not received any report to the effect that synthetic yarn and fibre causes adverse effect on health. To some people, the use of synthetic cloth may cause contact dermatitis.

[English]

Cancer and Heart Attack Due to Alcohol

4000. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the various research reports and news reports have maintained that human health is badly affected due to consumption of alcohol and this is the main cause of cancer and heart attack;

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

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to eradicate this evil ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). Tobacco usage is usually associated with various cancers like cancer in the mouth, pharynx, larynx, lungs and oesophagus. Several studies have shown increased risks of cancer of oral cavity, larynx, oesophagus, stomach, colon and rectum and liver among drinkers.

Alcohol does not have a direct relationship with heart attack. Alcohol depresses the muscle and accelerates the arterosclerosis which is a cause of heart attack.

(c) Massive health education activities have been taken up by the Government through all mass media channels like television, Radio, films, newspapers, pamphlets etc. to disseminate information on the ill effects of smoking and drinking.

N.P.A. Allowance of Doctors and its Consideration For Benefits

4001. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that as a result of the service doctors agitation a package was offered to the doctors in which it was promised that the Non-Practice Allowance (N.P.A.) would be treated as basic pay for all service matters;

(b) if so, whether Non-Practice Allowance is being considered as basic pay for House Building Advance, Motor Car Loan, Leave, Travel Concession, Travelling Allowance and other service matters; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) As per orders issued by the Ministry of Finance, the Non-Practising Allowance will be treated as 'Pay' for all service matters. In other words, the Non-Practising Allowance will be taken into account for computing D.A., entitlement

of TA/DA and other allowances as well as for calculation of retirement benefits.

(b) and (c). The decision to treat NPA as basic pay for service matters as hitherto has been referred to the Departments in the Government of India for issuing clarificatory orders, wherever applicable in respect of eligibility for Government accommodation, House Building Advance, Motor Car Advance and Leave Travel Concession.

Transportation of Imported Foodgrains

4002. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bulk of the foodgrains imported from the United States has been reserved for transportation by the American ships;

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

(c) the allotment made to the Indian Shipping Industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b). In the case of wheat being imported from U.S.A., the purchases have been made on F.O.B. basis and do not prescribe any stipulation regarding utilization of U.S. flag vessels. However, in the case of maize being received from U.S.A under aid programme, 75% of the quantity is required to be transported by U.S. flagships and 25% by non-U.S. flag vessels, in terms of the aid agreement.

(c) Indian ships have been nominated for a quantity of 1.45 lakh tones against shipments of wheat finalized for May-September, 1988.

Legislation on Working Conditions of Farm Labour

4003. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to initiate legislation to Safeguard the

interests of the farm labourers throughout the country; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) At present there is no such legislative proposal under Government's consideration.

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

Alternative Jobs to Contractor Workers

4004. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide alternative jobs to the contractor workers working at Modern Rice Mill under FCI at Durgapur;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the number of workers affected due to closure ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). It is not possible for FCI to provide employment to the 59 labourers employed by the Handling and Transport Contractor at MRM Durgapur as the mill is being closed.

[Translation]

Allotment of Plots to Refugees of Tihar Village

4005. SHRI RAJ KARAN SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a proposal under consideration of Government regarding allotment of plots to 45 refugees of Tihar Village in Delhi; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any decision had been taken in this regard by the DDA at a high level meeting held in October, 1987;

(c) the reasons for not allotting plots to the refugees so far; and

(d) the time by which the plots will be allotted to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Unmanned Railway Level Crossing on Eastern Railway

4006. SHRI GADADHAR SAHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the unmanned railway level crossings of Eastern Railway manned during the 1987-88; and

(b) the details of the unmanned railway level crossings on Eastern Railway proposed to be manned during 1988-89 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) 13 unmanned level crossings have been manned during 1987-88.

(b) 15 unmanned level crossings are proposed to be manned during 1988-89.

Night Landing Facilities at Kanpur Airport

4007. SHRI M.V. CHANDRA-SEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines divert or withdraw its flights from landing at Kanpur

Airport in the absence of night landing facility;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to provide night landing facility at Kanpur Airport ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). Indian Airlines has to divert occasionally its delayed flight from landing at Kanpur airport where night landing facilities are not available due to shortage of manpower.

(c). Kanpur Airport (Chakeri) belongs to the Indian Air Force. Air Force authorities have been requested to provide necessary aids for night landing at Kanpur.

Distribution of Family Planning Devices

4008. SHRI ZULFIQUAR ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any companies in rural areas engaged in the distribution of family planning devices on behalf of Union Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) Under the Social Marketing Programme, Nirodh and Oral Pills are being sold at a highly subsidized price both in urban and rural areas with the help of Consumer Goods, Pharmaceuticals and Oil Companies on area distribution basis. The details of the Companies involved in the Programme and the areas covered by them is given in the statement below.

Statement***List of Companies involved in Social Marketing of Contraceptives under Family Welfare Programme and their areas of Operations***

S. No.	Name of the Company	Area of operation
A. Nirodh		
1.	I.T.C.	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Uttar Pradesh and Union Territories of Delhi and LMA.
2.	Hindustan Lever Ltd.	Assam, West Bengal, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, Orissa.
3.	Brooke Bond (India) Ltd.	Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa and Rajasthan and Union Territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
4.	Tata Oil Mills Ltd.	Bihar.
5.	Smith Stanishreet Pharmaceutical Ltd.	All India among Chemists.
6.	Indian Drugs and Pharmaceutical Ltd.	All India among Chemists.
7.	Indian Oil Ltd.	All India through Petrol Pumps.
8.	Bharat Petroleum	-do-
9.	Hindustan Petroleum Ltd.	-do-
10.	Reliance Bulk Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. Chandigarh	Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J and K and U.T. of Chandigarh.
11.	Population Services International, New Delhi. (Voluntary Organisation)	Haryana.
B. Oral Pill		
1.	Rallis (India) Ltd.	Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh Goa and Union Territories of Daman and Diu, D and N Haveli.
2.	Hoechst (India) Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana, H.P., J and K and Union Territory of Delhi and Chandigarh.
3.	Warner Hindustan Ltd.	Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Union Territory of LMA.
4.	Dey's Medical Store	Assam, West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim and Union Territory of A and N Island.

**Broad-Gauge Link Between New
Jalpaiguri-Siliguri and Siliguri-
Aluabari Road**

4009. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to open broad-gauge link from New Jalpaiguri Station to Siliguri junction and Siliguri junction to Aluabari Road; and

(b) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be implemented ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

**Provision of Plastic Head and Mouth Cover
Bags to Passengers of IA/AI**

4010. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have noted that a few prominent International airliners provide passengers with plastic head and mouth cover bags to protect them from suffocation in accidental fire during flight; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide plastic head and mouth covers bags for passenger of Air India and Indian Airlines; and

(c) the time likely to be taken in providing those bags ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :**
(a) Government has no information to this effect.

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

**Subsidy on Transportation of Betel
Baskets**

4011. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to subsidise railway freight for the transportation of betel baskets from one State to another;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise;

(c) Betel leaves traffic is already charged at Concessional Parcel (CP-1) Scale of Rates.

Monitoring of Integrated Tribal Development Project

4012. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are closely monitoring the distribution of foodgrains made through the Integrated Tribal Development Project;

(b) whether the survey recently conducted has revealed that the nutritional level of the tribals has been raised;

(c) whether any suggestion has been received about changes/modification in the scheme from the States; and

(d) if so, the nature of modification suggested and those accepted by Union Government ?

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

(b) No specific survey has been conducted. However, there has been an increase in the quantities of foodgrains issued by the Food Corporation of India for distribution under the Scheme from which it could be inferred that per capita consumption of foodgrains in the areas has gone up.

(c) and (d). Some State Governments have requested for extension of the scope of the scheme to cover areas predominantly populated by tribals but not falling under I.T.D.Ps. However, it has not been possible to accede to this request.

Extension of Sealdah-Canning Railway to Golabari on Eastern Railway

4013. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the work of extension of Sealdah-Canning railway line to Golabari on the Eastern Railway;

(b) whether this project is proposed to be included in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). There is no such proposal at present.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Medical College at Sagar

4014. SHRI NANDLAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a persistent demand for the last several years of the setting up of a medical college in Sagar city, Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not setting up a medical college there so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) There is a demand for setting up of a medical college in Sagar city for about last two years.

(b) So far as Madhya Pradesh is concerned, there are six medical colleges with more than 700 admissions. The Government of India is not in favour of setting up of more medical colleges in the country as

a matter of policy, in view of the availability of sufficient number of qualified doctors in the country.

[*English*]

Railway Line between NOIDA and Delhi

4015. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to connect Noida with Delhi/New Delhi/Nizamuddin and Ghaziabad by railway lines to ease the travelling problems of the people;

(b) if so, when the work relating to laying of railway track etc. is likely to start; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Due to the prevailing resource constraints, it is not possible to consider new proposals of this kind.

Change in Time of Pune-Jhelum Express

4016. SHRI V. N. GADGIL : Will the Minister to RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representations for a change in the departure time of the Pune-Jhelum Express so that it reaches Delhi at 5.00 p.m., thereby avoiding inconvenience to passengers; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to change the timings ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

Railway Lines between Jammu and Srinagar and other Hilly Regions

4017. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to lay railway line between Jammu and Srinagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard; and

(c) the details of the programme of laying railway lines in other hill regions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). Construction of rail line between Jammu and Udhampur is approved. Its progress is 12%.

Study has been taken up for rail line beyond Udhampur upto Srinagar to determine its feasibility and financial implications.

(c) Work on the following new lines in other hilly regions is approved and being progressed according to availability of resources.

Name of the Project	Length (km)
1. Dharamnagar-Kumarghat	33
2. Balipara-Bhalukpong	35
3. Silchar-Jiribum	49
4. Jogighopa-Guwahati alongwith rail-cum-road bridge	143
5. Amguri-Tuli	14
6. Lalabazar-Bhairabi	48
7. Nangal Dam-Talwara/ Mukerian	113
8. Koraput-Rayagada	164

Items 1, 2, 3, and 6 are programmed to be completed during the VII Plan.

Agreement with Nepal for Railway Links

4018. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement has been signed with Nepal to lay rail lines for running trains between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made so far in this regard ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Fly-over at Okhla Industrial Estate Level Crossing

4019. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the heavy rail/road traffic on the road-cum-rail level crossing of Okhla Industrial Estate near Mathura Road where vehicular traffic is blocked for hours due to frequent passing of trains;

(b) whether Government propose to construct a fly-over on this road/rail level crossing to meet the growing needs of traffic; and

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

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

(b) and (c). Construction of a road-over-bridge in replacement of level crossing No. 581 on Ring Road on Delhi-Mathura rail line near Okhla Industrial Estate is, at present, in progress. The bridge will have a carriage way of 11.00 m with central verge of 1.20m and foot paths of 2.6 m on either side. The estimated cost of the work is Rs. 8.50 crores approximately.

Additions/Alterations in DDA Flats in South Delhi Colonies

4021. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether in most of the flats allotted by D.D.A. the allottees have carried out alteration/addition as per their convenience;

(b) if so, the number of such cases in South Delhi colonies; and

(c) the number of cases in South Delhi colonies where permission has been granted to carry out additions/alterations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Allocation of Funds for Vishakhapatnam

4022. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMAMURTY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the location of the various major Central public sector projects and utilisation by them of the existing infrastructure facilities created by the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation;

(b) whether Union Government propose to make any special allocation of funds to Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation to meet the development requirements;

(c) whether Union Government have released some grants in the past to the various Metropolitan Towns like Calcutta, Madras, Bombay etc. and if so, to what extent; and

(d) whether special investments were made by Union Government or by Central Public Undertakings to develop the towns

like Rourkela, Bhilai, Bhopal, etc. where Central projects are located, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Some important Central Public Sector Projects have come up in and around Visakhapatnam. The important ones are related to dock and naval expansion facilities and laterly to the location of a steel plant.

(b) There is no move to make any special allocation of funds for Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation. However, the Housing and Urban development Corporation (HUDCO) has sanctioned one basic sanitation scheme to Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation for a project cost of Rs. 578.35 lakhs involving HUDCO's loan assistance of Rs. 283.76 lakhs for conversion/construction of 29950 latrine units.

In addition, the Overseas Development Administration of U.K. have approved £ 9.75 million for upgrading 170 slums under the Visakhapatnam Habitat Project.

(c) Over the last two years Rs. 100 crores was sanctioned as a special grant for Bombay for housing and slum development Programmes in the city. No special funds have been given to Calcutta, Madras or other Metropolitan cities.

(d) As per statement below.

Statement

Details of the schemes sanctioned by HUDCO in the cities of Vishakhapatnam, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Rourkela, Bhilai and Bhopal are given below :

Cities	No. of schemes	Project cost	Loan amount	(Rs. in crores)	
				Dwellings sanctioned	Plots sanctioned
Vishakhapatnam	64	46.21	31.98	27643	2466
Calcutta	41	63.63	42.95	11209	974
Bombay	189	189.37	213.70	85912	4491
Madras	187	195.75	96.71	68875	8109
Rourkela	14	16.85	12.29	6681	80
Bhilai	12	14.66	10.51	4760	4419
Bhopal	41	25.12	16.71	10480	8957
	548				

Closing of Iron Ore Mines in Orissa

4023. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL :
Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 5000 mine workers in Joda and Barbil areas in Orissa are on the verge of retrenchment as the mine owners have decided to close down their iron ore mining activities;

(b) if so, the reasons for stopping the mining activities; and

(c) the details of directives sent to the mine owners not to stop the mining activities ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (c). M/s. S. Lal and Co. Ltd. and their 12 contractors, At/P.O. Bhadrasahi, Distt. Keonjhar had sought permission under Section 25-O of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for closure of their Kasia iron ore mines w.e.f. 14.9.88. The total number of workmen proposed to be retrenched as a result of closure is 544. Besides, M/s. Tarini Minerals, At B. Roida, P.O. Barbil, Distt. Keonjhar had sought permission under Section 25-N of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 for retrenchment of 200 workmen w.e.f. 11.10.88. This Company has since withdrawn its application for permission for retrenchment of workers.

The reason for closure of the mines by M/s. S. Lal and Co. Ltd. and their contractors is stated to be expiry of validity of working permission/contract. The said Company and their contractors are not required to obtain permission for closure under the Industrial Disputes Act. They are, however, required to serve 60 days notice of intention to close down the establishments as well as to give notice and compensation to retrenched/workers. They have been advised to comply with these requirements.

Experiments of Homoeopathic Medicines on Animals

4024. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the experts in homoeopathy have made successful experiments on animals for use of homoeopathic medicines;

(b) whether a number of Homoeopaths have already made various experiments of these drugs on animals to prove their efficacy in improving or curing psychological or pathological diseases in humans;

(c) if so, whether a number of experiments have proved effective; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government propose to help and assist homoeopathy for human welfare ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). Experiments are in progress under the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy regarding evaluation of some homoeopathic medicines in prevention and cure of thromboembolic and arteriosclerotic conditions and in cholelithiasis induced experimentally in laboratory animals. Similarly, experiments are also in progress to evaluate the hypoglycaemic activities of some homoeopathic drugs on animals. The experiments on animals presently in progress are basically designed to prove the action of microdoses and to counter the misconception that homoeopathic action is placebo effect.

(c) The experiments so far conducted by the Council provide encouraging leads. Further work is in progress.

(d) The Government are taking all possible steps to develop the homoeopathic science. Specifically, these are listed out in the statement below.

Statement

Constitution of a Central Council of Homoeopathy under the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 to regulate homoeopathic education and practice in the country.

Establishment of a Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy to initiate, aid, develop and coordinate scientific research

in different aspects of Homoeopathic system of medicine.

Establishment of a National Institute of Homoeopathy at Calcutta as a premier institution in the field of Homoeopathy to provide for under-graduate and post-graduate study in Homoeopathy, research and medical services/care; etc. keeping in view the long-term goal of meeting the requirements of homoeopathic trained medical personnel in the country to take charge of health care delivery, research and teaching at the highest standard.

Establishment of a Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Laboratory at Ghaziabad to function as a standard-setting-cum-drug testing laboratory at National level and for evolving standards for inclusion in the Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India and Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Codex, drug testing for the purposes of Drugs and Cosmetics Act in relation to Homoeopathy.

Establishment of a Homoeopathic Wing in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to monitor implementation of the Schemes in Homoeopathy.

Constitution of a Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia Committee to lay down principles and standards for preparation of homoeopathic drugs and test of identity, quality and purity of homoeopathic drugs.

Constitution of an Advisory Committee on Homoeopathy to advise the Ministry on various matters on policy in the field of Homoeopathy.

Grant of financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 1.60 lakhs to Homoeopathic Colleges run by voluntary agencies and others for purchase of specified laboratory equipments and for setting up of book banks.

[*Translation*]

Excess Fare Charges on Northern Railway Divisions

4025. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL ; Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received some complaints regarding application of

Rule 255 in the various railway divisions in Rajasthan, particularly in the divisions of Northern Railway;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Railways are charging Rs. 190 as fare from Jodhpur to Guwahati *via* Delhi-Mughal Sarai though the stipulated fare is Rs. 154 only; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken to overcome this anomaly ?

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

(b) The rule in question was amended.

(c) No, Sir, at present these fares are not being charged.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Pending Court Cases of Ex-Employees of Central Research Institute for Yoga

4026. SHRI K. § KUNJAMBU : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of court cases pending in various courts filed by ex-employees of the Central Research Institute for Yoga and Central Council for Research in Natoropathy and Yoga and Viswayatan Yogashram against the orders issued by the Director of these institutes;

(b) the expenditure incurred in each such cases and whether it is within the norms fixed by Government;

(c) whether approval was taken from the competent authority for this expenditure; and

(d) if not, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) According to the information furnished by the Director of the Central Research Institute for Yoga (CRIY) and the Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy (CCRYN), the cases filed by four ex-employees (including one daily wage) and by one employee of CCYRN against the orders issued by the Director of these institutes are pending on courts.

(b) to (d). The expenditure incurred till date in each case indicated below :
CRIY

(i) Shri Harpal Singh Rs. 7,500.00

(ii) Shri Dhan Bahadur Rs. 7,450.00

(iii) Smt. Ranjula —

(iv) Shri Suresh Kumar Rs. 5,400.00

CCRYN

Shri Subhash Rs. 18,600.00
Chander

No expenditure has been incurred on any employee of Vishwayatan Yogashram. The expenditure incurred on the cases of employees of CRIY is within the norms fixed by the Government. The expenditure incurred in the case of employees of CCYRN for the first appearance of the advocate is not strictly according to the norms prescribed by the Government. All other expenses in this case are within the norms prescribed by the Government. All cases in which expenditure have exceeded prescribed limits will be placed before the Governing Bodies of the Institutes.

Allotment of Houses by DDA

4027. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of house under construction by the DDA during July, 1986 under various housing schemes and the target dates for their completion; and

(b) the number of houses out of them actually completed and handed over to the allottees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Japanese Assistance for Improvement in Tourist Infrastructure at Buddhist Pilgrim Centres

4028. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of **CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Japan has agreed to provide assistance for improving tourist infrastructure at Buddhist pilgrim centres in the country if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether government have prepared any scheme for utilising this assistance; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

Japan has offered an assistance of around Rs. 95 crores for the development of traditional rural and backward areas by providing certain basic facilities for the use of pilgrim and tourist traffic. These areas fall within the State of U.P. and Bihar and cover sites of Buddhist pilgrimage.

(b) and (c). A Master Plan for development of tourist infrastructure along the Buddhist sector at an approximate cost of Rs. 200 crores has been prepared by the Government. The amount will be spent in a phased manner from 1989 to 1992 for the improvement of roads, electric supply, communication facilities, landscaping, provision of way-side amenities, restoration of monuments, etc.

Decontrol of Wheat

4029. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU : Will the Minister of **FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision to decontrol wheat allotment to the roller flour mills and allow them to purchase it from the open market;

(b) whether wheat products produced by the flour mills are being sold at high prices to public; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the policy of allotment of wheat to the roller flour mills?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BALTHA) : (a) (b). Yes, Sir. After the delicensing of RFM industry in 1986, the Central Government is under no obligation to supply wheat to RFMs. The mills are free to purchase wheat from any source including FCI subject however to the availability of stocks. There is also no check on the industry with regard to its production and sale of wheat products.

(c) The policy is always under constant review.

**Introduction of Local Train between
Kamptee and Ambazari Project
(Maharashtra)**

4030. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the proposal to introduce a local train between Kamptee and Ambazari Project in Maharashtra is pending since long;

(b) whether any decision has been taken on the said proposal;

(c) if not, by which time the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). Introduction of the local train has not been found feasible.

[Translation]

**Construction of Railway Lines and
Cancellation of Trains in Bihar**

4031. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum for construction of Chitauni-Bagha railway bridge and Sakri-Hasanpur line;

(b) whether memorandum has also been received regarding cancellation of trains running from Patna and Hajipur to North Bihar area;

(c) if so, the names of the trains cancelled and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to implement the necessary schemes and to resume the running of trains in North Bihar?

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

(c) Consequent on B.G. conversion of Sonapur-Muzaffarpur section and construction of Gandhi Setu road bridge on river Ganga, the erstwhile rail-cum-ferry link between Patna and North Bihar was snapped. Moreover, the train services in this sector lost patronage in face of direct and cheaper road transport. Due to this, train services were curtailed, by way of rationalisation.

Names of the trains involved will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(d) North Bihar is now being served by both B. G. and M.G. systems. The former provides direct train services to Patna/Hajipur and other important cities.

To cope with the increase in traffic patch doubling of track on Barauni-Samastipur-Muzaffarpur section has been taken up.

[English]

Yogic Exercises

4032. SHRI U.H. PATEL :

SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Yogasnas (physical exercises), dhyan, mudra and nature cure systems are the best for keeping good health;

(b) whether these systems are also cheap in comparison to other systems like Allopathy, ayurvedic, unani, bio-chemic and homoeopathy; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to encourage Yoga, physical exercises and nature cure systems, etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yogasnas (Physical exercises), dhyan, mudra and nature cure systems are considered to be effective in maintaining good health.

(b) The Government have not undertaken any study to analyse the compara-

tive cost effectiveness of the various systems. However, a general view is that yoga and naturopathy are comparatively cheaper than other systems of medicines.

(c) With a view to encourage research and training in the field of yoga and naturopathy, the Government has set up Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy. A Central Research Institute for Yoga at New Delhi has also been set up to conduct research in the therapeutic aspects of yoga. The Ministry of Health and FW is also rendering financial assistance to Vishwayatan Yogashram for training of yoga teachers. It is proposed to set up the National Institute of Naturopathy at Pune during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

A statement showing the Seventh Five Year Plan allocation and current year's provision for these institutions (both plan and non-plan) is given below.

Statement

Seventh Five Year Plan Provision and BE 1988-89 (Plan and non-plan) for yoga and naturopathy institutions under the Ministry of Health and F.W.

(Rs. in lakhs)

	Seventh Plan allocation	BE 1988-89	
		Plan	Non-plan
Central Council for Research in Yoga and Naturopathy	70.00	25.00	3.50
Central Research Institute for Yoga	130.00	20.00	16.50
Vishwayatan Yogashram	14.00	4.00	8.00
National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune.	100.00	20.00	—

World Bank Assistance for Bombay Urban Development Project

**4033. SHRIMATI USHA CHOU-
DHARY :** Will the Minister of URBAN
DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has sanctioned 50 per cent of the total cost of

Bombay Urban Development Project, as loan to Government of India;

(b) whether Union Government provide only 70 per cent of this amount to the State which amounts to only 35 per cent of the total project cost;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to pass on the entire 50 per cent loan assistance of World Bank; and

(a) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) The World Bank have extended an IDA credit of \$ 138 million for the Bombay Urban Development Project, by an agreement dated 1st March, 1985. THE IDA credit is intended to finance about 58% of the project cost, net of taxes and duties.

(b) to (e). In accordance with the prevailing norms and guidelines, additional central assistance, representing 70% of disbursements by the World Bank is being made available to Government of Maharashtra. These norms are applied uniformly to all externally aided projects, and it is not proposed to make an exception in the case of the Bomay Urban Development project.

Irregularities in Group Housing Societies

4034. SHRI S.M. GURADDI :

SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there had been a number of charges of irregularities against some of the group housing societies in the capital;

(b) if so, the details of the charges made; and

(c) the number of societies against whom action has been taken so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Charges made generally fall under following categories :

1. Mismanagement including failure in following the provisions of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Act,

1972 and Rules/Bye-laws and orders/directions issued by Government authorities.

2. Rift in management/parallel management.

3. Misappropriation/Embezzlement of funds.

(c) In 28 societies inspection u/s 54/ inquiry U/s 55 of the Delhi Cooperative Societies Rules 1973 have been ordered. In 6 societies enquiry U/s 59 of the said Rules have been ordered to fix the responsibility of embezzlement misappropriation of funds. In 11 societies the management has been removed and Administrator appointed and in 50 societies winding up/liquidation proceedings have been initiated.

[Translation]

Parks in Resettlement Colonies in Delhi

4035. SHRI BHARAT SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the parks in the resettlement colonies of Delhi are in a dilapidated condition; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DILBIR SINGH) : Yes, Sir.

(b) MCD has reported that plantation of 67350 trees and shrubs has already been done in the resettlement colonies. Estimates for other development and improvement works of the parks are under preparation. In addition earth filling work in low lying parks of Nand Nagri has been taken in hand.

[English]

Financial Assistance by UNICEF

4036. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether UNICEF has been providing financial assistance to several countries for expanded programme of immunization;

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

(c) whether Union Government have approached the UNICEE for providing financial assistance under expanded programme of immunization; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). According to information made available by UNICEF, the organisation is providing assistance to all developing countries.

(c) UNICEF assistance for immunization programme in India is one of the leading items includes in the Plan of Operations mutually agreed upon between Government of India and UNICEF.

(d) Assistance from UNICEF is received both in cash and in kind. Details of accounts are yet to be finalised.

Bed Availability in AIIMS

4037 SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the steps being taken to improve the availability of beds in AIIMS hospital ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : New Speciality Centres, like Cardic-Thoracic, Neuro-Science are being developed to improve the availability of bed-strength in the A.I.I.M.S. hospital. The R.P. Centre has also increased its bed strength to 300 beds this year.

Opening of Unani CCHS Dispensary at Bhubaneswar

4039. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Ministr of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to open a Unani dispensary at Bhubaneswar the Central Government Health Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) No proposal/request for opening Unani dispensary has been received.

Export of Edible Oils

4040. DR. D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of edible oils exported in the year 1987-88 and the estimate of oils proposed to be exported in the year 1988-89;

(b) the quantity of surplus edible oils available in country; and

(c) the implications on the cost of edible oils due to the export ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b). Since the production of indigenous edible oils is not sufficient to meet the country's demand, there is no question of availability of surplus oil in the country for export. However, export of 2 MTs of mustard oil has been allowed during the licencing period 1987-88 and 1988-89 to Sri Lanka for medicinal purposes, as a special case, on the request of Government of Sri Lanka.

(c) The export of edible oil in a negligible quantity has no implications on prices of edible oils.

House Building Loans to Employees of EPF Offices

4041. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of applications for House Building Advance against employees' contribution have been received in the office of Central Provident Fund Commissioner;

(b) if so, the total number of applications received till the end of June, 1988;

(c) the State-wise break-up of these applications so far; and

(d) the criteria adopted for disposal of these applications; and

(e) the total number of employees in the sub-regional office at Nagpur provided with this loan till end of June, 1988 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (e). The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the Sabha in due course.

[Translation]

Late Running of 355 Down Itarsi-Jhansi Passenger Train

4042. **SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 355 Down Itarsi-Jhansi passenger train on the Central Railway has been regularly running late from the originating station for the last 3 years;

(c) the time by which this train is likely to run on scheduled time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). Punctuality of 355 Down Itarsi-Jhansi Passenger train has not been satisfactory mainly due to railway electrification works going on between Jhansi and Bhopal. It is likely to improve after April, 1989 when the works are expected to be over.

[English]

Cases Pending in Courts Regarding Urban Land Ceiling Act

4043. **SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the number of cases challenging the validity of Urban Land Ceiling Act awaiting disposal in High Courts and Supreme Court and the major points of challenge, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976 is actually implemented by the concerned State Governments through various Competent Authorities appointed by them for the purpose. As such no record regarding the number of cases challenging the validity of the Act, in the various High Courts and Supreme Court, is available. Supreme Court have, however, held that the entire Act is valid save except section 27(1) in so far as it imposes a restriction on transfer of any urban or urbanisable land with a building or of a portion of such building, which is within the ceiling area.

Backlog of SC and ST in Department of Civil Supplies

4045. **SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI :** Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) category-wise number of employees working in the Department of Civil Supplies;

(b) whether the quota reserved for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees has been fulfilled; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) The category-wise number of employees working in the Department of Civil Supplies (Proper) is as under :

Group	No of employees		
	Total	SC	ST
A	29	2(6.9%)	3(10.3%)
B	63	9(14.28%)	—
C	81	8(9.87%)	1(1.23%)
D	64	22(34.37%)	1(1.56%)

(b) Not in all the categories.

(c) In the case of Groups 'B' 'C' and 'D' the appointments are generally made on the basis of nominations received from

the Department of Personnel and Training and Employment Exchange. Sometimes the candidates belonging to the reserved category are not available to the required extent. Besides this, reservation is not applicable in the case of appointments by transfer on deputation and promotion where direct recruitment quota exceeds 66 2/3%. In Group 'A' also, it is not applicable above the lowest rung.

**Introduction of Superfast/Delux Trains
between Mahboob Nagar and Bangalore**

4046. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Union Government to introduce superfast/fast/delux trains between Mahaboob Nagar and Bangalore ?

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) MG-cum-BG route is shorter.

Nangal-Talwara Railway Line

4047. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 16 April, 1987 to Unstarred Question No. 6889 regarding Nangal-Talwara Railway Line and state :

(a) the latest progress in the construction of Mehtapur-Una Section and acquisition of land from Una to Amb of Nangal-Talwara railway line in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to speed up the construction work and ensure an early construction of the line upto Amb and its completion up to Talwara and taking over of Talwara-Mukerian siding;

(c) if so, the targets for completion of each stage;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken for an early completion of the line ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) On Rai Mehatpur-Una Section, progress for earth-work and Bridges is 90% and about 30% respectively. On Amb-Andaura Sections, site demarcation and preparation of land plans has been completed for 11 km beyond Una. Notification of acquisition is still to be issued by the State Government.

(b) to (d). Allotment for this project in 1988-89 is Rs. 5 crore. Rai Mehatpur-Una section is targetted for commissioning in 3rd quarter of 1989 subject to early handing over of remaining 200 metre stretch of land by the State Government. Completion of remaining sections of the new line will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.

Hedging in Kapas

4048. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been made to permit hedging in Kapas type of cotton; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon;

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b). Government of India and the Forward Markets Commission have received a few representations since June, 1985 regarding resumption of hedge (futures) trading in kapas (unginned raw cotton). In January, 1987, Government of India allowed resumption of futures trading in four selected varieties of cotton under the auspices of the East India Cotton Association, Bombay. However, having regard to the changed situation in respect of the availability of cotton during the 1987-88 cotton season (September-August), the Government subsequently decided to keep it in abeyance. No decision on resumption of futures trading in kapas has been taken.

Increase in Allocation of Rice to A.P.

4049. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested for additional allotment of rice to be distributed through the Public Distribution System, if so, the quantity demanded;

(b) whether Union Government have acceded the request, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total quantity of rice procured in Andhra Pradesh by the Food Corporation of India, and the State Civil Supplies Corporation during the year 1987-88 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a). Yes, Sir. The Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for increasing their allocation of rice to 1,20,000 tonnes per month.

(b) The allocation of rice to the Andhra Pradesh has been raised from 70,000 tonnes in August, 1988 to 75,000 tonnes for September, 1988.

(c) In Andhra Pradesh, the Food Corporation of India is the agency responsible for procurement of rice/paddy for the Central Pool. During the current marketing season of 1987-88 (till 17.8.88), a quantity of 15.13 lakh tonnes of rice has been procured by the Food Corporation of India. The Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd., is also reported to be have purchased 8.84 lakh tonnes on State account till 19.8.88.

Introduction of Trains on Bangalore-Dindigul-Madurai Route

4050. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the broad gauge line between Karur and Dindigul has been completed; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal

to run a daily train between Bangalore-Dindigul and connecting train between Dindigul to Madurai ?

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

(b) No, Sir.

[Translation]

Special Line between Delhi-Kanpur

4051. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to lay any special line for running the passenger trains only, in view of the rush of passenger between Kanpur and Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be taken up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c). A pre-feasibility study has been conducted for a high speed corridor between Delhi and Kanpur via Agra. A project for the line can be framed only after a detailed study of technological and financial implications. Investment decision on the line will be subject to the viability of the project and availability of funds.

[English]

Macherla-Raichur Railway Line

4052. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the survey for Macherla-Raichur railway line has been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the estimated expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the time by which the project is likely to be taken up for construction ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No decision on its construction has been taken so far.

Introduction of Superfast Train from Delhi to Miraj

4053. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to introduce a direct superfast express train between Delhi and Miraj to reduce the journey period of the passengers from Delhi to Vasco-da-Gama (Goa);

(b) if so, the detail thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the journey time will be reduced ?

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

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

Water and Sanitation Facilities

4054. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any assessment of the achievements made in respect of drinking water facilities and sanitation improvement, both in the rural and urban areas, during the Seventh Plan period as against the targets;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the

reasons for the shortfall if any, in achieving the targets; and

(c) the schemes, if any, formulated by Government fill the gap between the demand and supply of drinking water to keep pace with the growing population in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the commencement of the 7th Plan there were 1,61,722 problem villages to be covered with safe drinking water facilities. Except about 4,000 problem villages which will spill over to 8th Plan all the remaining problem villages are likely to be provided with safe drinking water facilities in the Seventh Plan itself. Upto 30.6.1988, 94,367 problem villages have been covered fully. This does not include habitations/ problem villages covered partially. The achievements are according to action plan drawn up and there is no shortfall in the achievement. Regarding Rural Sanitation Programme, the Seventh Plan target was to provide sanitary latrines to 25% of the population, but due to poor response from State/UTs and financial constraints, the achievements may not be more than 5% to 10% by the end of the Seventh Plan.

As regards Urban Water Supply and Sanitation, it was expected to achieve population coverage of 100% and 80% respectively by the end of the Decade Programme on 31st March, 1991. However, due to financial and other constraints, the targets have been scaled down to 90% for urban water supply and 50% for urban sanitation to be achieved by 31st March, 1991. On the basis of the information furnished by the State Governments/UTs. the population coverage for urban water supply and sanitation as on 31.3.85 and 31.3.87 are as follows :

(Population in millions)

S. Sector No.	As on 31.3.85	%	Coverage	
			As on 31.3.87	%
1. Urban Water Supply	127.20	72.88	146.23	79.24
2. Urban Sanitation	49.56	28.40	74.50	40.37

(c) Water Supply is a State subject. It is the responsibility of the State Governments and local Bodies to plan and implement drinking water schemes to fill the gap between the demand and supply of drinking water keeping in view the growth rate of the population. Central support is provided through the Technology Mission, the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme for rural schemes, in co-opting external assistance (particularly from World Bank) for urban schemes, L.I.C. loans, training, etc.

Charges Against Sr. Officers of NCCF

4055. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any departmental enquiries against some officers have been held in connection with irregularities in the supply of pulses by NCCF to FCI if so, the findings thereof and followup action taken thereon; and

(b) whether any enquiry has also been in held regard to irregularities in the purchase and sale of Iraqi Dry dates if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action taken thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES. (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) The investigation in this case was carried out by the Central Bureau of Investigation are to take action for prosecution of two officers and one former President of NCCF besides others. NCCF have also decided, in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission, to initiate major penalty proceedings against two of its officers, who are also to be prosecuted by CBI and minor penalty proceedings against other two officers against whom CBI has no, recommended any action.

(b) The CBI have taken up investigation into this matter.

T.B. Patients in Uttar Pradesh

4056. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of T.B. patients are on the increase in Uttar Pradesh, especially in Basti district;

(b) if so, the number of such patients in the State during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken to control the disease ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). As per information given by the State Government of Uttar Pradesh the number of new T.B. patients detected during last three years are as under :

1985-86	—	231481
1986-87	—	260595
1987-88	—	270981

(c) Under the National T.B. Control Programme a fully equipped and staffed District T.B. Centre to undertake free case finding and treatment activities through all existing medical and health institutions including Primary Health Centres are functioning in each District in the State of Uttar Pradesh. To prevent the development of the disease BCG Vaccination is being given to children of age group 0—1 years as a part of Universal Programme of Immunization.

Doubling of Guntakal-Mancherla Section

4057. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of doubling of the section between Guntakal and Macherla is likely to be completed by the end of the year 1989; and

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on project so far and the outlay for the year 1988-89 ?

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

(b) Expenditure incurred upto March, 1988 is Rs. 302 lakhs. Outlay for 1988-89 is Rs. 189.25 lakhs of which Rs. 21.58 lakhs has been spent upto June, 1988.

Difference in Rail Fare between Dahod and Limkheda

4058. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any difference in rail fare from Dahod to Limkheda and from Limkheda to Dahod.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to equalise the fare ?

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

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

Doubling of Hyderabad-Secunderabad Route

4059. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work of doubling of broad-gauge railway line between Hyderabad and Secunderabad was approved and grounded;

(b) the estimated cost thereof and the amount spent as on 31 March, 1988 on this project; and

(c) the time by which this work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Double line exists between Secunderabad and Hussainsagar. Work of doubling between Hussainsagar and Hyderabad is part of approved work of Hyderabad—Telapur doubling which is being progressed.

(b) The estimated cost of Hyderabad—Telapur doubling work is Rs. 18.79 crore.

The expenditure incurred upto 3/88 is Rs. 11.31 crore.

(c) Doubling between Hyderabad and Hussainsagar is planned to be commissioned in 1989.

Transport Facility between Arrival and Departure Terminals at I.G.I.A.

4060. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether two different terminals at domestic wing are used for departures at the Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) whether the arrival terminal is two kilometres away from these terminals;

(c) whether the frequency of the coaches provided for transporting the passengers from one terminal to the other is not adequate and most often the passengers are forced to hire taxis; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures contemplated to avoid such problems of the passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Arrival Terminal (I-B) is about 100ft. away from the Boeing Departure Terminal (I-A). The distance by taxi/car from the Arrival Terminal to the Airbus Departure Terminal (I-C) is about one kilometre.

(c) and (d). No coach service is presently operating between the domestic terminals. Inter terminal taxi service has, however, been provided to commute from Terminal I-A/I-B to Terminal I-C. It is proposed to introduce an inter-terminal coach service shortly.

Urban Development Project for Jabalpur

4061. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted a proposal to Union Government to include Jabalpur city under the M.P. Urban Development Project of World Bank; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Sale of Drugs through Super Bazar

4062. SHRI P. R. S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Super Bazar is selling drugs and pharmaceuticals in Delhi and if so, the year-wise turnover for last three years;

(b) the number of such outlets in Delhi; and

(c) whether more such outlets are proposed to be opened if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The sale of drugs have been as under :

(i) 1985-86	Rs. 498.66 lakhs
(ii) 1986-87	Rs. 585.04 lakhs
(iii) 1987-88	Rs. 715.88 lakhs

(b) The number of outlets dealing in drugs are 17.

(c) Super Bazar have tentatively identified the following locations for opening drug outlets in near future :

1. Safdarjung Hospital.
2. Swasthya Vihar.
3. Parliament House Annexe
(Subject to availability of space).

New Treatment of Heart Attack "Thrombolytic Therapy"

4063. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press reports regarding a new treatment for heart attack called "thrombolytic therapy";

(b) whether it can reduce fatalities in heart attack cases;

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken to spread knowledge about this new system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) This treatment is already being given to heart attack patients in the hospitals.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) This system of treatment is already being widely discussed in almost all medical and cardiac conferences in India for the last about five years. A National Conference on Thrombolytic therapy was held in Delhi in September, 1985. Several continuing medical education programme have also discussed this topic extensively all over India.

Elephantiasis in the Country

4064. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people affected by elephantiasis in the country State-wise;

(b) whether cases of elephantiasis are on increase;

(c) if so, the States which are endemic to elephantiasis;

(d) the Central assistance given to the States to control the disease; and

(e) the steps taken to prevent spread of elephantiasis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The number of people estimated to be affected by filariasis (microfilaria carriers and Elephantiasis cases) in the country State-wise are given in the statement below.

(b) There is marginal increase in the number of Elephantiasis cases in the country on account of survey conducted in the new areas in the endemic States and natural increase in the population in filariasis areas. However, in areas where filaria control measures are in operation, the number of cases have decreased.

(c) The names of the states and Union territories endemic for filariasis are given in Column (2) of the statement referred to above.

(d) The Central assistance given to the States and U.Ts. to control filariasis for the last 3 years is as follows :

	Actual expenditure
1985-86	Rs. 140.55 Lakhs
1986-87	Rs. 150.00 „
1987-88	Rs. 150.00 „
1988-89	Rs. 200.00 „
	(Budget allocation)

(c) At present, 203 central units with 183 filaria clinics are functioning to control the spread of filariasis in the urban areas in the country, covering 40 million population through antilarval measures with weekly application of mosquito larvicidal oil (MLO)/ Fenthion/Temephos in the mosquito breeding places to reduce the vector population and night blood surveys to treat microfilaria carriers and Elephantiasis cases.

In addition, source reduction through biological control and environmental control measures are also undertaken.

Statement

The Estimated People Affected by Filariasis

(no. in millions)

Sl. No.	State	Microfilaria carriers	Diseased persons
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.16	1.35
2.	Assam	0.35	0.09
3.	Bihar	3.94	5.41
4.	Gujarat	1.00	0.13
5.	Karnataka	0.69	0.08
6.	Kerala	2.28	2.24
7.	Madhya Pradesh	0.61	0.08
8.	Maharashtra	0.84	0.16
9.	Orissa	2.19	1.37

1	2	3	4
10. Tamil Nadu		2.24	1.19
11. West Bengal		0.79	0.02
12. A and N Islands		0.69	—
13. Uttar Pradesh		6.39	6.87
14. Pondicherry		0.03	0.01
15. Lakshadweep		0.01	—
16. Goa, Daman and Diu		0.01	—
17. Dadar and Nagar Haveli		0.01	—
Total		25.00	19.00

Protection of Inter-State Migrant Workmen

4065. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States which have taken necessary action under the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 to protect the interest of their labour/workmen in other States/Union Territories ?

(b) whether the Governments of the host States have permitted other States to post Labour Welfare Officers in their territory as provided in the Act;

(c) if so, the locations of such offices, State-wise; and

(d) the particulars of the additional steps proposed to be taken to prevent the exploitation and to promote the welfare of migrant labour ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) As per available information, all the State Governments and Union Territories except Nagaland, Lakshadweep, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh have framed rules under the Act, for carrying out the proposes of the Act.

(b) This matter was discussed in the Labour Secretaries Meeting held in 1987. It was generally felt that the appointment of Inspectors of one State to enforce the Law in another State may be not be feasible. However, one of the conclusions of the Meeting was that the State Government of the home State may consider setting up an office or appointing its Liaison offices in the recipient State to liaise with the Labour Department of that state to solve the problems of the Inter-State Migrant Labour.

(c) and (d). The 36th Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in May, 1987 was devoted to the problems of the unorganised labour and the Conference recommended that the labour laws which most closely concerned the problems of unorganised labour including the Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act should be implemented effectively.

Dhorajz-Jamnagar Railway Line (Gujarat)

4066. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for a new railway line between Dhorajz-Jamkandorna-Kalawad-Jamnagar in Rajkot Division on the Western Railway; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No such demand has been received in the recent past.

(b) Does not arise.

Civic Amenities to Urban Villages in Delhi

4067. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given on 28 March, 1988 to Unstarred Question No. 4984 regarding civic amenities to Urban villages in Delhi and state :

(a) whether civic amenities have since been provided in urban villages *i.e.* Old Piliangi (Sarojini Nagar), New Delhi-23 and Zamrud Pur, New Delhi-48 and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the time by which all civic amenities would be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Construction of Motels

4068. CHAUDHARY RAM PRAKASH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal for setting up of a chain of motels in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rupsa-Bangiriposi Railway Line

4069. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rupsa-Bangiriposi railway line has been closed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the traffic problem of the affected area ?

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

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

[Translation]

Introduction of Train between Mandla Fort and Jabalpur and Mandla Fort to Nagpur

4070. SHRI MOHANLAL JHIKRAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representations for introducing a direct train from Mandla Fort to Jabalpur and another train from Mandla Fort to Nagpur via Nainpur on narrow gauge line on the Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details of action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Representations for introduction of a direct train between Mandla Fort and Jabalpur have been received.

(b) Not found feasible.

[English]

Freight Computerisation Programme

4071. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the freight computerisation programme;

(b) how this programme is planned to be executed; and

(c) the improvements expected in performance of freight traffic as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Freight computerisation programme on Indian Railways envisages setting up of an Information and Control System to capture the status and movements of wagons and locomotives, with a view to monitoring them on real-time.

(b) The scheme will be introduced in a phased manner. Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), a Society set up by the Ministry of Railways will be responsible for the design, development and implementation of the scheme.

(c) The system will help the management in planning, monitoring, and reviewing Freight Operations with a view to improving the utilisation of wagons and locomotives. This will also lead to better customer satisfaction by way of more efficient and reliable freight services.

Ex-Gratia Payment to Widows of Railway Employees

4072. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD :
DR. B. L. SHAILESH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the ex-gratia payment of Rs. 150 p.m. to widows of deceased railway employees who are covered under the contributory provident fund (C.P.F.) scheme and had retired from service prior to January 1, 1986 will also be admissible to widows of the employees of the late North Western Railway, Lahore, who retire before partition of the country but later migrated to India after the partition;

(b) if so, whether any instructions in this regard have been issued to the Northern Railway Administration;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not granting this ex-gratia payment to these widows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). The matter is under examination in consultation with Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare. The decision will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation Under Ajmeri Gate Development Scheme

4073. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of people shifted temporarily from the Ajmeri Gate area under the Ajmeri Gate Development Scheme of the Delhi Development Authority;

(b) the names of the places where these people were shifted temporarily and when whether these people have been allotted houses again in the locality from where they were shifted temporarily; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which these people are likely to be rehabilitated again in the Ajmeri Gate area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c). 408 families were shifted during the period 1983-88. Out of these 60 families have been given resettlement in rehousing flat at Basti Narnel, Ajmeri Gate itself, and 312 families have been shifted to the nearby Minto Road Transit Camp Complex. The remaining 36 families have been settled in other Slum rehousing colonies. As at present there is no policy for the construction of more rehousing flats Ajmeri Gate.

Rail Facilities between Patna and Ahmedabad

4074. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rail facilities between Patna and Ahmedabad are inadequate and

the railway passengers are facing great difficulties on this line as a result thereof;

(b) whether there is a demand from several quarters to increase the rail facilities/start new trains between Ahmedabad and Patna; and

(c) if so, the details of the action taken by Government in this regard so far and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Not found feasible.

[English]

Rice to Kerala for 'ONAM'

4075. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether special quota of rice has been allotted to Kerala for Onam;

(b) if so, the quantity thereof; and

(c) whether the rice supplied has been distributed in time so that the people could get the same before the festival starts?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. An additional quantity of 20,000 tonnes of rice was allotted to the Government of Kerala raising their total allocation for August, 1988 to 1,45,000 tonnes of rice. Distribution of supplies within the State is the responsibility of the State Government.

No Smoking flights in Indian Airlines

4076. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for introducing no smoking flights in Indian Airlines;

(b) the percentage of no smoking seats in Executive and Economy classes of Airbuses; and

(c) the future plans to discourage smoking on the Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) On popular demand for seats in the "no-smoking" zones, no-smoking flights have been introduced by Indian Airlines.

(b) Class-wise, percentage of no-smoking seats on Airbus of Indian Airlines is as under :

	percentage of no-smoking zone
<i>Executive class</i>	
Airbus B-2	40%
Airbus B-4	42.5%
<i>Economy class</i>	
Airbus B-2	62.5%
Airbus B-4	62.5%

(c) Periodical review of the demand for seats in "no-smoking" zone is done to make appropriate changes in the ratio of "smoking" vis-a-vis "no-smoking" zones, Smoking is also prohibited at the time of take-off, landing, in the Aisle in the toilets and when the aircraft is on ground.

Ban on Purchase of Imported Homoeopathic Medicines by CGHS

4077. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for putting ban on the purchase of imported homoeopathic medicines by CGHS;

(b) whether Government have received any complaint from the beneficiaries of CGHS about the non-availability of German

Homoeopathic medicines in the CGHS dispensaries; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) : As per policy, indigenously manufactured medicines of equal efficacy are procured to encourage Indian enterprises and to provide for import substitution.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. One complaint regarding supply of German made eye drops was received. The Medical Officer Incharge was instructed to procure and supply it to the beneficiary.

Turbo-prop Planes for Vayudoot

4078. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Vayudoot proposes to acquire turbo-prop planes from Indian Airlines for their use; and

(b) if so, by what time it is expected to be acquired and when can these services be expected to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). Indian Airlines has so far transferred nine Turbo-prop aircraft to Vayudoot. The transfer of some more aircraft to Vayudoot by Indian Airlines along with the routes will be made as and when feasible.

Missing Parcels from New Delhi Parcel Office

4079. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of missing parcels from the Railway Parcel delivery office, New Delhi since 1st January, 1988;

(b) the number of parcels recovered and the complaints solved; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the disposal of complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) : The number of claims preferred for missing parcels consignments at New Delhi Parcel Office is 442 from 1.1.88 to 30th June, 1988.

(b) 202 claims have been disposed by tracing and delivery of parcel and 20 have been settled by payment.

(c) On receipt of such claim all out efforts are made to trace out the missing parcels, and its delivery to the claimant. In case of failure, the claim is settled by payment on merits.

Construction of Storm Water Drains in Nirman Vihar

4080. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the present position regarding construction of storm water drains in the zones comprising Nirman Vihar and other nearby housing colonies in trans-Yamuna area in Delhi; and

(b) the time by which the work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Delhi Development Authority reported that the peripheral drainage work in and around Nirman Vihar is completed upto about 75%. The remaining work is expected to be completed by the end of March, 1989.

So far as the internal works are concerned, the cases for construction of Storm-water drains in Nirman Vihar have been processed and are under tenders. The work is expected to be completed during the current financial year. In other nearby housing colonies, Storm water drains already exist.

Report of Committee on Sex Determination Tests

4081. **SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI** : Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received the report of the Committee set up to go into the issue of sex determination tests; and

(b) if so, what are their findings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The unanimous view of the Members was that Sex Determination Test should be regulated and performed only on medical advice and it should be limited in approved institutions.

The Committee has also finalised a draft legislation and the same is being sent to the State Governments and Law Ministry for their comments.

[*Translation*]

Extension of Delhi Gorakhpur flights upto Kathmandu and Allahabad

4082. **SHRI MADAN PANDEY** : Will the Minister of **CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a suggestion has been received to extend the direct flights between Delhi and Gorakhpur upto Kathmandu for three days upto Allahabad for the remaining days in a week;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the suggestion; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Traffic potential between Gorakhpur and Kathmandu is not adequate to justify operation of a B-737 service between the above two cities.

[*English*]

Separate Draw for Allotment of Flats to SC/ST

4083. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH** :

SHRI SAGUN SUMBRUI :

Will the Minister of **URBAN DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority holds a separate draw for allotment of built up flats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the DDA propose to invite applications for built up flats from Scheduled Tribes in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). There is 25% quota reserved for SC/ST registrants in allotment of flats. The allotment is made against the reserved quota through draw lots by Computer alongwith other registrants.

(c) Not in the near future.

(d) In view of reply to part (c) question does not arise.

Potholes on Runway at Bombay Airport

4084. **DR. DATTA SAMANT** : Will the Minister of **CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether air traffic to and from Bombay was paralysed on July 19, 1988 as potholes were spotted on the Runway and metalling on the runway peeling off;

(b) how it affected the outgoing and incoming Flights; and

(c) the reasons for the bad condition of the runway and the action proposed to be taken to avoid recurrence ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). On the 19th July, 1988 main runway at Bombay Airport had to be closed for repairs as it had developed cracks at some places. During this period, the secondary runway was made available for operations. Since the visibility reported for the secondary runway was less than the minimum required, due to bad weather conditions, some of the Indian Airlines domestic flights were delayed or diverted to other airports. This also resulted in one delayed departure and one delayed arrival of Air India flights.

Resurfacing of the main runway and extension of the secondary runway as well as provision of Instrument Landing System are some of the measures proposed to ensure smooth and uninterrupted operations.

Facilities at Vayudoot Airport

4085. SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the minimum facilities have been provided at the airports for passengers where Vayudoot service has been introduced in the country; and

(b) if not, when Government propose to provide these facilities at these airports for the benefit of the passengers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Out of Turn Allotment by DDA to SC and ST

4086. SHRI R.P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise total number of houses allotted out of turn by the Delhi Development Authority during the last three years; and

(b) the number of houses out of them, allotted to people belonging to SC/ST and the number of those allotted to women ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[*English*]

Comprehensive Liberal Laws for Women Workers

4087. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ:

SHRI R.M. BHOYE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently drafted comprehensive rules for women workers, barring them from hard physical labour and increasing their maternity leave etc; and

(b) if so, the details regarding this new scheme as well as rules framed in this regard for the welfare of women workers ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Manufacturing of Cement Sleepers

4088. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways have issued licences for manufacturing of cement sleepers;

(b) the total number of licences issued and the names of states where such licences have been issued;

(c) the number of licences proposed to be issued in the next two years;

(d) the production capacity of each manufacturing unit and the annual requirement of the Railways; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to set up cement sleeper manufacturing factories at Neemuch and Javad in Madhya Pradesh keeping in view the existence of a large number of cement factories in the surrounding areas of Neemuch and Javad ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir, Contracts have been awarded in the Private Sector.

(b) 59 Nos. in total in Private Sector in the States of Assam, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Union Territories of Chandigarh and Delhi.

(c) Position is under review and the No. of contracts to be awarded in the next 2 years has not yet been decided.

(d) Production capacity of each plant generally varies from 50,000 to 1 lakh Nos. per annum. Annual requirement of the Railways as envisaged at present is expected to be 38 lakh sleepers by 1990-91.

(e) No, Sir.

[English]

Passenger Amenities at Gwalior

4089. SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of travel facilities and other amenities provided at Gwalior Railway Station during the last three years; and

(b) the expenditure incurred by the Railways to provide increased travel facilities and amenities at Gwalior Railway Station during 1986 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The passen-

ger amenities provided and the improvements carried out at Gwalior Station during the period 1985-86 to 1987-89 are as under :

(i) New Platform, extension of foot-over-bridge, paving platform No. 1, 2 and 3;

(ii) booking office on west side;

(iii) closed circuit television;

(iv) two additional retiring rooms; and

(v) Improvement in general upkeep.

(b) The total expenditure incurred in 1986-87 was Rs. 112.60 lakhs including Rs. 98.33 lakhs on construction of new platform and extension of foot-over-bridge.

Functioning of Aero Club at Safdarjung Airport

4090. SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an Aero Club of India functioning from Safdarjung Airport, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the aims, objects and structure of this organisation; its constitution and office-bearers for the last three years;

(c) the number of aircrafts the Club has under its ownership or on rental or lease, the types and names of these aircrafts;

(d) if on rental or lease, parties from whom the club has taken it on rental or lease and details of terms thereof; and

(e) the facilities including grants and subsidies, if any, offered to this club by the different departments and agencies of the Government of India and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main aims and objects of the Aero Club of India are to promote flying

as a sport in the country; to be co-ordinating representative body of the various clubs engaged in aerosport activities; to organise competitions/sporting events on an all India basis; to represent the country in the world bodies i.e. Federation Aeronatique Internationale (FAI); and to compile/disseminate general and scientific data pertaining to aviation science or any of its allied sciences.

Its organisation comprises 24 Flying Clubs, 15 Gliding Clubs/Wings, 1 Ballooning Club of India, 2 Skydiving Federations, 1 All India Aeromodelling Federation, 4

Aeromodelling Clubs, 2 Aerosports Societies and 6 Hang Gliding Clubs. Air India, Indian Airlines, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Indian Women Pilots Association are also Members of this Organisation.

The management of Aero Club of India is vested in a Council comprising President, Vice-President, nominees of the Flying Clubs, elected Members of Sporting organisations and nominees of the Government.

The office bearers of the Aero Club of India during the last 3 years were :

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
President	Capt. Satish K. Sharma	Capt. Satish K. Sharma, M.P.	Cap. Satish K. Sharma, M.P.
Vice-President	Shri Vishwa Bandhu Gupta, M.P.	Capt. V.K. Sharma	Capt. V.K. Sharma
Honorary	(i) Shri M.Y. Kolhatkar	Shri V. Ramasubramanyam	Shri V. Ramasubramanyam
Secretary General	(ii) Shri V. Ramasubramanyam		

(c) and (d), The club has 28 Cessna-152 trainer aircraft all owned by it. No aircraft is either on rental or lease basis.

(e) The Ministry of Civil Aviation has given a grant of Rs. 448 lakhs to cover the expenditure of the initial plan of the project for development of aerosports in the country.

AIDS Treatment in AIIMS

4091. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether treatment for AIDS is being provided at All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) and (b). No specific treatment for AIDS is available in the world. However the cases of AIDS are treated with supportive and symptomatic therapy with appropriate chemo-therapeutics agents and antibiotics.

Report of Sub-Committee of Parliamentary (Consultative) Committee in the Organised Labour

4092. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee for his Ministry on unorganised agricultural labour which submitted its report a few months back;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (c). Some recommendations of Sub-Committee required action on part of the State Governments, and the same have been forwarded to all the State Governments for their consideration. The recommendations which pertain to the other Ministries/Departments have been forwarded to them for their examination and necessary action. A number of recommendations on Minimum Wages and Bonded Labour are similar to the policies and programmes of the Government on which instructions already exist and have been reiterated. The Government has also appointed a National Commission on Rural Labour to advise on the problems of rural labour which includes agriculture labour also.

[*Translation*]

ESI Hospitals in Bihar

4093. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have approved a scheme to construct new Employees State Insurance scheme hospitals and staff quarters and to renovate the existing hospitals in Bihar under the Scheme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) and (b). The ESI Corporation has agreed, in principle, to the construction of one ESI Hospital with 50 beds together with staff quarters at Giridih. The Corporation has also approved the provision of 50 additional beds in the existing ESI hospitals at Phulwarisharif. A 20 bedded ESI T.B. Annexe is already under construction at Koilver. The work relating to repair, renovation and maintenance of hospital and dispensary buildings is need based and is attended to as continuing activity.

[*English*]

Allotment Under R.P.S. Scheme by DDA

4094. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHO-

THAMAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority had invited applications under the 'Special Housing Registration Scheme-85' for Retired/Retiring Public Servants in 1985;

(b) if so, the number of applications received;

(c) whether any allotment has been made under this scheme so far; and

(d) if not, the time by which houses would be allotted to all the registrants under the said scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of applications received were as follows :

MIG	LIG	Janta	Total
2695	1396	279	4370

(c) The following number of persons have been allotted flats :

MIG	LIG	Janta	Total
1075	949	276	2300

(d) The remaining registrants are likely to be allotted houses by the end of this year.

Handling of Tourist Traffic to Andaman

4995 SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Travel Corporation of India has been running a hostelry at Corbyn's Cove near Port Blair in Andamans;

(b) whether T.C.I. has been entrusted with the reservation of tourists visiting Andamans;

(c) whether Government have noted an article in Indian Post Bombay dated

22 may, 1988, complainning about inadequate and inefficient handling of tourist traffic to Andamans; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to streamline the reservation and accommodation of Tourists visiting Andamans ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Travel Corporation of India, one of the approved travel agents have been running Andaman Beach Resort with 32 double rooms at Corbyn's Cove, Port Blair.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Consideration of measures to stream-line the procedures and improve facilities for tourists visiting Andamans is a continuous process in the Department of Tourism.

[*Translation*]

Reservation and Passenger Amenities at Vrindavan

4096. SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate quota of reservations in trains and arrangements for Yatri-Niwas are available at Vrindavan Railway station; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS : (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The quotas provided by Mail and Express trains at Vrindavan are considered adequate for the pattern and level of traffic.

Yatri Niwas is not provided at this station.

(b) 2 second class berths each by 182 Sarvodaya Express, 26 Deluxe, 24 Janata

Express, 188 Mathura-Varanasi Yamuna Link Express and 514 Marudhar Express and 4 second class berths by 8 Toofan Express and 11 Kumaon Express trains are being operated at Vrindavan station.

[*English*]

Halt at Goud-Panpali on Howrah-Bombay line

4097. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any demand for a passenger halt at Goud-Panpali between Dhutra and Bagdihi stations on the Howrah-Bombay line; and

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

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

(b) The proposal was examined but found neither operationally feasible nor financially justified.

Import of Locomotives

4098. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that by importing high power locomotives through Multi-National Companies, the Railways are incurring an expenditure of about Rs. 6.5 crores instead of Rs. 1.5 crores, the production cost of locomotives in the Chittaranjan Locomotives Works and Diesel Locomotive Works; and

(b) if so, the total foreign exchange involved in importing the engine parts and parts of other rolling stock during the year 1986-87 and 1987-88 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The imported prototype electric locomotives and indigenously produced locomotives are not

comparable; the former being of higher horse power and 'State of the Art' technology, with a number of improved features for better reliability. The average FDB cost of imported locos is approximately Rs. 4.6 Crores against around Rs. 1.7 Crores for electric locos at CLW and 1.2 Crores of diesel locos at DLW.

(b) The import referred to in para 1 is for complete locomotives. The Foreign Exchange involved in the Import of spares for diesel and electric locomotives and other rolling stock in the year 1986-87 and 1987-88 was approximately Rs. 119.93 and 119.73 Crores respectively.

Safety VS Speed of Trains

4099. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways are finding it difficult to arrange facilities for the maintenance of Shatabdi Express both at New Delhi and Jhansi;

(b) If so, whether the problem is compounded by the increased wear and tear due to faster trains; and

(c) If so, whether Government propose to review the entire policy to ensure more and safer trains rather than speedier trains ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir. Adequate facilities exist both at New Delhi and Jhansi to maintain Shatabdi Express.

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

MIG Flats under N.P.H.S., 1979

4100 SHRI R.M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the registrations made under the 'New Pattern HUDCO Scheme 1979' pertaining to Middle Income Group flats;

(b) the number of houses allotted so far;

(c) the estimated plan for further allotment of houses; and

(d) whether Government propose to increase the covered area of rooms in MIG category ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Village Health Guide Scheme

4101. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Village Health Guide scheme is not being implemented fully and many villages in the country are not having this facility;

(b) whether Government have received any complaints in this regard and if so the number thereof State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken to implement the scheme fully ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Against the requirement of 5.8 Lakh Village Health Guides, 3.9 Lakh VHGs have been trained so far.

(b) No Sir, no complaints have been received with regard to under implementation of the scheme.

(c) The scheme is subjudice and further training of VHGs stands frozen since September, 1985. It will be reviewed after the vacation of stay by the Courts.

Shifting of Daryaganj Sabzi Mandi

4102. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) when the vegetable wholesale mandi in South Delhi was constructed and the cost involved;

(b) whether the new mandi was constructed for the shop-keepers of Darya Ganj Sabzi Mandi;

(c) if so, the reasons for not shifting the Daryaganj Sabzi Mandi to the new site till date; and

(d) the time by which the allotment of shops will be made and the South Delhi Mandi start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Central Assistance to Kerala for Post-Graduate Course in Homoeopathy

4103. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from State of Kerala requesting to extend Central assistance for the Post-Graduate course in Homoeopathy at Government Homoeopathic Medical College, Calicut;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by Union Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). In a letter dated the 27th April, 1988 the Government of Kerala informed this Ministry that they had decided to start a post-graduate course in Homoeopathy at the Government Homoeopathic Medical College, Calicut affiliated to Calicut University. According to the State Government, an Inspection Commission was appointed by the Univer-

sity to verify the facilities available for starting the post-graduate course at the said College. The State Government also enquired of this Ministry to indicate the possibility of extending Central assistance for the said purpose.

(c) During the Seventh Five Year Plan period, there is no approved Central Scheme under which financial assistance can be provided for starting a post-graduate course in Homoeopathy.

Trichur-Guruvayur Railway Line

4104. SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far on the project for laying the Trichur-Guruvayur broadgauge railway line; and

(b) the details of the total estimated cost of the project, the amount disbursed and actually spent on it so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) 4%.

(b) The estimated cost of the project is about Rs. 17.46 crores. The amount spent upto March 1988 is Rs. 1 crore. In 1988-89, the allotment is Rs. 2 crore and expenditure already incurred upto June, 1988 is Rs. 35 lakhs.

Modernisation of MFIL, Cochin

4105. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to modernise the modern Food Industries (India) Ltd., Cochin during the current year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the allocation made for this purpose;

(c) the production target of the units for the current year; and

(d) whether the unit has been running at a profit during the last three years, if

so, the profit/loss during the above period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b). Modern Food Industries (India) Ltd. is planning to introduced packing of bread in polythene begs by installing high-speed packing machines employing latest technology at Cochin at an approximate cost of Rs. 40 lakhs.

(c) The Production target of the unit current year is 250 lakh standard loaves of 400 grams each.

(d) The profit earned b/ the unit during the last three years is given below :

Year	Profit (Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	67.93
1986-87	53.71
1987-88	67.69

Development of Tourism in Malabar Area of Kerala

4106. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any specific proposal has been submitted by the State government of Kerala for tapping the tourist potential in Malabar area of Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). The proposals received from the Government of Kerala for tapping the tourist potential in Malabar area of Kerala include the following :

1. Wayside facilities with accommodation at Cannanore.
2. Beach resort at Kapped.
3. Way-side facilities at Badagara and Kunjathur.
4. Yatriniwas at Cannanore.

(c) All the above proposals except the last one have been sanctioned. Yatri Niwas at Cannanore has been listed for consideration during the current financial year.

Funds for N.C.R. Plan

4107. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the funds provided during the current year for the implementation of the National Capital Region (NCR) Plan and their allocation, State-wise;

(b) the progress made so far in the implementation of the NCR Plan in its various spheres; and

(c) whether any monitoring over the execution of the Plan and proper utilisation of the funds earmarked in this behalf is being done by Union Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) A sum of Rs. 7.92 crores has been provided during the current financial year for the implementation of NCR Plan. Its state-wise allocation is to be made by National Capital Region Planning Board set up under the NCR Planning Board Act, 1985, on the basis of the requirements of the States.

(b) The progress made for implementation of the various projects under the NCR Plan is given in the statement below.

(c) The monitoring over the execution of the plan and the proper utilisation of funds earmarked for the purpose is done by the NCR Planning Board set up under the NCR Planning Board Act, 1985.

Statement

Progress Report of NCR Schemes

Town-wise Details of Loan Assistance (In Lakhs of Rs.)					Physical Progress			
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	Total	No. of schemes	Total areas in acres	Land acquisition in acres or %	Land Developed (area in acres or %)
1974-75								
1984-85								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Uttar Pradesh	Through	Through NCR plg. Board			Uttar Pradesh			
	M. UD				Meerut			
Meerut.	473.00	150.00	200.00	376.00	1199.00	Total schemes		
						Completed schemes	430.79	430.79
						UP Housing Dev. Board.		
						Meerut Dev. Authority.	8.64	8.64

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					On-going schemes			
					UP Housing Dev. Board.	820.34	820.34	50% upto 12/87
					Meerut Dev. Authority.	430.00	427.16	41% upto 12/87
					New schemes			
					Meerut Dev. Authority.	217.42	—	—
Hapur	89.00	25.00	—	139.00	Hapur			
					Total Schemes.	1		
					Completed schemes.	1		
					On-going schemes			
					UP Housing Dev. Board.	1	31.00	55% upto 12/87
Total UP.	562.00	175.00	367.00	1338.00				

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
<i>Haryana</i>									
Gurgaon	354.35	75.00	55.00	150.00	634.35	<i>Haryana</i> Gurgaon			
						Total Schemes.			
						On-going schemes	2052.18	1939.60	299.57% upto 3.87
						New Schemes.	3.5 km. of road work.		
Panipat	115.00	50.00	83.50	129.00	377.50	Panipat			
						Total Scheme	4		
						On-going schemes	2	550.00	591.40 299.45 upto 3/87
						New Schemes	2	--	--
Total Haryana	469.39	135.00	138.50	279.00	1011.85				

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<i>Rajasthan</i>	337.05	—	16.50	68.20	421.75	<i>Rajasthan</i>				
<i>Alwar</i>										
						Total Schemes.	21			
						Completed Schemes.	18	671.44	671.44	671.44
						New Schemes	3			
						Hasan Khan				
						Mewati Ng.	—	50%	Survey and Demar- cation 100% Other component of work have not yet started but likely to be com- pleted by 31.3.90	This is upto 3/88.
						Rail Road over Bridge	—	100%	The work has not started due to delay in finalisation of agreement with State Government and Railways	—do—
						Shivaji Commercial Complex	—	Land already acquired by UIT.	90% work is com- pleted and remain- ing likely to be com- pleted by 31.5.88	—do—
<i>Bhiwadi.</i>	—	75.00	20.00	—	95.00	Bhiwadi				
						Total Schemes.	5			

Food to A and N Islands

4108. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of foodgrains allotted to the Union Territory of Andamans Nicobar Islands during the last three years;

(b) whether Government had decided to reserve three months food-grains quota in the Islands and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Union Government have reduced the quota of palm oil (Edible Oil) for A and N Islands during the current year, if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) The total quantity of foodgrains allocated to Union Territory of A and N Islands for PDS during the last three years was as under :

Year	(In thousand tonnes)
	Total quantity allocated
1985	23.7
1986	20.4
1987	20.4

(b) The allocations of foodgrains to the Islands are being made on quarterly basis to ensure regular flow of foodgrains.

(c) The allocation of Palmolein for August, 1988 is 140 MTs against 100 MTs during August, 1987. The allocation of imported edible oils including palmolein has been decided on monthly basis keeping in view the prices of indigenous edible oils in the open market, the reasonable demand from the State/UT, availability of stocks with STC and other related factors.

Apprenticeship Training to Youth in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

4109. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to provide apprenticeship training to the youth in Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the number of youth who have been provided apprenticeship training during the year 1988 so far; and

(c) the details of courses introduced/proposed to be introduced in the Industrial Training Institute in Andaman and Nicobar Islands ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration has recently sent a proposal to provide apprenticeship training on the mainland to three candidates one each in the trades of Beautician, Receptionist and Switchboard Attendant. Action has been initiated to provide the necessary training.

(c) Four trades i.e. Draughtsman (Civil), Surveyor, Fitter and Mechanic (Motor Vehicle) with 16 seats each are being introduced in the proposed TTI.

Development of Tourism in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

4110. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to promote tourism in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the details of measures taken; and

(c) the number of international and domestic tourists visited during the last three years, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SARI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) and (b). An Island Development Authority has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to decide on policies and programmes for integrated environmentally sound development of the islands. Based on these decisions taken from time to time by the IDA measures to promote the islands have been taken.

(c) The number of international and domestic tourists who visited the islands during the last three years is given below :

Year	Domestic	Foreign
1985	20,291	1,264
1986	20,942	1,791
1987	31,591	2,085

Control of Cancer

4111. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidence of cancer is one the increase, if so, the details thereof and the various measures taken to control the disease;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the various anti-cancer programmes during the last three years, year-wise ; and

(c) the role of cobalt therapy institutions/hospitals/medical colleges in controlling the disease ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The data from Population Based Cancer Registries of the National Cancer Registry Project under the Indian Council of Medical Research does not show any major change in the incidence of cancer from 1982-85. Facilities for treatment of cancer including Radio-therapy are available in 95 institutions in the

country including 9 Regional Cancer Centres. Chemotherapy facilities are generally available in all the major hospitals. There are 74 Medical Colleges with Pap Smearing Units, under the Post Partum Programme with cancer detection facilities. Early Cancer Detection Centres have been set up in 29 institutions.

(b) The expenditure incurred by the Government of India on various anti-cancer programmes during the last 3 years is as given below :

(Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Plan	Non-Plan
1985-86	320.31	64.70
1986-87	420.76	84.41
1987-88	353.90	81.13

(c) Cobalt Therapy is one of the means of Radio-therapy which is needed for treatment of most of the cancer patients in the country.

Memorandum from National Council for Safety in Mines Employees' Association Dhanbad

4112. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had received a memorandum from the National Council for Safety in Mines Employees' Association, Dhanbad in November, 1987;

(b) if so, the submissions made therein; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Association requested for continuance and strengthening of the National Council for Safety in Mines. They also requested that if the Council was to be wound up, some alternative arrangements might be made to absorb the employees in some other Government Organisations.

(c) Safety is primarily a management function. A substantial programme on mines safety has, in fact, been taken on hand by Coal India Limited after the nationalisation of coal mines. The National Council for Safety in Mines has also not been able to devote its attention to the unorganised sector in mining on account of lack of resources. It has, therefore, been decided by the Government that the National Council for Safety in Mines should be wound up. In the organised sector, the management should themselves be made responsible for safety education. As regards unorganised sector, the Directorate General of Mines Safety should be given the responsibility and the organisation of the Directorate—General of Mines Safety should be suitably strengthened for the purpose.

The employees of the Council will be compensated as per law, at the time of winding up of the Council.

Supply of Safe Drinking Water in Semi-Urban Areas

4113. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the technology mission was consulted in regard to the outbreak of cholera in Delhi to suggest better methods of supply of safe drinking water in the semi-urban areas;

(b) if so, the opinion of the technology mission regarding causes of the present outbreak which is essentially water borne;

(c) the remedies suggested to deal with the present situation and safeguards and for the future; and

(d) Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c). Technology Mission was consulted in regard to the out break of Cholera in Delhi to suggest better methods of supply of safe drinking water in the sub-urban areas. The Mission has not intimated any particular causes of

the out break of Cholera. Following are the remedies suggested by the Technology Mission :

- (i) The Delhi Admn. was advised to immediately seal off the contaminated shallow hand-pumps. They should be painted red and a board should be placed warning people not to use water for drinking and cooking purposes.
- (ii) Tubewells should be drilled below the clay bed level so that the water tapped would be of safe quality.
- (iii) As a medium term measure Delhi Admn. should immediately prepare proposal for a network of water quality testing facilities which could be submitted to the Mission for follow up to prevent such epidemics in future.

(d) Action taken by DWS and SDU on the various suggestions of Technology Mission are as under :

- (i) For testing quality of water, Scientists and Doctors have also arrived from National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) Nagpur and I.T.R.C., Lucknow for checking quality of water independently.
- (ii) The services of Central Ground water Board have also been engaged to help in identifying suitable sites for deep bore hand pumps. They have also deployed a rig machine for sinking bores.
- (iii) Shallow hand pumps have also been painted with red colour and people have been advised not to use water of these hand pumps for drinking purposes.
- (iv) Out of 44 resettlement colonies, piped water supply has already been extended to 39 colonies. In 4 colonies peripheral as well as internal distribution system has been completed by DDA and the same is under testing and flushing.

and would be commissioned shortly. However, water supply through public water hydrants, connected with the tube-wells already exists in these colonies. There is tube well supply through public hydrants in the resettlement colony of Mangolpuri which is located in rural area. To provide potable water supply to the resettlement colonies on regular basis more than 28,300 individual water connections have been sanctioned during the last 20 days. Besides, over 380 new Public Water Hydrants have been installed in the resettlement colonies located in Trans-Yamuna area.

To augment water supply in these 44 resettlement colonies 610 deep bore hand pumps are being provided on war footing. Over 60 deep bore hand pumps have already been installed and water samples have been lifted from them for chemical/bacteriological analysis.

Enactment of New Public Health Act

4114. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :

SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :

SHRI H.B. PATIL :

SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to enact a new Public Health Act for the management of waste generated by medical and Health institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which it is expected to be enacted; and

(d) the manner in which State Governments would enforce the Act in their respective States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (d). A study conducted by National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NIS

TADS) under a reasearch project sponsored by the Ministay of Environment and Forests has made a recommendation for enacting a new Public Health Act for the management of waste generated by medical and health institutions.

The recommendations made by the NIS TADS are under examination of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Railway Volunteers in West Bengal

4115. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of railway volunteers in West Bengal;

(b) the number of volunteers, out of them, absorbed so far;

(c) whether there is any proposal to absorb the remaining volunteers also; and

(d) if so, details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The total number of 'Volunteers' engaged by the Eastern and South Eastern Railways is of the order of 1800. Information, however, is not maintained State-wise.

(b) As regards the number of 'Volunteers' absorbed in regular employment so far, the question does not arise, as indicated in reply to part (c) below.

(c) Apparently, the question refers to giving employment on regular basis to certain persons, whose services were utilised as "Volunteers" on payment of out of pocket allowance at specified rates per day for assisting the regular Ticket Checking Staff of the Railways. There is no proposal for absorption on regular basis of such persons engaged as 'Volunteers'.

(d) In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.

Appointment of Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board, Bhubaneswar

4116. SHRI SOMNATH RATH :
SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the post of Chairman, Regional Railway Recruitment Board, Bhubaneswar is lying vacant;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor...

(c) the steps being taken to fill up the post at an early date;

(d) whether there is any proposal to shift the office of this Recruitment Board from Orissa; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir. A serving Railway Officer has been posted temporarily to look after the duties of this post.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A panel of names has been sent to the Union Public Service Commission who are to select and recommend a person for this post.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Changes by M.C.I. in Medical Education

4117. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of specific changes made by the Medical Council of India in its regulations on under-graduate medical education to secure community orientation of medical education;

(b) to what extent it has been successful to attract doctors to serve the health needs of the rural population; and

(c) what incentives provided to the doctors to enable them to serve the rural areas ungrudgingly ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Statement-I is given below.

(b) The qualified medical graduates are being posted to primary health centres to serve the health needs of the rural population. So far as information is available, only about 12% of the posts in primary health centres were vacant as on 31st March, 1988.

(c) Statement-II is given below.

Statement-I

Specific changes made by the Medical Council of India in its regulations on Undergraduate Medical Education to secure community orientation of medical education.

The medical Council of India in its Recommendations on Graduate Medical Education has given importance to the community aspect of health care and rural health care services. The following are some of the special features wherein specific recommendations have been made in this direction :

- (1) A judicious balance between the preventive, promotive curative and rehabilitative aspects of medical education and practical training should be maintained so as to produce a well balanced all round graduates.
- (2) The basic concept of community medicine are introduced in the very first phase of training, namely pre-clinical period which includes 15 fields visits.
- (3) The administrative control of primary health centres should be with the medical colleges to achieve the ultimate aim of covering the entire district by the medical colleges.
- (4) The students should be posted in small batches for residential posting of one month at selected approved primary health centres/rural training centres during the second clinical year.
- (5) They should be inducted into national health programmes during these postings.

- (6) Teachers from the entire faculty of medical colleges should be given adequate orientation and then posted in turn to rural centres for the training of graduates in community health.
- (7) During the community posting, the students should participate in the promotive, preventive and curative and curative activities of health centre so as to get an insight into the socio-economic, cultural and psychological factors influencing the pattern of health and disease in the community as a whole.
- (8) During the compulsory rotating internship period of one year, the students are posted in community health work for a minimum period of six months.

Statement-II

Incentives provided to doctors to enable them to serve in rural areas

- (i) Advance increments are granted to specially qualified candidates on the recommendations of the State and Union Public Service Commission.
- (ii) Improvement in the service conditions of doctors particularly those serving in rural areas are being brought about by the State Governments/Union Territory Governments. The Eighth Finance Commission has recommended additional funds to the State Governments for providing the following attractive incentives to doctors working at Primary Health Centres :
- (a) rural allowance (a) Rs. 250 per mensem.
- (b) house rent allowance @ Rs. 150 per month in case Government accommodation is not available.
- (c) grant of Rs. 10,000 for purchase of equipment at primary health centre for effective functioning of the

medical officer and to give him professional satisfaction.

- (d) funds to be provided to State Governments for construction of residential accommodation for doctors working in Primary Health Centres.
- (iii) Restriction have been placed on medical graduates going abroad for higher education and training where such training facilities exist in the country. Doctors belonging to scarce categories are not sponsored for employment abroad.
- (iv) The Scientists Pool Scheme operated by CSIR provides temporary placement to highly qualified Indian Scientific and Technical Personnel including medical doctors returning from foreign countries generally for two to three years.
- (v) A scheme for supernumerary research cadre has been introduced by the Indian Council of Medical Research under which Scientists of outstanding merit, both medical and non-medical working in countries outside India or in India and engaged in research in the field of Bio-medicine, whose work is adjudged to be outstanding quality, can be offered temporary placement under the Council to enable them to return to India and to pursue research in their own speciality till such time as they are able to secure a regular position either in any of the Institutes of the Council or elsewhere.
- (vi) The nationalised banks also offer loans to enable the doctors to establish clinics/nursing homes in rural areas and semi-urban areas.

Primary Health Centres During 1988-89

4118. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is a proposal to set up more Primary Health Centres in the country during 1988-89; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. It is proposed to set up 3151 Primary Health Centres in the country during 1988-89. A Statement showing State-wise targets for establishment of PHCs during 1988-89 is given below.

Statement

Target for Establishment of Primary Health Centres During 1988-89

States/UTs		
1	2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh		200
2. Arunachal Pradesh		4
3. Assam		55
4. Bihar		400
5. Goa		2
6. Gujarat		180
7. Harayana		30
8. Himachal Pradesh		35
9. J and K		60
10. Karnataka		300
11. Kerala		200
12. Madhya Pradesh		200
13. Maharashtra		91
14. Manipur		13
15. Meghalaya		6
16. Mizoram		3
17. Nagaland		4
18. Orissa		100

1	2	3
19. Punjab		85
20. Rajasthan		175
21. Sikkim		—
22. Tamil Nadu		325
23. Tripura		4
24. Uttar Pradesh		550
25. West Bengal		125
26. A & N Islands		1
27. Chandigarh		—
28. D & N Haveli		1
29. Delhi		—
30. Lakshdweep		—
31. Pondicherry		2
Total		3151

Transfer of Akbar Hotel of India Tourism Development Corporation

4119. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of hotel rooms in Delhi;

(b) if so the steps proposed to be taken to meet this shortage; especially during the winter reason; and

(c) whether Government propose to transfer Akbar Hotel to the India Tourism Development Corporation to meet the shortage of hotel accommodation in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) There is a shortage of hotel rooms in the Capital at times.

(b) The Department of Tourism has approved 4 hotel projects in the Capital

from the point of view of their suitability for tourists. On completion, these are expected to add about 755 rooms. A proposal to construct a 60-bed Yatri Niwas by the Delhi Administration has also been agreed to.

(c) For the time being, there is no proposal to transfer Akbar Bhavan back to ITDC for operating it as a hotel.

Profits of Air India

4120. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the salary bill of Chauffers employed in Air India offices overseas during 1985-86, to 1987-88, year-wise; and

(b) the net profit/loss incurred by Air India during the corresponding period year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) The salary bill of overseas Chauffers for the last three years is as below :

Year	Rs. in lakhs
1985-86	37.93
1986-87	39.38
1987-88	42.36

(b) The net profit/loss incurred by Air India during the above mentioned period is given below :

Year	Net Profit/Net Loss
1985-86	Net Profit Rs. 66.00 crores
1986-87	Net Profit Rs. 30.16 crores
1987-88	Net Loss Rs. 43.41 crores

Development of Bodh Gaya, Bihar

4121. SHRI RAM SWARUP RAM :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign tourists who visited Bodh Gaya in Bihar, during each of the last three years;

(b) the details of facilities available there for the tourists; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve further these facilities ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) The number of foreign tourists who visited Bodhgaya during the last three years are as given below :

Year	Tourist Arrivals
1985-86	227,299*
1986-87	72,168
1987-88	72,568

*Pertains to Calendar Year 1985.

(b) At present facilities available at Bodhgaya for tourists are inadequate.

(c) The Government has taken-up scheme for providing adequate tourist facilities in the entire Buddhist circuit including Bodhgaya with financial aid from the Government of Japan. The facilities being provided immediately include the expansion of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) traveller's lodge and construction of an accommodation unit by the State Government.

Racket in Janta Flats at Lawrence Road, Delhi

4122. SHRI RAM SWARUP RAM : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 1,000 Janta flats are ready near Water Tank in Keshavapuram (Lawrence Road, North Delhi) and have been allotted or are being allotted to registered applicants;

(b) whether the several so-called 'property dealers have started offering these flats to outsiders on sale at exorbitant prices, many times more than the DDA price of the flat;

(c) whether Government would institute immediate enquiries about the genuine needs for housing the registered applicants of these Janta flats; and

(d) if some of them are not in genuine need of housing, whether Government cancel their allotments and allot the flats to other applicants who are in genuine need of shelter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) 960 flats in this area were allocated to the Registrants of Janta Category. Specific flats have been allotted to 624 registrants in the draw held on 30.5.88 and 336 flats are being allotted during this month.

(b) DDA has intimated that three property dealers had put advertisement boards outside some flats which have since been got removed. Action on the removal of small hoardings hoisted on DESU Electric poles is also in progress.

(c) The registered persons who do not need a house can surrender the allocation as well as registration.

(d) Those who sell/transfer without permission, their allotments are liable to be cancelled.

Steps to Make Available Hepatitis Vaccines

4123. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hepatitis vaccines are available in areas prone to this disease during this monsoon season;

(b) if not, whether Government propose to make them available at least in the hospitals located near slums and resettlement colonies in Delhi; and

(c) the details of other measures Government have taken to control Hepatitis ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) No vaccine for infectious Hepatitis A and Non. A Hon. B has yet been developed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Measures to combat outbreaks, include supply of safe drinking water, safe disposal of human excreta, improvement of environmental sanitation, food and personal hygiene and strengthening of health education measures etc.

Surcharge on Super Fast Trains

4124. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the average speed of super fast trains as compared to the average speed of express/mail trains; and

(b) the reasons for imposing surcharge on superfast trains if the difference between the speeds of the two trains is not substantial ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The average speed of superfast trains is approximately 50 Kmph and above on Broad Gauge and 44Kmph and above on Metre Gauge as against 47.1 Kmph. on B.G. and 36.0 Kmph on M.G for Mail/Express trains.

(b) Supplementary charge is levied on the overall consideration of speed, convenience of timings and comforts etc.

Guinea worm Infection

4125. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether tape-worm or guinea-worm infection is common in many parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to eradicate the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) (a). Yes.

(b) Guineaworm disease is prevalent in areas of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. In 1988, 9775 persons suffered from this disease in the six States of the country as follows :

States	No. of cases
1. Andhra Pradesh	344
2. Gujarat	12
3. Karnataka	1835
4. Maharashtra	1088
5. Madhya Pradesh	1713
6. Rajasthan	4783
Total :	9775

Tape Worm

The survey conducted by NICD shows that the prevalence of tape worm infection is as under :

Sl. No.	States	Place	% age of prevalence
1.	Delhi	Slum area	0.1
2.	Rajasthan	Barkripal	0.5
		Alwar	0.6
3.	Tamil Nadu	Conoor	2.5
4.	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	0.4
		Baramula	0.7
5.	Uttar Pradesh	Agra Centonment	0.7
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Gwalior Centonment	0.7

(c) Guineaworm Eradication Programme is in operation in the six States. The following steps are being taken for the eradication of the disease.

(a) Active case searches for detection of cases in every village of an affected district.

(b) Provision/augmentation of safe water supply in guineaworm affected villages by the rural water supply department.

(c) Application of suitable chemical for killing the vector cyclops in unsafe water sources.

(d) Health Education of the community for promoting personal prophylaxis and case management.

Tape Worm

The method usually employed for control of tape worm are.

- (a) treatment of infected persons with niclosamide which is very effective and considered to be the drug of choice.
- (b) careful meat inspection at slaughter houses.
- (c) adequate cooking and
- (d) proper sewage treatment and disposal.

Suffering of Bhopal Gas Victims

4126. SHRI NITYANANDA MISHRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a British medical expert after examination has opined that the Bhopal gas victims are fast losing their immune system and they will soon be at par with AIDS patients;

(b) if so, whether Government have themselves conducted any examination in this matter;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to avert the catastrophe ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Data on Contagious and Infectious Diseases

4127. SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is at present no accurate system of compilation of statistical data on the incidence of various contagious and infectious diseases in Delhi and other parts of the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) The Morbidity and mortality statistics in respect of diseases covered under National Health Programme like Malaria, Filaria, Leprosy, Guinea-worm etc. is available though special surveillance, studies and surveys conducted under the programmes.

Information on the other communicable diseases such as Diarrhoeal Diseases, Viral Hepatitis, Viral-Encephalitis, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio, Whooping Cough, Measles, Chickenpox Enteric Fever, T.B. is collected from states/UTs on monthly basis. Since all the diseases are not notifiable in all the States/UTs the information received from states/UTs, usually is based on the patients treated in hospitals dispensaries, Clinics and Primary Health Centres etc. Information received, due to ill-defined coverage.

(b) The main reasons for non-availability of accurate and reliable data are :

- (i) There is a lack of uniformity in the list of diseases which are notifiable in different states and also from the view point of primary agency responsible for reporting. Most of the important communicable diseases other than Internationally quantifiable diseases i.e. Cholera and Plague are not notifiable in all the States. This results in the non-availability of complete picture of morbidity and mortality pattern of such diseases for India as a whole.
- (ii) Lack of Epidemiological Units for carrying out investigations of outbreak of diseases in States/UTs.
- (iii) Lack of public health laboratories, which plays a prominent role for diagnosis and determining the control strategy in the states UTs.
- (iv) Poor or no infrastructure for collection, compilation and dissemination of data at the periphery, District and State Health Organisations.
- (v) Non-existence of Medical records Department in majority of hospitals in the country.

- (vi) Health being a state subject, collection and Compilation of information at state level is the responsibility of the state Government. Because of non-availability of adequate and trained staff at different levels in the states, the information is received. Intelligence with considerable time lag and without complete coverage, which makes the data at National level incomplete and renders timely dissemination difficult.

Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy

4128. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether "Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy" or cardiac muscle disease is often seen in obstructive and non-obstructive forms in clinics cardiology departments of hospitals all over the country;

(b) if so, whether any fresh preventive measures have been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy is a type of heart muscle disease which can occur in obstructive and non-obstructive forms. The disease is seen all over the country and variable prevalence is reported from various centres in the country.

(b) and (c). Since this diseases of the heart muscle is of unknown cause, no preventive measure is possible.

Railway Lines in Assam

4129. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the railway lines for which survey has been conducted jointly by Assam Government and the Railways; and

(b) the estimated expenditure involved therein ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) No Survey for any railway line was conducted jointly by Assam Government and the Railways.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Night Landing Facilities at Ranchi

4130. SHRI SHIV PRASAD SAHU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the outer and inner roads at Ranchi airport are in a dilapidated condition;

(b) if so, the time by which these roads will be repaired;

(c) whether the work relating to provision of night landing facility at Ranchi airport is still incomplete; and

(d) if so, the reasons thereof and the time by which this work will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No specific complain has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The delay in completing the installation of night landing facilities at Ranchi airport is due to the following reasons :

(i) Local security problems;

(ii) Contractor backing out of the contract;

(iii) Onset of the monsoons.

The expected revised dates of completion are as follows :

(i) High Intensity Runway	
Lights	Completed

(ii) 3-Bar VASIS-2 sets : end of Sept., 1988

(iii) Apron Flood Lights : end of Nov., 1988

[English]

Yatri Niwas at Chirala Sea Resort AP

4131. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a 'Yatri Niwas' at Chirala sea-resort in Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh to meet the demands of the tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal for construction of Yatri Niwas at Chirala sea-resort in Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh has been received from Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Subsidies on Short Distance flights

4132. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the subsidies on short-distance flights comes to five times the revenue of Vayudoot;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) No, Sir.

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

[Translation]

Suspension of Train Services in Jodhpur Division

4133. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER : JAIN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether train services in Jodhpur division remained suspended during the months of June and July, 1988;

(b) if so, the names of such trains alongwith the period, train-wise, for which the trains remained suspended and the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken against those responsible for this; and

(d) the details of plan contemplated for a permanent solution of this problem ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some train services for some days.

(b) and (c). Due to very heavy sand storms, a natural calamity. A statement is given below.

(c) No permanent solution has been found so far. However, in consultation with the Central Arid Zone Research Institute, tree plantation is being undertaken along the railway tracks to mitigate the problem.

Statement I

S. No. Trian No.		Section on which cancelled	Days	
			June	July
1	2	3	4	5
1.	63	Merta Road-Bikaner	3	—
2.	64	—do—	3	—

1	2	3	4	5
3.	95	Merta Road-Bikaner	3	—
4.	96	—do—	3	—
5.	97	Jodhpur-Barmer	30	19
6.	98	—do—	30	19
7.	207	Balotra-Barmer	13	8
8.	208	—do—	13	8
9.	1 JPJ	Phalodi-Samrau	7	1
10.	2 JPJ	—do—	7	4
11.	3 JPJ	Jodhpur-Jaisalmer	16	6
12.	4 JPJ	—do—	16	4
13.	1 JB	Balotra-Barmer	12	9
14.	2 JB	—do—	13	9
15.	1 MB	Balotra-Barmer	3	—
16.	2 MB	—do—	3	—
17.	1 SP	Balotra-Pachpadra Salt	30	31
18.	2 PSL	—do—	30	31
19.	240	Raniwara-Samdari	1	—
20.	239	—do—	1	—
21.	1 BM	Barmer-Munabao	11	13
22.	2 BM	—do—	11	13
23.	1 SB	Raniwara-Marwar Bainmal	1	1
24.	2 SB	—do—	1	—

[English]

Allocation to Rajasthan and Gujarat for
Family Welfare Schemes

4134. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER
JAIN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of allocations made by
the Centre to Rajasthan and Gujarat for
family welfare schemes during the last three
years, year-wise;

(b) the different heads under which these
funds were given;

(c) the year-wise utilisation of the funds and the targets achieved during the above period;

(d) whether State Governments have urged for increase in allocations for the year 1988-89;

(e) if so, the amount sought for and Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The information is given in the Statement-I.

(b) Funds were provided to State Governments under the following heads :

- (1) Direction and Administration
- (2) Rural Family Welfare Services
- (3) Urban Family Welfare Services

(4) M.C.H.

(5) Transport

(6) Compensation

(7) Mass Education and media.

(8) Training Research and Evaluation.

(9) Village Health Guide Scheme

(10) Area Projects

(11) Other services and Supplies (including Post-Partum Programme awards and supplies, etc.

(c) The details of funds utilised and targets achieved are given in statement I and II respectively.

(d) and (e). The information is being collected.

Statement-I

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Rajasthan		Gujarart	
	Allocation	Expenditure reported by the State Government	Allocation	Expenditure reported by the State Govern-ment
1985-86	1768.39	2105-87	2184.42	3383.96
1986-87	1806.10	2141-30	2192.60	3283.85
1987-88	2141.07	2545-41	2189.57	3531.14

Statement-II

Target, Achievement and Percentage Achievement of target of MCH activities for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 in respect of Rajasthan State

Activities	(Figures in 000s)									
	Targets			Achievements			%age Achv. of Targets			
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1987-88
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
<i>I. Immunization</i>										
(i) S.T. Immunization for expectant mothers	500	600	1053	306	578	761	61.2	96.3	72.3	
(ii) DPT Immunization for children	700	750	1068	745	763	824	107.7	101.7	77.1	
(iii) Polio	700	750	1068	642	677	713	91.6	90.3	66.8	
(iv) BCG below 1 yr.)	700	750	1068	133	734	810	19.00	97.9	75.9	
(v) Measles	NA	200	641	NA	472	781	NA	236.2	121.8	
(vi) Typhoid	400	450	700	354	333	270	88.6	73.9	38.6	
(vii) D.T. Immunization for Children	400	450	700	494	424	607	123.5	94.3	86.8	
(viii) T.T. (10 yrs.)	250	350	446	222	275	372	88.8	78.6	83.3	
(ix) T.T. (16 yrs.)	100	125	150	130	143	197	130.4	144.4	131.1	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
II. Prophylaxis									
Prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia (completed)									
(i) Women	550	600	1200	733*	364	622	133.3	60.6	51.9
(ii) Children	550	600	900	597*	349	558	108.6	58.1	62.0
III. Prophylaxis Against blindness among children									
Due to Vit. A Deficiency	1000	1000	1300	517	606	903	51.7	60.6	69.5

*Figures indicate beneficiaries based on initiated doses.

NA—Not available.

Note : Percentage Achievement has been worked out on the basis of absolute figures.

✓Figures provisional.

Target Achievement and Percentage achievement of targets of Family Planning Methods for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 in respect of Rajasthan State

Year	Sterilisations			I. U. D. Insertions			C. C. Users			O. P. Users		
	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of target	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of target	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of target	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of target
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1985-86	285,000	267,865	94.0	85,000	95,632	112.5	160,000	177,990	111.2	31,000	13,564	43.7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
(vi) Typhoid	900	900	900	676	746	641	75.1	82.9	71.2
(vii) D.T. Immunization for children	900	900	900	975	967	849	108.4	107.5	94.3
(viii) T.T. (10 yrs.)	500	500	390	398	440	459	79.6	88.0	117.6
(ix) T.T. (16 yrs.)	250	250	400	188	212	257	75.3	84.9	64.2
<i>II. Prophylaxis Against Nutritional Anaemia (Completed)</i>									
(i) Women	750	1000	1055	1212*	770	1008	161.6*	77.0	95.5
(ii) Children	750	1000	1063	1042*	708	899	138.9*	70.8	84.6
<i>III. Prophylaxis Against Blindness</i>									
Due to Vit. 'A' deficiency.	1800	2000	2000	1597	1745	1634	88.7	87.3	81.7

✓ Figures provisional

NA—Not available

*Figures indicate beneficiaries based on initiated doses.

Note : Percentage achievement have been worked out on the basis of absolute figures.

Target Achievement and Percentage achievement of Family Planning Methods for the years 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 in respect of Gujarat State

Year	Sterilisation			I. U. D. Insertions			C. C. Users			O. P. Users		
	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of Target	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of Target	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of Target	Target	Achvt.	% age Achvt. of Target
1985-86	300,000	333,423	111.1	250,000	291,227	116.5	472,000	472,487	100.1	74,000	74,900	101.2
1986-87	300,000	260,101	86.7	300,000	287,819	95.9	450,000	547,204	121.6	100,000	99,227	96.3
1987-88	300,000	276,454*	92.2*	313,000	317,193*	101.3*	508,000	573,467*	112.9*	100,000	110,354	110.4

*Figures provisional
Achvt.—Achievement.

Development of Tourist Spots in Gujarat and Rajasthan

4135. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals included in Seventh Five Year Plan for development of tourist spots in Rajasthan and Gujarat which are yet to be completed or implemented.

(b) the other proposals, if any, under consideration of Union Government for promotion of tourism in the States; and

(c) the time frame for completion of each of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) The Central Department of Tourism does not allocate funds State wise but scheme-wise. During the first three years of the Seventh Plan, the Department has sanctioned financial assistance for the following projects in Rajasthan and Gujarat which are yet to be completed :

Gujarat

1. Haveli Cottages at Ahmedpur Mandvi Beach.
2. Cafeteria at Beyat Dwarka.
3. Cafeteria at Somnath.
4. Beach Cottages at Nargole.
5. Wayside facilities at Limbidi.
6. Yatri Niwas at Dakor.
7. Mini buses for Sasangir.
8. Motel at Ankleshwar.
9. Fairs and Festivals.
10. Cafeteria at Patan.

Rajasthan

1. Improvement and modification of Indra Ghat and Karni Ghat at Pushkar.
2. Mewar Festival.
3. Purchase of mini buses and jeeps for Ranthambore, Bharatpur and Alwar Wild Life Sanctuary.
4. Camel Safari at Thar Desert.
5. Development of Talvriksha.
6. Master Plan for Chittorgarh
7. Boats for Ramgarh Lake, Jaipur.
8. Wayside facilities at Pokharan.

(b) and (c). Receipt of proposals from States and sanctioning of financial assistance is an on-going process. Proposals of central financial assistance are received from State Governments on a year to year basis and these are taken up for financial assistance by the Department subject to the proposals being within the purview of the approved Plan Schemes of the Department overall merits of the proposals availability of funds and interse priorities. The time frame for completion of projects varies from project to project depending upon its size, location and the executing agency.

Implementation of Recommendations of Sikri Committee

4136. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the recommendations, including those on bridges and brake power, made by the Railway Accidents Enquiry Committee (Sikri Committee) whose reports have been with the Government since 1980, have been implemented in full; and

(b) If not, the recommendations not implemented so far and the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI

MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). The Railway Accidents Enquiry Committee-1978 (Sikri Committee) submitted its report in two parts and made 583 recommendations in all. Of these, 54 were only observations. Thus out of a total of 529 recommendations, 459 were accepted and 70 not accepted. Out of the accepted recommendations, 429 have already been implemented which includes all the recommendations made in respect of Bridges and brake power. The remaining 30 recommendations are still under implementation.

Some of the recommendations could not be implemented straightaway due to constraints of funds, assistance required from other Ministries, ban on creation of posts, time lag for development of suitable design for the new technological devices recommended, etc. Efforts are being made to implement the remaining recommendations also taking into account the financial and material constraints.

**Setting up of Holiday Complex in
Joint Venture**

4137. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY :
SHRIMATI JAYANTI
PATNAIK :
SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :
SHRI YASHWANTRAO
GADAKH PATIL :

Will the Minister of **CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to declare tourism as an export oriented industry and invite foreign investment in joint ventures for setting up holiday complexes in India; and

(b) the steps being taken to resolve the difficulties faced by the tourists in respect of visa, cumbersome procedures at airports and stay arrangements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Consideration of suitable incentives for the tourism industry, including parity with export oriented industries, is a continuing process in the Department of Tourism. Recently, in recognition of tourism as a

major foreign exchange earner for the country, the benefit of income tax in respect of foreign exchange earnings available under Section 80HHC of the Income Tax Act to merchandise export, has been announced, broadly on the same lines, for hotels and tour operators.

Foreign investment and collaboration in the hotel industry in India is already permissible under certain conditions.

(b) Measures to resolve the difficulties faced by the tourists in respect of visa, procedural formalities at airports and stay arrangement are constantly under review in Department of Tourism.

Railway Users' Consultative Committee

4138. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of **RAILWAYS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Northern Railway Users' Consultative Committee alongwith various Divisional Railways Users' Committees for the Divisions under its jurisdiction, have since been constituted;

(b) if so, the composition of each of these Committee alongwith date on which they have been constituted and the dates on which each respective previous Committee completed their terms; and

(c) the guidelines for the functioning of these Committees and the reasons for delay in their composition ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c). While the Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees on the Northern Railway are being constituted from September, 1988, the constitution of the Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee is in the process of finalisation

These Committees comprise of Member of Parliament and of the State Legislature, Officials of State Governments, representatives of Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Trade/Passenger Associations, Agricultural and other special interests. The last term of the Divisional and Zonal Consultative Committees expired on 31.12.1987 and 31.3.1988 respectively.

These Committees are consultative in character and are constituted with a view to securing better representation of railway users and affording more frequent opportunities for consultation between Railway Administration and users on matters relating to the services provided by railways.

Protection to Women Beedi Workers

4139. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :
SHRI SHANTILAL PATEL :
SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Beedi and Cigar Workers' Act and the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act mainly aimed at protecting women workers in the tobacco-processing sector have failed to protect them;

(b) if so, the main reasons thereof ;

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ensure that women beedi workers fully benefit from the welfare legislation; and

(d) whether Government have drawn attention of the various State Governments concerned to the situation and have suggested any line of action ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976 are meant for all workers (man and women) in the Beedi and Cigar Establishments. It cannot be said that these legislations have failed to achieve their objective.

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

(d) The enforcement of the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 is with the State Governments. Any violations of the provisions of the Act are brought to the notice of the State Governments concerned.

Violence in Howrah-Kharagpur Section

4140. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that South Eastern Railway employees are highly agitated over the continuing violence in the Howrah-Kharagpur section; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to protect the railway employees and railway property ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). Railway-men's Unions of South Eastern and Eastern Railways have expressed their resentment over the incidents of manhandling and assault of 'on duty railwaymen' by the commuters of Howrah-Kharagpur section during July, 1988 due to late running of trains.

The State Police authorities, who are responsible for the maintenance of law and order on the Railways, have taken suitable measures to control the situation.

Introduction of New Superfast Train

4141. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently introduced some new superfast trains in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any prescribed speed for declaring a train as 'Superfast Train'; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether the speed of newly introduced trains is at par with the prescribed speed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(1) 965/966 Bombay-Varanasi Express.

(2) 967/968 Bombay-Faizabad Express.

(3) 313/314 Indirani Express (Bombay VT-Pune)

(c) and (d). Trains are designated as "Superfast" based on the overall consideration of speed, convenience of timings and comfort etc.

Interline Passage Policy of I.A.

4142. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its recent report on Indian Airlines has revealed that Indian Airlines had flouted the interlines passenger policy on vocational travel by allowing passage to the relatives of the employees like grandmother and grandchildren etc,

(b) if so, the number of such cases that have come to the notice of Government during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have not clearly asked the employees of the Indian Airlines about their dependents for vocational travel etc.; and

(d) the action contemplated by Government against the employees found violating the rules ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India had referred to four cases during 1982 of alleged flouting of interline passage policy on vocational travel by Indian Airlines staff by allowing passages to relatives like ground-mother and grand-children, etc.

(b) No cases of the nature referred to in part (a) has come to the notice of Government during the last three years.

(c) and (d). Since there has been no violation of rules as the vocational travel

of Indian Airlines employees on the services of other international carriers is governed by IATA resolution, which does not bar relatives of employees like married daughter/ married sisters/grand parents and grand children, question of taking action against the employees does not arise.

Without Ticket Passengers

4143. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have noticed a news item appearing in the daily Telegraph, Calcutta dated 4 June, 1988 under the caption "Ticketless on Airbus" standing that an employee of Indian Airlines was found without ticket in an Airbus-New Delhi bound Flight 263 on 27 May, 1988;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the person concerned has has been charge sheeted;

(d) whether there have been similar incidents in the past also; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) The news item regarding ticketless passengers travelling on Airbus which appeared in the Daily Telegraph of 4.6.1988 has come to the notice of the Government. No passenger has, however, travelled without ticket as alleged in the news item.

(b) A staff passenger attempted to travel without a valid ticket on Indian Airlines Flight IC-263 of 27.5.1988 but the same was detected and the concerned passenger was off-loaded before the release of the flight.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). No passenger was found travelling without ticket or valid travelling authority during the year 1987 and upto May, 1988.

**Theft of wheel-sets from Gorakhpur
Godown (E.R.)**

4144. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether wheel-sets are being stolen from Eastern Railway godowns at Gorakhpur; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps being taken or contemplated in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) No Sir. No case has been reported from Railway Godowns at Gorakhpur. It may, however, be mentioned that Gorakhpur falls in North Eastern Railway and not in Eastern Railway.

(b) In view of reply to part (a), the Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Morning flight between Delhi Lucknow

4145. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether number of flights operating between Lucknow and other cities including Delhi have been reduced in the past few months;

(b) if so, the number of flights so reduced;

(c) whether Government are aware that the passengers travelling from this airport are facing inconvenience due to cancellation of these flights; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to resume operation of the morning flights between Delhi and Lucknow?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two flights; the frequency of IC-465 (on Delhi/Lucknow/Kanpur/Delhi) has been reduced from daily to 5 times a week and

IC-415 (Delhi/Lucknow/Allahabad/Lucknow/Delhi) operating three times a week has been withdrawn.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) After the induction of new aircraft into I.A. fleet, the Corporation would consider augmenting capacity between Delhi and Lucknow. Due to inclement weather at Lucknow during winter season, Indian Airlines has no plans to introduce early morning services between Delhi/Lucknow.

Water Pipes in Resettlement Colonies

4146. SHRI SHARAT SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the pits dug for laying water pipes in the resettlement colonies of Delhi have not yet been covered, and in the case of those which have been covered water is leaking out of the pipes;

(b) whether a very little number of public hydrants are fitted with taps with the result that water is wastefully flowing from the result;

(c) whether water supply in these colonies is also erratic; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Pits were dug where leakage was noticed in the system and the same were covered after the system was made functional.

(b) All the public hydrants have been fitted with taps and at present there is no wastage of water.

(c) and (d). Out of 44 resettlement colonies intermittent potable water supply has been provided in 39 colonies and work in 4 colonies has been completed by the D.D.A. and being commissioned shortly. Water supply based on Tube-Wells exists in Mangolpuri a colony located in rural area.

**Commercial Plots to Farmers in
Lieu of Acquired Land**

4147. SHRI BHARAT SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for allotment of commercial plots in addition to the residential plots to the villagers whose land was acquired in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Delhi Development Authority has reported that there is no such scheme.

(b) In view of (a) above question does not arise.

Assistance to Rajasthan for N.C.R.

4148. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan have demanded more money from Union Government for the development National Capital Region in the State :

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). Due to resource crunch the original allocation of Rs. 65 crores (Rs. 35 crores in Central Sector and Rs. 30 crores in State Sector) during the 7th Plan could not be enhanced.

**Compensation to Families of Persons
Killed in Train Accidents**

4149. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of families of the persons killed in railway accidents during the last three yeys who have been paid compensation;

(b) the number of such cases pending finalisation in each division, zone-wise, as on date;

(c) whether compensation cases of victims of Ajmer-Delhi Fast Passenger train accident in November, 1987 are still pending; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the cases are expected to be finalised ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) In 150 cases, compensation have been paid to the families/dependents of the persons killed in Railway accidents.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The judicial officer recommended by the Rajasthan Government did not accept the terms of appointment as Ad-hoc Claims Commissioner. Subsequently, the State Government advised that the concerned officer was not available for posting and in his place, another Judicial Officer was recommended. This has been accepted and notification regarding his appointment has since has been issued. The Ad-hoc Claims Commissioner will be requested to expedite the finalisation of the cases.

Statement

Compensation to the families of persons killed in train accident

Zonal Railway	No. of cases, pending finalisation of persons killed in Railway accidents during the last three years, divisionwise	
1	2	3
C. Railway	6 in Nagpur; 1 in Bombay	Total : 7
E. Railway	2 in Asansol; 1 in Dhanbad; 1 in Sealdah	Total : 4

1	2	3
N. Railway	4 in Delhi; 9 in Ambala; 4 in Firozpur; 1 in Jodhpur; 4 in Lucknow; 1 in Moradabad; 6 in Allahabad	Total : 29
N.E. Railway	5 in Izatnagar; 4 in Lucknow; 2 in Varanasi; 1 in Samastipur	Total : 12
N.F. Railway	2 in Alipurduar; 1 in Tinsukia	Total : 3
S. Railway	1 in Tiruchchirappalli	Total : 1
S.C. Railway	18 in Secunderabad and 1 in Hyderabad	Total : 19
S.E. Railway	4 in Bilaspur and 3 in Khurda Road	Total : 7
W. Railway	3 in Vadodara; 10 in Ratlam; 2 in Kota; 17 in Jaipur	Total : 32

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Inclusion of Rajasthan in National Capital Region

4150. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have excluded Rajasthan from the limits of the National Capital Region;

(b) if so, whether Government have now brought Rajasthan under the National Capital Regional Planning Board by taking it out of the Capital Region Development Project; and

(c) if so, the reasons for such a change ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Control of Diseases

4151. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for the control of cancer, coronary heart diseases, hyperten-

sion, diabetes, anemia etc., during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the achievements under each head;

(c) the estimated number of people suffering from the above diseases, disease-wise, in Delhi; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken to provide satisfactory health care to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (d). *Cancer* : The Cancer Control Programme has been launched during the 7th Plan with the allocation of Rs. 20 crores with the following main objectives :

1. Primary Prevention of cancer particularly tobacco related cancers.
2. Early diagnosis and treatment of cancer of the uterine cervix.
3. Distribution and extension of services through regional cancer centres, medical and dental colleges.

Facilities for treatment of cancer including Radio-Therapy are available in 95

institutions in the country including 9 Regional Cancer Centres. Chemotherapy facilities are generally available in all the major hospitals. There are 74 Medical Colleges with Pap Smearing Units, under Post Partum Programme with cancer detection facilities. Early Cancer Detection Centres have been set up in 29 institutions.

Coronary Heart Diseases and Hypertension: No specific programme has been launched for coronary heart diseases and hypertension during the 7th Plan period. However, Intensive Care Units have been established in many hospitals.

Diabetes: Diabetes Control Programme has been launched during the 7th Plan period with an allocation of Rs. 25 lakhs. Action has been taken to initiate District

Diabetes Control Programme in the 3 districts of the country. Diabetes care clinics have been established in all the major hospitals where patients are treated and advice is given.

Anemia: Prophylaxis scheme against nutritional anaemia due to deficiency of iron and prophylaxis against blindness due to deficiency of Vit. A has been launched during 7th Plan with the total allocation of Rs. 29.80 crores. Assistance is given States in the form of Drugs and medicine. It is envisaged to cover 100% eligible mothers and children of 1—5 age group by 1990.

(c) The number of patients treated in the hospital of Delhi during 1984-85 is as follows.

Disease	Number of indoor and outdoor patients treated in Delhi hospitals	
	1984	1985
1. Cancer	Not available	Not available
2. Coronary Heart disease	112	104
3. Hypertension	2007	1172
4. Diabetes,	50	7030
5. Anaemia	8945	21021

TB and Malaria in Orissa

4152. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of Tuberculosis and Malaria reported from Orissa during the last three years;

(b) whether there has been an increase in the incidence of Tuberculosis and Malaria in the State;

(c) if so the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Union Government to check these diseases in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The requisite information, as available, is as under :

T.B.

1985-86	24897
1986-87	25768
1987-88	29766

Malaria

1985-86	246223
1986-87	3 16139
1987-88	237810

(b) and (c).

Malaria

From the figures for the year 1985 to 1987; it is seen that malaria cases decreased in 1985 and 1987 over the previous years. However, there was increase in 1986. In 1988 (upto May) also there is decrease of 35.8% in comparison to corresponding period of 1987.

Probable reasons for increase of malaria cases in 1986 are (a) State targeted only 9.77 million population for spray against the technical target of 22.08 million in 1985. As there was inadequate spray coverage in 1985; transmission intervention could not be achieved upto the desired level. This led to the increase in malaria cases in 1986. (b) There was shortage of funds for purchase of vehicles in 1986 and this resulted in lack of supervision and inadequate mobility of staff in the field.

(d) *T.B.*

National TB Control Programme is implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, Anti-TB Drugs/Material and equipment are being supplied to the TB Centre run by the State of Orissa on 50: 50 sharing basis as per pattern of assistance laid down for 7th Five Year Plan. BCG Vaccination is being given as a preventive method to children of age group of 0—1 year as a part of universal programmes of immunization.

Malaria

Following steps are being taken for effective control malaria. (i) Every village is visited fortnightly by surveillance workers to detect fever cases collect blood smears and to give presumptive treatment. (2) The laboratories in the Primary Health Centres provide prompt examination of blood smears of fever cases and institute radical treatment to Positive cases (3) Insecticidal spray operations with appropriate insecticidal are undertaken in all the rural areas which have incidence of two or more cases per thousand population per year. (4) Drug Distribution Centres and Fever Treatment Depots are functioning in the

village so the drug could be made available with no less of time to the fever cases.

Popularisation of Oral Rehydration Therapy

4153. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued directives to the concerned organisations for popularisation of Oral Rehydration Therapy in Delhi to check further outbreak of gastroenteritis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Oral Rehydration Therapy ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). Ministry of Health and Family Welfare have advised all States and U.T.s to make use of oral rehydration therapy in the management of diarrhoea episodes. This therapy is recommended for preventing and treating dehydration caused by gastro-enteritis but does not prevent out-breaks of gastroenteritis. The out-break of gastro-enteritis can be prevented only by ensuring supply of safe drinking water, adequate sanitation facilities and personal hygien.

(c) Oral Rehydration Therapy is basically replacement of water and salts lost due to diarrhoea. This can be started with home available fluids such as rice kanjee, lime juice, lassi, salt sugar solution etc. or with pre-packed oral rehydration salt which has to be dissolved in the recommended proportion in clean water in ordinary circumstances and administered to the individual from the on-set of diarrhoea. The person has to see a physician or go to a hospital if there are other complication like fever, blood and mucous in the stools etc. or if there is no improvement or there is deterioration of the condition of the patient within 48 hours after the start of the therapy.

[Translation]

Funds Allotted to Uttar Pradesh for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour

4154. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the funds allocated to Government of Uttar Pradesh by Union Government during the last three years for rehabilitation of the bonded labour; and

(b) the details about the targets set and achieved in respect of rehabilitation of

bonded labour in the State during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) (a) and (b). Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labour on allocation of funds is made State-wise. However funds are released on the basis of proposals received from a State and utilisation of funds released earlier. The details of amount released as Central share to Uttar Pradesh, target fixed and achievements during the last three years are given below :

Year	Amount of Central Share released	Target Fixed	Achievement
	(Rs. in Lakhs)	(Numbers)	(Numbers)
1985-86	93.79	4000	4199
1986-87	101.08	4000	4749
1987-88	47.88	2196	3554

Use of indigenous Oils by Vanaspati Units

4155. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :
SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :

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

(a) whether Government have urged the vanaspati producing units to use other indigenous edible oils in place of imported edible oils;

(b) if so, the extent to which these units have complied with the request;

(c) whether steps have been taken to ensure normal supply of vanspati ghee in the market during the coming festival months; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) Vanaspati industry have been advised to take measures for progressively reducing consumption of imported oils and for increased utilisation of non-traditional oils.

(b) Consumption of indigenous oils in the production of vanaspati in the last three years is given below :

(in lakh tonnes)

Oil Year	Production of banaspati	Consumption of indigenous oils
(Nov. to October)		
1984-85	9.17	3.32
1985-86	9.17	4.74
1986-87	9.29	4.99

(c) and (d). Government is keeping a close watch to ensure normal supply of vanaspati in the market especially during coming festival months.

[English]

Damage of Foodgrains

4156. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of foodgrains kept in the godowns, State-wise;

(b) the quantity delivered short by the Railways or damaged; and

(c) the total shortage found in the foodgrains every year during the last two years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) A statement showing the stock position of foodgrains with FCI in the various States/Union Territories, as on 31st July, 1988, is given below :

(b) and (c). The total transit and storage shortages in foodgrains in the FCI during 1985-86 and 1986-87 are indicated below :

(Quantity in lakh tonnes)

Year	Purchase + Sales	Shortages	%age shortages in terms of quantity over Purchase + Sales
1985-86	368.40	5.95	1.62
1986-87	398.96	6.51	1.63

Statement

Stock Position of Foodgrains with Food Corporation of India As on 31.7.1988 (Provisional)

Region	Quantity (In M.T.)
1	2
West Bengal	294585
JM (PO) Calcutta	139578
Bihar	245570
Orissa	139777
Assam	83351
Meghalaya	6021
Arunachal Pradesh	—
Manipur	3287
Tripura	5756

1	2
Nagaland	2022
Mizoram	267
Sikkim	—
Andaman and Nicob r	—
East Zone Total	920214
Delhi	200399
Punjab	2101038
Haryana	627006
Rajasthan	303896
Uttar Pradesh	802859
Himachal Pradesh	19430
J. and K.	51520

1	2
Chandigarh	5662
North Zone Total	4111810
Tamilnadu	228574
JM (PO) Madras	11771
A. P.	631688
JM (PO) Vizag	2066
Karnataka	176625
Kerala	285039
Pondicherry	—
Lakshadweep	—
South Zone Total	1335663
Maharashtra	269096
Gujarat	311501
JM (PO) Kandla	7640
M. P.	444653
Goa, Daman and Diu	6715
West Zone Total	1039605
Grand Total	7407292
Stocks in Transit	330591
Country Total	7737883

Note : The above stocks do not include wheat and rice held b State Government Agencies on behalf of Central Pool.

Special Funds for the Benefit of Unemployed Youths

4157. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether of Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Union Government

to provide special funds to the State Government for provision of unemployment benefits to the unemployed youth in the state;

(b) if so, the details toereof;

(c) the time when necessary funds will be made available to the State Government for the purpose; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Introduction of Superfast Train Between Hyderabad-Mahboob Nagar Pune-Bombay

4158. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce superfast train between Mahboob Nagar-Hyderabad-Pune-Bombay;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It involves break of gauge.

Introduction of Shuttle Trains between Hyderabad-Mahboob Nagar

4159. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce shuttle trains between Hyderabad and Mahboob Nagar for the convenience of the public; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

Ropeway Project at Shravanabelagola

4160. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any ropeway facility available at Shravanabelagola;

(b) if not, whether Union Government propose to assist the State Government to undertake the ropeway project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to States on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments. No proposal for a provision of the Ropeway facility at Shravanabelagola has been received from the Government of Karnataka.

Dieselisation of Express/Mail Trains on Northern Railway during Seventh Plan

4161. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any definite programme for the dieselisation of the Express/Mail Trains on the Northern Railway during the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the details of the programme, including the names of the trains which have been dieselised since the beginning of the Seventh Plan as on date alongwith the names of those selected for this purpose during the remaining years of the Plan; and

(c) whether any steps would be taken to ensure that all the Express/Mail trains would be dieselised before the introduction of any new trains on account of the scarcity of diesel engines ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is need based and is decided from time to time depending upon the availability of diesel locos.

Who Report on Poisoning from Pesticides

4162. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether World Organisation has submitted a study report on poisoning from pesticides;

(b) whether as follow-up of this report, any special laws and rules are contemplated to be framed to regulate the spraying of pesticides, quantity-wise and quality-wise; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The article entitled "Survey of acute pesticide poisoning among agricultural workers in four Asian countries" was published in the Bulletin of the World Health Organisation, 1987. The study investigated the extent of pesticide poisoning in selected agricultural communities in Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and Thailand as well as the contributing factors.

(b) and (c). Under National Malaria Eradication Programme, insecticides are being used for spraying as per rules and regulations stipulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968.

Development of Ahmedabad Airport

4163. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Airport Authority has undertaken the work of development of Ahmedabad Airport for international air traffic;

(b) whether Government propose to divert international passengers from Bombay to Ahmedabad; and

(c) by what time the international charter would start bookings to Ahmedabad Airport.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) to (c). It is proposed to develop Ahmedabad airport for limited international operations. The proposal is at a preliminary stage. Once the proposed development works are completed, the Air-Indian would consider starting limited international flights with A-310 type of aircraft.

Use of Unhygienic Syringes for Mass Inoculation Against Cholera

4164. SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints that the doctors and health workers resort to filling up syringes full with drug inoculate four or five persons without changing the needle;

(b) whether the doctors and vaccinators do not sterilise the needles and syringe properly as they are faced with long queues; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) No.

(b) No instances of using unsterilized syringes and needles by Doctors and vaccinators has come to the notice of this Ministry.

(d) Does not arise.

Risk Insurance Scheme for Journalists

4165. SHRI V.S. KRISHAN IYER : SHRI HARIHAR SOREN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce a Risk Insurance Scheme for journalists; and

(b) so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) At present, there is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

Shatabdi Express

4166. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA : SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Shatabdi Express introduced between New Delhi and Jhansi was originally planned for run between New Delhi Kanpur;

(b) whether over 500 new employees were recruited for service on the Shatabdi Express despite a Government ban on new recruitment and the speed of a number of trains running on the Shatabdi sector has been reduced in preference of the run of Shatabdi Express; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the reasons for changing the original plan ?

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

(b) There is no ban on filling up of vacancies caused by promotion, retirement, death etc. The booked speed of no train has been reduced.

(c) Does not arise.

Replacement of ISI by BIS

4167. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : PROF. RAMAKRISHNA MORE:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Standards Institute has since been ceased and has been replaced by the Bureau of Indian Standards;

(b) whether the consumers are still not aware of this modification and insist on ISI mark goods;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to reinforce their consumer awareness campaign so that the consumers buy only BIS mark goods; and

(d) the details of the additional consumer items proposed to be included in the BIS list ?

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

(b) No, Sir. The reason is that though the name of the organisation has changed from Indian Standards Institution to Bureau of Indian Standards, the standard mark continues to be based on the familiar monogram ISI.

(c) Since the establishment of the Bureau, through a number of programmes on Doordarshan and All India Radio, activities of the Bureau are highlighted and consumers are made aware of the advantages of buying only ISI marked goods.

(d) Some of the new consumer items proposed to be included in the fold of Compulsory ISI Certification are as follows :

- (i) Synthetic detergents;
- (ii) Clinical thermometers;
- (iii) Infant foods;
- (iv) Rubber Tubing for connecting LPG Cylinder and Stove; and
- (v) Sphygmomanometers.

In considering these proposals, problems relating to implementation, preparatory steps especially by small scale and tiny units and socio-economic consideration have to be kept in view.

Mental Patients in Bihar

4168. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH :

DR. G.S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Bihar has 1.4 m mental patients" as reported in the 'Hindustan Times' of 2 July, 1988:

(b) if so, whether Ranchi Mental Asylum has about 2 per cent of the State's total population suffering from neurosis and psychosomatic disorders;

(c) whether any Central assistance is being provided to the State Government to meet the situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes. The Government has seen the News Item.

(b) to (d). Ranchi Mental Asylum is under the control of the State Government. As such, no specific data pertaining to this Asylum are available with the Ministry of Health and family Welfare. However, according to the surveys conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research and some of the agencies, at least 10 to 12 per thousand of population are affected by mental disorders at any point of time. No Central—Assistance is being provided at present to the State Government.

Trifurcation of DDA

4169. SHRIMATI MADHUREE SINGH:

DR. G.S. RAJHANS :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since decided to trifurcate the Delhi Development Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when a legislation to trifurcate the DDA will be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has been decided to divest DDA of the responsibility of construction of houses and a separate Delhi Housing Board and Delhi Slum Improvement Board are proposed to be constituted, because construction of housing and slum improvement were not envisaged in the original charter of the DDA. Further, it has been decided to divest DDA of the work relating to dairy colonies and lotteries. The work relating to re-settlement colonies has already been transferred from DDA to MCD w.e.f. 1.6.88.

(c) All steps are being taken to ensure full implementation of the decision as soon as possible.

**Non-Utilisation of Financial Assistance
Given to States**

**4170. SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :**

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice Government that the centrally sanctioned financial assistance is not being fully utilised or it is being diverted to non-health areas; and

(b) if so, the names of such States, particularly in the case of blindness control ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). The Comptroller and Auditor General in his recent in his recent report has indicated that the Centrally sanctioned financial assistance under the National Programme for Control of Blindness has not been fully utilized by the following States/UTs. :

1. Bihar 2. Karnataka 3. Kerala
4. Madhya Pradesh 5. Himachal Pradesh
6. Manipur 7. Punjab 8. Rajasthan
9. Tamil Nadu 10. A and N Islands

11. Chandigarh 12. Goa, Daman and Diu 13. Pondicherry.

No reports of diversion of Central assistance to non-Health areas have been received.

Additional Railway Line on Panskura-Haldia Section

4171. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the line capacity on Panskura-Haldia Section of South Eastern Railway is not adequate to meet the demand of the traffic available;

(b) if so, whether there is any plan for construction of another line to reduce the load on the section;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

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

(d) The line capacity utilisation is below 100%.

Exemption of Village Milk Cooperative Societies from Industrial Disputes Act

4172. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether item 4.12 of the Technology Mission calls for exemption of village Milk Cooperative Societies from purview of the Industrial Disputes Act and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether this is in consonance with Government's present policies ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) Yes, Sir, the reason being that unlike factories and other industrial establishments, village milk

Cooperatives employ only a small number of persons for collection, resting of milk etc. on a part-time basis and that, too, only for two-three hours a day.

(b) Yes, Sir, in as much as village milk Cooperative Societies employing less than ten persons will stand excluded from the purview of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 as soon as the revised definition of the term 'Industry' is enforced.

Weakening of P. D. S.

4173. SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI:
SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Food Ministers at a meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System had drawn attention to the weakening of the country's Public Distribution System due to reduction of the States' quota of essential commodities and the hike in administered prices; and

(b) if so, Government reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b). In the Ninth Meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System held on 14.7.1988 representatives of some States raised the point, inter alia, about the reduction in allotment of essential commodities from the central pool. A mention was also made about the hike in administered prices of a few items in the context of the general price rise of essential commodities.

It was explained that allotment of essential commodities from the central pool is supplementary in nature and are made on considerations of their availability in the central pool, relative needs of various States, market availability, past lifting and other related factors. However, the States were assured that their reasonable demands will receive due consideration of the Central Government.

The hike in administered prices of some items was mainly due to rise in the cost of inputs.

Diversion of goods by NCCF, Calcutta

4174. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether non controlled textiles worth Rs. 191.00 lakhs and confiscated goods worth Rs. 82.00 lakhs were shown as supplied by Calcutta Branch of NCCF to the cooperative societies of the Eastern Region in 1982-83;

(b) whether any irregularities were noticed in this regard; and

(c) if so, whether any enquiry was held and if so, the outcome thereof ?

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

(b) NCCF, have reported that procedural irregularities have been committed only in the supply of non-controlled textiles.

(c) One Assistant Manager of the Calcutta Branch has been placed under suspension. Investigations have been initiated by the CBI. NCCF have separately taken legal action for recovery of its dues.

Super Bazar Sales

4175. SHRI K. N. PRADHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the annual sales of Super Bazar for the year 1986-87 and 1987-88 showing separately the sale of Palmolein Refined Oil; and

(b) the number of new Branches opened during 1987-88 and their total turn over during the year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) The annual sales turn-over of Super Bazar

for 1986-87 and 1987-88 and sale of palmolein refined oil are as under :

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Total sales turn-over	Sale of Palmolein refined oil
1986-87 (Audited)	69.77	4.00
1987-88 (Estimated)	87.82	14.44

(b) During the cooperative year 1987-88, three new branches of Super Bazar, Delhi have been opened. The total sales of the three branches was Rs. 56.25 lakhs.

Flow of Tourists to Maharashtra

4176. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to popularise the places of tourists interest in Maharashtra among the foreign tourists;

(b) the number of foreign tourists, who visited Maharashtra during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for the slow growth of tourist traffic; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the flow of foreign tourists to Maharashtra ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) and (d). The Department of Tourism under-takes the promotion and development of tourism in the country as a whole, including Maharashtra. The steps taken to attract more tourists to Maharashtra include strengthening of tourism infrastructure, production of publicity material and print media campaigns. The publicity material brought out recently by the Department of Tourism includes :

1. Ajanta Ellora, Aurangabad folder and directory.

2. Bombay folder and directory.

3. Nagpur, Wardha, Sevagram folder and directory.

The tourist attractions of Maharashtra also feature in several other thematic brochures and films. Several TV documentaries produced by overseas teams and sponsored by the Department of Tourism have also publicised Maharashtra.

(b) and (c). As per information received from the Maharashtra State Government. 839,098 foreign tourists visited Maharashtra during 1987. The comparable figures of tourist arrival for 1986 are not available from the State Government and therefore the growth rate cannot be commented upon.

Appointment of Unani Physicians on Regular Basis in CGHS.

4177. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Unani Physicians are appointed in CGHS on ad-hoc basis to cope up with the requirement of physicians in CGHS;

b) if so, the normal period fixed for their ad-hoc appointment; and

(c) the reasons for which regular appointments of Unani Physicians are not made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). No Unani Physician is being appointed on ad-hoc basis in CGHS now.

(c) Unani Physicians are being appointed on regular basis through U.P.S.C.

Handing over Possession of Land to Central School in Lodhi Complex, New Delhi

4178. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether four acres of land was allotted in 1985 by the DDA to Central

School, Pragati Vihar, Lodhi Complex, New Delhi-3;

(b) if so, the reasons for not handing over the possession of the land to the school authorities so far; and

(c) the time by which the possession will be given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Land measuring 4 acres was allotted to Kendriya Vidhalaya Sangthan in Lodhi Road Complex in 1985 by the L & DO.

(b) The possession of land could not be handed over to Kendriya Vidhalaya Sangthan as the land is unauthorisedly squatted upon.

(c) Action to remove the unauthorised squatters has been initiated. It is not possible to indicate the exact time when the possession of the site will be handed over to the allottee organisation.

Misleading advertisements by Volfarm Ketchup

4179. SHRI P. R. S. VENKATESAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of misleading advertisements by Volfarm Ketchup and if so, the corrective steps taken/proposed;

(b) whether many State/Public/Cooperative Sector in farm products instead of marketing through Cooperative Sector are now marketing through private sector and former multi-nations on the pattern of Amul Cooperative; and

(c) whether Government propose to stop all perks and other grants etc. to all State/Cooperative units which do not market through Public Sector, PDS and Cooperative outlets ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. An investigation into the matter has been directed by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission.

(b) According to existing Government policy, arrangements are made so that a fixed percentage of products produced in the Cooperative Sector and by private trade is made available for being sold through consumer cooperatives. The marketing of any product, however, depends mainly on commercial considerations.

(c) Government does not have any scheme for giving perks/grants to any cooperative society for the purpose and hence the question of their stoppage does not arise.

Non Utilisation of Funds for Control of Blindness

4180. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether funds allocated under the National Programme for control of Blindness were not fully utilised during the period 1980-81 to 1986-87; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to implement effectively the above programme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) A few State/Union Territories did not fully utilise the funds allocated to them under National Programme for Control of Blindness, due to late/non-creation of infrastructure.

(b) The expenditure incurred by the States/Union Territories against the funds allocated by National Programme for Control of Blindness is monitored quarterly and States/Union Territories are impressed upon the need of timely development of infrastructure and achievements of targets laid down by the Centre.

Steps to Modernise and Supervise Blood Collection Centres

4181. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken during the year 1988 to modernise and supervise all blood collection centres in the country;

(b) the funds allotted for this purpose; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up a corporation for collection and storage of blood ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). A scheme on Development and Modernisation of Blood Banking and Transfusion Services in the country is under implementation.

The salient features of the Scheme are :

1. Improvement in the existing blood banks from district level and upto National Blood Transfusion Services;
2. Development of man power;
3. Maximum utilisation of available blood by plasma fractionation;
4. Incentives to voluntary organisations involved in voluntary blood donation programme.

An amount of Rs. 100.00 lakhs has been earmarked during 1988-89.

(c) No.

[*Translation*]

Reservation Quota for Kanpur

4182. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI :

SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Superfast train like Shatabadi Express is proposed to be introduced between Delhi and Kanpur in the near future;

(b) if so, whether keeping in view the population of Kanpur and its being an industrial city and rush of traders travelling between Delhi and Kanpur, the quota percentage of reservation for Kanpur in UP and DOWN trains is sufficient;

(c) if not, whether reservation quota for Kanpur would be increased; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : No, Sir. However a feasibility study on upgradation of Delhi Kanpur section for transport capacity and 160 KMPH operation was completed early this year by a Japanese team. A further detailed study has been ordered to identify precise nature of works involved, and firm up the estimated costs.

(b) Quotas are considered sufficient.

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

[*English*]

Polio and other Water Borne Diseases

4183. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :
SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :
SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE :
DR. (MRS.) T. KALPANA
DEVI :
SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA
RAO :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the increase in the cases of Polio and other water borne diseases in most parts of the country, particularly in the capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons who died as a result of these diseases in the capital and other States during the current year;

(d) whether any action/steps have been taken by the Government to prevent the out break of such diseases in the country;

(e) whether there is no good vaccine available in the country to prevent these diseases and if so, the details thereof; and

(f) whether Government propose to import quality vaccine for these diseases and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). According to the reports received from State/UT Governments there is increase in the incidence of Polio and other water borne diseases during 1988 as compared to 1987 in several States/UTs as per details given in the statements I, II, III, IV and V.

(d) The steps being taken to prevent the outbreak of these diseases include surveillance and monitoring, supply of safe

drinking-water sources, safe disposal of human-excreta, garbage, refuse etc., improvement of personal hygiene, promotion of ORT in case of dehydration due to diarrhoeal diseases, immunization of infants under Universal Immunization Programme against Polio, anti-cholera inoculations in the affected areas and making provision in all health care facilities to treat cases of these diseases considering the causative organism involved, and strengthening of health education measures.

(e) and (f). Cholera and Typhoid vaccines are available in the country. Polio vaccine is not indigenously manufactured in the country. Monovalent bulks of this vaccine are being imported and blended into trivalent vaccine at HBPCCL, Bombay and supplied to the Immunization Programme and shortfall of this vaccine is being imported from abroad. As regards cholera and typhoid vaccines, these vaccines are indigenously produced in several Government and Public Sector undertakings as per demands placed with them.

Statement-I

Cases and Deaths due to Enteric Fever in India During

Sl. No.	Name of the States U.T.	1987		1988		upto
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8718	24	3705	3	May
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1928	—	416	—	April
3.	Assam	33237	41	+	+	
4.	Bihar	1726	1	+	+	
5.	Goa	235	1	25	—	March
6.	Gujarat	4446	20	1643	1	May
7.	Haryana	2095	5	144	—	Feb.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	8064	2	+	+	
9.	J and K	57406	1	18256	—	June
10.	Karnataka	16073	25	+	+	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11. Kerala		9417	8	3942	1	May
12. Madhya Pradesh		79512	85	22626	20	June
13. Maharashtra		14723	58	2632	29	Feb.
14. Manipur		3498	—	+	+	
15. Meghalaya		302	1	182	—	Feb.
16. Mizoram		226	—	+	+	
17. Nagaland		335	1	+	+	
18. Orissa		16748	29	+	+	
19. Punjab		5009	5	570	2	May
20. Rajasthan		7270	51	1269	20	April
21. Sikkim		393	1	+	+	
22. Tamil Nadu		6941	20	1547	5	Feb.
23. Tripura		460	4	+	+	
24. Uttar Pradesh		10695	72	386	1	
25. West Bengal		+	+	+	+	
26. A and N Islands		858	2	29	1	May
27. Chandigarh		106	+	50	1	Jan.
28. D and N Haveli		13	—	17	1	June
29. Delhi		9862	25	1038	7	June
30. Lakshadweep		123	—	29	—	March
31. Pondicherry		135	—	364	—	June
		300554	483	59371	92	

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill designed coverage.

Statement-II

Cases and Deaths due to Viral Hepatitis in India During 1987 and 1988

Sl. No.	Name of the States/ U.T.s	1987		1988		Period upto
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5353	93	2095	21	May
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1048	—	162	4	Feb.
3.	Assam	31119	34	+	+	
4.	Bihar	763	41	+	+	
5.	Goa	155	—	29	—	March
6.	Gujarat	6383	280	854	27	May
7.	Haryana	857	1	61	1	Feb.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2412	17	+	+	June
9.	J and K	7558	3	1664	—	June
10.	Karnataka	6439	111	+	+	
11.	Kerala	14834	23	3142	12	May
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30391	195	10763	46	June
13.	Maharashtra	17387	418	7229	148	May
14.	Manipur	679	1	+	+	
15.	Meghalaya	338	3	64	—	Feb.
16.	Mizoram	723	3	+	+	
17.	Nagaland	1267	2	+	+	
18.	Orissa	8007	118	+	+	
19.	Punjab	2276	19	175	—	Feb.
20.	Rajasthan	2889	144	721	26	April
21.	Sikkim	1059	6	+	+	
22.	Tamil Nadu	3892	27	484	10	Feb.
23.	Tripura	170	2	+	+	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24. Uttar Pradesh		87	10	1368	17	23-7-88
25. West Bengal		+	+	+	+	
26. A and N Islands		—	—	312	5	May
27. Chandigarh		999	16	73	—	June
28. D and N Haveli		40	—	17	1	June
29. Delhi		7234	169	1579	72	June
30. Lakshadweep		748	—	131	—	March
31. Pondicherry		134	2	543	4	June
		155557	1738	32166	394	

Statement-III

Cases and Deaths due to Gastro enteritis in India During 1987 and 1988

Sl. No.	Name of the States/U.T.s.	1987		1988		Period upto
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Andhra Pradesh		59477	461	10972	374	3-8-88
2. Arunachal Pradesh		19593	5	2832	1	April, 88
3. Assam		230282	101	+	+	
4. Bihar		3684	27	1908	128	3-8-88
5. Goa		1926	1	828	—	March
6. Gujarat		37413	213	26260	584	20-8-88
7. Haryana		271	4	—	—	Feb. 88
8. Himachal Pradesh		111607	140	1	—	3-8-88
9. J and K		238518	18	12867	4	April
10. Karnataka		71058	414	9091	348	5-8-88
11. Kerala		49904	180	172893	114	May 88
12. Madhya Pradesh		12429	52	232566	436	17-8-88
13. Maharashtra		32456	450	14564	320	19-8-88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14. Manipur		10072	5	—	—	1-8-88
15. Meghalaya		7772	11	763	—	Feb. 88
16. Mizoram		14796	17	—	—	5-8-88
17. Nagaland		5422	10	+	+	
18. Orissa		33577	184	1997	192	17-8-88
19. Punjab		148938	121	13188	8	Feb. 88
20. Rajasthan		18060	116	22036	11	April
21. Sikkim		15494	6	+	+	
22. Tamil Nadu		36182	109	9239	63	19-8-88
23. Tripura		13288	13	+	+	
24. Uttar Pradesh		2369	322	5763	345	17-8-88
25. West Bengal		+	+	2018	123	7-8-88
26. A and N Islands		—	—	18572	6	May 88
27. Chandigarh		22327	55	707	1	Jan. 88
28. D and N Haveli		2820	2	575	2	May
29. Delhi		71703	1010	73189	853	21-8-88
30. Lakshadweep		709	—	410	—	May
31. Pondicherry		3338	59	23584	7	May
		1274572	4104	655823	3912	

Data is provisional and not comparable due to ill-defined coverage

— = Nil, + = not available

Statement-IV

Cases and Deaths due to Cholera in India During 1987 and 1988 (upto date)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/U.T.s.	1987		1988		upto
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	206	11	132	4	30-7-88

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2. Arunachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	
3. Assam	—	—	—	—	—	
4. Bihar	—	—	—	—	—	
5. Goa	—	—	—	—	—	
6. Gujarat	275	11	148	4	16-7-88	
7. Haryana	2	—	28	—	13-8-88	
8. Himachal Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	
9. J and K	—	—	—	—	—	
10. Karnataka	1899	87	1456	33	30-7-88	
11. Kerala	131	7	302	41	16-7-88	
12. Madhya Pradesh	—	—	+	+		
13. Maharashtra	1153	18	276	11	16-7-88	
14. Manipur	—	—	—	—	—	
15. Meghalaya	—	—	—	—	—	
16. Mizoram	—	—	—	—	—	
17. Nagaland	—	—	—	—	—	
18. Orissa	3	—	2	—	6-8 88	
19. Punjab	20	—	117	3	30-7-88	
20. Rajasthan	—	—	19	1	30-7-88	
21. Sikkim	—	—	—	—	—	
22. Tamil Nadu	7335	88	719	13	13-8-81	
23. Tripura	—	—	—	—	—	
24. Uttar Pradesh	3	—	119	4	13-8-88	
25. West Bengal	72	—	58	—	6-8-88	
26. A and N Islands	—	—	—	—	—	
27. Chandigarh	18	—	39	—	13-8-88	
28. D and N Haveli	2	—	—	—	—	
29. Delhi	287	1	1337	7	13-8-88	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30. Lakshadweep		10	—	—	—	
31. Pondicherry		7	1	—	—	
		11423	224	4752	121	

— Nil

+ Not Available

Statement-V*Cases and Deaths due to Poliomyelitis in India During 1987 and 1988*

Sl. No.	Name of the States/U.T.s.	1987		1988		Period upto
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1. Andhra Pradesh		1779	38	924	7	May
2. Arunachal Pradesh		—	—	12	—	April
3. Assam		140	2	+	+	
4. Bihar		130	5	+	+	
5. Goa		1	—	—	—	May
6. Gujarat		514	31	109	2	May
7. Haryana		263	—	27	1	Feb.
8. Himachal Pradesh		64	4	+	+	
9. J and K		126	—	154	—	June
10. Karnataka		2254	25	+	+	
11. Kerala		808	61	73	4	May
12. Madhya Pradesh		1701	44	1502	5	May
13. Maharashtra		1459	170	323	19	May
14. Manipur		39	—	+	+	
15. Meghalaya		2	—	—	—	Feb.
16. Mizoram		2	—	+	+	
17. Nagaland		17	—	+	+	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18.	Orissa	968	17	+	+	
19.	Punjab	1340	24	126	1	Feb.
20.	Rajasthan	3200	20	1196	2	April
21.	Sikkim	10	1	+	+	
22.	Tamil Nadu	1177	28	281	1	Feb.
23.	Tripura	—	—	+	+	
24.	Uttar Pradesh	771	7	33	1	Jan
25.	West Bengal	+	+	+	+	
26.	A and N Islands	66	—	3	—	May
27.	Chandigarh	45	2	2	—	Jan.
28.	D and N Haveli	1	—	2	—	June
29.	Delhi	2672	150	1024	51	July
30.	Lakshadweep	1	—	—	—	March
31.	Pondicherry	67	—	95	—	June
Total		19617	619	5886	94	

Data is provisional areas note comparable due to ill-desimed coverage

[Translation]

Faults in Boeing Aircrafts

4184. SHRIMATI MANORAMA
SINGH :

SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :

SHRI SARFARAZ AHMED :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION
AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidence of technical
faults developing in Boeing 737 planes has
been on the increase;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether Government had written
a letter to the Boeing company in this
regard;

(d) if so, whether Government are
satisfied with reply;

(e) whether Government have also
made a view of their maintenance policy;
and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND
TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f). The maintenance facilities available with Indian Airlines are considered adequate.

[English]

Advice to States for Steps to Contain Prices of Wheat and other Essential Items

4185. SHRI SHANTI LAL PATEL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have cautioned the State Governments against manipulations of unscrupulous manufacturers and traders to push up prices of wheat and other essential food items;

(b) if so, the steps suggested to the States; and

(c) the action taken by State Governments thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) to (c). From time to time particularly since August, 1987, the Central Government has been urging the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to take various measures. They were requested, among other things to take stringent action against hoarders, black marketeers and other anti-social elements for violating the relevant provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and similar legislations. The State Governments have also been asked to closely monitor the prices and availability of essential commodities at various levels. Dialogue with the representatives of trade and industry at various levels be continued and meetings at regular intervals may be held to urge them to maintain smooth supply line at reasonable prices. It may be ensured that essential commodities sold through fair prices shops reach the consumers for whom these supplies are meant.

On the basis of information received the State Governments and UTs. administra-

tions have generally acted upon these measures. It may be mentioned that as a result of intensive enforcements measures carried out by the State Governments, since, August 1987 and upto 22-8-1988, 1.13 lakhs raids have been carried out in different States and goods valued at more than Rs. 39 crores seized for violating the relevant provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. By and large the supply of essential commodities has been satisfactory all over the country.

M/s. Gulab Singh and Sons

4186. SHRI KEYUR BHUSHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of stations where the possession of book stalls were not handed over to Railways by M/s. Gulab Singh and Sons as on 31 May, 1988 as per undertaking given in the Supreme Court; and

(b) the steps being taken to realise the railway dues and to get the book-stalls vacated by M/s. Gulab Singh and sons ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Introduction of River Rafting and Water Sports Facilities

4187. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether river rafting facilities are being introduced in some parts of the country to encourage water sports for tourists;

(b) if so, the places where these facilities are being provided;

(c) whether any place in Kerala has been identified;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether there is any other proposal for setting up water sports facilities in the back waters of Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Presently River Rafting has been introduced in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

Vayudoot Service to Yanam

4188. SHRI GOPALA KRISHNA THOTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Vayudoot service at Yanam, Union Territory of Pondicherry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) and (b). Subject to availability of aircraft capacity, development of infrastructure and economic viability of operations, Vayudoot has plans to airlink Yanam, Union Territory of Pondicherry, during the current plan period.

Railway Facilities in Tribal Areas

4189. SHRI SUDARSHAN DAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether adequate facilities for transportation by trains are not available in Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Barak Valley, Cachar and Karimganj areas; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to provide adequate train facilities in these areas ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). The Rail facilities already available in Barak Valley, Cachar and Karimganj areas generally adequate to meet the traffic needs. In the case of Tripura, a 33 km length from Dharmanagar to Kumarghat was sanctioned and the first 22 km upto Pencharthal opened in March 1986. The balance is targetted for completion by December 1989. To provide rail head facilities to Manipur and Mizoram, new lines from Silchar to Jiribam (49 km) and from Lalabazar to Bhairabi (48 km) are under construction and expected to be completed by December 1989, and March 1990, respectively.

Construction of Television Tower in the Vicinity of Indira Gandhi International Airport

4190. SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a high rise commercial/residential complex with a closed circuit television tower is under construction at Gurgaon in the vicinity of Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) if so, whether clearance from the competent authority have been sought for the erection of the television tower or the 12-storey high buildings;

(c) if so, whether interest of air-safety was taken into consideration while giving clearance; and

(c) if not, the action taken in the interest of air-safety ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Shifting of Air India Office at Calicut

4191. V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Calicut office of Air India is being shifted to another building;

(b) if so, when was the agreement signed with the owner of the building together with the monthly rent agreed upon;

(c) whether any other offers were received and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the procedure being followed by Air India for selecting private building for housing its offices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The lease agreement was signed on 4th April, 1988 and the monthly rental is Rs.9750 for an area of 3250 Sq. ft. i.e. Rs. 3.00 per Sq. ft. per month.

(c) Details of the Quotations received are as below :

(i) Jayarani Agency :

Area offered	— 2750 Sq. ft.
Rent	— Rs. 16,500.00 p.m. at the rate of Rs. 6.00 per Sq. ft. per month.

(ii) Construction Complex :

Area offered	— 3000 Sq. ft.
Rent	— Rs. 9000.00 p.m. at the rate of Rs. 3.000 per Sq. ft. per month plus Rs. 9 lakhs as non-refundable premium.

(iii) POCKER Haji Associates :

Area offered	— 3250 Sq. ft.
Rent	— Rs. 9750.00 p.m. at the rate of Rs. 3.00 per Sq. ft. per month.

(d) Quotations are invited from parties. Selection of the building is made keeping in view the location of the premises, its accessibility to the passengers, amenities available in the building and the rent payable, etc.

fixtures, carpet, linen airconditioners etc from its various hotels, particularly from Ashok Hotels;

(b) if so, since when this practice is in vogue and the guidelines and procedure followed in this regard;

Supply of Items of Furniture etc.. By ITDC to Ministers and Officials

4192. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the ITDC has been supplying to the Ministers and ITDC officials for use at their office or residence, various items of furniture,

(c) the details of such items supplied together with their estimated value, as on 31 March. 1988; and

(d) whether any rent is charged for the supply of such items and if not, the reasons and justification therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) to (d) The practice of furnishing residential accommodation in ITDC initially began in 1969 when it was decided to provide this facility to Managing Director, ITDC. Thereafter in 1972, ITDC decided to hire residential accommodation for its senior officers working in hotels and

furnishing them with the material rendered surplus from its hotels and recover rent therefor as per rules. The details of items supplied by the Ashok Hotel New Delhi during the last three years is given below :

Where Supplied	Total value in rupees year-wise		
	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88
At the residence of officers provided with residential accommodation and also to Corporate Office of ITDC to meet its requirement	1865.58	13927.66	121392.99
At the office/residence of Minister of Tourism for his office	58160.53	43675.94	20785.41

Items of furniture etc. of estimated value of Rs. 6069.52 were also supplied by other Delhi based hotels of ITDC at the residence of the I.T.D.C.'s entitled officers, officer of the Minister of Tourism.

Deductions @12% of basic pay and dearness pay is being made from the officers provided with furnished accommodation which comprises 10% for accommodation and 2.5% for furniture and fixtures etc.

Supply of sub-standard food by Railway Catering Department

4193. SHRI T. BALA GOUD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints received from passengers regarding the poor quality of food and eatables served in the railway refreshment room, trains and also about unsatisfactory catering service rendered during the last three years, zone-wise; and

(b) the action taken by the concerned railway authorities on these complaints ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) a statement is given below.

(b) Complaints are investigated and based on the results of investigations, action is taken against the contractor/staff responsible. Action taken includes warnings, fines, termination of contract and disciplinary action against staff.

Statement

Supply of sub-standard food by Railway Catering Department

Railway	Number of complaints received during the last three years
Central	754
Northern	245
North Eastern	27
Northeast Frontier	53
Southern	189
South Central	101
South Eastern	63
Eastern	116
Western	733

Additional Railway Line between Delhi and Howrah and Terminal Facilities at Delhi, New Delhi and Howrah

4194. SHRI MATILAL HANSDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal for laying an additional railway line between Delhi and Howrah and to increase terminal facilities Delhi, New Delhi and Howrah for introducing new trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c). Following Important works for augmentation of Terminal facilities at Delhi/New Delhi and Howrah are approved :

- (i) Delhi—Augmentation of coaching facilities.
- (ii) Nizamudin—Augmentation of coaching facilities.
- (iii) Delhi area—Acquisition of land for directional terminals at Bijwasan, Holambi Kalan and Anand Vihar.
- (iv) Howrah—Augmentation of coaching facilities.

There is no proposal at present for laying any additional line between Delhi/New Delhi and Howrah.

Passenger amenities in sub-urban trains on Howrah-Sealdah Route

4195. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINGHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the commuters of sub-urban trains originating from Howrah and Sealdah have been representing to the authorities for providing the minimum facilities/service to regular travellers, like clean compartments with proper seats/electric fans etc;

(b) whether such minimum facilities are not provided;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the action being taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Occasional complaints are received.

(b) and (c). Passenger amenities in trains are provided as per common standards laid down for the Indian Railways. Complaints arise due to thefts and vandalism.

(d) Replacements and improvements in fittings is a continuing effort.

Clearance of Private Building Construction in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

4196. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued orders that all private building construction in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has to be cleared by an apex body before the start of construction work, if so, the details, thereof;

(b) whether Municipal rights for passing building plan under the Municipal regulation would cease to be in existence, if so, from which date; and

(c) whether any amount has to be paid by the private individuals to the apex body for the said clearance, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) No such orders have been issued by Government. But the apex body has decided that all construction including private, within 500 metres of the coast line in sensitive areas and buildings having more than 800 sq.m. of plinth area or more than 2 storeys in other areas shall require it prior approval.

(b) No.

(c) No.

Loss to NCCF in the export of Rice
through Kandla Port

7197. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the
Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES
be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bombay Branch of the
National Consumer Cooperative Federation
suffered losses in 1981 and 1982 in the
export of rice through Kandla Port, if so,
the details thereof;

(b) the reasons for such losses;

(c) whether any enquiry was conducted
to fix the responsibility; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes
Sir. The trading loss was of Rs. 164.06
lakhs for the years 1981-82.

(b) According to information available,
about 2635 MTs of PR-106 rice were
shipped as IR-8 rice after damage of stocks
at Kandla Port due to cyclone.

(c) and (d). The NCCF has filed a case
in the High Court of Delhi against the
Insurance Company and departmental
enquiry for fixing responsibility will be
conducted after the case is finalised.

Diversion of Controlled and Janta Cloth
from U. P. to Delhi by NCCF

4198. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the
Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES
be pleased to state :

(a) whether controlled cloth and Janta
cloth worth lakhs of rupees was supplied
by Kanpur Branch of NCCF to some
primary stores of Delhi during the years
1982 and 1983;

(b) if so, the names of the primary
stores of Delhi and the quantity and value
of the controlled and Janta cloth supplied
to them; and

(c) whether any enquiry was conducted
in this regard and if so, the details of the
officers involved and action taken against
each of them ?

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

(b)

Name of Store	No. of balance	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)
<i>Janta Handloom Cloth</i>		
Krishnanagar Cons. Coop. Stores, Krishnanagar, Delhi.	500	11.06
Preeti Cons. Coop. Stores, Delhi.	753	16.88
Health Cons. Coop. Stores. Delhi.	2451	56.65
Shahdara Cons. Coop. Store, Shahdara, Delhi.	1170	28.60
Delhi. W/s Cons. Coop. Store, Karampura, Delhi.	100	2.11
<i>Controlled Cloth</i>		
Delhi W/s Cons. Coop. Store	N. A.	3.64
Suraj Cons. Coop. Store. Shahdara, Delhi.	N. A.	0.12

(c) Yes, Sir. The NCCF has initiated action against Shri R. B. Singh, the then Branch Manager and Regional Manager apart from placing him under suspension, for indiscriminate supply of Janta Handloom Textiles, without always obtaining the permission of authorities, as required under the Head Office's instructions.

Controlled Release Preparation

4199. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether controlled release preparation are considered new drugs or are covered under cleared drugs;

(b) what are the details of authority register controlled release preparations for marketing in the country;

(c) whether it is a fact that different norms for granting manufacturing permissions of such preparations; and

(d) the criteria adopted by Central Government for granting permission of controlled release preparations ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) As per the guidelines on Introduction of New Drugs Controlled release preparations are considered new drugs and Drugs Controller, India is the concerned authority to approve new drugs. The guidelines, however, are not yet statutory,

(b) and (c). State Licensing Authorities are reported to have been Licensing certain

controlled release preparations in consultation with their experts.

(d) The criteria for approval of Controlled release preparation adopted by the Central Government is the evaluation of in-vitro dissolution studies, absolute and comparative bio-availability study in healthy human volunteers with the controlled release preparations.

Removal of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Employees of Air India

4200 SHRI NARSING SURYAVANSI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Air India has removed hundreds of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees from service after official enquiries during the recent few years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise and year-wise during the last three years;

(c) whether the Ministry and the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commissioner were consulted in this regard; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Air India has removed a total of 43 Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe employees from service after official enquiries during the last three years i.e. 1986-87 and 1987-88.

(b) Category-wise and year-wise details thereof is as under :

Category	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	Total
1	2	3	4	5
Handyman	1	3	2	6
Leader	4	5	4	13
Cleaner	1	6	4	11

1	2	3	4	5
Traffic Asstt.	1	1	3	5
Sr. Programmer	1	—	—	1
Security Guard	—	—	2	2
Apron Supervisor	—	—	1	1
Peon	—	—	1	1
Jr. Operator	—	—	1	1
Trainee Technician	1	—	—	1
Driver	—	—	1	1
Total	9	15	19	43

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Removal from service of employees was done in accordance with the procedure laid down in Air India Employees' Service Regulations.

Supply of Edible Oil by NCCF, Calcutta to a store in Imphal

4201. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether edible oil worth Rs. 2419 lakhs was delivered by NCCF, Calcutta to a private party for transferring the same to M/s. Manipur wholesale, Imphal but the Manipur Store had not returned the documents thus declining to make payments for not having received the goods;

(b) whether any enquiry to fix up the responsibility was held, if so, the findings thereof and the follow-up action thereon; and

(c) whether any FIR was lodged with the police if so, the progress in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D.L. BAITHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. A private Transporter was engaged for delivery.

(b) and (c). The police enquiry revealed that no misappropriation had taken place in supply of the goods. The central Registrar of Cooperative Societies has passed orders on 20.6.1988 in favour of NCCF for recovery of an amount of Rs. 21.58 lakhs from the State Federation along with interest from the date of delivery of goods till the date of recovery of amount. NCCF have also initiated departmental enquiries against the concerned Regional Manager for his lapses.

Performance of Locomotives

4202. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the zone-wise break up of the complaints made by train drivers during the past three years about the performance of the locomotives after they had completed a journey;

(b) whether all the originating trains have a requisite break-power of 85 per cent; and

(c) the action taken on the complaints of drivers about the performance of locomotives ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (c). A

brief note explaining the position is given in the Statement below.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Statement

It would not be possible to furnish the information sought in part (a) of the Question. Indian Railways have in operation over 3100 Diesel, 1300 Electric and 4000 Steam Locomotives. During service every locomotive is provided with a Log Book or a Repair Book in which every Driver operating the locomotive is expected to record the status of the locomotive and the defects and deficiencies that, in his opinion, need to be rectified. On every day, there would be over 15000 such reports made by Drivers in the Log Books and the repair Books. Each report may or may not contain defects or deficiencies. Compiling the information by scrutinising every such entry/report over the last 3 years would just not be possible, since the number of reports would run into several lakhs.

Log Looks/Repair Books are not permanent records. They are destroyed after 12 months.

The Log Books/Repair Books are scrutinised by the Maintenance staff when the locomotives are taken up for maintenance and every item of repair or defects or deficiencies is attended to. Remarks on the action taken are entered and countersigned by the Maintenance Supervisor. Before a locomotive is turned out to work trains, the Maintenance Supervisor certifies the locomotive fit for service by endorsing the same in the Log Book/Repair Book by affixing his signature.

[Translation]

Passenger amenities at Railway Stations

4203. SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that even at present there are several stations in the country which either have sheds nor adequate drinking water facility for the passengers;

(b) if so, whether Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the number of such railway stations in the country;

(c) whether Government have taken steps to provide drinking water facility and sheds at all the railway stations in the country; and

(d) if so, the present position of stations in Rajasthan on the Western and Northern railways and the details of the works done on these stations during the past two years as also the details of the works proposed to be carried out during the next two years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. A survey was conducted in 1987 to ascertain the deficiencies in basic amenities at railway stations on a country-wide basis.

(c) A programme has been launched for making up the deficiencies in basic amenities at all stations. These would include drinking water arrangements at all regular stations (*i.e.* excluding contractor-operated halts) and sheds wherever the volume of traffic justifies the same.

(d) A statement showing the details of works relating to drinking water and sheds done during 1986-87 and 1987-88 and those proposed to be done in 1988-89 is given below. Proposals for 1989-90 have not yet been finalised.

Statement***Passenger Amenities at railway stations***

S. No.	Name of the Station	Name of the facility provided in 1986-87, 1987-88 and proposed to be provided in 1988-89
1	2	3
1986-87		
1.	Phulera	Provision of watering arrangements
2.	Ajmer	Provision of water cooler
3.	Chirawa	Provision of water huts
4.	Jaipur	Provision of water trolley
5.	Kishangarh	Provision of water cooler
6.	Nim-Ka-thana	Provision of water cooler
7.	Bandikui	Provision of water cooler
8.	Kota	Extension to platform cover
9.	Baran	Extension to platform cover
10.	Bayana	Cover over Island platform
11.	Bharatpur	Cover over platform No. 3, 4 and 5
12.	Falna	Cover over platform
13.	Chittaurgarh	Extension of platform cover
1987-88		
14.	Hindaun City	Provision of water coolers
15.	Sirohi Road	Provision of water cooler
16.	Marwar Junction	Provision of water coolers
17.	Mavli Junction	Provision of water coolers
18.	Udaipur	Provision of water cooler
19.	Noh Bachhamdi	Provision of hand pump
20.	Dhigwara	Provision of hand pump
21.	Jaipur	Provision of chlorination plant and cover over platform

1	2	3
22.	Kherli	Provision of water taps
23.	Bharatpur	Extension of platform cover
24.	Reengus	Extension to platform cover
1988-89		
25.	Sali	Provision of drinking water arrangements
26.	Amarpura	Provision of drinking water arrangements
27.	Maonda	Provisoin of drinking water arrangements
28.	Kachera	Provision of drinking water arrangements
29.	Kishan Manpura	Provision of drinking water arrangements
30.	Pachar Malikpur	Provision of drinking water arrangements
31.	Bhojasar	Provision of drinking water arrangements
32.	Chittorgarh	Cover over platform
33.	Kota	Extension of cover over platform No. 1
34.	Bharatpur	Extension of cover over platform No. 1
35.	Baran	Extension of cover platform (Island)
36.	Jaipur	Cover over platform No. 4 and 5
37.	Reengus	Cover over platform No. 1

[English]

Light Weight Wagons

4204. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to acquire light weight railway wagons;

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

(c) The results expected to be achieved with such light weight wagons in performance of freight traffic;

(d) the agency which proposes to design such wagons;

(e) the expenditure proposed to be incurred on this project initially and after wards;

(f) whether the Railway propose to manufacture such wagons in its owns units in future; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Railways
constantly strive to build wagons with
least possible tare weight constant with
requirements in service and overall
economy.

(b) and (c). A reduced tare weight results in higher carrying capacity of the wagon. It also leads to economy due to lower tare weight being hauled.

(d) All wagon designs are finalised by the Research, Designs and Standards Organisation.

✓ (e) There is no separate project for designing of light weight wagons.

(f) and (g). There is no specific project sanctioned for manufacturing any particular type of light weight design of wagon. Design modifications for weight reduction are introduced on wagons under manufacture both by the Railway Workshops and wagon building industry.

Diversion of Madras-Hyderabad-Delhi flight to Ahmedabad

4205. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH :

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Madras-Hyderabad-Delhi flight was diverted to Ahmedabad in the early hours of 1 August, 1988;

(b) whether the passengers were provided proper facilities;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for diverting the flight;

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the passenger handling by Indian Airlines Corporation and to provide due facilities to the passengers in such contingencies; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to inquire into the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) IC-539 on the sector Madras-Hyderabad-Delhi was initially delayed due to late arrival of aircraft from Bombay. The delay further increased due to some technical reasons. Since certain spares were expected from Bombay before the aircraft could take-off, the passengers were served dinner on ground. Due to bad weather over Delhi, the aircraft was diverted to Ahmedabad being a diversionary air field for Airbus. At Ahmedabad, Indian Airlines arranged for the flight refreshment at the airport and transported the passenger to hotels for breakfast and rest. The flight left for Delhi at 1410. hrs.

(d) Clear guidelines to all Indian Airlines stations exist to handle passengers under such contingencies.

(e) Since the aircraft was delayed due to technical reasons and the flight was diverted to Ahmedabad due to bad weather over Delhi, which are beyond the control of Indian Airlines, there is no proposal to enquire into the matter.

[Translation]

Use of Hindi in Tourism

4206. SHRI NARESH CHANDRA CHATURVEDI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry and the Departments under its control are working in pursuance of Raj Bhasa Rules and Regulations;

(b) If so, whether some employees of the India Tourism Development Corporation were issued charge sheets etc. in English language only and were punished for their insistence on getting these communications in Hindi;

(c) If so, the number of such employees; and

(d) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). One of the employees of Kanishka Hotel was issued charge-sheet dated 4.4.1988 in English for misconduct. He was suspended from service on 5.4.1988 as he refused to accept the official communication and misbehaved with the departmental head, and not for asking the charge-sheet in Hindi, for which he was again charge-sheeted on 6.4.1988. Hindi translation of all the 3 communications was sent to him vide registered letter dated 6.4.1988.

[English]

Representations Regarding Flight Fatigue

4207. D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received by Government regarding 'flight-fatigue' in the present system ; and

(b) if so, remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Pilots Guild, Air India, Bombay have also filed a writ petition representing against the increase in their flying hours.

(b) Because the matter is sub-judice, no immediate measures are proposed to be taken.

Accidents to Air India Aircrafts

4208. DR. D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of air accidents which took place to the aircrafts of Air India during the year 1987-88; and

(b) the compensation paid to the victims ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) During the year 1987-88, there was no accident to Air India Aircraft.

(b) Question does not arise.

Homoeopathic Medicines for Gastroenteritis Patients in Delhi

4209. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHOSALE : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Institute of Homoeopathic Physicians has decided to dispense homoeopathic medicines to gastro-enteritis patients in the affected areas of Delhi.

(b) whether the Indian Institute of Homoeopathic Physicians also proposes to dispense homoeopathic medicines in such areas of Delhi as are not affected with this epidemic as a precautionary measure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE):

(a) to (c). In a letter dated the 28th July 1988 to the Union Health and Family Welfare Minister, the President, Indian Institute of Homoeopathic Physicians intimated that the Institute in cooperation with the Lion's Club of Delhi had organised Mobile Camps in the affected areas of Delhi for distribution of homoeopathic medicines as a Preventive as well as for Curing and Controlling Cholera. The letter also said that the Lion's Club had allotted two Ambulances at the disposal of the Institute for serving the affected localities. This Ministry have no other information in the matter.

[Translation]

Pension to Widows of Railways Employees

4210. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) when the pension scheme was introduced for railway employees;

(b) whether Government grant Pension to the widows of the employees who had died or retired in 1956;

(c) if so, the criteria adopted therefor; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Pension Scheme, under Liberalised Pension Rules, was introduced on the Railways on November 16, 1957 and was applicable to all Railway servants who entered service on and after 16.11.1957. Option to come over to the Pension Scheme was also made available to all those non pensionable Railway employees who were in service on 1.4.57 or had joined Railway service between that date and 16.11.57. Prior to introduction of the Pension Scheme under Liberalised Pension Rules, the services of the staff belonging to the following few categories were pensionable.

1. Members of the Indian Railway Service of Engineers or the Provincial Engineering Service, State Railways, who joined their appointments prior to the 17th September, 1925.
2. Superintendents and Non-gazetted staff, other than inferior servants appointed in the office of the November, 1924.
3. Upper subordinates of the Engineering Department of State Railway appointed prior to the 1st January, 1921 and such railway servants belonging to the Accounts Department as have been specially permitted to retain their pensionable status.
4. Government servants permanently transferred to the Railway Department from other Government Departments in which their service was pensionable, if they are allowed, with the sanction of the President to retain their pensionable status after transfer.
5. Inferior servants belonging to the office of the Railway Board and such inferior servants of the

Central Standards Office as were originally employed as pensionable hands in the Railway Board's office.

(b) to (d). Pension is admissible to widows of Pensionable Railway servants.

Tourist Spot of Uttar Pradesh included in Seventh Plan

4211. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state the names of the tourist resorts of Uttar Pradesh which have been included in the Seventh Five Year Plan and the amount allocated for their development separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIV RAJ V. PATIL) : The Central Department of Tourism does not allocate funds either State wise or place-wise but scheme wise. The Department provides financial assistance to States for development of tourism infrastructure at tourist centres on the basis of specific proposals received from the Governments. During the first three years of the Seventh Plan, the Department has released funds for development of tourism infrastructure at the following tourist centres in Uttar Pradesh :

1. Fatehpur Sikri
2. Auli (Joshimath)
3. Varanasi
4. Sravasti
5. Dudhwa National Park
6. Chilha
7. Mathura
- 8 Lucknow
9. Haridwar
10. Sarnath
11. Ayodhya

12. Kushinagar

13. Allahabad

14. Kosi

15. Dhangarhi

16. Sunail

17. Ghangharia

18. Gaurikund

19. Chopta

In addition, funds have also been released to the Town and Country Planning Organisation for preparing a Master Plan of Sankasia.

Over Bridge at Maunath Bhanjan

4212. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present stage of the construction work of an over-bridge in Maunath Bhanjan in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) the amount likely to be spent and the time by which this work is likely to be completed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) The overall progress of construction of the road-over-bridge in Mau is 60%.

(b) The approximate cost of construction of the bridge is Rs. 2.03 crores. The work is likely to be completed by March, 1989.

[English]

Reservation System

4213. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have, made and assessment of the usefulness of the present system of reservation of railway

accommodation 90 days in advance both from the Railway's and the passengers' angles, particularly keeping in view the daily long waiting lists of passengers;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of seats are concerned in advance by certain unscrupulous railway agents/touts and others and they then sell these at a premium; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to reduce this 90 days period to ensure easy availability of accommodation to the needy and bona fide passengers, particularly on the various Mail/Delux/Superfast trains emanating from and coming towards the national and State capitals ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. About 75% of reservations are done within 30 days and another 20% within 60 days in advance of the day of journey.

(c) Some cases have come to notice.

(d) The time limit for advance reservations is being reduced from 90 days to 60 days for all the trains leaving on and after 1.11.1988.

Award of Business of Private Sector Hotels by Air India and Indian Airlines

4214. DR. B.L. SHAILESH :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of private sector hotels like the Oberois, Taj and others with which the Air-India and the Indian Airlines have entered into agreements at New Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras for the supply of snacks, lunches and dinners for being served to the passengers on board the aircrafts;

(b) the estimated expenditure incurred by these two Airlines during the years

1987-88 and 1988-89 (uptil 30 June, 1988 on the above account;

(c) the estimated amount of business given by these two airlines to the ITDC managed hotels and the Air-India's Centaur Hotel at Bombay and New Delhi; and

(d) the reasons why the ITDC Hotels are not being made use of such services and what is the deficiency in their services ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) Names of the private sector hotels patronised by Air India and Indian Airlines for supply of snacks etc. on board the flights are as follows :

Name of the private hotels patronised

	Air India	Indian Airlines
Delhi	—	M/s. Taj Air Caterers M/s. Oberoi Flight Services
Madras	Taj Coromandel Hotel	M/s. Taj Coromandel Hotel The Trident Welcome group Park Sheraton Ambassador Sky-chef
Bombay	Oberoi Flight Services	M/s. Taj Air Caterers Oberoi Flight Services Holiday Inn
Calcutta	—	M/s. Kathleen Caterers

(b) The estimated expenditure incurred during period 1987-88 and 1988-89 (upto 30.6.1988) on the above account is as follow :

	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	
	Air India	Indian Airlines
1987-88	161.84	438.70
1988-89	40.03	115.06
(upto June 1988)		

(c) The estimated amount of business given by Air India and Indian Airlines to India Tourism Development Corporation hotels and the Centaur Hotel at Bombay and Delhi are as follow :

	Air India	Indian Airlines
1987-88	453.89	217.15
1988-89	119.43	57.80
(upto June 1988)		

(d) At Bombay and Madras there are no ITDC hotels. At Calcutta ITDC hotel is patronised by both Air India/Indian Airlines. Whereas at Delhi ITDC is patronised by Indian Airlines only, Air India is uplifting catering supplies may from its own Chefair Flight Kitchen (owned by HCI a subsidiary of Air India).

Passenger Amenities at Mahboob Nagar Railway Station

4215. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the passenger facilities are lacking at Mahboob Nagar railway station; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken for providing necessary amenities and maintaining the same properly ?

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

(b) Does not arise. The existing facilities provided are being maintained properly.

National Railway Users Consultative Council

4216. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given on 20 November, 1986 and 5 March, 1987 respectively to Unstarred Question Nos. 2598 and 1459 regarding National Railway Users Consultative Council and state :

(a) whether the National Users' Consultative Council has since been constituted;

(b) if so, the names of the Members and the date of composition of the council alongwith its term and the guidelines for its functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay alongwith the date on which the previous Council completed its term and whether the Council would be constituted before the end of the Seventh Plan ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. National Railway Users' Consultative Council is constituted after constituting Divisional and Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committees, as members of these committees are also elected to represent on the NRUC. While the Divisional Railway Users' Consultative Committees are being constituted from September, 1988, the constitution of Zonal Committees is in the process of finalisation.

The term of the last NRUC expired on 30.6.1980.

Leasing of Aircrafts for IA by Loan

4217. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the growth rate of the Indian Airlines was 11.6 per cent from 1973-83 and 11.4 per cent from 1984-86;

(b) if so, how it is proposed to meet the Planning Commission's upper limit restriction of 8 per cent growth annually; and

(c) whether Government propose to raise the capacities by adding more leased aircrafts, by selling out-dated aircrafts, raising special loans in foreign exchange and making use of foreign exchange reserves ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The overall annual growth rate of passenger traffic on Indian Airlines during

the period 1973-83 and 1984-86 was 11.0% and 10.6% respectively.

(b) and (c). I.A. has estimated its long term growth rate based on econometric models. During the 7th Plan Period, the Fleet Augmentation Scheme of IA is within 8%. Indian Airlines proposes to increase capacity by adding B-737 aircraft on lease during the current financial year. Besides, the Corporation would acquire 19 Airbus A-328 aircraft during the period 1989-90. 90% of the foreign exchange component of the Project Cost of acquisition of 19 Airbus A-320 aircraft would be financed by loans from Commercial Banks, Export Credit Agencies etc. and the remaining 10% of the foreign exchange cost and the rupee expenditure will be met by Indian Airlines from its internal resources.

Purchase of Aircraft and Introduction of New Services by IA

4218. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of aircrafts in working condition run by the Indian Airlines at present;

(b) the total number of stations in the country and abroad covered by the Indian Airlines;

(c) whether there is a demand to introduce IA service in more cities; and

(d) if so, Government's proposal in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) :

(a) The number of aircraft run by Indian Airlines, at present, is as follows :

Type of aircraft	No. of aircraft
Airbus 330 B 2/B4	11
Boeing-737	27 (2 under repair at Delhi)
HS-748 (Avro)	6 (1 under repair)
F-27 (Fokker Friendship)	4 (2 on lease to Coast Guards)
	48

(b) At present Indian Airlines operates services to 62 stations in the country and to 10 stations abroad.

(c) Yes, Sir. Requests are received to operate services to new stations from time to time.

(d) At present Indian Airlines is facing acute shortage of aircraft. After the induction of sufficient aircrafts capacity into the Indian Airlines fleet, Indian Airlines has plans to introduce services to new stations provided there are adequate to traffic potential and infrastructural facilities.

Scheme to Allow People to go to Pakistan and Bangladesh Without Clearance from Protectorate of Immigrants

4219. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have worked out a scheme to allow people to go to Pakistan and Bangladesh without getting clearance from the Protectorate of immigrants;

(b) if so, the purpose of introducing such scheme;

(c) the date from which the new scheme would come in to force; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY) : (a) to (d). With a view to simplify the Emigration Rules, it has been decided that formalities under the Emigration Act, 1983 for visitors going to Pakistan and Bangladesh are to be dispensed with. An additional endorsement "Emigration Check Not Required for visits to Pakistan and Bangladesh" would be added in all passports from 1 September, 1988.

Unauthorised Ingredients in Pan Masalas

4220. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether saccharine has been detected in Pan Masalas in Delhi recently;

(b) since how many years Pan Masalas have been in the market in the country and when and where these were first tested and with what results;

(c) whether Pan Masalas are also being exported and if so, whether these were tested any time; and

(d) whether the TV ads on Pan Masalas are proposed to be banned at the earliest till all brands sold all over the country are tested and found free from saccharine and any other unauthorised addition ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ
KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The working of implementation of provision of prevention of Food Adulteration Act and Rules, is entrusted with States/UTs. As per the present informations available from the States, pan masalas are in the market for several years. Samples of food articles including pan masalas are drawn and tested by the enforcement staff of States/UTs from time to time, Pan Masalas are exported.

(d) Presence of saccharine and other injurious ingredients in pan masalas are already prohibited under the provisions of PFA Act, 1954.

12.00 hrs.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dinesh Goswami.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BHADRESWHR TANTI
(Kaliabor) : Sir, this is a very serious matter.
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I have allowed your leader to say something about it. Why are you interrupting him ? Odly one Member can speak.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Sri, I am grateful to you, for giving me this chance. Assam is experiencing floods, the record of which is totally unsurpassed. The Brahmaputra has risen to a level to which it never rose before. Now, the State Government has informed the Agriculture Minister that they have got only stocks of foodgrains for 20 days. The Agriculture Minister went there yesterday.

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask him.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : But there is one important thing. The Agriculture Minister went there yesterday and told us that the non-Congress (I) States are tenants of the Central Government. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI M.R. SAIKIA (Nowgong) : He should withdraw the statement. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : We should be told about the Constitutional provision. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : I will ask him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : What right has he got to say that the non-Congress (I) States are tenants of the Central Government ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): How can he say that ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Please direct him to make a statement today telling us what really the Central Government wants to do. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : What can I do if your colleagues do not allow me to listen.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Please direct him to make a statement today.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I could have helped

you if you had asked your colleagues to calm down.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : We are all agitated. Please direct the Minister to make a statement.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It can be done only very peacefully. I will get him.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Is he making a statements ? *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why are you shouting ? What is the use of it ?

[English]

Does it get you anywhere ?

(Interruptions)

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Sir, North Bihar has been badly ravaged by earthquake. More than 500 persons have been killed.

MR. SPEAKER : We have already have a statement.

(Interruptions)

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : The relief given is very inadequate.

SHRI AMARROY PRADHAN (Cooch Behar) : Sir, the entire North Bengal has been affected by floods. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen. Why all of you are speaking simultaneously ? Kindly sit down. Please keep quiet.

[English]

Don't you realise I am on my legs ? You should take your seat. What I say is

that we have had a full discussion under Rule 193 on floods. But, as it comes off and on, we can again take certain things because they concern the common man and it is a common tragedy which we have to tackle. I request the Minister to see what we can do about it. If we find more time, we can again discuss.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Let him make a statement today.

MR. SPEAKER : Let us see. What is your problem ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : Sir, I have given notice of a motion. We have not discussed this time the Sri Lankan issue. I have given notice of a motion on the Tamil Militants...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Something be discussed on this-33 bases have been given in Pakistan to train terrorists. *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Choubey, I have already admitted this. It has been discussed once. We will see if it can be discussed again.

[English]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : About the Sri Lankan problem, I have given notice. We have not discussed it.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is discussed from time to time.

[English]

It is nothing much. When the time comes, We will see.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, two

persons have been killed in a house collapse in Old Delhi. I have given a notice about this. I have told the hon. Minister about it a number of times. I want the house in that area to be repaired as soon as possible... *(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN (Rosera) : An earthquake has occurred in Bihar...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Why both of are speaking ? Shri Ansari, you may speak.

SHRI ABDUL HANNAN ANSARI (Madhubani) : Many persons have died in Madhubani and Darbhanga due to the earthquake. A number of houses have collapsed...

MR. SPEAKER : They are looking into it. I have caught your point *(Interruptions)*.

MR. JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Two persons have been killed and several houses have collapsed. I have been repeatedly saying this. The hon. Minister must make a statement. Will such things keep recurring ? Several houses have collapsed and two persons have been killed. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ajit Panja Papers to be laid.

12.04 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

Notification under Customs Act, 1962 and Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

(i) G.S.R. 817(E) published in Gazette of India dated the

27th July, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 287/87 Customs dated the 7th August, 1987 upto the 31st July, 1989.

- (ii) G.S.R. 828(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum extending the validity of Notification No. 161/83-Customs dated the 8th June 1983 upto the 31st March, 1990.

- (iii) G.S.R. 850(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th August 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding Notification No. 1/87-Customs dated the 1st January, 1987.

- (iv) The Customs Valuation (Determination of price of Imported Goods) Amendment Rules, 1988 published in Notification No. G. S. R. 851(E) in Gazette of India dated the 10th August, 1988.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6451/88]

- (v) Notification No. 239/88-Customs (G. S. R. 884(E) Published in Gazette of India dated the 26th August, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum exempting coffee from the whole of the duty of export. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6455A/88]

- (2) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 :

- (i) G. S. R. 728(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd June, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to prescribe

effective basic rates of excise duty on castings and cast articles of iron or steel and forgings and forged articles of steel which have undergone processes upto the proof-machine stage.

- (ii) G. S. R. 788(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 15th July, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to change the basic excise duty on copper coated steel strips from 15 per cent *a d-valorem* to Rs. 1500 per tonne.

- (iii) G. S. R. 818(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 182/87-CE dated the 10th July, 1987.

- (iv) G. S. R. 829(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum seeking to grant full excise duty exemption on prints of feature films falling under heading 37.06 of the Central Excise Tariff Act, 1985.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-6452/88]

Report of the C. A. G. of India for year ending 31.3.1987 Union Government (other than Autonomous Bodies) and Report of and Review on Export Import Bank of India, Bombay for 1987

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table :

- (1) A copy of the Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended 31st March, 1987-Union Government (Other Autonomous Bodies), under article 151(1) of the Constitution. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6453/88]

- (2) (i) A Copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Export-Import Bank of India, Bombay, for the year 1987 along with Audited Accounts under sub-section (5) of section 19 and sub-section (5) of section 24 of the Export-Import Bank of India Act, 1981.

- (ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government on the working of the Export-Import Bank of India, Bombay, for the year 1987.

[Placed in Library. See No. I/T-6454/88]

12.05 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

[English]

SECRETARY-GENERAL : Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha :

- (i) "In accordance with the provision of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha. I am directed to return herewith the Tamil Nadu Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1988, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 18th August, 1988, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the

Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 23rd August, 1988 agreed without any amendment to the National Security (Amendment) Bill, 1988, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th August, 1988."

- (iii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 23rd August, 1988, agreed without any amendment to the Labour Laws (Exemption from furnishing Returns and Maintaining Registers by certain Establishments) Bill, 1988, which as passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 23th August, 1988."

12.06 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

Reports of Study Tours

[English]

SHRI ARVIND NETAM (Kanker) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Study Tours of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes :

- (i) Report of the Study Tour of Study Group I of the Committee on its visit to Bangalore, Coimbatore, Ooty, Cannanore and Mangalore during June-July, 1988,

- (ii) Report of the Study Tour of Study Group II of the Committee on its visit to Dehradun, Rishikesh, Hardwar, Nainital and Lucknow during June-July, 1988.

12.06½ hrs.

DEFAMATION BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : What is the problem ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Sir, the Bill has not been circulated...

MR. SPEAKER : No; it was.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : No, Sir. We have not got it. THE Bill has not been circulated.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : (Mavelikara) : We have to give Amendments. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : If the Bill had not been circulated, I would not have allowed it. It was circulated.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We have not got it.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Sir, I have given notice.

MR. SPEAKER : I will allow you. No problem. Mr. Madhav Reddi.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : This Bill has been circulated when the House was not in session, when there were holidays. Therefore, many of us have not read the provisions of the Bill...

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : None of us.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : We did not have the opportunity to go through the Bill and are, therefore, not in a position to participate in the debate. No amendments could be moved. We see from the list of business that the Bill is coming up for consideration today itself, immediately after introduction. A new procedure is being adopted. There is no urgency for such a procedure to be followed. I think that time should have been given for the Members to give notice of amendments.

MR. SPEAKER : As Members did not get time for tabling notices of amendments to the Defamation Bill, 1988, which is being introduced just now, amendments may be tabled upto 1300 hrs. today and the Bill may be taken up for consideration and passing at 1500 hrs. today...

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It can be taken up tomorrow. Why are they hurrying up ?

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : It can be taken up tomorrow.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : It is a very important Bill. The House should go through it carefully.

MR. SPEAKER : The House has also to allot time for consideration and passing of this Bill as it was not placed before the Business Advisory Committee for allocation of time. If the House agrees, we may allot two hours for consideration and passing of the Bill.

(Interruptions)

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II section 2, dated 29.8.1988.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

12.09 hrs.

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : When the Bill came to me I did not have copies.

[English]

I did not allow it. But when I got it, I got it circulated. According to the norms and conditions, three days have been given. It is now upto you to decide it.

Shri Buta Singh.

12.8½ hrs.

COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY (AMENDMENT) BILL*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS
(S. BUTA SINGH) : Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1951."

The motion was adopted

S. BUTA SINGH : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[Translation]

- (i) Demand for direction to Delhi Administration to accord permission for repairs to old damaged houses in Delhi, specially in the Daryaganj area

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL
(Chandni Chowk) : I want to draw the attention of this august House towards an important matter under Rule 377.

Daryaganj is one of the oldest colonies of Old Delhi. The houses in this colony are not fit for habitation as they have been constructed a long time ago and have seen a lot of wear and tear. So much so that the lives of people are in danger. There is huge loss of life and property every year during monsoons because cracks appear in the walls and consequently several houses collapse. The residents of the area have time and again requested the Administration to repair the buildings but in vain. With the result that a feeling of fear exists among the people of that area.

Hence, I request the Central Government to direct the Delhi Administration to accord permission for repairs to old houses in Delhi so that the fear among people of that area ceases to exist.

12.10 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the chair*]

[English]

- (ii) Demand for investigation into irregularities in the Smelter Division of National Aluminium Co. located at Augul

SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal) : The National Aluminium Company (NALCO) which was commissioned in March, 1981 with a project cost of Rs. 1210 crores is the largest Aluminium Project in Asia. Various time and cost overruns compelled Government to resche-

*Published in Gazette of India Extraordinary, Part II, section 2, dated 2.9.1988.

dule date of production to 1987 and revise the total cost to Rs. 2400 crores.

The Smelter Division of NALCO located at Augul which uprooted 1300 poor farming families and weaker sections of society is beset with numerous problems, human, financial, administrative and technical.

Firstly, displaced persons have been made unemployed and without any permanent avocation. Secondly, a substandard chimney collapsed resulting in a loss of Rs. 1 crores and how since 19 April 1988 to 8th May, 1988, 64 pots have been damaged which has resulted in a loss of Rs. 64 crores apart from causing delay in dedicating the plant to the nation by the Hon. Prime Minister of India.

All the local labour unions, peoples' representatives have drawn government's attention to institute a high level impartial inquiry and investigation as gross irregularities and corruption has been alleged, as well as a major Indo—French Project is in jeopardy and national wealth mismanaged and misappropriated.

Justice delayed is justice denied. Preventive and punitive action is the need of the hour.

[*Translation*]

- (iii) Demand for immediate steps for controlling air pollution in manganese mines and Ferro plants in Orissa

*SHRI HARIHAR SOREN (Keonjhar): There are 50 manganese mines and 2 Ferro Manganese plants located in Orissa. Neither the Manganese mines nor the Ferro plants set up at Joda in Keonjhar district and Rayaguda in Koraput district of the State has taken any measures to control air pollution. Polluted air and smoke mixed with manganese dust are causing T.B., Pneumonia and other dreaded diseases. Every cubic metre of smoke discharged by a Manganese plant carries 50 to 60 gram manganese dust. Hundreds of tribal workers are facing untimely death every year as they suffer from these diseases. It is regrettable that the State Pollution Control Board or the Central Directorate of Mines Safety

has not taken any action against the plant authorities. The poor and innocent workers are not aware of the pollution of the air and its effect on their bodies.

As such, I urge upon the Government to take immediate steps to control pollution in those plants and manganese mines and to direct the plant authorities to provide necessary treatment to the workers suffering from T.B. and other diseases.

[*English*]

- (iv) Demand for proper support and assistance to weavers in Andhra Pradesh

SHRI GOPAL KRISHNA THOTA (Kakinada): Our country mainly depends on agriculture. Population is increasing but the land is not increasing. There is no other alternative to the Government but to encourage setting up of industries. In India, many people depend on cottage industries but the Government is not giving proper assistance to them. In our country, the weavers community is very large. In Andhra Pradesh there are many villages, which are thickly populated by weavers. In these villages silk cloth very superior in quality is woven. If we export this product to foreign countries, definitely, we can earn a lot of foreign exchange. We can also compete in the foreign markets. The Government should provide proper support and assistance to weavers and also ensure marketing facilities to them.

- (v) Demand for food processing plants for oranges at Bhawani Mandi and for other perishable crops at Chabra and Kota

SHRI JUJHAR SINGH (Jhalawar): The establishment of a separate Ministry of Food Processing in Government of India is a most welcome and practical step.

In a country like ours where population is growing by leaps and bounds and where food production is not increasing in equal proportion, it is very necessary that the wastage of food products is stopped as much as possible and the quality of food is improved by proper processing and proper preservation.

*The matter was originally raised in Oriya.

In Haroti region of Rajasthan, there are areas which produce the best quality of oranges in the country and the bulk in which they are produced may be the second biggest after Nagpur in the country. Since there is no facility available for processing and preserving oranges, a big percentage of orange produce gets waste every year.

Similarly we grow peas in big quantity in Chabra area of Kota district and vegetables around Kota town but these too go waste in big quantity for want of processing industries.

I would, in view of these facts, request the hon. Minister of Food Processing Ministry to establish food processing plants for oranges at Bhawani Mandi and for other perishable crops at Chabra and Kota.

12.15 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : DIS-
APPROVAL OF PREVENTION OF
ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC
DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC
SUBSTANCES ORDINANCE**

AND

**PREVENTION OF ILLICIT TRAFFIC
IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND
PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES
BILL**

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : (Adilabad) : I beg to move :

"That this House disapproves of the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance, 1988 (Ordinance No. 7 of 1988) promulgated by the President on the 4th May, 1988 "

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K.
PANJA) :** I beg to move :*

"That the Bill to provide for detention in certain cases for the pur-

pose of preventing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and for matters connected therewith, be taken into consideration."

The hon. Members are aware, India has been facing the problem of transit traffic in illicit drugs which has been escalating in recent times. The spill-over from such traffic has been causing problems of abuse and addiction. There have been indications that this trend has created an illicit demand for drugs and that this may lead to increased diversion of opium from licit growing areas of opium poppy.

Government being concerned with the developing drug situation have taken a number of legislative, administrative and preventive measures which have resulted in checking the transit traffic to a considerable extent. However, increased internal drug traffic, diversion of opium from licit growing areas and attempts of illicit manufacture of drugs within the country threaten to undermine the effects of the counter measures taken. Further, drug traffickers often succeed in obtaining bail on minor technical grounds enabling them to continue their illicit activities.

Keeping in mind the magnitude of the threat from drug trafficking from the Golden Crescent region comprising Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran and the Golden Triangle region comprising Burma, Thailand and Laos and having regard to the internal situation, the Prime Minister gave a 14 point directive on April 8, 1988 as a new initiative to combat drug trafficking and drug abuse. The Prime Minister also constituted a Cabinet Sub-Committee under the Home Minister to oversee and coordinate working of different Ministries and steps taken to intensify the fight against drug abuse and trafficking. The Cabinet Sub-Committee felt the need for enactment of a preventive detention law for drug traffickers for supplementing the deterrent penal provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. Accordingly, the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

*Moved with the recommendation of the president.

[Shri A. K. Panja]

Ordinance, 1988 has been promulgated on 4.7.1988.

Sir, the present Bill before the House seeks to replace the Ordinance and by and large contains the same provisions as contained in the Ordinance.

A doubt may arise as to the necessity of the new law when the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 is already available. I may mention that under the COFEPOSA Act, only such persons indulging in smuggling can be covered. Unless it can be proved that the activities of the persons indulging in drug trafficking constituted smuggling within the meaning of the expression in the Customs Act, 1962, it was not possible to use that Act against a large number of traffickers. Further, it has also not been found appropriate that situations covering internal traffic should be covered in an Act which covers matters of international ramifications. It has, therefore, been considered necessary that an additional legislation should be framed for preventive detention, covering all aspects of drug trafficking. In the Bill, it is proposed to define drug trafficking to include cultivation, production, manufacture, possession, sale, purchase, transportation, warehousing, concealment, use or consumption, import inter-state, export inter-state, import into India, export from India or transshipment of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, financing of drug trafficking, harbouring of persons engaged in drug trafficking, abetting or conspiring in the furtherance or in support of doing any of the aforesaid acts.

As it was necessary to take urgent steps to check drug trafficking, it was thought fit that the proposed law should take immediate effect and should be promulgated as an Ordinance. It was also apprehended that the introduction of legislation in Parliament in the normal course and the normal time lag involved in making an enactment would alert the drug traffickers, who might go underground and elude the enforcement agencies. In these circumstances, the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance, 1988 promulgated on 4.7.1988.

This Bill provides that :

(1) the officers specially empowered by the Central and State Government shall be vested with the powers to issue orders of detention of any person (including a foreigner) with a view to prevent him from engaging in illicit traffic;

(2) the orders of detention issued for a person invoking two or more grounds shall be deemed to have been made separately on each such grounds so as to prevent such orders from being rendered invalid or inoperative merely because one or some of the grounds is/are vague, non-existent, not relevant, not connected or for any other reason whatsoever;

(3) suitable provisions have been made for apprehension and detention of the absconders;

(4) provisions have been made for the constitution of Advisory Boards by both the Central and State Governments, as prescribed under article 22 of the Constitution of India, to whom a reference in respect of the detenu is required to be made by the appropriate government within 5 weeks from the date of detention;

(5) the Advisory Board is required to give its report indicating its opinion specifically whether there exists sufficient cause or otherwise within eleven weeks from the date of detention of the person concerned;

(6) Provision for detention of persons for longer periods than three months without obtaining the opinion of the Advisory Board in areas categorised as 'highly vulnerable' to illicit traffic has been made. Such areas have been defined appropriately.

(7) The maximum period of detention in such areas is for two years and in areas other than those categorised as 'highly vulnerable' to illicit traffic is for a period of one year.

(8) Provision also exists for temporary release of persons detained on furnish-

ing necessary bond with sureties and observance of the conditions specified in this behalf.

Sir, the Ordinance which proposed to be repealed by this Bill has already proved to be an effective tool in fighting the drug problem. In about six weeks time, already, 168 detention orders (including detention orders in respect of 19 foreigners) have been issued and 144 persons have been detained and of these 108 were against person involved in internal traffic.

Sir, the fight against the drug menace is a continuous one and Government have been taking appropriate steps to combat the illicit in drugs. The present legislation, I am sure, would be another important step in this regard. I have no doubt that this august House will fully support the Government's efforts in this direction.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Resolution moved :

"That this House disapproves of Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Ordinance 1988. (Ordinance No. 7 of 1988) promulgated by the President on the 4th May, 1988."

Motion moved :

"That the Bill to provided for detention in certain cases for the purpose of preventing illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and for matters connected there with be taken into consideration."

SHRI D.N. REDDY (Cuddapah) : Sir, it is true that the drug abuse on drug traffic is a most serious problem in our country. But I do not see the reason why the Government thought it fit to introduce this Bill in the form of an Ordinance specially on the eve of the session. They could have introduced in the normal course and then brought it before the House. I do not understand the practice of introducing an Ordinance on the eve of the Parliament Session immediately.

Coming to the subject, for the first time, a nation-wide survey of the drug menace

is undertaken so that a plan of action is prepared, creating public awareness of the dangers of drug abuse, programmes of counselling and de-addiction, and better cure and rehabilitation are contemplated. Giving more teeth to law is considered.

Drug situation in our country is serious. Heroin seizures have gone up from 200 kg in 1984 to 2261 kg in 1986. Same is the case with ganja. Thus we see that [the danger of drugs has at normally increased in the last three or four years. The latest head-count of drug addicts is about 7 lakhs in this country. Of this, 87.6 per cent are estimated to be within the age group of 14-25 years. These facts show how dangerous is the problem in our country. Almost the entire drug addicts fall between the age of 14 to 25 years. All these youngsters are spoiling their life by this practice.

In 1985, of all the heroin seized in Europe, 35 per cent was transmitted through India. In 1986, it was 29 per cent. Last year, it was down to 7 per cent. Narcotic cells were opened in Delhi and Bombay international airports. This explains the downward trend. All these years, the kingpins of trafficker managed to get bail on flimsy grounds inspite of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act of 1985 and were back to the lousy trade. Heroin across the border costs double the amount as in Pakistan, and about 4 times after the transit point in the international airports and many times more in the international market. Hence the attraction for this heinous crime. Unless it is pht down with a vigour and deterrent punishment awarded to the offenders, it is bound to bounce back again and again.

No one will grudge the law enforcement agencies arming themselves with more powers against the well-entrenched traffickers with internatinal ramifications. India's position as a transit point has assumed undue importance among the international operators. Now, India stands precariously and not just as a transit point as the drugs are being used in our country to a very great extent by the youngsters.

[Shri D.N. Reddy]

Reports of unlawful cultivation of Poppy in the inaccessible jungle terrains of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan has enormously increased our problems. It is reported that some highly placed politicians also are trying to legalise its cultivation, and I hope Government will take note of this and stop it immediately. The menace of drug trafficking has also got inextricably mixed with the terrorists' activities in Punjab and the border with Pakistan has come in handy for smuggling of not only arms but drugs also. Added to this there is some nexus between the drug trafficking and immoral politicians who makes it all the more dangerous. Sir, it is a very curious and dangerous problem in our country. Crimes always have got a nexus between the offenders and the politicians in some way or the other.

AN HON. MEMBER : Who are they ?

SHRI D.N. REDDY : It is for the Government to find out who they are and not for me. But anyway this fact is there and this trend must stop immediately. I am not trying to specify one case, but generally crime cannot thrive by offenders only unless there are some powers behind and this applies not only to drug trafficking or drug abuse but to other crimes also.

There is another problem as far as the North-Eastern provinces are concerned. Police is not empowered as it is in other parts of the country. I am subject to correction, Sir, I am informed that the powers under the NDPS Act have not been extended to Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura. But fortunately today I have come across a news item which says "A 100 Km belt is being created all along the North-eastern region and the Indo-Nepal border to check effectively the drug trafficking from across Burma, according to the informed sources." If this is true I hope things will improve enormously. These States have not taken any stringent action yet. They have been lacking in bringing awareness against the use of these dangerous drugs. The efforts, so far made by the authorities have been half-hearted. For some inexplicable reasons

the law breakers in the drug trade were not dealt with severity under the 1985 Act. Out of 18026 cases registered, only 1265 were sentenced that too leniently. While there was provision for 10 years imprisonment and about a lakh of rupees fine, they were awarded only a few thousand rupee fine and a few months imprisonment. The reason I am not able to understand, probably the authorities are aware of it and that is why they have come forward to introduce this Bill in the House. Bail was granted on some flimsy ground. That means out of 18000 and odd cases about 16000 were again back in the streets pushing the Brown sugar down the throat of innocents lungs. Hence the need for giving deterrent punishment both by way of fine as well as by way of imprisonment and the need for taking deterrent steps both on the preventive side as well as curative sides are essential.

The Hon. Minister has just now mentioned :

1. Establishment of special courts in all States, enforcing and strengthening the provisions of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act.
2. Upgrading of laboratory facilities and use of sophisticated machinery and equipment.
3. Training of police and allied personnel and providing of testing kits.
4. Destruction of seized drugs.

This is a very important point. Previously according to law they used to take the drugs under the control of the courts till the cases were decided. There was a possibility of drugs finding their way back into the market. I think, according to the new Act, the Government is in a position to come forward and see that the drugs are destroyed immediately after their seizure then and there so that there is absolutely no possibility of the drugs going back into the market. This Narcotics Act is contemplating to make drug offences non-bailable and punishments non-remissible. We really

support these provisions because they will act as a great deterrent on the law offenders. These offences should not be bailable and punishments should not be remissible and there should not be any appeal against these offences.

It is also very important that drug addicts are treated in de-addiction centres. Treatment in de-addiction centres should be followed up with rehabilitation programmes and facilities for this purpose should be provided. Recently Government have opened a few de-addiction centres at some places and I think a few more are necessary. Not only that, follow up programmes and rehabilitation facilities should also be provided. De-addiction and rehabilitation of drug-addicts is quite a costly business but it is quite worthwhile. De-addiction is a very long process as far as the patients are concerned. So, they should be taken care of and follow-up programmes should be implemented and their rehabilitation is certainly necessary.

As I mentioned earlier, if you are not on the look, out a whole generation of youngsters would be plunged into darkness. We should deal with this danger and the law offenders who are responsible for this drug menace should be dealt with as strictly as possible to save the young generation.

Sir, our new slogan should be 'Gard Hatao Desh bachao'. That is, 'get rid of brown sugar and save the country.' Our second slogan should be 'brown sugar means death' and the third is 'brown sugar means madness'. Let these slogans be not empty like the earlier ones such as 'Garibi hatao' and 'Bekari hatao'. These slogans coined by the Ruling Party remained just slogans and empty words without any action. Poverty is very much there and unemployment is also there. So, let these new slogans be not empty slogans.

I do hope that the Government will come down with a heavy hand on the law offenders and we certainly support the contents of the Bill. At the same time, I strongly protest, as I told earlier, against the way it was introduced in the form of an ordinance.

Anyway, I do congratulate the hon. Minister for taking these bold and concrete steps and I hope that the provisions of this Act will be implemented very seriously, very firmly and sincerely.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mandsaur) : Hon. Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to express my views on this Bill. I whole heartedly support this Bill. I congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for it who is in charge of the Narcotics Department also. Although this Bill should have been introduced much earlier, its introduction even now is most welcome.

Till now our Government was fighting against drug-abuse but now drug-peddlers too are being dealt with strictly. This step is welcome and the objective of this Bill is laudable.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, just now some of our learned colleagues from the Opposition were expressing their opinion on this Bill. I hail from the area where cultivation of the opium crop is one of the main occupations of the farmers. 70% to 80% of the total opium in the country is produced in my constituency alone. Generally, people think otherwise of the opium growers.

I want to draw the hon. Finance Minister's attention towards a few points. The Government has taken the right step by creating a 100 km. belt near the Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat border. The whole problem starts from there. The entire trade originates from this area. I would like to give a piece of information which I request this august House to take note of. Even though the farmers of my constituency cultivate the opium crop, they neither consume it, nor do they trade in it. I come from a district where nearly 63,000 farmers are engaged in opium cultivation. There was a time when nearly 70,000 hectares of Land was under opium cultivation and nearly 900 to 1000 tonnes of opium was produced in this country. But now, only 32,000 hectares of land is under opium cultivation and almost the same amount of opium is

[Shri Balkavi Bairagi]

produced. Today, more than 2,000 tonnes of opium stocks are lying with the Government with no possibility of sale in the international market. Farmers are given a license and land on lease-basis to cultivate opium. In my constituency no farmer cultivates opium without obtaining that Licence. Every inch of land where opium is cultivated in my constituency is on lease from the Government. The Government procures 34 kilograms of opium per hectare from the cultivator otherwise his license is cancelled.

I request the Government to review its policy of allotting land on lease basis. The entire problem begins when the farmer is subjected to injustice. If a farmer is not able to meet the demand of the Government he is deprived of lease in the following year. In desperation he approaches a farmer with surplus produce and buys a kilogram or two from him in order to make up his average and thus ensures that his lease continues. There should a communicator between the Government and the opium growers, who should work as a link between the two. He is called 'Mukhia'. His powers should be restricted. Government should review this system. I do not want the Government to abolish this system. Instead, I want to emphasise that the opium policy should be public oriented rather than an individual oriented. It will help you exercise complete control over opium growing. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Finance and the Government of India towards the three main districts of Rajasthan and the State of Madhya Pradesh which are the major opium producers in the country. Chittorgarh is represented by Shri Jujhar, Kota by Shri Shanti Lalji Dhariwal and Mandsaur-Javra of Madhya Pradesh by me. All of us are the hon. Members of this House. But I regret to say that the Government does not associate us in the process of policy making regarding opium growing. Rather, we people have to seek appointment with the Government officials. It would not help if the Government clears leases in the months of November or December. The leases must be cleared by the month of August. It speaks of rampant corruption that is plagu-

ing the system and about which I had mentioned earlier also. Not only traffickers, even the Government officials are involved in corrupt practices. Amount worth crores of rupees changes hands as bribe in every district during these three months. It is the opium grower that suffers. In no other department, level of corruption is so high as is in the department of Narcotics.

Hon. Minister of Finance, Sir, the opium growers have no faith in the Government officials working in Narcotic department. Recently, on 24th or 28th July, the officials of the Narcotic department seized about one quintal of opium on the tip given by an informer in my constituency. They settled the deal for Rs. one lakh and pocketed Rs. 15 thousand in the process. But the informed the people, which caught the officials red-handed and seized the Rs. 15 thousand in cash from them. Police is more effective than the Narcotic officials. This system needs to be remedied. It should be ensured that the culprits are punished and the provisions of this Bill are not misused. The opium growers are booked in fake cases by implanting 100 or 200 grams opium, and thus, they are made to undergo imprisonment upto ten years. The Government had passed a legislation in 1985 under which a fine of Rs. one lakh was provided. Whether you provide minor punishment or capital punishment, we shall extend full support to the Government' in fighting against the traffickers. But the Bill cannot be fully effective unless licencing policy of giving lease is modified. You take out a map and you will find what the real problem is. In the terai regions of Nepal and adjacent parts of Dehradun, a large number of people grow opium in an illegal manner. There is no lease system, nobody bothers to get the license issued from the Government and even then opium is grown over the land measuring thousands of acres. Those people are not the real opium growers. Their only job is to produce opium illegally. That illegal production also contributes to the opium production in the country over and above 900 or 1000 tonnes of opium produced by licence holders every year. While a number of people are engaged in smuggling, a charge is levelled against the innocent people. The people who grow

opium on lease basis are very few and the Government officials force these people to pay penalty for keeping even 10-20 grams or 50 to 100 grams of opium. But those who produce opium on no man's land in the teral region of Nepal are not penalised. The concerned officials are aware of this fact. It is a matter of great pleasure that the authorities have successfully raided a place in that region. It will save the genuine farmers. I am thankful to the Government, especially to the concerned official who dared to destroy the plants in the adjoining areas of Dehradun. Our opium growers will continue to be harassed until illegal production is checked. The opium growers in Rajasthan, Marwar, Jhalawar, Chittor, Mandsaur and Kota never violate the rules enforced by the Government. In the light of these facts, the Government must reconsider the licensing policy.

Shri Reddy has pointed out that politicians are involved in this malpractice. We, the four main representatives are present in the House and the matter can be investigated if the Government likes so. I do not know from where did he get this information. However, we assure our full cooperation to the Government if it gives land on lease basis to the opium growers. 30 lakh people in our area are engaged in its cultivation. In the Government decides to abolish the lease system, I am sure, this decision will result in driving about 30-50 lakh people towards starvation, because at least for six months in a year, they are engaged in this job. No other crop can substitute it.

I am thankful to Shri Panja for making a reasonable increase in the price of opium this year. Thanks are also due to the Narcotics department for abolishing the slab system and revising the price payable to the farmers. As a result, the average yield had improved. You might have observed that higher quantities of opium were received from weighing centres.

I do not talk about any other crop but there are people in our area who produce Ganja and Bhang as well. The State of Madhya Pradesh produces all the three drugs-Bhang, Ganja and Opium. The Cen-

tral Government should look into the genuine problems of our growers. We feel extremely sorry when the genuine growers in our State are taken into custody. It is a matter of great pleasure that the Government has made the provision of detention without getting the approval of the Board. Government deserves congratulation for this. We are glad that you will get the decision approved by the Board on majority basis. In Mansaur area, not even one out of 63 opium growers is engaged in this malpractice. A few individuals who have contacts with Government officials are the owners of large Havelis. I would like to tell the Hon. Minister of Finance that not even a single opium grower is free from debt. The growers are under debt and the black-marketeers are the owners of big Havelis. The Government must review this system. Our growers cultivate opium with their sweet labour but even then they remain under debt whereas smugglers who do nothing except trafficking have become owners of big Havelis. When these people are asked how does it happen, they claim that they take risk. In reality it is the grower who takes risk, who produces, fights against the natural calamities and saves opium. The Government should adopt sympathetic attitude towards the grower. There was a time when the very mention of opium in the House was considered to be bad. We, for the first time raised our voice in favour of opium production. To ban its cultivation would mean sky-rocketing of the prices of Coramine and other injections used in preparing various medicines, which are in great demand among the poor. It would ultimately result in the loss of many lives. Therefore, the cultivation of opium is essential. There are Alkaline factories at Neemuch and Ghazipur in our State. Attention should be paid towards the working of these factories. Machines worth crores of rupees have been lying idle for the last 4-6 years. Even the packing has not been taken off. For what purpose these machines were bought and why have they been lying unused in this manner? You should order thorough investigation into the whole matter. The Government should find out where exactly the per centage of morphine gets reduced, Our growers are accused of reducing the content. But I would like

[Shri Balkavi Bairagi]

to submit that the whole mischief takes place when the produce is sent to the factory. The Government should first provide protection to the grower, The Government cannot succeed in its objective unless it provides protection to the grower, Time is short but there are many aspects which are to be covered. But still I am grateful to you. The Government should finalize the policy for opium growers by the month of September at the latest. It must be made clear who is going to get the lease. Its delay till the month of November-December would lead to illegal cultivation at various places in the country and it will be the genuine grower who will suffer on this account. In this context, I would like to urge that the Government should review the whole licensing policy. We accept the fact that inspite of the decreasing acreage the yield has been increasing. It has been possible only due to the development in science and technology. But I would like to urge the Government to avoid total dependence on imports of of morphine, because such a situation may arise if a ban is put on the cultivation of opium which may hit the poor man. I congratulate and thank you for presenting the Bill which should have been brought much earlier. But I must inform you that people in general are quite fearful of the possible effects of this law. Tney have their own apprehensions about this Bill. Hon. Minister Sir, the Government is well aware of the traffickers as well as of the genuine growers. I would request you to protect your informers. An informer in my constituency was gunned down within the premises of his own house. Mere compensation is not enough. Not even a single official of Narcotics bothered to go to his house after the incident to console the family. That farmer belonged to village Bararia-Amra He was shot dead publicly because he assisted the Government. He was an informer. He was murdered and with his death his lease was also cancelled. The Government must think over it. I would urge the House to adopt sympathetic attitude towards the growers and harsh attitude towards the traffickers through this Bill. The Goveanment policy is strick against the traffickers but it is not sympathetic

wards opium growers. Licensing policy should as liberal as possible in order to save the opium growers from facing the corrupt practices while securing lease. The Government should create an environment in which we, the Members of Parliament could extend proper suggestions.

With these words, I thank you and congratulate you. I would request the hon. Members to pass the Bill unanimously.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[English]

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH (Uluberia) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I share the anxiety of the Government to curb these merchants of death These people are making business with the life of our younger generation and they are just jeopardising the future of the country. These criminals should be dealt with firmly and all the right minded people will support such action against those merchants of death. These people are involved in such a business, which is just drawing more and more yunger people, not only college and university students but even school children into the orbit of death.

It has become a danger for the youth of our country. One survey says that out of 5,834 cases, sixty five per cent victims are of age between sixteen and thirty years and fifty per cent of them are staying in resettlement colonies, *Jugghis* and *Jhopris*. There is a very clear indication about who are the major victims. There is no doubt that we have to take action against this danger and we have to deal with those who are engaged in this drug business.

We have got the 1985 Act. Though we have passed that Act a few years back, it was not properly implemented. I want to know how many persons have been brought to book under that Act and how many of them have been punished. Every time Government comes with a proposal for preventive detetention. This is a disturbing part of this Bill. The Government cannot work without preventive detention. So many deterrent

acts are there, but they are not properly utilised. They want severe punishment for these drug peddlers, but they are immune from capital punishment. Why? Had you made capital punishment for this drug abuse, then they would be non bailable. Why do you want to make preventive detention for it? So, for every section of the people, the Government wants preventive detention and without that the Government cannot work. This is the most unfortunate part. The Preventive detention like many other Acts will only give extra power in the hands of the officials. In every Act you want preventive detention. That is the general approach of this Government since Independence and you are not free from that. You are harping on the same. But you are not implementing the Act properly. Everybody complains that the inflow and outflow of these drugs has increased. But your seizure list shows that it is decreasing. In 1986 8789 kgs. of opium was seized. But this figure has gone down to 2929 kgs. in 1987 which is just 25 per cent of the figure of 1986. In the case of morphine against 207 kgs. in 1986, the figure of seizure has gone down to 115 kgs in 1987. In the case of heroin there is a slight increase from 2621 kg. to 2747 kg. Seizure of ganja has gone down from 60,619 kg to 53,920 kg. Seizure of charas has gone down from 18,909 kgs to 14,796 kgs. The figure of mothequalone is 1485 kg. and 1500 kgs. Seizure of cocaine has decreased from 26 kgs to 5 kgs. only.

13.00 hrs.

Everybody complains that inflow and outflow is increasing, but your seizure is less. That shows that whatever Acts you are having, you are not properly implementing them. Why do you want more powers under preventive detention? You catch a narcotic dealer, try him and hang him. If any criminal is operating as merchant of death, he should get death punishment. But should hang him after trial. You do not want to do that. But you want powers under preventive detention so that you detain the person and then go to sleep. It was reported that a confidential report revealed that there is involvement of some Delhi Policemen in the clandestine narcotic

trade. It is a serious thing if the law enforcing agencies have links the narcotic dealers. The Minister may please enlighten us on this aspect whether it is true or not. It is a fact that these drug traffickers have some nexus with politicians also. In Jammu and Kashmir, it is alleged that the drug traffickers have close links with politicians. In Manipur, you may be knowing, one district level leader has been arrested. I do not want to name him. But many complaints are there that politicians are also involved. In the North-eastern region, I have seen the report, that 1000 kgs. of ganja was seized from the Border Roads Organisation's truck at Kangpokpi in Manipur. In another cases, 300 kgs of Burmese ganja was seized from a CRPF truck which was coming to Patna. Even Army vehicles are being used for this purpose. You have to deal with these things very seriously and firmly because if the protectors of law have collusion with the drug traffickers; then it is a dangerous situation.

It is reported that 90 per cent of the heroin and 50 per cent of charas seized in India, originated in the 'Golden Crescent' that is, Pakistan, Afganistan Iran and this region and 70 to 80 per cent of ganja originated from 'Golden Triangle' that is, Burma, Laos and Thailand. So these two sensitive belts are there. The Government is taking some action. But law alone will not serve the purpose. I find that the law enforcing agencies are under-staffed. With the limited number of staff, how can they keep vigil everywhere. And you want to reduce their number still further. All these anti-drug agencies are ineffective because of inadequacy of staff. We have a long border and at many places the drug smuggling take place. The Department cannot manage with the existing skeleton staff. You please enlighten us whether the Department is properly manned or not. But this is the general complaint. So, these things should be looked into.

Another thing is that close link or nexus between drug traffickers and terrorists has become a major threat to civilised society. It has become a scourge of the 20th century. I do not know whether any

[Shri Hannan Mollah]

specific cases have come to the notice of the Government or not. But everyday these complaints are being made. In the last five-six years, these terrorists have become very active. This narco-terrorism has become very commonly known to the people, but the Government has no information of specific cases what they are doing, I do not know; they can enlighten us. But it is widely believed and it is a fact also that the smugglers are earning money through drug smuggling and they are utilising that money for the purposes of terrorism. But the Government cannot find out the links. If they can solve this problem of finding out the links, they will be able to contain the terrorists in many parts of the country. About that also I do not know what is the situation in the Government departments.

Government wants a very deterrent to be given. Provisions for tracing them and confiscating their properties, etc. are there. But as they are dealing in the death of the younger generation of our country, they should also face the same punishment. That deterrence will help the Government to do away with this preventive measure. But they are taking this undemocratic measure to end this evil. So, this is my opinion on this question.

I think the hon. Minister will give some information as to after the 1985 Act how many people have been brought to book, how many cases have been registered and in how many cases punishment have been given. I do not know what has been the result in the last two months, after the promulgation of this Ordinance. He can enlighten the House on this.

As some suggestions have been made, I also agreed to those suggestions. The anti-addiction centres should be widely organised because lakhs of youths in various parts of the country are engaged in drug addiction, not only in the cities but also in the rural areas. Even in the remote villages, you will be able to find brown sugar. It is very dangerously spreading all over the country. So, a mass campaign also should be launched, together with the penal measures. If the Govern-

ment honestly implements the laws and finds out the nexus between the politicians and the smugglers, the bureaucrats and the smugglers, the police administration and the smugglers, the and terrorists and the smugglers, it will help to fight this enemy in a better way. With these words, I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Kopargaon) : I rise to welcome the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drug and Psychotropic Substances Bill. Every one will certainly support this Bill. I think that the present Bill is more comprehensive than the one passed in 1985. Its explanation about the provisions made in the Bill are more or less satisfactory. A mention has been made about the growers and drug-traffickers in the statement of objections and reasons. What action Government proposed to take against the persons indulging in illegal cultivation? There is a lot of bungling in the accounts of law abiding cultivations and people indulging illegal cultivation, as the businessmen manipulate in their sales taxes and Income taxes accounts. I will speak about smugglers later on. As the traders make separate account books to get exemption from excise in tobacco and they also indulge in bungling in production stocks—I would like to urge upon the hon. Minister that in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and in some places of Maharashtra some people cultivate Ganja, bhang or some spurious drugs in illegal manner as lease system is not prevalent there. They should be permitted to cultivate these drugs legally. The cultivation of these drugs is more lucrative and that is why people are more attracted towards it. Moreover a lot of money can be earned in a very short period and there is not so much scope in cultivation of other commodities. Therefore such laws should be enacted which should convince the people that they can cultivate these commodities legally. The growers should be given due permission. Drug-trafficking is very big source of black-money. It is an illicit drug. I may call it human killer. Therefore, I support law enacted by the Government to curb its smuggling and congratulate the Government for it. Narcotic drugs are smuggled into

India through the borders of Burma, Nepal and Pakistan and also smuggled out through the same routes. This is smuggling being done by the smugglers, big businessmen and the terrorists. When we are not in the House we read such in newspapers also. The Government is very much concerned to curb it. This is promoting corruption in the country, therefore it should be checked. All efforts should be made to check the illegal trade of narcotic drugs such as brown sugar and heroin. I also agree with the suggestions given by my colleagues that such illegal narcotic drugs should either be destroyed or should be confiscated by the Government. We have no objection even if such drugs are burnt. If such narcotic drugs are destroyed, a large number of youngmen may be saved from falling prey to such dangerous drugs because mostly children and the youth fall prey to these drugs. School going children fall prey to them. Some of them even start trafficking of these narcotic drugs as there is more profit in this illicit drug trafficking. Some unemployed youth are also engaged in it. I would suggest that persons who indulge in such illegal drug trafficking should be awarded deterrent punishment. Two years imprisonment is not enough. Such drugs pose danger to the lives of human beings and therefore the people who are involved in this trade should be awarded capital punishment. The Government have to formulate many rules and laws in this regard but the culprits are freed under these very rules because of loopholes in them. The officers who are entrusted with the enforcement job should be given more power and protection as well. In our Admadnagar a case about these narcotic drugs was subjudice. Its investigating Inspector, and Constable and all witnesses who appeared during the period of two years were murdered. Therefore special arrangements should be made for the security of investigation officers. Their lives should be insured because if it is not done, then, how their family members will make their both ends meet and how their children will get education? The people who want to earn money from this trade and for whom there is no considerations for human life, stringent measures should be taken against them. It is a right step to seal the borders but more stringent measures

are required to be taken. I would also like to speak about rehabilitation. In Sweden, a lot of work is being done in this regard. Many steps have been taken in this respect in Scandinavian Countries also. The youth who have become addict to such drugs should be rehabilitated. They should be given priority with regard to providing employment elsewhere. If proper rehabilitation programmes are chalked out for youngmen they will yield good results. As far as Government's policy about dealers is concerned.....(Interruptions)

I have simply said that government should make arrangements for their employment. The Government should also provide free-education to the school-going children who fall prey to such drugs. As we have Remand Homes at several places for orphan children, we may build similar remand homes for the victims of these drugs. The Government may plead that it is a state subject but the Government should issue guidelines to the States, change its policies and rules and should provide good education to these children in such remand homes so that they may prove to be good citizens of India. The people should not condemn the children after returning from remand homes because they have fallen prey to these drugs innocently and therefore people should respect them, encourage them and make them aware of the consequences of drug addiction. When hon. Minister was the Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, I remember that a T.V. serial on Drug Addiction had been started and its aim was to educate those children who fall prey to drugs. I want to tell you that the use of T.V. media is very necessary so that both the children and parents could learn something. The arrangement of their rehabilitation should be made in such manner that they feel encouraged to get rid of this addiction.

Finally, I would like to urge upon the Government to make provision for severe punishment for drug-traffickers and smugglers so that teenagers do not fall prey to drug addiction. The main culprits who indulge in this trade must be awarded deterrent punishment so that they may not

[Shri Balasaheb Bikhe Patil]

use children as drug peddlers. The kingpins must get deterrent punishment. As I stated in the beginning that illegal production of drugs should be brought under some law and this matter should be considered seriously as to how the corruption rampant in this narcotic trade can be checked. Such provisions should be incorporated in the Bill for the illicit drug cultivations, drugs-traffickers, traders and smugglers involved in this narcotic trade that corruption could be stopped. I think we cannot achieve success until this corruption continues.

There are some people who try to politicise this issue. They may get some benefit by doing so but it does not mean and I also do not believe that country's well wishers will support them. With these words I support this Bill.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR (Mysore) : Honourable Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill, 1988. This Bill seeks to replace the Ordinance promulgated by the President on the 4th May, 1988.

Sir, the problems of drug abuse in the country has assumed alarming proportions particularly in the metropolitan cities such as Bombay, Calcutta, Bangalore and Madras.

One of the reasons why trading and dealing in drugs has become so rampant in most metropolitan cities is that dealing in drugs has become a very lucrative business and carriers and people who house drugs which are in transit from one place to another find themselves being rewarded with rich remuneration. Hence the traffic in drugs has increased in India and the abuse and use of drugs has also increased. Besides, we have a highly vulnerable area, the Indian customs water, the customs airports, the inland area over 100 kilometres in width from the coast of India falling within the territories of the States of

Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and the Union Territories of Diu, Daman and Pondicherry. Apart from these areas, there are inland areas several hundred kms. on the width from (a) India-Pakistan border in the States of Gujarat, Punjab and Rajasthan, (b) India-Nepal border, in the States of Bihar, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal; (c) India-Burma border in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland; (d) India-Bangladesh border in the States of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and West Bengal; and (e) India-Bhutan border in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim and West Bengal.

The illicit traffic in narcotic drugs poses a serious threat to the health and welfare of the people. A person can be addicted to it in two ways. Certain narcotics cause bodily addiction. This means that the victims body will become dependent on the narcotics and he may suffer great physical agony and cannot live without it. Gradually the victims body builds up a tolerance of the drug. Consequently he will need more and more of it. Such victims eventually die since every narcotic is very poisonous and an addict of this kind is likely to die.

Of the several drugs that are used, one which is very common is the opium. It is also common in areas like China, Turkey and India. Madak and Chandu have been the traditional preparation of opium used in India and other parts of the globe. Many other sophisticated derivatives of opium have now come into vogue in the market such as morphine, cocaine and heroin. The cost of these drugs are enormous and the margin of profit is so great that a large number of people are taking to smuggling heroin and other allied drugs. Heroin addiction is also spreading like wild fire in India. It is learnt that in Punjab, farm labour is fed arsenic mixed with opium by employers in order to extract more work. India is the traditional home of opium where poppy cultivation is permitted by law in some parts of Madhya Pradesh etc. Even though a great number of regulations are there such as licensing, survey and measurement of poppy field and 100%

purchase of poppy by Government agencies the unscrupulous growers succeed in evading the authorities by hiding the opium grown illegally and not declaring the actual extent of opium cultivation. This has led to smuggling in other parts of the country at prices higher than what is paid by the Government agencies. The frequent opium hauls in many parts of the country suggest amply that illegal trade in narcotics is flourishing in the country. A number of narcotics also pass through the Indian sub-continent. The tragedy is that the teenagers are falling the victims of addiction. The World Health Organisation report says that increasing percentage of children and adolescents have started themselves addicted to alcohol and drugs. I feel, the illegal drugs clearly threaten the young people's health and the future of the young generation, in India.

A number of times, we are facing problems, especially with transit traffic in illicit drugs. India occupies a strategic position in the routes of all international drug smuggler. There has been a sharp rise in the drug trafficking in the country. It was after that, that the Government of India started making concerted efforts to check drug smuggling. Day in and day out, cases of drug trafficking and drug abuse have been coming to light.

Sir, the heads of the drug enforcement agencies from most of the European countries and the Indian sub-continent gathered in New Delhi on the 15th of March and had a meeting with the CBI. The Conference took stock of the present trend of the society and the increased incidence of drug trafficking in India and other countries. It has decided to combat drug smugglers. It decided to take penal measures against drug trafficking. I thank the CBI for organising such a Conference.

Now, efforts are being made by the Government to check drug abuse and illicit traffic. But, it is not possible to check drug smuggling and addiction with the existing laws of the land. Although a number of legislative, administrative and other preventive measures were taken in the past, the drug smuggling and addiction could not be stopped entirely. Therefore,

perhaps the Government felt that a preventive detention law should be enacted with a view to effectively immobilising the traffickers. The transit traffic in illicit drugs should be completely eliminated keeping in view the urgent need to do this. Severe punishment for drug traffickers including life imprisonment or capital punishment as suggested by many should be to given and the people who act as illicit traders in drugs and the people who allow their houses or residences or godowns to be used for storing such drugs should also be severely dealt with.

Hence I welcome this Bill.

At the same time, I would like to give some suggestions to the Government. A Drugs and Narcotics Bureau should be set up at all International airports and sea ports to prevent drugs coming through and lying in transit in India.

The Government should also take necessary steps to have rehabilitation centres for addicts especially youth. Such a voluntary agency has started in Madras. This is engaged in treating and rehabilitating narcotics and drug addicts. Similarly, it is very essential that such clinics are set up in different parts of the country in order to fight the drug addiction and drug abuses at various places.

The Government should take strong steps against drug trafficking and it should deal with the problem with an iron hand and the corrupt people in the enforcement agencies should also be dealt with in befitting manner.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, narcotics traffic is a big problem which is causing international concern. Recently, the United Nations as well as the International Labour Organisation held discussions in separate sessions and suggested ways and means to contain narcotic traffic which is taking place among various countries. It appears that in the under-developed and developing countries, the problem is more serious because the whole economy of the concerned country will also be seriously affected if it is not properly tackled and it

[Shri Thampan Thomas]

gives rise to many problems. Some of my friends mentioned about the rehabilitation problem, some about its prevention and some about the punishment to be given. All these facets are inter-connected and this present Bill which is presented before this House is just suggesting how to prevent this menace. No wonder that it adopts the usual method of authoritarianism, that is preventive detention. Much more than that, there are methods by which a civilised government can approach this problem. That is, they should create awareness among the people that this, as a whole, affects the economy of the country and also the future of the nation. To create that awareness, such a machinery should be mooted at every level, in the university campus and in places wherever people gather. In all these areas such a machinery should be there to propagate that this affects seriously our economy and the future of our nation. So, in such a way, wide publicity, wide involvement, wide discussion, by which people can be made aware of all the consequences, this can be prevented completely.

Some suggestions have been made about giving deterrent punishment. I am in full agreement with giving deterrent punishment. In Malaysia, the punishment for this offence is capital punishment. For those people who are trafficking in narcotics, there is no punishment less than capital/punishment in the South-East Asian countries. If Mr. Charles Sobraj, who is in prison here in Tihar Jail, is sent out to Thailand, he will be hanged there for this offence of trafficking in narcotics. But he has taken shelter by committing another criminal offence and getting jailed here rather than getting hanged in Thailand where he has committed this offence. Thus, the loopholes in our laws can be found out. It means that a person who would have been hanged in another country for this offence can very well commit another offence here and be in jail. This is an example of that. So, if deterrent punishment is given, that will create an impression among the people who are involved in these things that there will be serious consequences and they will not involve themselves. If we examine the steps taken hitherto by the Government or

the steps taken under the anti-narcotics code or any such thing, we will find that they are not effective. They were not able to catch the big fish. Who are the big fish in these things? The big fish are the people who control the economic affairs of this country, these people who are doing terrorist activities in this country, those people who have got international ramifications, connections, with international smugglers. To catch them, what could we do? Could the preventive detention or deterrent punishment or whatever steps have been taken contain these things? Port area is one of the areas where this is increasing in dimensions. The people who are involved in smuggling have their own vessels to traffic between countries. The western countries are in demand of these things. The people who are having money, the moneyed people, maintain security, better than the government security, for themselves and they will see that they are not caught; they will see that, because of the preventive detention Act or any other Act, the poor people, the intermediaries who are there, are caught and not the big people against whom we could not take, hitherto, effective steps. I would like the hon. Minister to tell us who were the big people involved in these things and who have been caught in the last five or six years. It is true that, for smuggling of arms to India, financing is from the narcotic trade. I know, I have come across this in Kerala, in the Cochin Port; even exporters who are favoured by this Government do it. When fish was exported to an outside country, they examined and found that, in such fish, inside the fish, there was narcotic material. And somebody wanted to declare certain things. There is some way. Some loopholes are there. If you are an informer, you can escape. One person who himself does these things subsequently informs and gets benefits and awards. These are the laws which are there today. To combat that, preventive detention is now sought. I fear that by preventive detention alone this cannot be solved. Preventive detention can also be misused. We have seen that during the Emergency in 1975. The whole preventive detention law, just like the Maintenance of Internal Security Act was misused. Whatever power has been given to the police officers and other authorities

is always misused. They use this opportunity to make money for themselves. So, the Preventive Detention Act, without proper checks and proper awareness among the public, will not do any good. It will help only to corrupt the officials who are already corrupt. They will use it only against the innocent people, the people who are there by chance, to put them in prison; the innocent people will fall a prey into the hands of these people who are doing it. I am against the preventive detention laws without a trial, without giving a person his right to substantiate his case. To put a person in jail is not proper. I believe in that ideology that a person should not be put in prison without being given an opportunity to explain. That is against the fundamental human rights. One of the human rights which a man enjoys is the freedom. The freedom should be restrained to the extent whether he is doing a wrong or not. But he cannot be put in prison without an opportunity to prove that he is innocent, that he is not involved in it. Then he goes to the arbitrary court. And the arbitrary power exercised by the authorities without any check leads to authoritarianism and fascism and ultimately leads to a country where there is no freedom, and for which we fought against the British.

Similarly, there are many laws here. I really feel very much about that. When I take part in discussions in this House, many laws which come up for discussion in this House, tend to curtail the human rights and human freedom. This also goes to that extent. In no way, I will support the narcotic trade or narcotic traffic. I would say that the nexus between the persons who are there should be brought to book and to see that it is properly tackled. I would say that to pay with the human freedom and Fundamental Rights of the people is not correct.

Therefore, I suggest, you bring out a scheme by which India is able to play a vital role in preventing narcotic trade by giving deterrent punishment on the one hand and on the other hand, to create awareness among the people that if anybody is indulging in the narcotic traffic, it is the anti-national activity and it is going to affect the economy of the country, it is

going to affect the future of this country and also young generation is made a victim of this. Instead of tackling the problem in this way, just by passing the preventive law if you feel that we can contain narcotic traffic, only thing I would like to submit is that, we are living in fool's paradise. That will not bring any result. Effective efforts in other words, are to be made. I support the rehabilitation programme for the young generation.

I had an opportunity to attend the Tenth Asian Conference of International Labour Organisation on this particular subject. In this particular subject, a Committee is constituted by the Asian region of the International Labour Organisation which met in Djakarta in 1986. They have recommended certain things for the rehabilitation of the people who are affected by this. The international community is sympathetic towards the victims. But we need not be sympathetic towards the people who are doing it. Of course, we have to be sympathetic towards the victims and proper rehabilitation programme will have to be created for them. But at the same time, there is no reason for being sympathetic towards the people who do these harm. They have to be dealt with as the biggest criminals and anti-social and action should be taken to bring them to book. At the same time, sufficient safeguards should be made so that authorities do not misuse it. At some of our friends have said that even in the police force, in the excise force, in the customs force, there are people who are playing the role of an agent or touts for narcotic trade. Export is an area where people take such things free though the material which are permitted to be exported. Airport is an area, public conveyance is also an area. I know how the *Ganja* comes to the hilly areas of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It comes through the transport buses which are owned by the Tamil Nadu Transport or the Kerala State Transport Corporation or Karnataka State Transport Corporation. There will be no owner. But when it reaches the destination, there will be somebody to take it. In this way, even the public transport system is being used.

Recently, at the airport, something happened to one of my friends who was

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travelling to Madras. He is a senior practising lawyer in the High Court of Kerala. He was going to attend a case in Madras. He has a VIP suit-case which he placed in the aircraft. When he got down he took another person's suit-case. Then some police officer stopped him. He is going to be recommended for a post of Judge of the High Court even. He said this is my suite-case. The police said that we have to check it. When they opened it to his horror it was found to be full of narcotics. By the time he was in the plane somebody had replaced his suit-case. So he was caught but fortunately he could find a person moving with a similar suit-case at some distance. He caught him and brought him to the police. But the other man said that suite-case belonged to him. Since he could not tell the contents of the same so the senior lawyer of the Kerala High Court was saved. My point is that the public transport systems are being misused. Have you got an effective machinery to check these things? If the security officer who stands at the Madras air-port where each and every suite-case passage through an X-ray machine is not able to detect the narcotics then what is the purpose of his being there. It is said that narcotics is not metal so it could not be detected in this X-ray machine. Then what is the use of the intelligence and the security force being there? Are they only to detect explosives alone? Are they not bound to stop this drug smuggling? There are some of the examples and in such areas Government will have to see that the loopholes are tightened and action taken. It is only by taking steps in this direction that we can improve the situation and not by bringing this preventive detention whereby a man is put behind the bars without trial. I do not think this Bill will achieve the desired purpose and, as such, we do not support it. In conclusion I would like to suggest a proper law checking the system and there is need for creating proper awareness in the minds of the people not to get involved in narcotics. This is the only way to contain this menace.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) :
I rise to support the Bill moved by the

Minister of State for Finance, Shri A.K. Panja. I also support the Ordinance issued by the President. Although the issuance of the Ordinance has been criticised by the Members opposite yet I think most appropriate use of the promulgation of Ordinance has been made by issuing the present Ordinance dated 4th July, 1988. I do not know why should they complain mis-use of the power of Ordinance especially when they agree that this Drugs Trafficking is the menace which is adversely affecting our younger generation, our student community and also the places which are renowned for religious ceremonies. It is affecting the sea-beaches, sea-ports, airports and our culture as well. In these circumstances I do think that the Ordinance which has been issued by the President on 4th July, 1988 has been issued at the most appropriate time and the power of promulgating Ordinance has been properly used by the Union Government.

Secondly this narcotics drug traffic is a menace in the country. I feel, its most adverse effect is upon our culture.

Pushkar is known as a religious place not only in India but also throughout the world. That town has been infested with drug addicts from our country as also from foreign countries. There is a den of drug-addicts in Pushkar. The people who go there with religious sentiments are very much disturbed because of the presence of these anti-social elements.

Now a question arises, how the hon. Minister is going to save such religious places or sea beaches. Take the sea beaches in Goa or Kovalum. It may be Jagannath Puri or some other place. In Kulu and Manali, which are health resorts, I have seen a number of persons who are drug-addicts. Majority of them are foreigners. They are using the drugs and the use of those drugs has also affected our younger generation. How to check these things? I think, this is the most appropriate step taken by the Government. The hon. Member, who was just speaking, had criticised this step of the Government by saying that these powers will be used arbitrarily and also that there is a possibility of the misuse of those powers. But I

think that is the only step by which you can control these anti-social elements.

I feel that our student community and especially our educational institutions are also infested by the persons who are inclined to using these drugs. How to save these places from the adverse effect of the narcotic, and such objectionable Drugs, like heroin, brown sugar? We feel that in every town and city of our country, there is a section of the population which is getting affected by this menace or by this disease. Not only the Government of India but also the State Government should have some sort of law by which they are able to control these things and save our younger generation and the student community from this menace.

Coming to the provisions of the Bill, I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister. Knowingly or unknowingly, while using some of the words, some sort of confusion can be inferred in sections 3, 5, 10, 12 and 13. In section 3, the hon. Minister has used the words '... any person (including a foreigner) ...' But you have not used the words 'including a foreigner' in section 5 while you are qualifying a person. He may be an Indian national or he may be a foreigner. I would like to read out the relevant provision :

"3 (1) The Central Government or a Statement, or any officer of the Central Government, not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to that Government, or any officer of a State Government, not below the rank of a Secretary to that Government, specially empowered for the purposes of this section by that Government, may, if satisfied, with respect to any person (including a foreigner) that, with a view to preventing him from engaging in illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, it is necessary so to do, make an order directing that such person be detained."

You have detained a person whether he is a foreigner or not because it comes in the definition of the person here. You have qualified the person by using the words 'including a foreigner'. But in Section 5,

every person in respect of whom a detention order has been made, you have omitted words 'including a foreigner'. Therefore, it may be a matter of judicial interpretation and sometimes it may be said that it was not the intention of the legislature to punish or detain a person who is a foreigner. The provisions of Section 5 may not apply to a person who is a foreigner because here you have not qualified the person by using the word 'foreigner'. Therefore, when once you have used the word 'foreigner' it is very necessary that in Section 5 also, you should have used that word and that person should have been qualified.

Again in Section 10 which provides for the cases in which and circumstances under which persons may be detained for periods longer than three months, you have said notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, any person (including a foreigner)'. It means that whenever you wanted you can say that the 'person' means and includes the person who is of a foreign origin and he shall also be included for the purpose of these Sections, for example Section 3 and 10. Beyond the purview of those Sections, you have not qualified word 'person'. Therefore, it is very necessary that there should be consistency and you should not give the chance to the judicial courts or to the tribunal or to the Board which is to be formed to interpret this word adversely against the interest of the Government or of the intention of the legislature. This should be clarified at this stage.

Secondly, I feel that there is ambiguity in Sections 12 and 13. Section 12 says 'Without prejudice to the provisions of section 21 of the General Clauses Act, 1937, a detention order may, at any time, be revoked or modified'. It should not be in an arbitrary fashion. When once you have detained a person and you have come to the conclusion that there is an offence which has been committed under the provisions of this Act, then it becomes obligatory on the authority to be satisfied that these are the reasons that we are modifying the order or that we are revoking the order. When you are finally revoking the order, then there should be some extra evidence or further material with the officer

[Shri Ram Singh Yadav]

of the Government that you are revoking the order, that you are taking back the order. There must be some reasons for that. You have not mentioned those grounds. It should not be in arbitrary way or in a whimsical manner that whenever an officer wants, he may modify or revoke the order. You should have provided the various grounds in this Section. Similarly, in Section 13, you have provided that a person who has been detained by the State Government, can be released by the Union Government. Then, it will be quite inconsistent, when the person has been detained by the officer of the State Government or by the State Government itself, then without consulting the State Government or without the report of the State Government, the Union Government or the officer of the Union Government can release the Detenu. It means that it will be quite arbitrary that a person has been detained by the State Government and he can be released by the Union Government. So, there must be some reason for it also. You have not given the reasons as to why this power is to be taken by the Union Government. Section 13 says : "The Central Government may, at any time, direct that any person detained in pursuance of a detention order made by that Government or by an officer subordinate to that Government or by a State Government or by an officer subordinate to a State Government, may be released for any specified period either without conditions or upon such conditions . . ."

"The Central Government may at any time direct that any person detained in pursuance of the detention order by the Government may be released by an officer subordinate to a State Government."

It means that the Central Government or the Union Government has got the exclusive powers to release the detenu who has been detained by the State Government without consulting the State Government or without any reasons which have come to the notice of the Union Government. While interpreting this section in the courts, I feel that the court may take a view that this is

an arbitrary section and that the arbitrary powers have been taken over by the Union Government. It is not the exclusive function of the Union Government. A detenu who has been arrested or detained by a State Government, whether he should be released or detained the State Government should be given a chance to decide. The first priority is that of the State Government and the Union Government should not usurp the powers of the State Government. Therefore, it is very necessary to think over the provisions of this section once again.

Then, Sir, Section 14 says :

"No suit or other legal proceeding shall lie against the Central Government or a State Government and no suit or prosecution or other legal proceeding shall lie against any person for anything in good faith done or intended to be done in pursuance of this Act."

Now, I would like to know what is the necessity of saying 'intended to be done'. The judicial protection can be given to those persons who have actually taken the action but when you have not taken action how can protection be given to the officer or the concerned authority? When the commissioning of the act is not there or the act has not been performed, then there is no question of giving any protection, therefore, no need of saying, 'intended to be done'. Intended to be done means the act is not complete. The officer concerned may give the report that this person is indulging in trafficking of drugs or the psychotropic substances but his report is not substantial unless it has been materialised by detaining the person or by issuing the warrant or order against that person. So, this sort of protection cannot be given unless the act is complete.

Here I would like to say that there is one omission in this Act and *i.e.* how to rehabilitate the persons who are found indulging in drug trafficking.

13.57 h-s.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

I appreciate the steps taken by the Delhi Police in this connection. They have

set up a cell and they are trying to save the young people who have become drug addicts. This sort of provision, should have been provided in this Act also. If you want to save the younger generation who is becoming the drug addicts, who are indulging in drug trafficking then some rehabilitation facilities should be provided to them. Ours is a welfare state. So, when we are enacting a legislation some sort of rehabilitation facilities should be provided to the younger generation whom you want to be the better citizens of the country. So, I request the Hon. Minister that some sort of provisions should be included in this.

14.00 hrs.

Lastly, I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister that a very meager amount has been given for the implementation of the provisions of this Bill. Sir, in the Financial Memorandum appended to the Bill it is stated :

"It is however estimated that the recurring expenditure on the wing in the Ministry of Finance, the provision of facilities aforementioned and in connection with the Advisory Boards is not likely to exceed rupees ten lakhs per year."

Since this is a Central law, I feel that the Central Government should re-finance the State Governments for the expenditure involved in the implementation of the provisions of this Act. The nature of the offence is not confined to any one State and when the offence committed is of a national level, we expect the Union Government to re-finance the States. Therefore, it is necessary that not only the Union Territories and the concerned Ministry, but the States also should be financed in this regard.

It is also stated in the Financial Memorandum that the non-recurring expenditure on account of building and office equipment of the Wing referred to above is not likely to exceed rupees thirty lakhs. I feel this financial provision is also inadequate. Drug menace is so huge and it is so widely spread over all parts of the country. Therefore, sufficient financial provision should

be made while taking further steps for the implementation of the provisions of this Bill. The hon. Minister may make adequate financial provision by way of supplementary grants or by any other means or methods best known to him. He should see that the provisions of this Bill are implemented strictly and properly.

With these suggestions I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill. I also congratulate our hon. Prime Minister who has taken the initiative in this regard by declaring a 14-Point Programme because under this 14-Point Programme only, the hon. Minister has formulated this Bill and presented it in the House.

With these words, I appreciate the steps taken by the hon. Minister and I thank him for his initiative in piloting this Bill in this House.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : I wish I could congratulate the Minister for bringing a Bill on narcotics. Unfortunately, I am not in a position to do so. I have given notice of a Statutory Resolution opposing the ordinance as also the Bill. Unfortunately, in the melee that occurred today, because the Government have taken recourse to an unprecedented practice of introducing and passing the Defamation Bill on the very same day, the amendments were to be given within half an hour and the Statutory Resolution was called for at that time. In this melee, I could not take the advantage of moving my Resolution because as I had to go and give the amendment. Sir, let me put it on record that at least in future this sort of things should not be allowed.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : That has been done because the Opposition Members have opposed it.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Of course, yes. But the hon. Speaker should have very clearly and audibly mentioned that this Defamation Bill is going to be taken up at 3 O'clock and the Statutory Resolution would be moved now. Mr. Minister, what is the necessity of introducing and passing the Bill on the very same

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day ? Heavens would not fall if it were not done.

Now, coming back to this ordinance and the Bill on narcotics, the Minister concerned is a very serious man and he tries to take steps on various matters. I am not saying this as a mere formality. I have known him for a long time. But Sir, unfortunately I have to oppose this Bill because this Government—in which unfortunately he is a Minister—has got a panacea for everything, that is preventive detention. In Bengali there is a saying; he will understand it.

“Sharbe Rogo Hare Gaura”

Gaura can take away all kinds of evils—panacea. So this Government knows only one panacea for all the ailments. I think you might have also been in jail when we were in jail during the student movements. You might be knowing that in jail there were two kinds of medicines which were given and they are alba and carminative. For every kind of disorder, it is given. These were the two principal medicines which were given. Garminative is a little effective and alba is not at all effective. What is your solution to the present very serious situation on Narcotics ? Is it only alba, that is; the Preventive Detention Act ?

I would like to draw the attention to the fact that according to certain estimates, in 1980, the people who were addicted to drugs in our country were one lakh. Now it is around 10 lakhs. Within ten years, there is a ten-fold increase in drug addiction. What is happening to our youth ? I need not go into it. Everybody is feeling that an absolutely deplorable situation has been created. On the one hand, it is the narcotic addiction situation prevailing inside our country and on the other hand, it is the narcotics trade which is prevailing. According to the latest report of INTERPOL, this year, the production of narcotics in the countries of golden triangle, that is, Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan is to the tune of 15 tonnes to 18 tonnes. 90 per cent of this production has to pass through India, particularly, Delhi. This is what

INTERPOL thinks. It is really a very serious situation. What is really standing in the way of effective curb ? I will come back to the question of drug addicts later on. But first of all, I would like to take up the question of catching those people who are involved in such big narcotic trafficking. Is it because there is no preventive detention that they are not being caught ? I quote from a very long Report which appeared sometime in the month of February in the *Time of India* about narcotics. I will quote only two paragraphs. It is about the Narcotics Bureau and other agencies who deal with them, what they know and what they do not know, etc. It says :

“HIT LIST : Persons on the “hit list” of various law enforcement agencies include Surinder Mehta of Vasant Vihar, Jamil Khan and Khalil of the Jama Masjid area; Kuldip Singh of Greater Kailash-II (who, it is claimed does most of his business from Imperial Hotel) with his Bombay associate, Vijay Manjarekar, Jang Bahadur Rana of Mukherjee Nagar and Hastimal Jain, who runs a hardware shop in Ajmeri Gate”.

All these are well-known to the Enforcement Agencies.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Where from is this report ?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : It is from Times of India. . . February. It is an investigative report about Narcotic trade. It is a very long report.

Now I will quote the next paragraph.

Enforcement sleuths do not hesitate to disclose these names since they have been identified in at least ten major heroin cases (where each consignment was of a minimum of 10 kgs.). ,

Now, since all these are known, why could they not be caught ? Was it because there was no Preventive Detention Act ? The next part of the sentence says : “these persons are still absconding . . .” So, that is why they could not be caught. If they are still absconding and they cannot be

caught because they are still absconding, how is your Preventive Detention Act going to help, in those circumstances? How can they remain absconding? Firstly, how are the existing laws being enforced; and in those laws, without going into the Preventive Detention aspect, can something more be done? I think surely much more can be done. Take, for example, summary and speedy trials. Where are your special courts? You can have any number of such courts, and any number of summary trials. We will fully support you.

Capital punishment has been referred to here. I fully agree with you on it. Have you confiscated their property? Have you made these offences non-bailable? That can be done, if you have such offences which are non-bailable. They can be made non-bailable.

Then about destruction of the drugs seized publicly. Has it ever been done? No. Suggestions which really would make a serious attempt for implementing or strengthening the punitive laws on this score are galore. A lot of suggestions have been made to the Minister concerned on some occasions earlier. They have also been floated publicly. But the situation remains like this—not because, as I said, preventive detention is not there.

Now there is a great deal of confusion with regard to enforcement agencies. Some people are saying that a very peculiar situation has arisen in relation to enforcement agencies, *i.e.* instead of cooperating with each other in nabbing the smugglers, at times they refuse to do so. Why? They say it is so because in that case the incentive for catching will be distributed among many. So, each wants to get the incentive in his own domain. So, the Narcotics Bureau is being blamed by the Delhi Police, that the former is not doing its job; and the Delhi Police is being blamed by the Narcotics Bureau for not doing its job. This is the whole gamut of the situation. What steps are being taken to tackle this situation? What steps have been taken to create such a machinery inside the Delhi Police, which will not just give such lame excuses, *e.g.* "We do not have enough people; we cannot follow up." etc.? Have

we really thought about this seriously? What is the position? So far as my knowledge goes, nothing special, no special steps have been taken.

So far as Narcotics Bureau also is concerned, what steps have been taken? The Minister knows much better than I do not that he deals with heroin himself personally, but because it is his domain, to furnish us information. One Kg. of this demand thing costs Rs. 1 crore. And there are 100 Kgs. in each case. One hundred Kgs. mean Rs. 100 crores. So, it comes to hundreds of crores now. Crores and crores are involved in this matter. So, you know the big network? that they have spread; what is your network? You come out with a fine Bill which says that those who do such and things will be put under the Preventive Detention Act, without an advisory board recommendations, etc. Is this a serious attitude towards such a serious matter? I believe the Minister wants to be serious. Probably, his department has made him to understand like this: "This is the panacea. Please do this; and then we will take action." Or else, there is lot of criticism already and you have to save your own skin. This Preventive Detention is brought in to show everybody, that "Now, we are catching them". This is my impression. Secondly about the question of . . . (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur): I am not a criminal practitioner, he knows that. (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: Law is not at all my subject. It is only common sense that I speak from. Also, about the Preventive Detention Act, I cannot forget that I was put under the Preventive Detention Act on a charge that I was leading a Santhal rebellion, when I had hardly seen a Santhal in my life! I do remember how the Preventive Detention Acts are normally operated upon. That is all political. But then all the PD Acts can be that way misused. That will not better the situation.

Then, about this question of boys, particularly youth. Really, today everybody says it, I myself gave an estimate,

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everybody knows how it is increasing. But I must say my experience shows that it is very difficult really to get at curative centres to deal with this problem. You know, it is very difficult to treat a boy keeping him in the house because it is such a delicate operation. You cannot take a *danda* and beat him. So, very careful and solicitous attitude and a scientific way of dealing alone can cure an addict. How many centres are there? Even in Delhi it is very difficult to find out, let alone the sub-divisional towns and all those places. The most important thing is, if you want to save our youth really is to go in for very scientific and simple institutes all over the country and for all that the biggest thing that you require is really a combined effort of all against this kind of offences, dealing with the narcotics.

Your Bill does not deal with them. How are you going to create such a situation? Nor does it deal with the questions of the present laws and how you will implement them seriously, how you will improve upon your machinery, which is very very ineffective now. How are you going to put up with these crores and crores of rupees if there is some nexus between the 'people with high powers' and those down below in sharing the business, and how are you going to get at them? None of these things are dealt with in your Bill. This, as I said, probably as far as you are concerned, is a statutory bill, but as far as democracy is concerned it is a dangerous bill. I hope you will turn to the real problem and get at it and really try to build such a machinery taking everybody's suggestions into consideration, and do not insist on this Preventive Detention cover being passed.

SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH (Inner Manipur) : Mr. Chairman, I support this Bill. It is a welcome measure. The statement of objects and reasons makes it very clear that the existing legislative, administrative and other preventive measures are not sufficient to completely eliminate the trafficking of drugs and the psychotropic substances, and hence the Ordinance.

I support the circumstances under which the Ordinance and the Bill have

been brought. This Bill has given a place to my State which is on the Indo-Burma border. The State of Manipur and also that of Mizoram are exposed to this very dangerous Indo-Burma border. I make a few observations on this Bill, particularly the drug menace which poses a serious threat, that is more serious than the threat to the future of civilization.

Sir, confining my remarks to my own region, where the economic position, and social framework of the societies are well-knit, the impact of this drug menace has been very great. People have become rich overnight and we do not know who are the people involved. They may be traders, smugglers, etc. but the most important category of people involved in this trafficking, I think, is the officers in the Police organisation, BSF and security personnel employed in the border areas. I am not putting a blanket blame on the police organisation. They are having very good officers. But there are some blacksheeps in that organisation, BSF and security personnel working in the border areas. If we cannot put a stop to the activity of this category of people, then perhaps it will be very difficult to stop drug trafficking in the border areas. Now, it has been mentioned that preventive detention will be meted out to persons involved in this trafficking. Sir, the State Government under proper monitoring of the Central Government has to work effectively to put up a stop on the involvement of the police officials. It is interesting to point out that high police officials cannot control their children now in my area Mizoram and in the adjoining areas, because, as many of the Members observed, there is no public destruction of seized drugs. So, the reasonable suspicion is that seized materials have gone to the pockets of the police officials. Then naturally they are themselves involved in the threat. The other aspect is that they cannot control their children. They steal these materials from their father's pockets. Without stopping this, merely stopping other elements will not be sufficient.

The other aspect with which we are concerned is that there appears to be an international design in this drug trafficking. UNESCO mentioned that all the nations

are suffering from this threat, all the young people are threatened and their future hopes are being threatened. Now, in this general context of universal menace, we have to reach certain international design to confice the drug threat, which is prevalent in under-developed and developing countries like India. We have seen that India is a very convenient transit and in the borders we have of course seen prominent places either from Pakistan side or from the seashore or Burma, China, Butan—all these are gateways. Firstly, we have to shut these gateways. Secondly, we have to educate the youth by involving the Universities, various educational institutions, religious organisations, clubs and social organisations. That will be one aspect.

The other aspect will be rehabilitation. In very critical moments, when a parent is threatened by his child of his becoming drug addict, the first thing he does is to send him to jail, whether he gets relief or not, whether he gets rehabilitation or preventive measures or not because the child starts stealing everything, even small things in the house. And he does not stop because he has to meet the demand of his addiction. So the first thing the parent does is to send him to jail. There we have now a phrase that the police people have got a relief medicine known as number five. Heroin is number four which is taken by the boy and then he is sent to the jail. The moment he goes to the police station, the policeman says, here is a boy with number four. The voice comes from the other side, bring number five. Number five is lathi, a very strong lathi. The first treatment the boy gets from the police is lathi. In fact, some of the precious boys have been almost physically invalidated, tortured. They have been rendered physically unfit and invalid. But there was no way out. But this measure is not sufficient. What I would like to emphasis upon is that rehabilitation is a very important measure. The other day, a Christian missionary organisation from Calcutta worked in our area—Manipur—Mizoram area. They collected lot of money. The parents were very happy that some voluntary rehabilitation agency has come. Then overnight it was found that the official incharge had taken away all the money and then ran away. That means, there is a danger of exposing these rehabi-

litation measures to private and voluntary organisations. But the parents would like to send their drug addict children anywhere so that they get some relief. I would like to request the Government of India to monitor this aspect where the danger has been most seriously felt and in particular in border areas like north-eastern areas. And it should take up this matter with the Governments there. Then, I think, the rehabilitation aspect will save at least the affected people.

Another aspect which I would like to mention is that the Narcotics Commission under UNESCO in one of its meetings had found that terrorists activities generally or in most cases are linked with drug trafficking. And this is very true. I am speaking to some extent from my experience also because it is the easiest way to get money for gun running and other activities of the terrorists. On the one hand, they get this money quickly and on the other, by use of these drugs they can influence younger boys, mostly teenagers so that they are free from the control of their parents and they are out of control of the schools and colleges. So the terrorist are using this drug trafficking for two reasons—in order to capture younger people who are vulnerable sections of the population. Then the other side is, easy money. So in order to stop the terrorists to get easy money from this, we have also to see that the terrorists are not merely controlled but their activities in this respect are also to be controlled. This is to be done by safeguarding the borders. By borders, I do not mean the international borders, but the inter-state borders, the jungle infested borders where people can work, terrorists training, etc. and they can go freely from one place to another without the detection of police and other such people. So, I would like to make this suggestion that the Government of India should take special care of this.

Another point that I would like to make is that our media, our All India Radio and Television should make good programmes on this. So far we have seen that certain playlets, certain programmes which aim at removing the love for these drugs, sometimes fascinate young people to have a taste of the drug. The programmes are so produced that rather than having

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positive effect, they create a negative effect. So, I would suggest that the media, the TV and the All India Radio should make suitable programmes which will have positive effect on the younger people so that they will be just repelled from this drug addiction.

Another aspect is that as we propagate family welfare, family planning, why should we not attack this drug problem with similar seriousness, with similar magnitude of our programmes? If we do so, then I think we shall be able to check our generation from getting wiped out by this drug menace. With these few words, I support this Bill.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati):
Mr. Chairman, Sir, though I have got no quarrel with the objectives of the Bill, still I am unable to support the Bill because I feel that the Bill is self-defeating. A preventive detention cannot solve the problem for which the Bill has been intended to be brought. There is no doubt that the drug abuse has become one of the greatest problems in this country. Everyone, who has a young boy or a girl in his or her home is feeling uncomfortable because the menace is growing. I will not go into the statistics which have already been cited by a number of friends. Up to a few years back, this problem virtually did not exist in this country—the problem of drug abuse in the younger generation. We had the problems even during our independence movement. In Assam for example, a large percentage of people used to take opium, it was a part of the Congress movement itself by which this bad habit was eradicated. This problem was a problem of the affluent in the West it has now touched us. Up-till a few years back, narcotics or psychotropic substances used to pass through our country but the domestic consumption was very limited. But those who are dealing with these substances had found that a goldmine of domestic market is available, and today the younger generation has become afflicted by it. Still I believe that it is in a controllable stage. But once this grows, I do not think we will be able to control it. because however you may say, even a country like

America, with all its resources, with all its efforts, has not been able to control the drug abuse. One who has gone to America, experiences it. I was in New York a number of years back and the first advice I was given in the evening was that: "Carry only five dollars in your pocket. Don't go to any side alleys, move in the street and come back before dark because it may be that if you have more than five dollars and if you face a drug addict, then you may lose ten dollars, and if you do not have any money, he will say what type of a man you are that you do not have in your pocket something to contribute to my bad habit." So, I do not think preventive detention is the answer. This is the second preventive detention law that Government has introduced, so far as this subject is concerned. The earlier preventive detention law related to smuggling, and the greatest problem regarding narcotics and this type of substances arises out of smuggling—smuggling from two areas; one is known to be the golden triangle and the other is the golden crescent. I would like to know how many preventive detention cases have been instituted since the Act was passed in 1974 to prevent smuggling? Now, if we have not been able to prevent smuggling through the Preventive Detention laws, how are you going to solve this problem by passing Preventive laws to deal with those persons who deal with this substance inside the country? The statistics will show that in spite of passing the Preventive Detention Law in 1974, smuggling is increasing manifold because it is not through the Preventive Detention laws that this problem can be solved. Even assuming there is no abuse of this Detention law which empowers for a detention of one year and in some cases for six months, I am apposed to the Preventive Detention itself because my learned friends just now spoke about the abuses or the corruption at different levels. Sir, today it is known that there is large arms trade going on in this country and one source through which this arms trade is going on is through the defence personnel or the former armed personnel. There was a newspaper report some time back that in the North-Eastern regions the extremists are getting arms through the former defence personnel. In fact, I can tell you, Mr. Chairman, that only a few days back, in

Tezpur, some persons in full uniform were carrying three boxes of arms and one reason or the other they were asked "what are you carrying in these boxes?". Unfortunately, those persons told "we carrying liquor bottles. They were asked "kindly give us one bottle of liquor". When the person asked him for a liquor bottle, he was hesitant. Then the person said "if you don't give me one, I am going to open it". These persons disappeared immediately and it was found that the boxes contained arms. Of course, I must say that the Tezpur town was surrounded and in the night all the persons were arrested. I had the privileges of submitting similar information to the House under Rule 377 when it was also pointed out that a strong operation of arms supply between North-Eastern extremists and the rest of the country are going on through the arms personnel and, therefore, this type of corruption exists. It is not my intention to blame everyone, but the fact remains that it does exist. Preventive Detention has a tendency of getting into the corruption rather than preventing the abuses for which we are bringing this law. I believe that what is necessary is, on the one hand, a strong publicity campaign and my friend Mr. Tombi Singh has just now referred to some of the films shown in the T.V. But the repercussion of it has been in both ways. There is one comment that tendency of the young is always to do something which is adventurous and in these films things have been projected in such a manner that you know where you get these products and where you get these narcotics. The tendency has been to procure it and taste it and then become the slave of the habit. Therefore, the publicity campaign should be carried on in such a manner that such a type of tendency does not develop in the minds of younger generation.

The second point I would like to know is that after all if we want to prevent it, then there must be cooperation with our neighbouring countries. We were told only a few days ago by Mr. Chidambaram that discussions were taking place between Pakistan and India, and Nepal and India, regarding how this abuse can be met. If there is a large quantity of production both in the golden triangle and in the

golden crescent, obviously, in some way or the other it is abused through India. These people will not mind being in preventive detention for six months, one year or six years. If one gets one crore, one will not mind being in jail and they know that those who are the real smugglers never remain in jail. They lead a life of a king. This is a known fact that the smugglers have been arrested and they have life of their own in jails. We know about Mr. Charles Shobraj. How he was arrested and it was told or it was reported that he used to get presents from outside. Now, I think, political prisoners cannot get presents from outside in the manner in which Mr. Charles Shobraj used to get. Therefore, even if you arrest some one under the preventive detention and keep him in custody for six months. If he is able to give Rs. 10 lakhs he can lead a life of his own inside the prison. We know that those who are in preventive detention—smugglers and others—they go out in the night and come back in the morning. Even TV sets are within their reach. So, prevention detention is not the answer. The answer is a much more wider approach to this problem.

Today an affluent country like America is trying its best and you must learn lessons. Now, I do not know what concerted efforts the Government is making in that direction, and I feel that today we produce it ourselves, I think, in about 25,000 acres or something, there are cultivations of this type of substance in 25,000 acres of our own home land. (*Interruptions*). Yes, under licence by the Government. Now, the consideration is, what the farmers will do if the production is stopped. When drug abuse leads to such irresponsible damage, then I feel that the farmers must be given sufficiently alternative modes of living and cultivation of all substances from which drug be manufactured stopped. If we do not prevent production here in this country, how we can ask a country like Pakistan to stop its production even if we want to? Therefore, I believe that this preventive detention law which is being brought into existence will only lead to misuse, will not solve the problem at all. The problem has much larger dimension than it is sought to be solved through a mere preventive detention law, and the

[Shri Dinesh Goswami]

tendency of the Government—and it is a very dangerous tendency—is to bring more and more preventive detention laws because preventive detention laws are against the very fundamental principles of rule of law and democracy. And even in the preventive detention law we have made provisions that in some cases, the cases are not to be referred even to the Advisory Committee. If you have no ground, then you should not detain a person even under preventive detention. And if you have grounds, then why you are hesitant to send it to the Advisory Committee, a minimum protection that is given under the preventive detention law?

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : That is provided.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : No, in some cases even without referring it to the Advisory Committee you can keep a person behind the bars for six months which, I think, is against all canons of democratic principles and democratic behaviour.

A very important point was made by a large number of friends asking 'What about the treatment of the persons who have become victims? In fact, when the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Bill was passed in 1985 when it came into an Act, there was a specific provision regarding this in Section 4 to deal with this problem. It says, 'Identification, protection, education, aftercare, rehabilitation and social re-integration of addicts'. This was one of the objectives mentioned in the Act of 1985. Now, today it is 1988, virtually we have come to the later part of 1988. And I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many institutes he has opened, what type of facilities do one have for the purpose of identification, treatment, or education, aftercare, rehabilitation of these addicts. It is because even I can tell you that one of my friends wrote to me about a case and I could not refer that to him any known institution which is in a position to take a person. There should be, I think a propaganda machinery. It is not that I should enquire and find out. It should be just before the eye of the people

that if somebody is a victim of it, here is an institution, a recognised institution, where this type of care and protection can take place. And therefore, my submission, Mr. Chairman—and I would not like to take much time—is, the remedy which is sought for by this Bill is worse than the disease. This is a very difficult problem, a problem which even the affluent countries have not been able to tackle. But still probably this is a problem which we are in a state where we can tackle because the problem has only touched the urban educational centres primarily, it has not gone deep to the poverty stricken people because in America the problem is with the educated youths and also with the black people, one resulting from affluence and the other resulting from frustration. Today it is still limited, even if it is a few lakhs compared to the total population of this country, of the youth, and I feel that it is in a state where we can tackle it, but not by such a law. An integrated policy perspective is required to solve this problem and we have not seen an integrated policy programme, in fact I do not think that the Minister of Finance is the competent Minister to deal with this problem, the problem is to be tackled by some other Ministry, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Human Resources in addition to the Ministry of Finance.

If you leave it to the Department of Revenue only, or to the measure of preventive detention, then I do not think, we will go far and what is why, in spite of the fact that we want that this problem to be tackled, I cannot support the Bill.

[Translation]

SHRI MANOJ PANDEY (Betia) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I whole-heartedly support the Prevention of Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs And Psychotropic Substances Bill, 1988 presented by the hon. Minister Shri A.K. Panja in this House. This Bill is mainly meant for the persons who indulge in illicit trafficking. In my view the intention of the Government behind this Bill is very clear and it will be rather better to term these provision as stringent. As it is very clear from the definition I welcome the provision of *suo-moto* detention of

persons recommended by the State Government on the Central Government in the Bill. Whatever points have been mentioned by Shri Dinesh Goswami regarding this Bill mean that he is against provision of preventive detention because according to him this illicit trafficking cannot be checked by this preventive detention. If we see in Golden triangle, we will find a clear route of Golden Crescent. If we take the route of Nepal and Raksol which is also known by the name of Gate way of India and which is my constituency and in my view illicit trafficking which takes place through Nepal has a fixed route and I believe that Departmental officials also are fully aware of it that this route cannot be changed, even then we prove to be so inefficient on the route which is used for illicit trafficking. As it is mentioned that the officers entrusted with the job of checking the smuggling activities misuse the powers vested in them and consequently there is more smuggling of narcotics or psychotropic drugs. I agree with this that there can be a reason of prevention behind this nexus between officials and drug traffickers but if we deeply go through the provision regarding detention, we may feel that if a person is kept behind the bars for one and a half or two years he may not remember that route after that duration. In my view if the king-pin involved in the smuggling of Narcotics or Psychotropic Drugs is isolated for one or two years, it would certainly affect his smuggling activities to a great extent. Many groups are involved in this and this trade is not practiced by a particular group only. Each group is assigned with different jobs and everything is done in a very planned manner. There is a separate group whose job is to carry these drugs from one place to another. There are other groups for loading and transport purposes. The groups accompanying the jeeps are different and there is a separate group going with trucks. They possess arms, amunition etc. Many groups are involved in this drug trafficking. It is not a single man's job. I agree that trafficking in drugs cannot be stopped by detaining person. The most important thing in this Bill is that we should see it in totality and not in isolation. Many good things have been incorporated in this Bill. I also welcome the provision regarding Advisory Board,

I may submit that no provision has been made in this Bill about the composition of Advisory Board. It has not been incorporated in it that how the Advisory Board would be set up. This should have been done. Only the name of Advisory Board has been mentioned. Although responsibilities of State Governments and Central Government have been fixed but no details have been given as to who will be the members of the Board and what functions it will perform. I would therefore request the hon. Minister to throw some light in this aspect.

The second most important aspect is the custom station. It is very good that it has been defined but it should be broad based. We all know that there are many such loopholes between one custom station and the other custom station which give the officers an opportunity to take undue advantage of the loopholes. People who indulge in smuggling of narcotics, take advantage of the loopholes while crossing over the boarders. The criteria should be fixed in regard to the distance between the two custom stations. Wherever there are any over-lappings in this regard, efforts should be made to remove them. There must be such cases, where they take advantage of it to cross over the boarder of the country.

Third and the most important thing about which detained information should have been furnished to us through this Bill, has not been given in it. It is about sub-clause 3, 5 and 6 of clause 3. We do know the type of people who come forward to get the man under detention released on bail or on sureties. It is my conviction that such a man is not a family member of the person for whom he stands surety or demands bail to get him released. Instead, he happens to be the member of that very gang whose man is already under detention. We also release such man on his bond and sureties to enable him to take up smuggling again. It should be provided that a man who stands bond or personal surety to get a detenue released, should be first identified. We should look to it as to who is coming forward to furnish the bond or stand surety and is prepared to give the highest sureties. I think that such a man

[Shri Manoj Pandey]

is himself a member of the smuggling gang. To this effect, nothing has been said in this Bill. I would like to know from Hon. Minister through you whether Government propose to make some provision in this Bill regarding the identification and recognition of this man so that information can be had about the man who has furnished heavy bonds or heavy sureties to get a man under detention released. If he happens to be a member of his family, information about his profession outside must be obtained otherwise every detained man will get released on bail. When a man is released on bail, he is found absconding on the date when he is to present himself before the Magistrate. Many such cases have come to your notice where a detained man who has been released on bail or surety and against whom prima-facie case has not been established, is found absconding when he is, later on, summoned to appear before the court. There are many such cases and I would like to know the exact number of such cases pending in the courts. I want to have a specific and categorical information in this regard from the hon. Minister. Regarding the man absconding at the time of his summon, there is only one provision of forfeiture of the property of the such a man who had stood surety. It is a very ordinary provision and we all know that when somebody jumps the bail, police acts to forfeit his property and the whole department is mobilised which takes away all his belongings from his house but the smugglers keep a little at their homes, what can be found from their houses and also what is found at the house of the man who stands surety and what do the police remove from his house, is known to all of us. They present only a piece of the door frame and try to show that it was all seized during the raid. There is a great collusion in it. It is my request that there should be a specific provision of penalty for the man who stands surety or has furnished a bond. The penalty has not been specified here. I am speaking of clause (13) 6. You have not specified any penalty in it. Try to specify that such and such penalty will be imposed on that man. Similarly, you have mentioned about 13 (5). I am just quoting it,

[English]

"If any person fails without sufficient cause to surrender himself in the manner specified in sub-section (4), he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both."

[Translation]

Sir, simple detention of two years will not make any difference to him. This term should be increased to five years so that he may realise that he cannot come out before completing his term of five years. I do not know why there has been such a discrepancy in this regard. Had the term of two years been enough, he would have left his illegal indulgence. Such people are not scared of law. Therefore, I think that their detention for a period of one year, two years or six months will make no difference to them. I have made two or three suggestions. I would like the hon. Minister to cover them in his reply to the discussion held on the Bill.

Sir, the most important thing mentioned here relates to T.V. serials which lay greater stress on the sources of drugs. In these serials, a lot of time is devoted to show the ways and sources of obtaining narcotic drugs. What I mean to say, is that we should lay more stress on and give wider coverage to the adverse effects of drug consumption and its toxicity. Telecasting the ways of obtaining it, will merely increase the incidence of its use.

15.00 hrs.

The most important thing involved in it is a socio-economic factor. I want to mention the fact that price of 1 kg. of narcotics is Rs. one crore. Sir, this fact should also be kept in view that a big gap is seen in its prices when it is smuggled from one border to the other. It should also be seen that there is such a wide gap between the prices.

These are a few things which need your attention.

15.01 hrs.

DEFAMATION BILL

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we take up the Defamation Bill, as was announced earlier.

Mr. Chidambaram.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CAIDAMBARAM) : Sir, I beg to move :

"That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): The amendments have not been circulated.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : The law of defamation is at present contained in sections 499 to 502 of Chapter XXI of the Indian Penal Code . . .

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool): Sir, I rise on a point of order. He has moved the motion that the Bill be taken into consideration. I am rising on a point of order. The Bill should have been circulated at least two days earlier . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : This was decided already in the morning by the Speaker. Why are you starting it again ?

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Let me make my submission.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : He cannot raise it now. He could have raised before the ruling was given.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot raise it now.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : The right to move amendments has been practically denied . . .

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : A few days ago I was not allowed to raise . . .

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : It was because that was a State subject.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these points were made earlier and the Speaker has given his ruling.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Earlier, Mr. Madhav Reddi spoke at the time of introduction of the Bill. Now, this point arises when the Minister has moved that the Bill be taken into consideration. Till then, this does not arise and no ruling can be deemed to have been given. What was moved at that time was the motion seeking leave of the House to introduce the Bill. Mr. Madhav Reddi raised a preliminary objection to the introduction of the Bill. With regard to this motion, namely, that the Bill be taken into consideration, my submission is this : we had practically no opportunity to move amendments . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : In the House the Speaker has already given the ruling.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : I am on a point of order. The Bill requires circulation two days earlier . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these points were raised and the Speaker has given the ruling.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : My point arises when he has moved that the Bill be taken into consideration. Till then it does not arise. This is the appropriate time to raise the point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these points were raised at the time of introduction.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : I did not raise it. Mr. Madhav Reddi also did not raise it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no point of order. The Minister will continue.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Let me make my submission, Sir,

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have heard in detail.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : You have not heard me at all. I have not completed it.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY (Nalganda) : He has not yet completed his point of order.

SHRI H.A. DORA (Srikakulam) : This point has not been raised earlier. Please hear him and then you give your ruling.

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : The Minister has already introduced the Bill and started . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are not having a Point of Order. He is having it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Actually, this matter came up when the Motion for leave to introduce the Bill came up at 1230 hours and leave was granted. Now this is to move the amendments. Now according to rules, only when there is a motion to move the Bill for consideration, amendments are allowed. But this came up at 1230 hours. Where is the time given for us to move the amendment to this Bill ? This Bill consists of four chapters and about 20 clauses. This is intended to amend the Criminal Procedure Code, the Indian Penal Code and has got reference to . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We know those things.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : You may know it. We do not know. I am on the point. I tabled a number of amendments and they have not been admitted. They have not been circulated . . . *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no Point of Order.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Let me say. Shri Amal Datta has certain amend-

ments. But we do not have the time to read those amendments. Where is the time given to any of the Members ? First and foremost, the amendments moved by me have not been circulated. And there is no time limit as to when we can move the amendments. There was no sufficient time given for the Members to move amendments. Amendments already tabled were not circulated to the Members. We are just now receiving the amendments tabled by Mr. Amal Datta and the amendments moved by me are not circulated to any of the Members. Where is the time for us to consider those amendments ? What is the difficulty in having this Bill taken up tomorrow or day after ? Why should we be hurried that too, in the midst of consideration of the another Bill ? *(Interruptions)* When the Bill is being considered, why should you have this procedure ? What is the big hurry about it ? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : In the morning, the Hon Speaker has given a ruling that amendments may be tabled up to 1300 hours today and the Bill may be taken up for consideration and passing at 1500 hours today.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : I am on a Point of Order. There is no condition that it should not be circulated. The amendments should be circulated in time. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am giving my ruling on the Point or Order raised by the Hon. Minister Shri Ayyapu Reddy. Please hear me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : So far as amendments are concerned, according to rules, amendments become relevant and the moving of the amendments will arrive only after he has moved the motion. He is moving it at 3 O' clock. You do not even allow us to move our amendments. You cannot rule out amendments being tabled by us. Is there any precedent which prevents the tabling of amendments ? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Hon. Speaker has said that the amendments may be tabled up to 1300 hours.

(Interruptions)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Under what provision of the rules ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Half-an-hour is given to table the amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am coming to that.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : How can the right of the members to move the amendments be taken away ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : As far as your amendment is concerned it was received at 1340 hours. It was received after the time allotted. So it is time-barred.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Although I had given two amendments only one amendment has been circulated.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Those amendments which have been received within the time-allotted have been circulated.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : The hon. Speaker and set the time-limit to 1400 hours. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Acharia, I find, your amendment has been circulated. You please see. It is already there. I find the amendment of Mr. Ayyapu Reddy is also there. Those amendments which were received in time are already there.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Let it be taken up tomorrow. Why is the Government in such a hurry ?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : (Guwahati) : Sir, I find in the statement of objects and reasons the Minister has referred to the Law Commission's report. Then I find this Bill covers the entire Defamation Act. So what is the hurry in passing this Bill ? Is it that heavens are

going to fall if this Bill is not passed today? What is the difficulty if we take it up tomorrow ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : Sir, I have two points to make. First, the Bill was circulated to all the members last week. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I got the Bill today from the Distribution Branch.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Secondly, Sir, this morning, it was decided that Members will give their amendments by 1.00 p.m. They will be circulated and we will start discussion at 3.00 p.m. I don't know why they have to discuss this all over again. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : What is the hurry ? Why can't it be taken up tomorrow *(Interruptions)* What is this ? *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Sir, don't allow them to hold the House to ransom.

AN HON. MEMBER : You are holding the House to ransom. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Bill was circulated last week itself.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : If you want to run the House, run it. *(Interruptions)* If you do not want our cooperation, we will not cooperate. *(Interruptions)* We will not allow the Bill to be taken up today. If you want to pass it without our cooperation, let us see how you do it.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : It is you who are not cooperating. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : What is this ? *(Interruptions)* How many Members of your party have gone through the Bill ? *(Interruptions)* What is the reason for doing away with the rules ?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY (Katnea): We want the Minister to explain. What is the hurry that this should be passed today? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What is the reason for hurry? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can go by the decision of the House and the ruling of the Speaker.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Why are you passing it today (*Interruptions*) Don't create such precedents. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: The Bill can wait till tomorrow and you can pass it in a congenial atmosphere. (*Interruptions*) There is one copy of Law Commission's report available. How many Members can go through it?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear me... (*Interruptions*) . . . This could have been objected when the Speaker gave his decision and ruling. You have not. How can you go back upon the decision of the House? . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . It is already decided in the morning.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: There was only one copy available.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: Sir, shall I say something?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You hear the Minister speaking. The Minister is saying about this.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: Please listen to me. I cannot shout beyond voice. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: Why have you to pass it today? (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: If the hon. Members were not able to go through

whatever they want, to go through within five days, I don't think that they can go through it within one day. But we can continue the discussion on this tomorrow and those Members who are not willing to speak, can speak tomorrow. I do not know the reason why we should not start the Bill now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We can start the discussion and proceed as the Minister suggests.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: We can continue tomorrow. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some of you can speak tomorrow as the Minister says. We can start the discussion today and continue tomorrow.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: It is a very indecent way. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: If you can bear with me for a few minutes . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . Please listen to me. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI: If he can satisfy that the Bill will be . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . Let him satisfy me. Then I have no objection.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY: Is some big scandal coming tomorrow? What is the hurry now? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: If the Government can wait till tomorrow for passing the Bill in this House, then why can't they start the discussion tomorrow? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN (Alleppey): The issue was raised in the morning. They cannot raise the subject now. The speaker has given his ruling. How can they raise objection now? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: With great respect to hon. Members, I do not know why we should get excited about this.

As far as I know, the Bill was circulated last week . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . Why don't you listen to me? It is quite possible that some Members who may have gone back to their constituencies may not have seen this Bill. But the fact remains that the Bill was circulated. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You take your seat.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: The Speaker also told in the morning that it was circulated from the Parliament and not from the Government.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sheilaji and I just wanted to say that the Speaker has said that the debate will commence at three O'clock. From past experience, we know that the debate is not likely to be concluded in the time that is usually reserved for the debate. It is not likely to be concluded. We are not asking that you sit late in the evening. It is now already half-past three. Let me make my speech. Let a couple of Members speak and then the debate will certainly go on tomorrow. What is the problem, I cannot understand? (*Interruptions*)

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : We have to go through the report.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : There is a ruling. So, let us start the debate. (*Interruptions*)

This is most reasonable; I cannot understand why there is such unreasonable attitude.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, in the Part-II Bulletin the time allotted is half-an-hour and now the Minister says that it can be discussed today and tomorrow also. So, why not discuss it tomorrow itself? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am sorry that you have not gone through the decision arrived at in the morning.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, only half-an-hour time was

allotted. Why not discuss it tomorrow itself?

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is already a decision in this regard.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am on a point of order. If a Bill can wait till tomorrow for being passed, why cannot we start discussion tomorrow? Why should the discussion start today only?

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : Sir, it was there in today's Order Paper. You kindly go through the ruling.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Speaker gave the ruling in the morning.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: This is the decision of the House. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I am sure you have studied it Somnathji (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : My fundamental points is that I have tabled certain amendments to the clauses and they were received in the Notice Office. I myself went and delivered them at 1.45. They have not been circulated; they have not been allowed and they have not been disallowed. Now, I am saying under what rule . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: You cannot question the ruling of the Speaker. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Let me make my point. It is not right, it is something . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The time is not given.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : What I am complaining of is not only individual right in this particular case but the right of every Member of Lok Sabha belonging either to that side or this side. It is our right to table the amendment to any clause

[Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy]

at any time when it is taken up for consideration. The right arises when that particular clause comes. You can move an amendment at that time even orally. There is no limitation placed upon the right of a Member to move an amendment. Now that has been disallowed. They cannot disallow it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Where are the amendments moved by Mr. Ayyapu Reddy ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : The Hon. Minister may himself come forward with an amendment. Can he prevented from doing that ? The right of a Member to move an amendment to certain clause is inherent and there can be no limitation placed upon it. The only thing is that they must conform to the particular rule, that the amendment must have the particular characteristics mentioned in the rules. When those amendments are in order, they cannot be thrown out simply because they have not been tabled at some time fixed by somebody or for that matter even by the Speaker. It was not intended for that. (*Interruptions*) I draw your attention to Rules 74 and 75. Kindly see what Rule 74 says :

" . . . no such motion shall be made until after copies of the Bill have been made available for the use of members,"

Please note the words 'use of members'. Merely saying that the Bill has been circulated is not enough. In the name of circulation, throwing them somewhere is not enough.

The rule further reads :

" . . . and that any member may object to any such motion being made unless copies of the Bill have been so made available for two days before the day on which the motion is made . . . "

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN: You have got it three days back.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : I am sorry to hear this from a senior member

like Shri Vekkom. This rule is intended to enable the member to go through the Bill and to understand it. The object of giving two days is for this purpose and here two days means two working days.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have been repeating the same thing. What is new in it ? There are many instances when the Bill was taken the same day and also passed on the same day.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : It was done with the consent of the House. It can be done only if there is consensus in the House. Show me one instance when a Bill is passed on the same day in spite of stiff opposition from the opposition members like this. Show me just one instance when the Bill has been passed on the same day inspite of opposition from the opposition. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are saying the same thing.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Let me be allowed to complete.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have permitted you. But you are repeating the same thing. You are not saying anything new.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Please allow me to say sentences. Just listen. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it has been mentioned that the Law Commission has recommended certain things in its report. During the last two holidays, when can a member go and get the Law Commission's Report ? Is it possible for us to get the report on Saturday and Sunday ? It is also stated that a Bill on these lines was discussed in 1978. Is it possible for us to go through the discussions held in 1978 ? The purpose of giving two days' time is to enable the members to understand the provisions of the Bill. Is the parliamentary process itself to be made into a mockery ? Now, I may also draw your attention to Rule 75.

MR. CHAIRMAN : How many points are you going to make ? And there is nothing new in what you are saying.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : This is a very important Bill. We

will not allow them to steamroller this Bill. First of all, they did not give us enough time to argue out the cases. This is a very dangerous Bill that they have brought. Let us be given time. We have to argue our case in detail.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Rule 75 (2) says :

"At this stage no amendments to the Bill may be moved, but—(a) if the member in charge moves that the Bill be taken into consideration any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be . . ."

Therefore, our right to move an amendment arises only on this motion subsequently. There is no limitation in regard to the right of the member to move an amendment.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : My submission is that Mr. Chidambaram cannot take this House for a ride like this. We register our serious protest. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move that the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Sir, the Bill has not been circulated to us. This is a fact. Only half an hour was given to table our Amendments. How can we study such an important Bill within half an hour ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are repeating the same, thing, Mr. Acharia. The ruling was given by the Speaker in the morning as per the consensus of the House. You have not gone through the morning's proceedings. If you had gone through the proceedings, you would not have raised this matter now.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : My point was how can we study the Bill within half an hour ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That stage has already been passed.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Why are they in such a hurry ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : We are not in a hurry. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the House agrees, let us admit the Amendments moved before 2 O'clock.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Yes. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : So, that will solve the problem. Mr. Acharia, you have not gone through the proceedings. Let us agree. Let Mr. Reddy move his Amendment.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Let it be circulated to all the Members. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : I am on a point of order. Firstly, if the time fixed by the Speaker up to 1 O'clock is not sacrosanct, then the Speaker's ruling is also not sacrosanct. The Bill can be taken up tomorrow. I am on Rule 79. "If notice of an amendment to a clause or schedule of the Bill has not been given one day before the day on which the Bill is to be considered."

I would like to know, was the Parliament office opened yesterday so that I could give the notice one day before ? Am I not entitled to one day's notice ? Is it that every rule is to be put under the steamroller ? Is this the way you want to function ? Is every rule to be flouted like this ?

SHRI ANIL BASU (Arambagh) : Sir, you try to protect the dignity of the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The dignity of the Chair is being protected provided you cooperate.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : I am making a request that, if necessary, we will sit late and get this Bill passed tomorrow but please give us time to submit Amendments till evening. This is a reasonable request which I am making.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : We do not blame you, because of two days' holidays you were forgotten.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI SHEILA [DIKSHIT : You may start it today. We shall resume the discussion tomorrow . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Sir, it is a very serious point of order. You listen carefully. By now, you have understood that the Bill was circulated amongst only the Congress Members and not the Opposition. Now, the Minister has to clarify here why this partiality. You ask the Minister to clarify this.

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Hon. Member does not know that it is circulated by Parliament and not by the hon. Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : I had to get it from the Distribution Branch. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : It was distributed by the office of Lok Sabha. It was not circulated by Government. It was done by Parliament. This is contempt of the House, because it is an allegation against Parliament, and then of the Speaker i.e. to say that Parliament is circulating the Bill only to the Congress members, and not to the Opposition. It is a very serious allegation. Sir, I say that it is a very serious allegation. (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : What a useless talk. You may please take it up tomorrow.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : What is the problem, Mr. Narayan Choubey ? Dada, what is the problem—we start today. Tomorrow we will continue. What is the problem ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : I am requesting the Minister, through you, not to stand on a sense of prestige. It is clear now that they did not know the rules and since they did not know the rules, they were not aware that they have violated the rules. They do not want to admit that. (*Interruptions*)

Of course, I was entitled to give amendments till yesterday, when the Parliament was closed; its office was closed. You cannot receive my amendments even. I have arrived this morning from outside Delhi. Am I not entitled to go out of Delhi ? (*Interruptions*) It has appeared in the agenda paper only now, i.e. today—for introduction, as also for consideration and passing. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : What about your ruling on rule 290 A ? (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let us go one by one.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They do not know the rules. They only know misrule.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You could have given it. The Speaker had allowed it till 1 O' clock. (*Interruptions*) If you want to say anything in particular . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, you are now the Speaker.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is the sense of the House . . . (*Interruptions*) Mr. Reddi says that at 1.45 p.m. he has given. So, upto 2 o'clock we can admit. What is there ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Please give your ruling regarding rules 289, 290 and 290 A.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It was said in the morning. You could have given your

amendments. Who prevented you? The House was told so this morning. You could have given your amendments.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I was to have given my amendments yesterday.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : I want your ruling on rules 289, 290 and 290 A.

Rule 289 says ; 'The recommendations of the Committee shall be presented to the House in the form of a report.'

Rule 290 says : 'At any time after the report has been presented to the House a motion may be moved that the House agrees with amendments or disagrees with the report :'

Rule 290 A says : "The allocation of time in respect of Bills and other business as approved by the House shall take effect as if it were an order . . ." This was not passed in the Business Advisory Committee. *(Interruptions)*

Rule 292 says : 'No variation in the Allocation of Time Order shall be made except on a motion made, with the consent of the Speaker . . .' There was no motion made regarding variation, under rule 292.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please take your seat.

This matter was raised in the morning. *(Interruptions)* Yes. The Speaker himself has also said :

"The House has also to allot time for consideration and passing of the Bill, as it was not placed before the Business Advisory Committee for allocation of time. If the House agrees, we may allot two hours for consideration and passing of the Bill."

That was done. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : What about rule 292 ? *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. Chidambaram, you may proceed.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Madhav

Reddiji, it was all agreed in the morning. It was all agreed, and you are going back on it. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The ruling was given. We will move on to the next item. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : After Shri Madhav Reddi,

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : (Adilabad) : The matter was raised by me. I objected to the introduction of the Bill itself. That was a different stage. Now we are at the stage of consideration. At the time of introduction, the Speaker observed that since there is no time, he has given half an hour for giving amendments. That is only up to one o'clock. I thought earlier that it was a simple Bill, When I read through the Bill, I found that it was a serious Bill and several clauses were to be amended. So, I wanted to give amendments, and I have no time. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Madhav Reddi, the whole issue, which you raised now, has been decided in the House in the morning. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : No. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We go by the record.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : We go by the proceedings of the House. The House has agreed. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : You cannot change the decision arrived at. Mr. Minister, please continue.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I beg to move that the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith . . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, I am on a point of order,

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, are you allowing him ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Kindly take your rule book. Sir, what has happened is, a contingent notice has been given. A contingent notice does not do away with Rule 79 and, if a rule has to be suspended, there has to be a formal motion under Rule 388. No Motion has been moved here. Rule 79 has not been suspended at all. The residuary power, the Chair has, only in cases where motions are not specifically provided. Here it is specifically provided Rule 79 gives the right to give an amendment a day before the discussion being taken up. Therefore, it cannot be done away with unless there is a formal motion for suspension of Rule 79 which has not taken place. Therefore, the right to give an amendment a day before the discussion is taken up cannot be interfered with. It cannot be interfered with. No residuary power can be exercised here. Therefore, the Hon. Speaker's observations were relating to the introduction of the Bill. Therefore, what has been now taken up relates to a period subsequent to that. Therefore, you have to apply your mind and give a ruling. Please do not go on quoting that. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot go back on the decision of the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Has Rule 79 been suspended ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these questions could have been raised then.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these things could have been done. All these issues could have been raised at that time.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : After the Speaker has given the ruling, it is as per the decision of the House. I cannot go back.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :

You are to give a ruling on my point of order. Has Rule 79 been suspended ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : All these issues could have been raised at that time, not now. That stage is already over. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : The House cannot overrule . . . *(Interruptions)*

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to move :

"That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration," *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record except the Minister's speech.

*(Interruptions)**

[At this stage, Shri C. Madhav Reddi and some other hon. Members left the House]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, the law of defamation is at present contained in Sections 499 to 502 of Chapter XXI of the Indian Penal Code. The Law Commission had suggested certain amendments to these provisions in its 42nd Report on the Indian Penal Code. Accordingly, amendments to these sections had been included in the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1978, which was passed by the Rajya Sabha in November, 1978 but had lapsed on the dissolution of the Sixth Lok Sabha in 1979. Sir, I wish to emphasise that these provisions were passed by the Rajya Sabha when it passed the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill 1978. The Second Press Commission also had, in its report submitted in 1984, recommended amendments in the law of defamation in certain respects, namely protection of unintentional defamation, fair comment and certain types of privileged statements. Further, it is proposed to make publication of imputations

falsely alleging commission of offences, by any person as an offence. Those who make such imputations do so just for the sake of calling into question the reputation of the person concerned. Often they do not have any intention of pursuing the matter any further with the appropriate authorities. Sir, we believe that freedom of speech is an essential feature of our democracy. However, freedom of speech should not be allowed to degenerate into mere licence for casting aspersions on any one. It is considered necessary to check this tendency with a firm hand. For all these reasons, it is considered necessary and advisable to have a self contained law on defamation covering both substantive and procedural aspects. The Government have, therefore, come before this august House with this Bill.

I shall now briefly explain the provisions this Bill.

15.52 hrs.

[SHRI SHARAD DIGHE *in the Chair*]

Clauses 3 and 4 of this Bill are almost identical to section 499 I.P.C. Any imputation that exposes (directly or indirectly) a person to hatred, contempt or ridicule or disparages or causes injury to such person in his trade, business, profession, calling or office will also amount to defamation in terms of clause (b) of Explanation IV under Clause 3 of the Bill. During the course of the debate, I shall request the hon. Members to compare the provisions of the present section 499 I.P.C. and clauses 3 and 4 of the Bill. Clauses 5 and 6 follow and are more or less identical to sections 500 and 501 of the Indian Penal Code, with the change that enhanced penalties are proposed for the second or any subsequent offence under these clauses. The hon. Members will kindly compare the existing provisions and the provisions made in the Bill and will find that we are following the present Act. Clause 7 of the Bill is the same as section 502 of the Indian Penal Code. Clause 8 of the Bill relating to the printing, etc. of grossly indecent or scurrilous matter or matter intended for blackmail is an adaptation of new section 292-A proposed in the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1978 which was passed by the Rajya Sabha and which lapsed in the Lok Sabha. Sir, I may take this opportunity to point out that

the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill 1978 was introduced by the then Janata Government. This provision will apply only in relation to the publication of such matter in a news paper, periodical or circular, and the author of such matter and the printer, publisher and editor of the such newspaper, periodical or circular will be liable to be punished. The Explanations under this clause have in-built safeguards. So from what I have said upto now it will be clear that in clauses 3 to 8 we have done nothing except to incorporate the existing provisions of the Indian Penal Code as well as introduce those provisions which have been passed by the Rajya Sabha in the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill 1978.

Clauses 9, 10 and 11, which are important clauses, relate to protectional defamation, fair comment and certain types of statements. These three clauses will be widely welcomed because they signify a liberalisation of the Law of Defamation. These clauses have been introduced based upon appropriate recommendations made by the Law Commission as well as the second Press Commission. I have no doubt, hon. Members will welcome the liberalisation that we are introducing in clauses 9, 10 and 11.

Clause 12 only re-states a general rule of evidence which is already incorporated in the Indian Evidence Act.

Chapter III of the Bill deals with the offence of criminal imputation. Clause 13 defines of offence and prescribes the penalty, with a minimum term of imprisonment. Clause 14 provides for the trial of the offence by a court of Session following the summons procedure prescribed in the Code of Criminal Procedure. The Court may, if it thinks fit, try the offence in a summary way, in the manner laid down in the Cr. P. C. Clause 15 makes it clear that the defence available for a person charged with an offence under clause 13 will be that the imputation is true and made in the public good. This is identical to Exception 1 under section 499 of the Indian Penal Code. The onus of proving truth and public good will be on the accused and the prosecution will have the right to lead evidence in rebuttal. Clause 16 provides that an appeal shall lie to the High Court from the judgement of

[Shri P. Chidambaram]

the Court of Session, both on facts and on law. Clause 17 will enable the High Court to make rules for the purpose of filing appeals to it.

Chapter IV of the Bill contains miscellaneous procedural provisions including consequential amendments to the Cr. P. C. and the omission of Chapter XXI of the I.P.C. All offences under this law will be non-cognizable and bailable.

Sir, the Government has brought forward this measure after a great deal of thought and consideration.

Apprehensions voiced by the hon. Members that any novel or unusual provisions are there in this Bill are totally unfounded. The Bill faithfully follows the existing provisions of the Indian Penal Code. The Bill re-introduces provisions which were introduced in 1978 by the then Government in the form of Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill 1978 which was passed by the Rajya Sabha and which lapsed in the Lok Sabha on its dissolution. The Bill has incorporated many liberal provisions recommended by the Law Commission and the Press Commission. The Bill also has regard to the British Defamation Act of 1952. And in the course of the debate I shall refer to the corresponding *peri materia* provisions. This Bill is a Bill which is overdue. This Bill has been in the consideration of the Government of India for the last ten years. Therefore, this Bill is being brought in this House. I have no doubt, after the debate and after I have had an opportunity to explain and clarify to the best of my ability the doubts that the hon. Members may raise, that this Bill will be welcomed widely and all sections of the people as liberalisation in the law of defamation and protection against malicious or mischievous defamatory material. I commend this Bill.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : You are misleading the House. Chapter 3, clause 13 has no co-relation with the Janata Government proposals.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I have already referred to that in a separate para-

graph. I have already referred to that in a separate paragraph, I commend this Bill to this august House and request this hon. House to consider this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

“That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.”

There are three amendments—one by Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy for circulation, another by Shri Basudeb Acharia for circulation, and the third by Shri Basudeb Acharia for referring the Bill to a Joint Committee. Are you moving your amendments ?

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) :
Sir, I beg to move :

That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 30th November, 1988. (2)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) :
Sir, I beg to move :

That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 1st November, 1988. (3)

That the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to defamation and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 15 members, 10 from this House, namely :

1. Seri Somnath Chatterjee
2. Shri P. Chidambaram
3. Prof. Madhu Dandavate
4. Shri Dinesh Goswami
5. Shri Indrajit Gupta
6. Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia
7. Shri C. Madhav Reddy
8. Shri Amar Roypradhan
9. Shri Piyus Tiraky
10. Shri Basudeb Acharia

and 5 from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one—third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the last day of the first week of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of 5 members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee. (11)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, will you consider my point of order ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, with a change in the Chair, the ruling can change.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot go back.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : But if you go forward, you will behave, just see.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : What is your point of order ?

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Point of muscle.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) : Sir, this Defamation Bill, which after it is passed becomes a Defamation Act, unfortunately does not add any fame to the process adopted by the Lok Sabha in passing this Bill or in considering the Bill.

In the Statement of Objects and Reasons it is stated that the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill of 1978 was considered by the Rajya Sabha in 1978 itself and was passed, but it could not be passed by the Lok Sabha in 1979. It gives the impression

that this particular Bill was also considered by the Rajya Sabha. It is not true. The Rajya Sabha considered a Bill which was intended to amend the Indian Penal Code. There was a Joint Select Committee. That Joint Select Committee had called for public opinion and examined a number of experts, a number of witnesses. That Committee's Report was considered and that came up for discussion and debate. It is not correct to say that this Bill is in any way related to that Bill. If that particular Bill had contained any provisions, it should have been made specifically clear that these particular portions of the Bill were also considered. . . (Interruptions).

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Sir, if the hon. Members yields for a while, I have said that section 292 A of the Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill is accepted and incorporated here. The hon. Member had left the House when I was reading that portion.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Then, Sir, he has referred to Law Commission's Report, which is 25 years old. The Law Commission's Report was in 1971 or 1972. There is no explanation as to why the Government slept over all these matters. The Law Commission's forty-second Report was a quarter century old and the amendment of the Rajya Sabha Bill was a decade old. What is the reason that they have come forward with this Bill in this particular fashion and in this particular manner ? Now, it is said to have been circulated to the Members when they were absent. The hon. Minister knows that justice must not only be done but should appear to be done. The Lok Sabha must appear to have considered and studied the various aspects of the Bill. People laughed at us when the Direct Taxes Bill was passed within an hour. Now you are repeating the same performance. This is a very important Bill and contains certain new provisions.

Even in his opening remarks, the hon. Minister referred to the various clauses but there is a new Chapter added—Chapter 11. Criminal imputation is made an offence. Mere criminal imputation is made an offence ? From where did you get a inspiration to make criminal imputation an

[Shri E. Ayyapu Reddy]

offence ? (*Interruptions*). Even in your elaborate speech, or even in your brief speech, you have not referred that the previous amendment contained this or that the Law Commission has made a recommendation to make criminal imputation an offence. This is a new offence. Have you studied the implications of this new offence ? And you have given direct powers that the case should be tried only by a Sessions Judge on an application. When it comes to the question of discussing this, I will show the implication of this case. This new offence has been created and it will be well-nigh impossible for the Sessions Judges to deal with this new type of offence. There are extreme cases. Even immediately after their acquittal in a criminal case, an accused will go and file an application that the criminal implication made against him has been found to be false and therefore it should be tried under Clause 13 of this Bill. Even the Public Officers who made a charge and then failed to bring it in a court of law will come under the scope of this new chapter. Apart from that, it has got vast implications. The right of the citizens even to tell and inform that they are being criminally prosecuted or criminally harassed or there is a threat to their life or that so and so is coming and making a threat to his life if sought to be deprived by the new species of offence which you have created. I will deal with it later on when it comes to clause by clause discussion.

Now, Sir, so far as the provisions are concerned, there are certain important changes which have been made. Clause 12, the burden of proof, is sought to be shifted and what is important is that prosecution is for the first time given a right to lead evidence in rebuttal. It will upset the entire procedure which you have been following for ages. The Criminal Procedure Code, never gives any right of rebuttal to prosecution. Even when an accused pleaded self-defence and lead evidence to prove his self-evidence or where an accused pleaded alibi and level evidence to prove his alibi prosecution was not given an opportunity to lead evidence in rebuttal, even in very serious cases like murder. How can this principle that prosecution must be allowed an opportunity to lead evidence in rebuttal be allowed cutting

across the basic principles of the Criminal Procedure Code ? Now, the burden is shifted to the accused and even after the accused gives evidence on his behalf to prove his innocence, prosecution is given a right again to demolish that evidence. This is a very atrocious provision.

Then, the so-called clauses which say that innocent and unintended defamation protection must be given adequately is not at all a protection. On the other hand, the protection which is given curtails the protections which are already given to the accused under the provisions of the Penal Code. This Bill is intended to brow-beat blackmail the freedom of the press. It is unfortunate that this Bill is coming under the guise of codifying the relating to defamation and that it is intended to check the misuse and abuse of the freedom of speech. It is better we allow freedom of speech and social ethical concepts and ethical conditions themselves will be in a position to equate and create equilibrium with regard to the abuse of right to speech to try to curtail the right of speech on the ground that it is likely to be misused is going against the fundamental freedom which has been conferred by the Constitution. The law which has already been there has sufficient, has given sufficient protection against misuse and abuse of the freedom of the speech and freedom of the press. No need was felt, nobody complained that in India the freedom of speech is misused to that extent that it is destroying the fabric of our society. There has never been any complaint to that level, and as a matter of fact the press has got its own code and the Press Council Bill and the Press Council Act contain so many provisions which safeguard the right of a citizen to privacy and secrecy and also provide safeguards against the misuse and abuse of the freedom of the press. Therefore, Sir, this Bill has got very serious implications and the Bill requires to be studied and it requires to be circulated for eliciting public opinion. There is no particular hurry when we should pass this Bill. After all we can circulate it for eliciting public opinion. It has not received publicity at all in the press, the press must also study this, public criticism must be there we must find out what is the reaction of the press, what is the reaction of the various organisations,

what is the reaction of the judiciary to this. And when it can be passed after mature consideration. Therefore, I submit that this Bill requires deep consideration and it should be circulated for public opinion.

Sir, I have also tabled various amendments and I will reserve my right to speak on the various clauses subsequently.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I stand here fully to support the Bill.

Sir, right from the beginning the role played by the hon. Members of the Opposition is exactly in fitting line with the role they have played in the past several years. They were saying now, shouting at the top of their voices, 'Don't you like to have our cooperation?' They were asking the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs : 'Would you not like to have our cooperation?' I am asking them as to at what stage in the last several years they have cooperated with the Government, in what connection, in connection with what legislation they have cooperated. They have never cooperated with respect to any legislation. Therefore, the question of their cooperation with the Government at this stage does not arise. They are shouting about their amendments. I will tell you, Sir, what type of amendments hon. Member Mr. Acharia has moved. He has moved an amendment to refer this Bill to a Select Committee. And do you know, Sir, who are the Members of the Select Committee? They were shouting in that Bofors, they have not given their cooperation. In the amendment that he has moved to refer the Bill to a Select Committee he has made the entire Opposition as Members of that Committee. (*Interruptions*). He has put only one name in that list belonging to the Ruling Party and all the Members who are listed are the Members of the Opposition Parties. (*Interruptions*) These are the ways. I remember, Sir, that hon. Member late Mr. Daga several times on our side used to move amendments to refer the Bill to a Select Committee and at that time I remember that hon. Member late Mr. Daga used to invariably include several Members of the Opposition party.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : This is a very unfair charge. Only half-

an-hour's time was given. No name he has suggested . . . (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : In your reply you can say so.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : What is his imputation?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You say all this in your reply.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Here, in asking for the Bill to be referred to a Select Committee, only Opposition Members are included.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Dagaji, if he were to include our names, he used to take our consent. That is the only difference between him and Daga. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Sir, they were saying why where is need for this legislation. They would like the Bill to be discussed even by the hon. members from the press, perhaps they would like an article to be written by Mr. Arun Shourie who is their guide in such matters, thereafter they will make their own submissions. That is why one of the Members just now opposed and said, let the press know about this Bill, let the Press write about this. It is only then, these people will be making submissions.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : They want to muffle the Press. Therefore, the Press should be told about what is the law.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the standard of public life has been brought so low that all these hon. Members, in the last several years, without any seriousness of any nature, have made allegations against responsible Members of the Government and the respectable people. They have never been tried even a single time to defame the respectable people. The other day, I quoted an example in this very House. Hon. Member, Prof. Madhu Dandavate was referring to

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the House and the Business Advisory Committee. You are charging the Committee and saying in a very nice fashion : " I know my Parliament; I know my Business Advisory Committee." What did he mean to say by that ? When he did not even fail to defame or disrespect and denigrate this House on several occasions in the past, what about his action outside the House ? Therefore, these hon. Members who have, by their action, brought this stage. We have discussed several debates on subjects like Bofors, Submarines, Helicopter etc.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Also Feroze Gandhi's speech on [Mundra's case.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I would like to ask them, how many times they have not made defamatory statement against responsible persons. In each paragraph of their speeches, every time, the hon. Members used to defame this person or that person, without stating anything in substance.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : I do not want to defame you. But there is no fame at all.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : They are even supporting these murderers and criminals. They do not mind supporting murderers and criminals and the people against whom offences are being registered, against whom CBI enquiry is going on and charged for murder. They go along with the concerned person to the CBI office, to the police stations in morcha

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Are you referring to Nagarwala episode ?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I am referring to a person, whom you know, a person against whom charges are made and are being investigated for offence of murder. These political leaders in morchas and in processions go to CBI office to support him. He is a person who has made false allegations even against the Prime Minister and the members of his family . . .

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kolea-ber) : What is happening in Tripura ? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, please.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Shantaram Naik, why don't you come to the provisions of the Bill ?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I am coming to the provisions. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

AN HON. MEMBER : What is wrong if an innocent person has been supported when he was falsely implicated ? (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : In order to allow him to speak, you will sit down please.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order. Nothing will go on record except Mr. Shantaram Naik.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Subject to your right of expunction.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is already there.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : I am entitled to submit my point of view. I am entitled to say why the Government has brought forward this Bill. Therefore, in that connection I am entitled to say why the Government has brought the Bill. (Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No interruption please. Please sit down. Let him speak. (Interruptions). Let him speak. Nothing should go on record except the speech of the hon. Member.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : What is the plan of these people supporting openly and fully Mr. Sanjay Singh against whom

a CBI enquiry is going on, a person who charges the Prime Minister one day and the next day charges Mr. P. Chidambaram and the third day charges Mr. V.P. Singh? All the charges are made daily in the press and these people are fully supporting these offences of defamation. With due respect to hon. Members, I am surprised why these wild charges are being printed without any relevance. Therefore, now the question is whether we would make our law of defamation strong or not. If you take certain developed countries, one cannot just make wild charges against any one. A person, even if abused in mild voice, can file a suit for millions of dollars as damages. Suits are decreed by the court. I do not say that a law of that nature where millions can be decreed towards damages should be passed but I think that both on criminal side and also on the civilian side, we have to strengthen our law of defamation. If these people are not interested to defame anybody and if they are honest in disseminating and putting forth their views genuinely, why should they worry? This law will be applicable only to those who are out to defame irresponsibly. If these hon. Members are interested in making their submissions in their own respectable way, why should they worry? They are worried because day in and day out they want to defame hon. Members of this House, the Ministers, the Government and the people at large in society in an irresponsible way. Therefore, I think that these provisions will be expected to deal with such people. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please order.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : They are afraid of this legislation.

I would like to submit another aspect. You will find that, by and large, three-fourths of this law consists of the provisions contained in the Indian Penal Code and no changes have been made in those provisions except on the criminal side.

The major substantive provisions are in Clause 13.

If a person commits murder and commits breach of trust and besides go on making wild charges of criminal offence,

should these charges go on or should be included as an offence?

If I charge anybody without any basis of any offence or of the offence of swindling a large amount of money or indulging in corrupt practices, there must be a law in this country to charge me and punish me for that offence.

Our society should not leave such people just to make charges in an irresponsible way.

I do not know why we should have any objection as far as Clause 13 is concerned. As far as these offences are concerned, they will only be charging persons criminally. But in this country, I would submit that our Law of Torts is not very strong. Shri Somnath Chatterjee will agree with me on this point. They will have to see that in future we codify that aspect of Law of Torts which deals with libel or defamation so that suits can also be filed against those persons who commit such offences for charging them for certain damages. Today, our law, as far as the civil aspect is concerned, has not been codified, standards having been only in the form of decisions of Courts. Sometimes, decisions differ from Court to Court and the Courts, by and large, refuse to decree defamation suits of big amount. Therefore, we have to bring our civil law on defamation also in line with most of the developed countries, if not to that extent, but to some other limited extent so that as far as the criminal aspect is concerned—as also the civil side is strengthened—no person or no politician or no other average citizen is able to make wild charges and defame people irresponsibly.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, I am grateful and I am obliged to Shri Shantaram Naik who proceeded me for the frank admission that he has made in the House that such a Bill is necessary to protect the accusations and allegations which are being made against the hon. Members of the ruling party, the Ministers and the Prime Minister and his family. This is exactly what he is thinking. But, fortunately, we did not have to come out with this first; some hon. Member, a

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very leading Member of the ruling party has brought it out himself. (*Interruptions*)

I do not have to make this allegation or accusation. Nobody can later blame me because I am just taking my cue from Shri Shantaram Naik. This is a Bill which is being brought very hurriedly and in a surreptitious fashion. The rules require that two days notice should be given. Everybody knows that. But what two days? Any two days when the Members are not only likely but certainly to be away from Delhi and those were the days of which advantage has been taken by the Government to circulate in a very casual fashion so that many Members did not get the Bill also and even last night when they returned, they might not know such a Bill has been circulated.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : (Bolpur) : My flight was 14 hours late. What can I do? The Indian Airlines authorities cannot operate it properly. I came only at 12.30 p.m. this afternoon.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : He can get Rupees one lakh compensation from the Airlines and Rs. one lakh from the Indian Parliament from rejecting his amendments. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : The manner in which this has been brought shows the anxiety of the ruling party and the Government to get this Bill passed in the course of this Session. It is obvious. There is nothing subtle in it. They want this Bill to be passed because the accusations which are being levelled against them are likely to increase in the near future and particularly if they call for an early election. They have to safeguard themselves against that. They have to safeguard also those people who may not be in the ruling party, may not be in the Government but may be associated with the Prime Minister or other Ministers and so on. For instance, the other day we discussed, in this House, regarding the Lalit Suri affair. It transpired that whatever had come out in the newspapers regarding this Suri affair was not exactly correct; there were some variations because obviously the newspapers did

not have all the papers that were needed for the investigation to be complete and full. Therefore, if such a thing comes out in future, the newspaper can be proceeded against. This is the provision now being made. I don't mind if they bring such a Bill. Such acts should be there to see that the Press do not say things which they know to be false. But what is the right of the citizen of India today or the Press of India today to get information from the official sources in the official way? In all developed Parliamentary democracies and other democracies in other countries, there are Acts which allow citizens and the press to get information from the Government which they think is necessary for the public. These are in the form of right to information Acts which they have passed in U.K., U.S.A. and other places. If such an Act is there, then, in the event of there being a suspicion or a rumour, we can have this satisfied by asking the Government to disclose the information relevant to this kind of accusation or allegation or rumour. Even when everybody knows that money has been taken in a certain deal or that certain people have been favoured with a certain deal out of which they have made money and out of which politicians may have got kickbacks, all these are going to be in the nature of a conjecture until you can prove it by producing official documents. If, even in this Bill they say that in case official documents are necessary in the court of law to prove an accusation or disprove it, those documents will be produced, then I would have understood that there is some bona fide. But no such provision has been made. This is all mala fide. Not a single good intention is there except to stop the press from making any allegation at all, because, obviously, they will not be able to bring out the official documents or the xerox copies thereof in every case, for all the cases. In other words, this is definitely a Bill to suppress any kind of criticism of the Government by the critics, by the press and even by the Opposition. We will not be able to speak even; we will not be able to speak if the elections come; we will not even be able to ask, "Who took the money in the Bofors deal?" Everybody knows that in the Bofors deal money has been paid; the JPC also has said that Rs. 64 crores have

been paid. Now some calculations have come out, from which it appears that the amount is much more than that, about Rs. 200 crores or something like that. Even if, by implication, somebody can connect it with some person in the Government, even then, by putting two and two together, this will become a criminal offence and nobody can even utter the name of Bofors or that kickbacks have been taken by some Ministers or the Minister who was in charge. Of course, anybody can find out who was the Minister in charge at that time, at the time when the deal was signed. Therefore, nobody can even say that. Even in regard to those matters which have come out in Parliament, if you say something which even very remotely links it up with somebody in the Government, that will become an offence and that cannot be stated. This is, obviously, a preparation for the elections, and the fact that this Bill is sought to be passed so hurriedly and surreptitiously, and in this Session itself, shows that the Government is probably bucking themselves up for elections soon enough.

Now, the question is, what is it they are trying to fall back upon when they say that, during the Janata regime, such a Bill had been brought and passed in the Rajya Sabha . . .

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : I did not say that. Sir, I want to correct it. I only said that section 292 A of the Indian Penal Code Amendment Bill which was passed by the Rajya Sabha is incorporated here. I said : 'one section'.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Which Clause is that here in this Bill ?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Section 292 A is now Clause 8 of this Bill. When I was going clause-by-clause and when I came to Clause 8, I said, "This is section 292A", not the whole Bill.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : That is not what is stated in the Objects and Reasons...
(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : When I raised it, he did not; now he has corrected.
(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : The Minister can never make any mistake.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : I said, "This is a misleading statement".

SHRI MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Ministers can do no wrong, they can do blunders. (Interruptions)

SHRI AMAL DATTA : This Government loses no opportunity to abuse the 19 month old Janata Government. Whenever they get an opportunity, they do it. But now they fall back on the same Janata Government having brought such a Bill, although the Bill was not ultimately balked. I do not know what would have happened in Lok Sabha. In Rajya Sabha, it might have been brought and passed. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not disturb.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : They are justifying one other section in this Bill on the ground that similar section has been passed in the Rajya Sabha during the Janata period. Now, this is actually irrelevant. This is drawing a red-herring. This is for the purpose of confusing the people that what we are doing is nothing wrong because the Janata Government was also trying to do it. But even if the Janata Government tried to do it, the situation then was not as it is today. I am not going into it whether it was right or wrong. It was dependent on the situation prevailing at that time. But today what has happened is that, after a long period, when we could level criticisms at the Government and people who are running the Government and, particularly last two years have been very fruitful in this respect, and now that the Bill has come at this time, obviously points to only one direction that henceforth nobody will be allowed to level any criticism. Obviously any criticism will probably rebound to the Prime Minister or his family or his associates. And therefore, nobody will be able to make any criticism of the Government and the Prime Minister particularly at the time of the elections. We had not experienced this period when criticisms became very open and could be practically proved. Of

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course the Government stood in the way of the opposition joining the Joint Parliamentary Party in the Bofors probe. But even then, lot of things which have been alleged before have been proved. More things have come under revelation even subsequent to the publication of the JPC Report. Many other things have come in after the Reports of the Comptroller and Accountants General which have been presented to the Parliament. But somehow or other, Parliament has been prevented from going into those reports now.

This being the position, it is obvious that the Government has been trying its best racking its brain to see what kind of law can be brought to suppress criticism being levelled at the Government particularly by the media. And once the media takes it up, it will automatically be reflected through the MPs or other politicians opposing the Government throughout the country. It had its experience in Allahabad elections. That is why, this Bill has been brought because in Allahabad elections, everything revolved around allegations of corruption against the people who are ruling the Government today. Because of that lesson which they have learnt in the Allahabad election, they think that it is necessary to suppress all allegations of corruption in the ensuing elections and hence this Bill.

I will go for a few minutes on some of the clauses of this Bill. If a person makes an allegation or imputation which is defamatory in character, he can bring himself under exception, and Clause 4 allows that exception. Clause 4 (a) says :

"Nothing in section 3 shall apply to—

- (i) the imputation of anything which is true concerning any person, if it be for the public good that the imputation should be made or published and it is a question of fact as to whether it is for public good."

I refer to this for two reasons. One is that the Minister has referred to the

Law Commission. The Law Commission has expressly said that it is not necessary to have the second part of this clause, namely, "and it is a question of fact as to whether it is for the public good," The Law Commission has said that if something has to be determined as a matter of fact then it means a jury trial is envisaged. This is old English trial. Since no jury trial is available in the country, therefore, it is not necessary to have this part. But this, of course, has not been brought out in the statement of objects and reasons. They have referred to the Law Commission having given its report but to what extent they have referred the matter of Law Commission that they have cleverly suppressed.

I would also like to point out in this context that there are two defences which have to be proved by the accused in a defamation case if he has to bring himself with this exception and take advantage of this exception. He has not only to prove that the allegation or imputation is true concerning that person but he has also to prove that it is for the public good that the imputation should be made or published. Here there is a difference which criminal law has with civil law. In Britain apparently this particular clause that 'it be for public good' etc. was suggested to be deleted by a Select Committee as early as 1943 but this was not accepted so far as criminal law was concerned. So that criminal law in Britain remained different from the civil law and in our country also the same difference between the criminal and civil law still obtains and this was an opportunity when the two laws could be put on the same footing and this has been lost. I do not see any reason why it should be lost. It seems nobody is really thinking about it. Everybody is so scared so recklessly addressed to safeguard himself that they cannot apply their mind. It is necessary that they should now even at this stage apply their mind and delete this entire clause that if it be for public good that imputation should be made, etc. There is no necessity of having public good once an accused can show that what he has stated or what is sought to be held against him is defamatory, in fact, is true. Then the question of public good should not arise.

The other thing is why should a person has to prove that everything is true exactly. It may not be possible to know the facts as the facts may be known to only one or two persons including the person against whom accusation is being made. Therefore, in many countries in this law they say 'substantially true'. If it is substantially true then one does not have to show that every aspect of it is true. Therefore, the word 'substantially' should be included here to provide a proper defence so that the accused could have the advantage of a proper defence and not having to go into all the details to prove how far the allegation made by him is exactly correct.

Then Clause 8 of this Bill is tragically against the newspapers. It reads :

"Where any matter which is grossly indecent or scurrilous or intended for blackmail is published in any news papers, periodical or circular . . ."

Obviously the newspaper is a part of attack in this particular clause. Now what will happen ? The first offence will be punishable for a term which may be extended to two years. In the second offence it is for a term which may extend to five years. Obviously, it is to gag the newspapers that this Bill is being brought. What is anything which is 'indecent' or anything which is 'intended for blackmail is published' ? Unless you do certain favours to me or you do something for me, I will publish it. Once it has been published, there is no question of blackmail. Then, it is for the courts to decide. Because once a case has been enacted, particularly if this allegation is made, the court will have to take cognisance of it. Once cognisance is taken, then the case will go on merrily. And nobody will be able to refer to that again because it will become *sub judice*. This will give an extra handle by making matters *sub judice* or under the guise of any of the earlier clauses or 'grossly indecent or scurrilous or intended for blackmail'. Anything can be said. If something comes up in newspapers which is against a person, that can be intended for blackmail. Who knows that ? The intention is proved or disproved later. Whether or not it was brought during the Janata regime and passed by Rajya Sabha, it should not find

any place in the statute book, where a statute is really restrictive of a fundamental right of a citizen.

Please do not forget that this Bill is really restricting the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Constitution says that Parliament can, by law, put reasonable restrictions on the guaranteed fundamental rights also. But one has to think of these bills in that context and whether it is a reasonable restriction because how is one to prove that something is intended for blackmail ? Even in very small matters can they say that this matter has been published with the intention to blackmail. How this is to be proved ? There is no guideline in this particular Bill. How this particular thing is to be proved or disproved ? If somebody makes an allegation, how is it going to be disproved ?

If any imputation is true and it is for the public good, only then the person will be able to defend himself. The person against whom a suit is brought for defamation will be able to defend on proving two things : Truth and that it is intended for public good.

Again, it is a question of fact. In spite of the Law Commission's recommendations, they have put it there that 'it is a question of fact as to whether it is for public good.' Two things are involved here. First of all, the imputations may be of such a vague nature that nobody can either prove or disprove. But even if it is true, that is not a full defence because it has also to be for public good. And whether it is for public good, that is to be proved to the matter of fact. Who is going to prove or disprove, it is a matter of fact. How many witnesses can you bring to show whether it is for public good or it is not for public good ? (*Interruptions*)

Then, it is said :

"*Explanation II*—In deciding whether any person has committed an offence under this section, the Court shall have regard, *inter-alia*, to the following considerations, namely :

- (a) the general character of the person charged, and where relevant, the nature of his business;"

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Politics is business or what ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : If one has also to put his entire antecedents on trial before the court, the court will not only see the truth of what he has said, the court will also see whether it is for the public good for him to say and also whether he is the right kind of person to say this. So, all this is just impossible. Whatever he has said, it is always a subject of . . . (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : If any person has committed a crime, his general character has to be seen. And the general character has a dominating effect.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why don't you reserve your comments till your turn comes ?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will you give me a better chance ?

SHRI AMAL DATTA : In Clause 13, imputation of any criminal offence is also made an offence. As Shri Ayyapu Reddy has said already, even the Government servants who make an imputation or an allegation to charge a person before a Court of Law, will be guilty. But apart from that, are we not entitled to say that a person has committed violation of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act ? He has taken money outside and has not brought it back or he has taken commission which he has put in Swiss Bank. As soon as he says, it becomes an imputation of criminal offence against him. Therefore, a person who says, whosoever is the accuser, will be accused under this law for committing the crime which is made by Clause 13 of this Bill.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : They have to request the Swiss Government to disclose.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : That is not there . . . (*Interruptions*) . . . Unfortunately, I said at the beginning that I would not have suspected the Government bonafides if they made any provision here for any person to prove out of official docu-

ments as to what is the real state of affairs. Today if I say that one of the Bechchan brothers has got a house in Switzerland which he says that he has purchased—he cannot have that much money. How has it happened ? I must be violation of FERA. I do not even go to say that he has violated FERA. If I just say that how he has purchased this house there, that itself is an imputation. That makes me also to be prosecuted in a Court of Law. How seriously they have taken this particular thing is shown by the fact that this allegation is only to be tried by a Court of Session. Any offence stated in Section 13 shall be triable only by the Court of Session. This is fantastic. Two years and five years punishment has been prescribed. In Clause 8, that is not triable by Sessions Court but here it is triable by the Court of Session. I do not know what good it will do. But I think it will not be possible to have a trial by Court of Session. With this extra facility given to the prosecution of defending himself against whatever charge is proved to be correct by the accused, the right of rebuttal—I do not know whether this will succeed or not. This is really the result of lack of matured thinking and hurried and inefficient manner in which this Bill has been brought. This Bill should be out-right rejected by this Parliament if the freedom of speech is at all valued and the freedom of the Press is valued. If the Parliamentary democracy is to succeed and sustain in this country, then we cannot live with a Bill of this kind. So, I request the hon. Minister to withdraw this Bill and the House to reject it.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Sir, I rise to support the Bill. It is a well considered Bill. At the outset I would like to say that the Bill is concerned with two individuals. Government has nothing to do with it. The Prime Minister has nothing to do with it. It has been stated that the offence is not cognizable and also bailable. Any individual can file a complaint before a Session judge against another individual. So, it cannot be said that the police can arrest innocent person under this Bill or some other person may be falsely implicated under this Bill. It is with respect to individual. If one person makes an allegation which is false, which is malicious, let him prove it. The other individual can

as well prove that it is true, that it is not false. This is the crux of the matter. So, how does the Prime Minister come in? For every thing the Opposition things the Prime Minister, Democracy means that one should be free to express himself but it should not be at the cost of innocent persons, or for political gains or for personal profits. So, the right should be followed with responsibility.

It is said that the responsibility has shifted from prosecution to the accused to prove his innocence. It is not new in this Bill. My friends on the other side know that it is there in the Food Adulteration Act and in Essential Commodities Acts. This is nothing new. It is not new to this Bill. Previously it was there in other acts.

Further, as the Hon. Minister has already stated there is some liberalisation. I would like to invite your attention to Clause 9. It has been stated there that if by some erroneous impression or by mistake somebody has made some publication or spoken against an innocent person, he can as well amend it. So, a person who has published any matter alleged to be defamatory of other person, if he claims that the matter was published by him innocently, if he repents or feels sorry for such publication, then he can amend it as well.

The Clause 9 (4) says :

"If an offer of amendment is not accepted by the party aggrieved, it shall be a defence, for the publisher, in any proceedings for defamation against him in respect of the publication in question to allege and prove."

So sufficient protection has been given to the accused if he feels sorry for some publication, repents and later amends it. Under these circumstances if the accused still persists that what he has published is true then he has to prove? Who else will prove it? Certainly it has to be proved by the accused it goes on further to say :

"(a) The facts and circumstances which establish that the matter was published innocently in relation to the party aggrieved. . .",

So, there is nothing to worry. If a newspaper man publishes something believing it to be true and later on comes to know that what he stated is not correct, he can still take recourse to Clause 9 of the Bill and say that it has been done without any bad intention and that it has been a mistake. So, many provisions are there to safeguard the innocent.

17.00 hrs.

Similarly, provisions are there in this Bill to see that justice is done. The accused is to be tried in a Sessions Court. There is also a provision to the effect that an accused can make an appeal to the higher court. It is stated in the Bill that an appeal shall lie as a matter of right from any judgement of the Court of Session to the High Court both on facts and on law. So both the provisions, namely, facts and law, are provided. After having all these safeguards, if the accused still feels that what he stated or published is true, then he has to face the consequences of his action. It will be decided in a court of law by the Presiding Judge. The Presiding Judge will give the judgement. Advocates on both the sides will be there and after hearing the case from both sides, the judge shall pass a judgement. This is the normal procedure and how does the Government come into the picture and how does the Prime Minister come into the picture? How can my friends on the other side say that this has been brought to protect the Prime Minister?

AN HON. MEMBER : Anyway, the elections will decide it.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Let us wait and see. Let us not talk of elections when we are discussing this Bill. We have seen what has happened in Tripura.

AN HON. MEMBER : We have seen the Allahabad elections too.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : We have got one year and some months for the elections to take place. Let us wait and see. And when you speak of elections, remember Tripura.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN GHOUDHARY : What about Orissa?

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Congress will come with a massive majority in Orissa. We will get all the seats as far as Lok Sabha is concerned. Please have patience. We will see the results. We will meet you once again.

SHRI BIPIN PAL DAS (Tezpur) : How can you meet them here ? They will not be here.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : That is correct. But I do wish that he will be here. Anyway, let us wait and see. It is rather premature to speak now about the elections when we are discussing the Defamation Bill.

Also, I would like to submit that there is a provision for trial in camera. This is a very good provision. In some cases, an open trial may reflect adversely on the minds of people, especially the younger generation. So, when the Judge feels that certain matters require to be tried in camera, I say wrong is nothing wrong in it. All these safeguards are provided in this Bill. It has also been rightly stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons as to why this Bill has been brought forward. This Bill has been brought before this House to make provisions to deal with of defamation effectively as is given in the proposed Section 292A in the lapsed Indian Penal Code (Amendment) Bill, 1978, i.e. during the Janata Rule and also offences listed in Sections 499 and 500 onwards of the Indian Penal Code. All the provisions which exist in the Indian Penal Code are practically same here also. One sentence in the Statement of Objects and Reasons makes it very clear why this Bill has been brought forward. I quote : It is considered necessary to check this tendency so that freedom of speech, which is the very essence of democracy, does not degenerate into mere licence. In view of the above, it is considered advisable to have a self-contained law on defamation covering both substantive and procedural aspects." These are the only points. There is nothing to dispute.

So Sir, I hope that there will be no opposition to this Bill. Let us not impute

political motives on the Bill. I hope the Opposition will agree to pass this Bill.

17.05 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

STATEMENT RE : FLOOD SITUATION IN ASSAM AND WEST BENGAL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : Assam has experienced successive waves of floods during the months of May, June and July. The latest wave of floods has started since 20th August, 1988. The rainfall in the catchment areas of Brahmaputra has been very heavy from 22nd August onwards. During the five days from 22nd to 26th August, 1988, Pasighat recorded 1168 MM, Tezu recorded 625 MM and Dola recorded 312 MM. Consequently, the river Brahmaputra received very huge inflows and has been rising very rapidly. On 26th August, 1988 at 6.00 P.M. the river touched a level of 106.31 Metres at Dibrugarh as against the highest flood level of 105.97 Metres recorded during last year. This was 2.11 Metres above the danger level of 104.20 Metres. However with the decrease in rainfall in the catchment area, inflow is getting reduced and the water level has started receding. The level recorded at Dibrugarh today morning was 105.72 Metres.

The entire mass of water is moving from Upper Assam to the Western parts of the State causing damages all along the river course. Parts of Guwahati town on western side have also been inundated. The places further downstream Guwahati along the river course, will also experience the effects of these floods as the water flows further down.

Serious damage was apprehended in Dibrugarh on account of rising floods waters since the town is situated nearly half a metre below the danger level (104.20 metre) of the river at this point. The vast sheet of water was held back by a system of dykes and embankments. Arrangements for evacuation of people in the low lying

areas were made by the State Government and round the clock vigil over the flooded banks has been mounted. The Army is also assisting the civic authorities in maintaining the dyke and other rescue and relief operations. Wherever seepage of water was noticed the bunds have been strengthened by sandbags and spurs. People have also been evacuated from low lying areas and transported to relief camps.

Road links between Guwahati and Upper Assam on the one side and West Bengal on the other have been disrupted at several places. The National Highway 37 linking Guwahati and Upper Assam breached at Burapahar. NH 52 connecting Assam and Arunachal Pradesh is also disrupted at Gohpur and Dhemaji. NH 31 connecting West Bengal to North East is disrupted near Dhubri at Bilashipara and also Kashikotra near Bongaigaon. The road bridge near Raiganj on NH 34 has suffered breaches due to sinking of its two piers. The Guwahati-Lumding metre gauge railway line has been affected. Information regarding further damages is likely to be received as the floods recedes and communication are restored.

The production and movement of petroleum products has also been affected. The crude oil production has been affected. The UHF station at Dubri was also switched off as a result of flooding of Dubri.

At the instance of the Prime Minister, I had made an extensive aerial survey yesterday covering the affected areas on both the banks of river Brahmaputra from Guwahati upto Dibrugarh and inspected the dyke at the outskirts of Dibrugarh town. I visited some of the relief camps where people who have been moved to safety are being housed and are being taken care of. A large number of habitations along the river course have been inundated and Guwahati town has also been water-logged in certain parts like Shantipur, Fancy Bazar, etc.

I had detailed discussions with the Chief Minister of Assam and others concerned regarding the flood situation and relief operations.

According to the assessment made by the State Government, 8770 villages, covering an area of 42.23 lakhs ha., have been affected. The population affected by these floods is 56.72 lakhs. Crops have been affected over an area of 11.26 lakhs ha. Eighteen lives have been lost and 2700 animals have died. The State Government have opened 500 relief camps and are taking care of 2.24 lakh people in these camps.

The Government of West Bengal has reported that 785 villages covering an area of 1.5 lakh ha., were affected as on 25th August, 1988. Crops have been affected over an area of 55,000 ha.. The population affected is 1.75 lakhs. One person and 8 cattle heads are reported to have died. Twentysix relief camps with 1503 people are in existence. I propose to undertake an aerial survey of the affected areas of West Bengal tomorrow because I could not visit these areas yesterday due to bad weather.

The State Governments of Assam and West Bengal have a margin money of Rs. 7.25 crores and Rs. 23.75 crores respectively for undertaking immediate relief measures. The Government of Assam had asked for additional allotment of food-grains for taking up relief measures. 5,000 metric tonnes of rice has been allocated for this purpose immediately.

The Government of Assam have asked for additional financial assistance. They have been requested to indicate the details regarding utilisation of the Margin money and also present a memorandum giving the details of the damages to enable the Government of India to depute a Central team for assessing the financial assistance required.

The present flood situation in Assam and West Bengal is certainly causing concern and I would like to assure the House that all assistance will be extended to the State administration and the people of the area most expeditiously.

17.10 hrs.

DEFAMATION BILL—Cond.

[English]

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now Mr. Thampan Thomas to speak on the Defamation Bill.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): Sir, I have given notice on this subject of floods in Assam and asked for a Calling Attention on this.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will take it up afterwards.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : The hon. Minister of Agriculture has not stated a very important thing.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : A discussion cannot be allowed on this statement. Now Mr. Thampan Thomas.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I cannot allow it. Nothing will go on record. Now Mr. Thampan Thomas.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record. Now Mr. Thampan Thomas.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing. It is not allowed. These will not go on record. No; nothing, Now Mr. Thomas.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Thampan Thomas, I have called you. (Interruptions) Order, please. Nothing will go on record. Only Mr. Thampan Thomas can speak now.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Thampan Thomas, please speak. Otherwise I will call the next person. Are you going to speak, or not?

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Sir, the most sacred right in a parliamentary democracy, which is the freedom of speech, is certain to be curtailed by this Bill. This Bill will have far-reaching consequences. It will muzzle the Opposition; it will muzzle the Press.

I can understand the speed with which now Mr. Chidambaram wants to move this Bill because of the recent events in our country. And, I fear very much, one of the things which even the Opposition and even the public men could not bring out, the Press were able to bring and we were able to make it in the Bofors case. And, tomorrow, I fear under this Bill, if it is passed, Chitra Subramaniam, who aided the news to be brought to India will be arrested and put in prison. Using this, that can be done. And many of the Press recently have investigated many things and brought many things into light which were not known to the public, and I fear this Bill is brought on seeing all these things.

Also, this is ratified by Shri Shantaram Naik, when he was speaking, that even the recent like the Modi murder case and also Sanjay Singh's statement which has aggravated, that some complaints have been received, against somebody connected with the Prime Minister's office, all those have aggravated, to bring this Bill all on a sudden.

I take a very serious objection to taking a plea that this was discussed earlier and this Bill or something was there in the form of a discussion of either of the Houses of Parliament, or before the public. It was never. The thing which was pending in 1978 before the Rajya Sabha was a coordinated amendment to the Indian Penal Code. About 204 amendments were sought to be made after a detailed study, and 1972 onwards the matter was pending before various committees, their recommendations were obtained, the opinions of institutes, schools, colleges and trade unions were collected and after that those amend-

**Not recorded.

ments to the Indian Penal Code, in the light of the recommendations made by the Law Commission as well as the Press Commission and the report of the Second Press Commission, and all these things were brought, and it could not be passed. That is true.

But what is now brought is a separate law, another law which is named as India Defamation Bill. That is being moved now. Such a position was not at all there. I will say what has transpired in the Rajya Sabha in the year 1978, when Janata was in power. The Minister who presented the Bill says There, I will quote one sentence :

“The committee held the first sitting on the 23rd December 1972. It invited opinions from various individuals, Bar Associations, organisations including trade unions, political parties and law officers of the Government of India and the States and the Supreme Court, the Indian Law Institute, universities and the State Governments. etc.”

So, such a detailed inquiry was conducted at that time and there were the amendments brought to the Indian Penal Code extending to 204 clauses and which were being discussed. And in that what has come up. One section, that is what Mr. Chidambaram the hon. Minister has quoted, that the Janta Government has given its concurrence to such a Bill. One provision is mentioned in this Bill. It is about punishment and which has also been recommended by the Law Commission subsequently was brought at that time. On that pretext, what is now being brought is this, which is a draconian way of approach. That is, to put anybody who criticises a person in office or to go to the jail for a minimum period of three months and to put him in jail for two years. This subject matter was never anywhere. Nobody knows such a thing. So, the discussion that was held in the Rajya Sabha and the Bill which has been passed in the Rajya Sabha in the year 1978 cannot be a plea for moving this Bill and behind that no shelter can be taken. And; what has been done by the Janata Government at that time, it stands good even now, today. If that had been brought today, in the light of that discussion, in the same manner, we also support it, because that was on the basis of the recommendations and consul-

tations made and that too make amendments to Sections 499 and 500 of the Indian Penal Code. It is not an Act of this nature.

Also, I will take this Law Commission Report on this aspect, about the defamation law, what the Law Commission had said.

The Law Commission very clearly says that there were two opinions. It says that defamation law can be a civil law and it could be executed in a civil court for defamation. It is a tortious one. There were two opinions to retain it in the criminal law. Therefore, the Law Commission decided that it should be retained in the criminal law since in our country if freedom is given, it is being misused.

In page 330 of the Report of the Law Commission (42 to 46), it made only a recommendation that the punishment can be of rigorous imprisonment or simple imprisonment. Earlier in section 499 and 500, the punishment for defamation is only a simple imprisonment for two years. The Law Commission said that it can be changed to rigorous imprisonment for two years. Is it the way in which this Bill has been brought now? The Press Council said that many countries examined and said that it is considered as a law and it can go for compensation. In page 45 of the Report of the Second Press Commission under Para 5, it was stated that civil law alone is applicable. That is the system prevalent in developed countries. But in our country which is being in a developing nature and where there are problems, it can go to the criminal court also. Sir section 13 of the Chapter III is a brand new one. It is Rajiv Gandhi's creation and that too in the events of what had happened now. In this manner, they want to make an authoritarian Government. They can even put the burden of proof on the person who is chargesheeted, who is alleged to have committed an offence, and he has to prove himself that he has not committed it. The very basic fundamental jurisprudence of criminal law is that a person who is alleging, charge sheeting, who is prosecuting, he has the burden of proof. Here it is the other way round. Section 13 says that you have to go to jail for a minimum period of three months if you say

[Shri Thampan Thomas]

something. After this Bill is passed, will any newspaper or anybody in the public meeting dare to say something knowing that he will have to go to jail? It is subsequently stated that there was something or it can constitute or it can come under the definition of a criminal case. A criminal case can be charged if a false charge is made. Naturally the person will have to go for prosecution and he is rest assured that he will have to go to Jail for a minimum period of three months. What will happen now? Even the criticism against anything, discussion against anything and check and balance in society which is built up on the basis of a healthy criticism, will go away. Naturally this will be an authoritarian society, where you cannot speak, you will have to shut your mouth and eyes towards all ills and odds and you will have to approve whatever the Government says. Such a condition will come and the freedom of the press will be taken away.

I am reminded about the Bihar Bill. I am reminded about the Tamil Nadu Bill. By this Bill, the freedom of the press will go away and nobody will be able to criticise the Government.

Therefore the only result of this Bill will be that you will not be in a position to tell anything against any person in office. It means that the freedom of the press will be curtailed for ever and they will not be able to expose things hereafter. What happened in this House during the last two sessions and we were able to establish certain things with the help of the press, press by investigating and many things have come out. It will not be able to do it once this Bill is passed now. Minimum punishment is guaranteed. If he feels that he has to go to jail may be for one hour for something which has come out and which he feels that it was said in a particular circumstance. Now he cannot do that. The same approach is made in the matter of Industrial Relations Bill also. If a person goes on strike or participates in a strike which is subsequently declared as an illegal strike, then he has to go to jail for minimum two months. From where this concept of providing for minimum punishment has come to India, I would like to know. What is the way of thinking? What is the thinking

of our Minister that a person shall have to go to jail compulsorily for a minimum period? With that, what do you want to do? You want to encroach upon the citizens rights by providing that for a minimum period you will have to go to jail if you criticise. Then nobody will come forward with a criticism. That means, you are silencing everyone. You want to silence everyone by the threat of providing for minimum punishment.

Then the other aspect is, which is one of the important aspects; that you want to silence by using your office threatening the opposition or the press or whoever wants to criticise that if you do that, finally you will have to go jail. Therefore, this cannot be accepted.

The second thing is basic jurisprudence. That is, a person who alleges he will have to prove his innocence. That is not provided in the criminal law. In certain sections of the Customs Act or something like that where there is an offence against the State, there is onus of proof on the person who is engaged in smuggling. If something is with him, the onus of proof is on him to prove that it is not smuggled article but it is a legitimate article. But in the defamation case where hitherto under sections 500 punishment was for two years simple imprisonment, you changed it to giving burden of proof on the accused person and also the prosecution can rebut it. Shri Somnath Rath simply put it saying that a person aggrieved and a person who has done it, there are two parties, Is it so? In most of the cases, even in the Criminal Procedure Code, I have the right even to arrest though I am not a police officer. The police officer and others are executing agencies only. If a person aggrieved goes to the court, only the State undertakes it on the basis of a complaint so as to effectively execute it. All those things will be available under the Criminal Procedure Code which are applicable here. So to say that a person who files a complaint and supports it by an affidavit and there is only a dispute between two parties, then why do you want to bring in criminal law? If what Mr. Somnath Rath has said is Government's proposition, then I would like to say that only on this reason, this Bill has to be withdrawn because that is not a criminal

law; that is a civil law. If there is a civil law, a dispute between two parties, that is a civil right and for a civil right, you can go to civil court. It is provided in the defamation case. If that is the case, there is no reason for this Bill. The Bill has only to be withdrawn. Whereas it has a criminal implication, a criminal defamation means, a person can be charge-sheeted and punished to jail. And that can be done as a summary trial. A summary trial means, a person is put in prison on the basis of a summary trial. It is a very arbitrary one. Summary trial means even the person who is accused of having committed an offence suppose, he is an editor of a newspaper, whatever may be his reputation, whether Times of India or Indian Express or The Hindu or any other paper, there is an allegation against the editor of the paper that he has committed an offence, he can be brought to the court and he can be summarily tried. Summary trial means other procedures under the law are not required. All those things can be suspended. Then he is asked to prove his innocence. In the circumstances and procedural difficulties he is not in a position to defend himself. Then the judge says you go to jail. The judge feels that he need go to jail only for one hour. But he cannot do that. He has to punish him minimum for three months. What a draconian law is it? What freedom this country has got! All the freedom which we were enjoying hitherto is being curtailed. For what? Only for one person. Somebody want to continue in office as Prime Minister. He feels irritant. He feels that somebody criticises him. Somebody who takes up the office of the Prime Ministership, he should be prepared to hear the criticism. You may be hearing the criticism in the country. There is a poor man. When he is hungry he may be shouting for this. He may be telling that the money of the country was being taken away outside. He may be shouting that your policies are bad. He may be shouting against that. Now, tomorrow, you want to put a stop to that. This is encroaching upon the fundamental rights of the people of this country. This cannot be in any manner supported. The shelter of Press Council's Report or Law Commission's Report, or any other thing cannot take care of this position. Thank you, Sir.

[*Translation*]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am one of those few persons who had the fortune or misfortune of sitting on both the sides of the table.

I used to be the publisher of one of the largest newspapers of the country for many years and confronted a number of defamation cases. I know the various type of defamation cases and what the people do in such cases.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Just tell a bit about them.

SHRI G.S. RAJHANS : I am telling, please give me some time.

We had exposed espionage case in a remote corner of the country. A defamation case was filed against us in a remote count in Jammu and Kashmir. When myself (the publisher), the writer and the Editor reached there, everytime we found that the culprit who was involved in the espionage case managed to get the hearing postponed by 10 days. We were returning and going there again after 10 days only to find that he has managed get another postponement for 7 days. It was difficult for us to stay there for 7 days. This process continued for several years. We were given feelers with the hints that we should withdraw the case without tending any apology and the case will be closed. We were prepared to face every hurdle. We decided that let the case run for 20 years and we may be required to go there for innumerable times, but we will fight the case. We fought the case and won and that person was imprisoned.

We wrote against the Judges and the judges ruined us. A judge from Punjab got a case filed against us and a judge from Allahabad also did the same. We had written only this much that the Judges of the High Courts keep their relatives as advocates and one judges the other.

[*English*]

They say : "you pat my shoulder and I will pat your shoulder."

[Shri G. S. Rajhans]

[*Translation*]

The judges warned us either to tender apology or to face dire consequences. We had to attend the Courts for 50 times at both these places but we did not tender apology, in the mean time some colleagues advised us to make a compromise. We did not tender any apology and they also did not drag the case any further.

If you can give me time I can cite scores of such cases. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

We were not in a compromising position.

[*Translation*]

What I mean to say is that there are a number of such cases. I read the entire Bill very carefully.

AN HON. MEMBER : Seems to be restless after reading ?

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : I am all right after reading. I say that if the newspaper makes factual reporting, there is no need for it to fear anybody. The Bill provides that if the newspaper defames anybody by mistake, it should publish a regret and the matter will end there.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Are you going to wash out their dirt ?

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Please just listen to my second point. The Congress Centenary Committee asked me to write the biography of Pandit Motilal Nehru. I wrote that biography in 1985 after putting hard labour. Shri Rajiv Gandhi released the book in the centenary function. I had written a very good book. Presently that book is in the library. Some of my colleagues are envious of me for that.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY ; Do they belong to the Congress ?

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : They do not belong to the Congress. First of all you

please listen to me. They published a news in a largely circulated daily that I have written a lot of odd things against Pandit Motilal Nehru. I was stunned. I met the Editor of the weekly and gave him two copies of my book. Thereafter, I requested him to go through the book line by line. I told him that not a single word was written against Pandit Motilal Nehru. He told me that nothing wrong was written in the book and that he would issue a correction. Thereafter I sent him 20 telegrams, wrote letters and met him personally too. But he did not issue a correction. I had to suffer the damage to my image and it also put a very bad impression on the public mind.

Now I would like to cite an instance I experienced personally. Some people helped me a lot in the elections in Bihar. After some days, the session of the B.P.C.C. was held in Patna. Just before that a largely circulated weekly in Patna published that I had abandoned those relatives and friends of mine who had helped me in the elections. What more ugly thing could be there that this. All the delegates and activists who had come to attend the B.P.C.C session surrounded me and sought to know if I had done like that. I was tired of explaining them and told them that it was a false thing and there was no substance in it. I met the Editor of that newspaper and explained him everything. I am telling you how injustice is done to somebody.

I was a close relative of Shri L.N. Mishra. Not only relative, I was his associate as well. I have seen him falling victim to the media. The newspapers wrote a lot of things against him. The same newspaper which is writing many odd things against Shri Rajiv Gandhi these days used to write odd things against Shri L.N. Mishra in 1973-74. When Shri L.N. Mishra was murdered, the Editor of the very newspaper published that Mishra ji was a very nice and large-hearted person and that it was difficult to find a man like him. It is a matter of distress that he shed a lot of crocodile tears after his death. Mishraji was a very sensitive person. When a lot of things started coming in the newspapers, he used to become very restive and would telephone to the Editors. He used

to tell them what was the truth in it. These people used to come to him and would well him to forget whatever was published and assured him that no such thing would come in the newspapers any further. I told Mishraji to expose it. When he desired to know the procedure of exposing, I explained him the simple way. I advised him to invite those 10 persons who were blackmailing him and give them the same kind of suit pieces with stitching charges and thereafter invite them to a party. Then I advised him to ask them to attend the party in the same suits, the pieces of which they had been given. They should be told that Mishraji wanted to see them in that dress. All the 10 journalists came to the party and it appeared as if they were in uniform. Everyone of them was surprised to see the other in the same dress. Then it was revealed that all these journalists were on pay rolls. It will take hours if I start unasking them. This Bill has been brought forward against the blackmailing being done by these blackmailers. After all, what objection the opposition members have got to it? I say that . . .

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : You are right, the Prime Minister has given uniforms to all of you.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : We shall give you the same uniform. Please to allow me express my view for a minute. Please know if anybody who falls victim to blackmailing does not have any right to expose the person who blackmailed him. What is there in this Bill? This Bill is pure and simple and it is against the blackmailing. I can still say that big newspapers do not indulge in blackmailing. You go to smaller places. Except a few . . . (*Interruptions*) please listen to me attentively. I have got a lot of experience which will benefit you. Small newspapers are being published in districts and towns. That is what we call yellow journalism. The papers consist of only 2 sheets. These small papers write that the Collector has done this and that and the M.P. is a thief. He owns property worth Rs. 50 lakhs. Now the M.P. will either give money to that newspaper or if he is honest, he will have to face the odds as where from can he offer money . . .

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Such newspapers are not published regularly. They are published once in 6 months only with this specific motive.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : It is a Centre of corruption. He says you do whatever you like. He tells the engineer to do whatever he likes and tells the Collector the same thing, but he says that do this small work of his. You must have seen recently in the T.V. that a journalist of a tiny newspaper goes to the flat allotting authority and blackmails him. He says that he should either allot him a flat or he will expose the cases of corruption against the authority. The authority in turn advises him not to drag him into the scandal and offers his services to him. The journalist wants allotment of a flat and the authority gives his consent. The journalist points out that there are already 2 flats in his name and wants to know from the authority how can he be allotted one more flat in his name. The authority tells him to leave it to himself and assures that his work will be done. The authority assures a solution which will satisfy both the parties. This is what yellow journalism is called. There should be some check on these small newspapers which are being published in districts and towns as they indulge in blackmailing. Where is the question of freedom of speech and freedom of expression in it? Whoever will fall their victim . . . I would like to tell you one more interesting thing. In the world of newspapers there is a type of reporters called stringer. They call themselves reporters. What happens is that suppose somebody is a school teacher . . . (*Interruptions*) I am just explaining you. Somebody is a petty advocate and some other is a lecturer in a small college. Our journalist brethren might be knowing . . . (*Interruptions*) If you do part time, you will fall within the purview of the Wage Board. He sends some news to the newspaper. On the basis of news transmitted by him, he hardly gets . . . in a month. First of all, we . . . (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

. . . Very interesting story. Give me a little more time, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have got to listen to others' interesting stories also

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : Please listen to me for one minute.

[*Translation*]

He gets Rs. 20 to Rs. 50. He has to pass through hard tests to become a stringer. We also used to sanction them . . . One day I enquired of a person as to why does he take so much pains to become a stringer. He explained that though he is an ordinary stringer here, he poses himself to be a reporter, a correspondent in his district, has influence on the Collector, Commissioners and Engineers and gets his work done very quickly. He earns thousands of rupees in this way. He requested me better not to pay a paisa, but appoint him as a stringer. What I mean to say is that this Bill is a very healthy Bill and we should welcome it. The provisions incorporated in this Bill leave scope to rectify a wrong thing. I want to know as to why had the Janata Party brought forward this Bill if it was wrong? (*Interruptions*) If it was brought forward by the Janata Party, we should, at least, be given the opportunity to support the good work they have done. That was all, I wanted to say.

[*English*]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, after hearing Mr. Rajhans it seems to me probably in our country, there were never any cases of blackmail and never any law to deal with them. I believe that there are very many laws to deal with the question of blackmail. Nobody here is standing to defend blackmail. Let it be very clear.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Last among them are women.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I am not a lawyer. I need not go into the details of the law. But there are enough laws to deal with the matter. As a commoner, and with some experience, I know that there are enough laws to deal with cases of blackmail. The question arises in my mind from several angles. Since my hom colleagues from the Opposition have spoken at length on many legal points, I shall not repeat them, though I support their conten-

tions very clearly. But I shall try to raise some other matter. The first question is, as far as I know, in legal terminology, circumstantial evidence is a very important factor. The circumstantial evidence about rushing through this Bill has really created very grave apprehension in my mind. I am yet to understand what made the Government to rush through this Bill. The Business Advisory Committee met on Thursday, not very many days ago and reported that they would take up such and such etc. and that was presented to Parliament and was approved by Parliament. There was not even a mention of this Defamation Bill, the time was not fixed either. Everybody knows that during these 4 days holidays, most of the Members would have gone back to their home. Everybody would take that nobody would be here and mostly people were likely to come back on Monday morning. By Monday morning already this item is in the agenda Defamation Bill to be introduced, then the next Bill to be introduced, and then consideration and passing of the Defamation Bill. Naturally, there is nobody on earth who would take it that these are all just fortuitous; nor can I. Therefore, the question has arisen in my mind all this GALI GALI MEIN SHORE HAI : SUCH AND SUCH CHORE HAI, that is the principal provocation behind this Bill. I think, for the ruling Party also, this will be the most counter productive step that could have been taken, considering the situation that they are under shadow. whether they understand it or not. The whole country understands it.

In these circumstances, it seem to me that this is impolitic, unwise and counter-productive. The very same time-old proverb again comes to my mind which I have often repeated here, Vinashkale Vipareetabuddhi. In every case, you can see this Vipareetabuddhi.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Viparitakale Vinasabuddhi !

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : It has been pointed out already at length by Shri Amal Datta and I will not repeat it. It is very clear that Press people are being threatened. How beautiful this Statement of Objects and Reasons has been written. The first thing that most of the Members

see before going through the Bill is the Statement of Objects and Reasons. I do not know whether they will accept it or not. I also read the Statement of Objects and Reasons and I found that it is containing nothing new. Law Commission said this. The Press Commission said this. It is only a question of codification of all that in a single Bill. This is the impression said to be made out by this. That is the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : Please read it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Chidambaramji, one bad habit I have not yet acquired. That is saying anything without reading it. I believe that that much of credence is probable given to me by many of the Members on that side, let alone the Members on this side. I not only read it but I read it very very carefully. After reading the Statement of Objects and Reasons, I almost came to the conclusion that there is nothing new. Then I just do not know why this hurry. That made me really go to some lawyers and consult and what is it all about. (*Interruptions*) None of them were here. Let me tell you that I want to a lawyer who is a great admirer of Shri Rajiv Gandhi I will not name him but I want to him. I asked him "Can you tell me if there is anything new in this?"

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Aberration of law.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : He said "There is nothing new." He also said that "They are writing whatever they like" and so on and so forth. I went on "Please tell me if there is anything new." Then he told me "Well, read Section 499."

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : But, don't give him. He will go to three months imprisonment?

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : "Read Section 499 carefully and see if the same things have been repeated."

According to his advice, I read Section 499 carefully and after reading Section 499 carefully, even an ignorant person like me found that there is very significant change

from Section 499 in this Clause 15. Not being a lawyer, if I am wrong, you are all welcome to correct me. It was a question if some truth is revealed which is in public interest, even if it goes against a person, that would be exempted from the punishment. If I understood correctly, this is the exception. I read this three or four times. In Clause 15 (1), of this Bill I see that it is written :

"Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, a person accused of any offence under this Chapter shall not be guilty of the offence if, and only if, it is established that the imputation made or published by him is true. . .

Please note the words "if and only if". It means that it has to be "established" that it is true. It must be established. There is a big difference from IPC Sec. 499 to this. In IPC Sec. 499, it does not use 'establish'. Is there any meaning in this? The first change is that the truth has to be established. Then the other serious change is—everybody has already said about that—that both in Clause 8 and here the onus of the responsibility of proof has been shifted to the accused. On this question, I suddenly remember my own experience in this Parliament when the question of custodial rape was discussed. At that time, I was in the Central Parliament and not in the Legislature. I came across this question of shifting the burden. This is a very serious question. There, even when the burden was shifted, there was a lot of talk everywhere and to this day even in the case of an ordinary rape, if it is not custodial rape, then the burden of proof has not been shifted. For the women, whether she is raped by custodial authorities or by anybody else, it is the same thing. Even then, you have not changed that law of shifting the onus of proof that is establishing the case. Here, just for punishing the press and public, you want to make certain great modifications. On the question of defamation, everywhere you shift this burden of proof. So, therefore, from this, I came to one understanding that it is not only not fortuitous but it is a very serious and deliberate move to blackmail the Press. If the word 'blackmail' has any meaning, then this is blackmail. I am asking here in the Parliament, after this,

[Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee]

whether the Parliamentary impunity will remain ? . . (*Interruptions*). Let me atleast press myself very clearly. This is a question of blackmailing.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : It is "immunity."

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM : She is saying impunity.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : That was spelling mistake. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : I stand corrected. It is immunity. I have not come from Harvard University. I only read in ordinary schools. Once Prof. Dandavate said that he did not read in Doon School. Tomorrow, I will come brushing up my English. Please you forgive me today. Coming to my point, when this question of Shri Ajitab Bachchan's having a House outside the country was raised in the Press, here it was denied by the ruling party members, ordinary members, by the person who was very closely connected with him, by an M.P. If the truth had to be established at that time, the truth of Mr. Ajitab Bachchan having a house violating the FERA in Switzerland would never have come out—because the truth has to be established; otherwise, you will attract the law of defamation. That is why, the Indian Penal Code was earlier like that, a general statement. It seemed me that it had some sense in it. Now the change also has a sense in it, and that sense is clear, to suppress the right of the people to criticise, the right of the people to lay bare the circumstances so that the circumstantial evidence can lead to the real knowledge of the fact. How am I going to be in possession of the files of Bofors? I am not in possession of the files of Bofors. I cannot directly establish the truth. I cannot go into the Submarine deal directly; I cannot establish the truth. . .

18.00 hrs.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Those files have been nationalised.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Already the Indian Ambassador has referred to it.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Generally, I can create a situation where people will make such a noise that somebody will be forced to get at the truth. Therefore, it seems to me that this Defamation Bill, the way it has been brought and the Clauses which have been included in it, all have a method in madness and that is, sabotaging or suppressing criticism, with the sinister aim of having the atmosphere of corruption well protected by this law. That is the clear meaning of this law. Therefore, I thoroughly oppose it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Namgyal.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMGYAL) : Sir, I propose that we may extend the time of the House for some more time because there are Members from both sides who want to speak . . .

SOME HON. MEMBERS : No, no. (*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, the entire Opposition is opposed to it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to reassemble tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday,
August 30, 1988/Bhadra 7,
1910 (Saka).*

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