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**Monday, November 16, 1987
Kartika 25, 1909 (Saka)**

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Ninth Session)



(Vol. XXXII contains Nos. 1-10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

*Monday, November 16, 1987/Kartika 25,
1909 (Saka)*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Strategy for Rabi Pulses

*124. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have chalked out a detailed strategy for the production of pulses during the forthcoming Rabi season;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the target set for the purpose; and

(d) the efforts proposed to be made to meet the target ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (d) A Statement is given below :

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) For increasing production of pulses during the Rabi season a twin approach of increasing the area and also the yield levels has been adopted. The strategy suggested to the state Departments of Agriculture is as follows :

(i) Rabi pulses like gram, peas and lentil may be fitted into the irrigated farming systems.

(ii) Inter-cropping of gram with mustard, safflower and Rabi Jowar would be popularised.

(iii) Efforts would be made to cover maximum areas under Moong/ Urd in the rice fallows with residual moisture in different states.

(iv) Yield levels are to be increased by popularising the low cost technology i.e. timely sowing, optimum seed rate, effective and timely weed control.

(v) Increased use of inputs like application of phosphatic fertiliser, seed treatment with rhizobium culture and adoption of need based plant protection measures would increase the production per unit area.

The targetted production for Rabi is 8.5 million tonnes which has now been raised to 10 million tonnes in order to compensate the possible short-fall in Kharif pulses.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to how much pulses have been imported till now, the countries from which imported and the total amount involved in the import ? I would also like to know the target fixed to grow pulses during the Rabi season for Karnataka State.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : So far as the import is concerned, we have imported from various countries like, Australia, Ireland, Singapore, Syria, Netherlands, USSR, Switzerland, U.K., Sri Lanka, Japan, Italy, China, Kenya Ethiopia, Malaysia, Belgium, Vietnam and the Germany. The total quantity imported in 1983-84 was 2,27,929 metric tonnes and in terms of value it is Rs. 82.87 crores. In 1984-85 the import is 2,35,390 metric tonnes and the value is Rs. 100.70 crores. In 1985-86 the import is 4,29,746 and in terms of value it is Rs. 189.09 crores.

Now, so far as the Rabi season is concerned, You wanted to know the total target ?

SHRI R. L. BHATIA : She wanted to know the strategy first.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The strategy for the production of pulses is to motivate the small and marginal farmers particularly in the rain-fed areas we have made provisions for the supply of seed, fertilisers and other inputs to the farmers at their doorsteps. Credit is the important thing and we have made provision for the supply of credit to the farmers also.

SHRIMATI BASAWARAJESWARI : I would like to know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the kits of seed fertilizer and insecticides meant for distribution among the small marginal farmers of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other minority sections are not being distributed properly. In this regard, I have been pointing out various instances to the State Government. What action is the Government taking to see that these kits reach the really needy persons ? Secondly, I would like to know whether the Government has received a proposal from the Government of Karnataka that if the Central Government gives assistance for the construction of irrigation projects in those areas in Karnataka where the soil is suitable to grow pulses, the Government of Karnataka would assure that they would try to grow only pulses so as to save foreign exchange that would have to be spent while importing pulses.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : So far as the mini kits are concerned, these schemes are implemented by the State Governments. Government of India finances the scheme and the State Government implements them. With regard to complaints, wherever there is a complaint, we can inquire about it. So far I have not received any complaint and if the hon. member has any information about complaints, I will inquire into them. So far as the irrigation schemes are concerned, I have no information at present. But I will supply the information to the hon. member.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Are there any proposals for promoting pulses of short duration crops ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : There is no such proposal, but the ICAR has developed a seed for short duration varieties and they have developed a number of varieties in pulses also.

SHRI BIRINDER SINGH : As far as growing pulses is concerned, it is a gamble for the farmers. Is there any proposal with the Government where if the farmer does not get the full crop of pulses, his loss would be recouped by the Government ? In a way, only paddy and wheat are the assured crops and the pulse crops are not at all assured and that is the reason why pulses are not conducive for the farmers to grow. So, is there any proposal to recoup the loss incurred by the farmers, so as to encourage them to bring more and more area under the cultivation of pulses ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : There is no proposal to compensate the loss incurred by the farmers if they cultivate pulses. But under the strategy for production of pulses, we have requested the State Governments and the extension agencies to promote inter-cropping of pulses.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What about minimum prices ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : We have requested the extension agencies as well as the State Governments to promote inter-cropping of pulses in different crops.

MR. SPEAKER : Do we need your permission for inter-cropping ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : We have requested the extension agencies to promote inter-cropping methods. We have not issued any orders. Nor can we issue orders. We are only educating them.

MR. SPEAKER : Yes. You can educate them. You cannot order.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Then, there are certain early varieties developed, such as the summer-moong. An early variety of Arhar is already developed by the ICAR. It is used as an inter-crop in bajra and many other crops.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : If the anticipated increase in the production of pulses

does not materialise, how much import does the Government propose to make this year ? I also want to know whether the imports will enable to reduce the prices of pulses which are very high at the moment.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Imports depend upon the overall shortfall. Due to drought this year, there will be shortfall. At present, it is not yet assessed as to how much shortfall would be there. If there is shortfall, we will consider the proposal of importing pulses.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : What about fixing the minimum Price for pulses ? Till now it has not been done. What must be the reason ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : The earlier member, Mr. Mahajan enquired about the probable quantity of pulses that were imported. We propose import to only 2 lakh M. T. NAFED and STC importing one lakh M.T. each. I think the question which Mr. Mahajan has asked related to this and I have answered it.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : The Government have schemes to grow more rice in certain States and they are subsidising the seeds, fertilizers and insecticides.

Similarly, the Government should have special schemes to grow more pulses and subsidise the cultivation just like they are doing it in case of rice.

For that the hon. Minister has given the reason as droughts. But I would say the pulses can be grown if the moisture is less and also if there is some rains.

What steps are being taken so that pulses can be grown in fallow lands and also the lands where the moisture is less ?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The hon. Member is right, when he said the pulses can be grown if the moisture is less. I said earlier that we have Promoted these extension agencies to promote the inter-cropping, particularly in the States where the pulses are grown. There are number of steps which the Government of India have taken, particularly, like the following :

1. Distribution of seed minikits of latest short duration improved varieties of different pulses.

2. Organising block demonstration to educate the farmers about the production technology.
3. Laying out of adaptive trials of promising varieties on farmers fields.
4. Biological control of pod borer through release of parasites etc.
5. Training of extension workers to educate them in organising the development programme of pulses.
6. Production of breeder/foundation seeds with the help of ICAR, NSC and SFCI.
7. Subsidy on plant Protection Chemicals for the control of insect, pests and diseases on pulse crops.
8. Organisation of seed village.
9. Stocking and pre-positioning of seeds.

The seed is subsidised at present. The plant protection chemicals are also subsidised. Minikits are given free to the farmers.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : Has the Madam incharge of house department or the kitchen of the hon. Minister told him as to what are the ruling prices of pulses in the market today ? It is Rs. 13 to Rs. 14 per kg.

May I know from you, whether it is due to the droughts which you have referred or whether it is due to some lack in the strategy or the supporting price or that the demand of pulses in the country is much outweighing the production ?

If it is so, how far the strategy which is enunciated by the Minister will be able to make up the demand in the country or the shortage in the country ?

And what would be the effect on the prevailing prices ruling today ?

DR. G. S. DHILLON : Sir, there is no Madam in my house. Only my housewife is there.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : May I know from you whether it is official or unofficial ?

DR. G. S. DHILLON : Only official ! She told me that there was rise in prices during the last 3-4 months. But I would say that since last month, the prices have come down. You should better ask your Madam regarding this.

[*Translation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the farmer is paid at the rate of Rs. 600 per quintal though the price of pulses in the market is Rs. 14 per kg. Why is there such a vast difference ? The difference is more than 100 per cent. What is the Government doing to bridge this gap and provide remunerative prices to the farmers ?

[*English*]

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Do you mean to say the production prices and the prices available to the farmers ?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : And the supply price in the market.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Do you mean to say there is a vast difference ?

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : It is 100 per cent, more than 100 per cent.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : This is ultimately the question put by Prof. Ranga, the hon. Member Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad and the other hon. member. All of them have put the same question. It is about fixation of the prices by CACP of the pulses. Now this policy is particularly for the foodgrains which are more in production and the prices are falling. When the prices are low, the government wants to assure the farmers that the remunerative prices will be given to them and the government will procure it. So, it is an assurance to the farmers that the government will procure their products. The fixation of prices is for that only. Now, here is a commodity which is short in supply. Therefore, the prices are always ruling high and there is no necessity of fixing the prices.

HUDCO Scheme for Rural Landless Labour

*125 **SHRI C. JANGA REDDY :** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the outlines of the scheme which was launched by HUDCO for providing houses for the rural landless labour; and

(b) what were the State-wise targets under the scheme and how do they compare with the progress made so far along with the response of the banking sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) HUDCO provides financial assistance to agencies nominated by the State Governments, against State Government Guarantee, for the implementation of Rural Housing Schemes for the benefit of landless labourers, upto 50% of the cost per unit (excluding cost of land), repayable in 11 years. The rate of interest is 6% if the cost per unit (excluding land cost) remains within Rs. 6,000 and 7% if the cost per unit (excluding land cost) is above Rs. 6,000 but not more than Rs. 10,000. The scheme is in operation since 23-12-1985.

(b) Every year, based on the availability of funds, HUDCO allocates specific amount of loan to be sanctioned to each State/Union Territories on the basis of its area envelop, population etc. for implementation of their Rural Housing Schemes with HUDCO's financial assistance. Upto 23-12-1985, HUDCO had sanctioned 633 rural housing schemes including those for rural landless labour. From 23-12-1985 till 30-9-1987, HUDCO has sanctioned 222 more rural housing schemes including schemes for the rural landless labour. Statewise details of loan allocations and loans sanctioned by HUDCO for rural housing schemes during the year 1986-87 are set out in the statement below.

As regards response of the Banking sector against a total loan allocation of Rs. 50 crores or weaker section housing, HUDCO has so far been able to draw an amount of Rs. 48.86 crores from a consortium of 22 Banks.

Statement

Details of Loan Allocated and Loan Sanctioned by HUDCO for Rural Housing Scheme During 1986-87

State/UT	Loan Allocation (Rs. in crores)	Loan Sanctioned		Total	Remarks
		Land Less	Others		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	4.20	12.15	—	12.15	No such.
Assam	1.49	—	—	—	rem.
Arunachal Pradesh	0.69	—	—	—	—do—
Bihar	4.38	—	—	—	—do—
Gujarat	2.69	2.39	4.25	6.64	—do—
Haryana	0.87	—	—	—	—do—
Himachal Pradesh	0.65	—	—	—	—do—
Jammu & Kashmir*	2.01	—	—	—	
Karnataka	2.80	6.76	—	6.76	—do—
Kerala	1.31	7.65	3.00	10.6	
Madhya Pradesh	5.58	—	1.77	1.75	
Maharashtra	4.42	4.53	—	4.78	
Manipur	0.24	—	—	—	—do—
Meghalaya	0.24	—	—	—	—do—
Mizoram	0.16	—	—	—	—do—
Nagaland	0.17	—	—	—	—do—
Orissa	2.38	0.85	—	0.85	
Punjab	0.99	—	—	—	—do—
Rajasthan	4.01	—	—	—	—do—
Sikkim	0.07	—	—	—	—do—
Tamil Nadu	2.58	1.49	7.90	9.39	
Tripura	0.18	—	—	—	—do—
Uttar Pradesh	6.79	—	—	—	—do—

1	2	3	4	5	6
West Bengal	2.67	—	—	—	—do—
A & N Islands	0.07	—	—	—	—do—
Chandigarh	Nil	—	—	—	—do—
Dadar Nagar Haveli	0.01	—	—	—	—do—
Delhi	0.03	—	—	—	—do—
Goa Daman & Diu	0.6	—	—	—	—do—
Lakshdweep	Nil	—	—	—	—do—
Pondicheery	Nil	—	—	—	—do—
Total	51.75	35.82	16.92	52.74	

*Scheme details required as per guidelines not furnished by the Agency for three schemes of Rs. 0.38 crores.

[Translation]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : According to the statement given by the hon. Minister Andhra Pradesh has been allocated a loan of Rs. 4.20 crores though the sanctioned loan is Rs. 12.15. Is it in crores or lakhs ? I would like to ask the reasons for not utilising 75 per cent of the allocated funds. What is being done to utilise these funds ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : The figures are in crores. The Rural Housing Scheme was implemented from 23-12-85 by HUDCO, which is a financial institution. HUDCO had sanctioned 633 rural housing schemes and from 23-12-85 to 30-9-87, it has sanctioned 222 more such scheme. Much depends on the concerned State Government. It has to identify the number of landless labour who have to be allotted 100 sq. yards of land. The HUDCO will then allocate Rs. 6000 per unit on that basis. The rate of interest is 6 per cent and it is repayable in 11 years. 50 per cent of the cost per unit is provided as assistance by HUDCO. Only the schemes approved by the State Governments are financed by HUDCO.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : The allocation for Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 4.20 crores whereas for landless labour it is Rs. 12.15. Is it in lakhs or crores ? Not a

single penny has been sanctioned for Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, J & K, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Rajasthan whereas the total has gone up from Rs. 51.75 to Rs. 52.74. Is it in crores or lakhs ? Please tell us.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Shri Reddy is not following. These figures are in crores. The allocation for Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 4.20 crores. Depending on availability of funds, Rs. 12.15 crores have been sanctioned for the scheme proposed by Andhra Pradesh Government for the landless labour. This is reviewed from time to time. The State Governments are allocated funds depending on the priority of the schemes. For instance, we have provided for 20,000 houses for the weaker sections and the landless labour during the current year and we shall allocate funds on that basis to the State Governments.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Andhra Pradesh was hit by floods twice during November and Bihar is also frequently hit by floods. Does the Government have any scheme to provide *Pucca* houses to the landless poor on subsidised basis ? I would suggest that such a scheme can be launched in consultation with the States, and both the Centre and State can contribute 50 per cent of the cost of the unit.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : The main question is how much is HUDCO investing in the rural sector. This is a separate question.

MR. SPEAKER : He is giving a suggestion.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Since 1983-84 our Government, in our State has constructed 5,11,000 houses and we have a target of 10 lakh houses by the end of the Seventh Plan. In these circumstances, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the National Buildings Organisation has evolved appropriate designs to suit local conditions in different parts of the country to utilise the local materials including lime mortar so that the cost of construction will be very very minimal. As a matter of fact the late Mr. G.D. Naidu had formulated some designs for very low cost houses, but unfortunately he did not receive any encouragement from the Government. I would like to know now whether the Government in view of the fact that it has realised the seriousness of the housing problem, it will make available the designs of the National Buildings Organisation to the different State Governments to adopt those designs. I would like to know this.

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : We ask the National Building Organisation time and again to give demonstration in the States and they have been doing so. We ask them to construct good houses at low cost keeping in view the climate of our country and they hold exhibitions in different states regularly in this regard.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Andhra Pradesh has been allocated Rs. 4.20 crores whereas Uttar Pradesh has been allocated Rs. 19 lakhs as per the statement. I would like to know whether this allocation is done on the basis of population or poverty? Secondly, there is a general complaint that the material used by HUDCO, Housing Development Societies and Development Authorities in the construction of houses is of very poor quality, though the funds are given by the Centre. These houses are in

bad shape after two to three years. Is there a scheme to monitor the work?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : It entirely depends on the State Government. HUDCO provides financial assistance to the states according to the requirements of the proposed scheme. It is the prime responsibility of the State Government to ensure the quality of the houses. We monitor the work through DCP.

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : In the remarks column of the answer given, we find that out of 31 States and Union Territories no schemes have been received from 23 States and Union Territories. That is the remark given. Out of the rest of eight I would like to know how many schemes are pending and awaiting disposal. Another point, I want to know is whether the implementation of those schemes is being monitored by the HUDCO.

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : The Estimates Committee has suggested in its 32nd report that everybody should be involved in it. Besides, the entire fund of HUDCO for the current year has been earmarked for the rural landless. We allocate the funds as per the information provided by the State Governments regarding the landless poor. The Estimates Committee has pointed out that there should be maximum involvement in the HUDCO so that landless are benefited the most.

[English]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Sir, The current year is the year of the 'home for the homeless'. In the case of a number of States, nothing has been allocated. I understand that the States have not put forward any proposal. Has the Centre taken any initiative in asking the State Governments to send proposals which are worthwhile? I am told that no house can be built for six thousand rupees. Has it been examined? If it is viable?

[Translation]

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Sir, it is our constant effort to provide housing to the rural landless poor. The Central Government have issued guidelines in this regard and discussions are held with the

representatives of State Governments from time to time. Ministers incharge of different States attend our conferences and we impress upon them to submit their schemes regarding landless people in their respective States for Centre's approval. The hon. Member has rightly said that in some States, the progress in this field is negligible. In spite of this, we are making our best efforts. Secondly, the year 1987-88 has not yet ended and it will be our endeavour to allot houses to maximum number of people by the end of this year.

Vayudoot Service for Jagdalpur, M.P.

*126. **SHRI MANKURAM SODI :** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the requisite infrastructure has been created to link Jagdalpur in Madhya Pradesh with Vayudoot service;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which Jagdalpur will be airlinked with Vayudoot service ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The requisite infrastructure to airlink Jagdalpur in Madhya Pradesh has not yet been created.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) Subject to availability of adequate aircraft capacity, Vayudoot has plans to airlink Jagdalpur after the necessary infrastructural facilities are created and the airport is declared fit for operations. No definite date for commencing the air services can be indicated at this stage.

[Translation]

SHRI MANKURAM SODI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister, in reply to my question, has stated that Vayudoot service cannot be introduced because the requisite infrastructure facilities to connect Jagdalpur with air service have not so far been built. He has further stated that no definite date about starting the air service can

be stated. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the year in which the runway construction work was started at Jagdalpur. I would like to inform the hon. Minister that the construction work of runway at Bilaspur was also started alongwith the construction of Jagdalpur runway and it has been completed now. What are the reasons for delaying the work at Jagdalpur and why the work of construction was not completed ? I would like to inform that a Japanese team, which had come in connection with Baladila Project, had landed on this ground in its Boeing aircraft. Smt. Indira Gandhi, the late Prime Minister of India, had also landed once on this ground alongwith her Boeing aircraft during her Orissa visit. In spite of that, what are the reasons for not building the requisite infrastructure facilities so far for landing Vayudoot Service ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : On receipt of demand from the hon. Member, a team consisting of the Managing Director, Vayudoot, a Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, a representative of the National Airport Authority of India and the Director General, Civil Aviation was sent there on 20-9-1987. It was asked to inspect the site and report to Government as to the time by which the work can be completed. On reaching the site, the team came to learn that out of 150 feet long runway, only 50 feet has been surfaced. It is not fit for landing the Dornier aircraft. Thereafter, the State Government was asked to complete the surfacing work upto 75 feet and make the runway available for operation. They accepted our proposal and assured that they will re-surface the runway by the end of November. Thereafter, it was noticed that there is no parameter wall around the airport. The P.W.D. was asked to look into this work and they assured to complete it by mid-November. There was no terminal building also at that site. They were asked to construct a temporary infrastructure so that the Vayudoot Service could be introduced at the earliest. The State Government agreed to this proposal also. Besides, a National Highway runs through the runway and it was necessary to divert the route of the highway away from the runway. I was talking to the officers of the Ministry yesterday. They stated that the air service will operate once in a week. Hence a barrier will be set up

there because the highway route cannot be changed. Now the State Government have assured that all arrangements will be made by the end of November. Thereafter, the team was sent again. A meeting was also held in my office on 12th October. The last meeting was held on 27th October. If State Government completes all the arrangements by the end of November, the Government will start Dornier service from 5th December. Now the State Government have informed that they will complete the work by 5th December. If all these works are completed by 5th December, the air service will start operating from 10th December.

SHRI MANKURAM SODI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this work has not been done and as a result, the people of Bastar are facing inconvenience in communications which is an obstacle in its progress. In view of Government's decision to link Jagdalpur and Bilaspur, will it start air service first in Bilaspur and later in Jagdalpur or simultaneously at both the places? Will the Government take a decision to start the service first at Jagdalpur?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : We will start the air service first in Jagdalpur because it is in the tribal area. We wish to introduce the service at the earliest. This will give me much pleasure.

SHRIMATI VIDYAVATI CHATURVEDI : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that in view of the fact that landing facility has already been provided in Bilaspur, and also in view of Government's proposal to start air service from Delhi to Bhopal, Bhopal to Bilaspur and Bilaspur to Jagdalpur, will the Government start the service in Bilaspur because Bilaspur is also a tribal area, and the landing facility in Jagdalpur is not yet ready?

Secondly, the Government wants to extend air service from Delhi to Bhopal and Bilaspur. Will it be extended upto Khajuraho so that Khajuraho could be connected by air service with Bhopal, the State Capital, and Chhatisgarh also. This will provide direct facility to tourists wishing to reach Khajuraho.

MR. SPEAKER : You give this suggestion in writing.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, I shall look into this suggestion.

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD YOGESH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to the hon. Minister, Vayudoot Service will be extended to all those places in the states where these arrangements have been made. If so, will the hon. Minister introduce Vayudoot service for places like Patna-Dhanbad-Jamshedpur.

MR. SPEAKER : You submit the suggestion in writing.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Will the Vayudoot Service be extended to district Jhunjhunu and its adjoining district Sikar, because all facilities for operating Vayudoot Service are available there?

MR. SPEAKER : Please send a written suggestion.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Sir, my question is very important.

MR. SPEAKER : We shall take up your question later.

[English]

Hospital for Beedi Workers in Farrukhabad District (U.P.)

*127. **SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has received a request for construction of a hospital for Beedi workers at Gursahaiganj in Farrukhabad District;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon;

(c) if no request has been received, whether Union Government propose suo moto to establish a hospital for these beedi workers in view of their long outstanding hardships on account of lack of basic medical facilities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is under examination,

(c) and (d) Do not arise,

SHRI KHURSID ALAM KHAN : I would like to know from the hon. Minister—I do not know whether he has the full information—whether this proposal has been under consideration for the last three years or not? Is it not a fact that the first indication was given that there would be a 50 bed hospital, after that it was said that it would be a 30-bed hospital and finally it was said that it would be only a 10-bed hospital. May I know from the hon. Minister whether it takes three years to decide about a 10 bed hospital to be provided for this area from where crores of rupees of excise duty is collected every year.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, the first proposal was received in the year 1984, and then a proposal from the hon. Member was received in 1985. At that time the proposal was for 50 beds. Then, after considering the entire policy, it appears that the Government decided to expand more and more dispensaries because the dispensaries are catering to the workers in a better way, and the workers are being issued identity cards also. On 27th of May the proposal crystallised. It has been approved as a ten-bedded hospital—as has also been allowed and approved by the Health Department. Now it appears that the preliminary estimate is ready. The formal approval was given on the 3rd of September 1987. After it is sent to the Finance and the Finance approves it, then it will be sent to CPWD for construction.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, whether it is sent to Finance or not, the fact is that the beedi workers are without any medical facilities there and they are suffering on this account. So, I would like to know whether the Government is really serious to do anything for them. Or they must say that it is not possible for the Government to do anything for beedi workers and they will continue to collect crores of rupees as excise revenue from them.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, the Government is very serious over the matter. In fact, during the last three years, there has been lot of expansion of dispensaries and also a 50-bedded hospital is now under construction. The proposal for

another one has gone for approval whether it is to be constructed or not.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Sir, I would like to know whether the Government is aware that the workers engaged in beedi making are suffering from the occupational hazard of T.B. Tuberculosis is permanently there among the beedi workers. Lakhs of workers are affected by this but no medical care is provided to them. This has especially been witnessed in the areas of Mangalore and in the nearby border district of Kerala where lakhs of workers are there. So, I would like to know whether the Government has got any proposal to see that T.B. sanatorium or some such things are there where the workers can be kept.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, it is a commonly prevalent idea that one of the hazards in the occupation of the beedi workers is that they get infected with tuberculosis. I have consulted the experts and they say it is not so. The tuberculosis disease is not an occupational hazard so far as beedi workers are concerned. They get affected like others whose purchasing power being low, the proper intake is not there and who, therefore, suffer from various malnutritions. For the beedi workers, certain beds have been reserved in sanatoriums so that their admission is expeditious. Secondly, the modern medical advice, as you know, is that if it is tuberculosis, then home treatment with dispensary facilities is more beneficial for them.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, the medical facilities for the beedi workers, as well as housing construction, are supposed to be financed out of a special Fund which is collected by imposing a cess on the beedi owners. We had passed that Act here—the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act. So, I would like to know from the Minister as to how much money has accumulated up-till now in this Fund which is coming out of this cess on the beedi owners, and how much of that money has actually been spent for construction of hospitals or dispensaries or houses for the beedi workers.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, so far as the Cess is concerned, I have got the figures

for the years 1984-85, 1985-86, and 1986-87. So far as 1986-87 is concerned—I need not go into other years—the opening balance was Rs. 7,61,79,218. Out of that, the receipts were Rs. 4,16,98,304, payments were Rs. 3,24,00,000 and the closing balance was Rs. 8,54,00,000. In the year 1987, we have started with that opening balance. So far as education is concerned, marked improvement has been noticed because more Income is there. In 1984-85, the total amount spent in lakhs was Rs. 51.61 in 1985-86, it was Rs. 63.95;

For the year 1986-87, it was Rs. 72.01 crores and for 1987-88 it will be Rs. 139.10 crores. The hon. Member has asked about the health. For 1984-85, it was Rs. 121.42 crores and this has gone to Rs. 359.80 crores in 1987-88. For housing purposes, from Rs. 0.40 crores in 1984-85, it has gone up to Rs. 125.65 crores in 1986-87.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I have asked how much money has been spent.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : That is what I am saying.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I did not ask that. You may spend so many crores. Even then there may be no houses or no dispensaries.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : I am saying that these figures are all about the payments. We have got the figures about the payments of 1986-87.

MR. SPEAKER : Listen to his question. What does he want ?

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I wanted to know whether out of this fund, the expenditure on houses for beedi workers, on the construction of dispensaries, hospitals and schools, is available with him and whether he can tell us how many have been constructed out of this fund.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : I do not have the figure for how many have been constructed. That figure is not with me. But how much has been spent for construction, I have got that information.

Recovery of E.P.F. Arrears

*128. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the energy crisis and sickness in jute and textile mills are mainly responsible for pushing up the arrears of Provident Fund contributions;

(b) the amount of contributions during 1985-86 as compared to 1986-87;

(c) the regions where the arrears registered the maximum increase; and

(d) the steps being taken to recover the arrears ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

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

Statement

(a) While the energy crisis might have contributed to some extent towards industrial sickness, Industrial sickness is definitely one of the causes for increase in the E.P.F. arrears.

(b) The amount of contributions realised is as given below :

	Exempted Establish- ments	Unexempted Establish- ments
	(Rupees in Crores)	
1985-86	860.21	687.96
1986-87	1023.68	770.83

(c) The maximum increase in arrears was reported from the following regions :

(i) *Unexempted Establishments*

Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal.

(ii) *Exempted Establishments*

West Bengal and Bihar.

(d) The E.P.F. Organisation is at present taking the following steps, for recovery of arrears :

(i) Issue of Revenue Recovery Certificates under Section 8 of the E.P.F. Act;

(ii) Filing of prosecutions case against defaulters under Section 14 of the E.P.F. Act;

- (iii) Filing of complaints under Section 406/409 IPC.
- (iv) Levying of damages under Section 14B of the E.P.F. Act;
- (v) Filing of prosecution cases against exempted establishment under Section 14(2A) of the E.P.F. Act.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Sir, despite provident fund arrears having been discussed in this House, over many years and many times, there continues to be an increase of provident fund arrears. In the last year for which figures are available, that is for 1985-86 and also for 1986-87, there is almost 24 per cent to 25 per cent increase in the arrears itself and this has been passed off by saying that this arises because of industrial sickness. Sir, industrial sickness is very well-known and it has become a generalised statement that because of the industrial sickness this has happened. We have formulated legislation to deal with provident fund arrears but, despite all kinds of notices and all punitive measures available to the authorities, provident fund arrears continue to rise. Whether it comes cloaked in various things like industrial sickness and energy crisis is has been happening year, after year and every year there is a registered growth in arrears. So, Sir, is the Government thinking of changing the collecting laws and changing the rules on recoveries. In the cooperative movement, we have that where there are spot actions and there is no recourse left for going to the courts. In provident fund arrears the notice is issued, somebody goes to the Court and gets a stay order. Will the Government assure the House that they will amend the law and come up with regulations to the effect that these arrears do not go on increasing from year to year?

SHRI A. K. PANJA : In regard to most of the arrears, it appears that because of certain steps being taken by defaulters Government are considering, as the hon. Member knows, besides the existing availability of infrastructure and outstanding they say, some provisions of the law are to be amended so that in both the unexempted establishments and exempted establishments, the recovery could be strengthened and proper recovery is made.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : The hon. Minister has expressed the intention that defaulters should not be there and all that. That is not my point. I want to ask him one specific point. What is the amendment he is considering and when will it be brought before this House? That is the specific point which I want to know. That means that the present provisions are not stringent.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : There are already provisions. But they are not implementing them.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : If they are not being implemented, why are you not implementing them? He says that they want to amend the law. They are not stringent enough.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Besides the steps being taken, there are certain stay orders granted by the courts on account of which a lot of arrears are remaining due and we could not recover them. Various instalments were also granted. But gradually we are also recovering them.

Then, Sir, there is pendency for reconstruction of the schemes ordered by the court. The court has not only stayed some, but also some schemes have been approved by the court for the purpose of recovery and those are to be implemented by the Government for the purpose of recovery of arrears. Then, closures and lock-out of the establishments are coming in the way, and therefore, certain aspects of the law are being thought of regarding how to plug the loopholes and take care for the proper recovery of these dues.

SHRI KAMAL NATH : Why should arrears accrue at all, forget about recovery of arrears?

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what are the arrears of Provident Fund from the industries in West Bengal.

SHRI A. K. PANJA : Sir, it appears that West Bengal is the biggest defaulter, which was in arrears of Rs. 70.51 crores out of the total arrears of Rs. 98.51 crores of exempted establishment.

(Interruptions)

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : What steps have been taken by the Government to recover these arrears ?

(Interruptions)

Farmers Problems

***129. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any committee has been set up to find out the problems of farmers; and

(b) if so, its composition, terms of reference and other details ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as President of the Bharat Krishak Samaj you know more than anybody else the problems of farmers. Some time back, on 1st February, 1987. You have stated in a rally of the farmers at Panta that you have submitted a draft to the Prime Minister regarding the real position of the agricultural sector and the requirements to improve the financial conditions of the farmers, and you also stated that the agricultural equipments should be exempted from sales tax and that the prices of agricultural commodities like wheat and other things should be linked with price index. Sir, the fact is today a farmer with 15 acres of land with assured irrigation to raise one crop is not in a position to lead his life which matches with the life that is being led by a clerk working in Government or in a bank or in LIC. That is a hard reality.

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : It is as 'attendant' Sir, not as 'clerk'.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Sir, I agree with my colleague who substitutes 'clerk' with 'attendant'. But the fact is that under these circumstances the farmers are genuinely feeling that the in-

crease in prices of the agricultural inputs like G.I. pipes, H.D.P. pipes, cement and steel, diesel engines, electrical motors and pesticides etc. is much more than what they are getting in return for selling their agricultural produces because the terms of trade are against the farmers and the index is 30 points for manufacturing goods, it is 30 points higher than that for agricultural goods.

MR. SPEAKER : Please put the question.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Yes, Sir, I am putting the question. At present the CACP does not cover chillies or turmeric crops. With regard to comprehensive crop insurance scheme, cotton, sugarcane, tobacco, horticultural crops like potato or plantations like bananas are not covered. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will appoint a Committee to look into these problems and several other problems that are being faced by the farmers throughout the country and ask the Committee to give suggestions to overcome these problems that are being experienced by the Government.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Sir, the Government has no proposal at present to appoint such a Committee. But I would like to clarify at this stage that so far as the prices of agricultural commodities are concerned, the CACP is there and in their terms of reference we have introduced in March 1980 thus the terms of trade should be taken into consideration while fixing the prices of the agricultural commodities. Therefore, the point raised by the hon. Member has no strength at all.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : No strength ? What is this answer ?

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : What is this, Sir ? Mr. Makwana is not a farmer, he does not know farmers' problems.

(Interruptions)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : When some farmers are put to serious loss due to loss of crops by natural calamities, sometimes in succession,

they will not be in a position to repay the loans, because their re-payment capacity is fully lost. Why do the Government not consider writing off the loans in such a bad situation? After all, the Government or the Reserve Bank is writing off the dues from industrial units as bad debt every year to the tune of hundreds of crores of rupees. The irony is even the information is not supplied to this very House under the Secrecy Act.

I want to know categorically from the Minister, through you, whether the Government will now take a decision to write off loans of farmers who are very badly affected due to successive droughts, due to floods, cyclones, as in the case of Prakasam district, Andhra Pradesh where in the matter of 15 days, two cyclones have hit the farmers. Will the Government appoint a committee to study this aspect and suggest ways and means to help the affected farmers?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : Already there is a scheme for it. There is a comprehensive crop insurance scheme to restore credit eligibility to the farmers. It is for the States to accept this scheme. As far as I remember, Andhra has a scheme of comprehensive crop insurance where the farmers eligibility to obtain the credit is restored.

So far as the loans are concerned, there is a provision where in case of natural calamities, we are converting the short-term loans into medium-term loans and we are re-scheduling the loans.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : That is not the answer. What about writing off the loans?

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that there is no committee and the Government has no intention to form a committee. The farmers are unorganised in this country and Government's efforts are also unorganised, which is very unfortunate. I would like to know from the hon. Minister in this connection if the Government will take any steps afresh on its own so that a committee may be formed including *inter alia* all the members of

Bharat Krishak Sevak Samaj to take immediate decision on all the problems of the farmers and start work based on those decisions? Have any steps been taken in that direction?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : The Government appoints a committee where it is necessary. For example, a committee has been appointed to look into the affairs of seed production and fix the prices. A committee has also been appointed for re-structuring of I.C.A.R. Hence the Government appoints committees for different purposes.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are the Chairman of Bharat Krishak Sevak Samaj. My position is very awkward. As a Minister and *ex-officio* President of the Bharat Krishak Sevak Samaj, whom should I obey? Should I obey you, or myself or my Minister?

MR. SPEAKER : In a democracy you should obey the majority.

[English]

PROF. N. G. RANGA : So far as the credit is concerned, my hon. friend, the Minister is saying that the Reserve Bank has got some policy to reissue the loan and so on. Have they taken any decision to ask the Reserve Bank and the other banks not to charge penalty rate on the farmers, when they are not able to repay in time?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : In case of natural calamities, we are re-scheduling the loans so that farmers are not to pay the penalty. It is because, penalty is for not paying it in time. When re-scheduling is done, care is taken that he will be paying it when there is a good crop year. That is why, we are doing the re-scheduling converting the loan. There is no question of paying penalty in case of rescheduling.

(Interruptions)

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you are a *Krishak Neta*. Our Minister is *Krishik Pandit*. I do not know whether the Minister of State is having any degree.

The hon. Minister has clearly avoided the question put by the hon. Member. The

question is whether there is a Committee to go into the details. The hon. Minister said about the ICAR. We are not interested in the ICAR. The question is are you going to appoint a Committee to study the grass-root problems, of the farmers.

The other question is whether you are going to waive the loans of the farmers. In Andhra Pradesh, the State Government had waived the interest of cooperative loans since 1960 onwards. I want to know from the hon. Minister through you whether the farmer's problem will be taken up by the Government and whether the problems will be studied by a Committee consisting of the Parliament Members under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Speaker.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : That will be against the Committee.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : My reply is categorical. I said about the Committee 'No'. There is no such Committee. So far as the appointment of the Committee is concerned, I said that there is no necessity. So far as the loan is concerned, I have given positive reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Are you allergic to me ?

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Yes, Sir. They are quite allergic to it. While they are not hesitating to write off hundreds of crores of rupees to the industrialists as bad debts, they are not prepared to write off the loan arrears of the farmers. Rescheduling is not a solution.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : I said it is not necessary. Wherever there is a problem or a special problem, we have a special Committee for the purpose.

Upgradation in Air India Fleet

*134. **SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :**

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has any proposal to augment its fleet during next one year;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal and financial implications thereof;

(c) the number of persons likely to get employment as a result thereof;

(d) whether any aircraft is likely to be taken or being taken on lease; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Air India will be acquiring two Boeing 747-300 (Combi) aircraft at an estimated cost of Rs. 371.74 crores including rupee expenditure, in October/November, 1988. The foreign exchange expenditure of this project is US \$ 274.20 million.

(c) 498 persons are likely to get direct employment, as a result of the induction of these aircraft.

(d) and (e) Air India has signed an agreement on 16th October, 1987 with M/s. Aeroflot for the wet leasing of one IL-62M aircraft for scheduled operation on the India-USSR Route.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : In view of the fact that AIR India has been rated as one of the worst airlines in a recent survey due to inadequate number of air craft resulting in cancelled and delayed flights, whether Government in addition to purchasing 2 Boeings proposes to acquire some aircrafts on lease in order to improve the image and performance of Air India.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I would like to correct the hon. Member. Air India does not come under one authority. It is some unrecognised Body. It is not even recognised anywhere in the world. Some Users Committee has got up and said "We boarded some aircraft but we do not find it up to standard." Let me tell you that Air India is one of the finest companies in the world and is rated so and its services are also rated so. No doubt, the requirements of Air India are large because there are many routes which have been unutilised. It is because of the capacity. We are not able to have aircraft. We have entered into an agreement to purchase 2 Boeing

aircraft and if we need, we will go in for further purchase of the aircraft because our credit rating in the international market is one of the best anywhere in the world.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Commercial Fishing of Krill Fish in Antarctica

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

(a) whether Government have made any study for the commercial fishing of krill fish in Antarctica; and

(b) which are the other nations that are engaged in the krill fishing in this area ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) As a part of Antarctic research programme, scientific investigations on the locations of living organisms including krill are carried out in Antarctica by Department of Ocean Development.

(b) Nations engaged in krill fishing in Antarctica are Chile, France, German Democratic Republic, Japan, Republic of Korea, Poland and the USSR.

Import of Milk Products

*132. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an acute shortage of milk in cities and rural areas due to starvation deaths of cattle owing to drought;

(b) if so, whether in view of above, Government propose to import milk-powder and butter-oil to meet the demand; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) There has been fall in the availability of milk and milk products during the last few months due to wide-spread drought conditions. However, there are indications that the situation is improving now.

(b) and (c) In order to ease the situation, some quantities of skim milk powder and butter oil are being imported as under :

(i) EEC has agreed to supply 12,000 MT of skim milk powder and 4,000 MT of butter oil under Food Aid Programme 1987 for Operation Flood.

(ii) Commercial import of some quantity of skim milk powder and butter oil has been arranged.

Central Funds to Bihar for Slum Clearance

*133. SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) how much Central funds have been allocated to Bihar State for clearing the slum areas; and

(b) how many district towns have been chosen for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) and (b) The present policy of the Government lays emphasis on environmental improvement of urban slums in situ rather than their massive clearance or relocation. The Scheme of Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums (EIUS) is in the State sector and appropriate projects are formulated and implemented by the State Governments, in accordance with their needs and priorities, out of their State Plan provisions. There is a provision of Rs. 5 crores for slum improvement in the Seventh Five Year Plan of Bihar State.

'Agro Climatic Zones'

*135. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be Pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to divide the country into different agro-climatic zones for proper and efficient crop planning;

(b) if so, the modalities of the scheme; and

(c) to what extent it would be helpful to farmers to plan their crop strategies ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details of the scheme for development of above zones are being worked out by the Planning Commission.

Reduction in Rice Production

*136. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a global shortfall in rice production this year has been predicted; and

(b) if so, the details of steps being formulated to check the shortfall in rice production ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) The October 1987 issue of "Food Outlook" brought out by the Food and Agriculture Organisation forecasts a decline in global output of rice production during this year.

(b) In India, due to widespread drought conditions prevailing in many States and floods in some States, in the Eastern region during the Kharif season, production of rice during the crop year 1987-88 is likely to be affected.

In order to make up the shortfall in kharif production, a vigorous rabi production strategy is being implemented, which includes increased coverage of area under location specific high yielding varieties and efficient use of agricultural inputs. A Central Sector Minikit Programme of rice and propagation of a new technology is under implementation. Training programmes in improved rice production technology are organised for Extension Workers. The Centrally sponsored Special Rice Production Programme is being continued in the Eastern States to increase the production and productivity of rice in the region. The States are also advised to plan the coverage under rice during the rabi season, depending on availability of irrigation water together with optimal input use efficiency, to get higher production.

Extension of E.P.F. Benefits to the Employees of Shops and Establishments in Karnataka

*137. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :
SHRI H. B. PATIL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka State Provident Fund Regional Panel has recommended to Union Government to bring the employees of shops and establishments under the purview of the Provident Fund Act;

(b) the number of employees working in shops and establishments in Karnataka State; and

(c) whether Union Government have agreed to cover shops and establishments which employ five or more persons against the present ceiling of 20 or more employees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir. No such proposal has been received by the Union Government as yet.

(b) The information regarding number of employees working in shops and establishments etc. neither available nor maintained by the EPF Organisation.

(c) There is at present no proposal to extend the provisions of the E.P.F. Act to shops and establishments employing less than 20 persons.

Effects of Chemicals Fertilizers and Multi-Cropping on foodgrains Production

*138. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether intensive use of chemical fertilizers and multicropping has caused deficiency of micronutrients in soil and adversely affected the production of foodgrains in certain parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether a survey in this regard has been carried out;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the measures being taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The survey has been conducted by the nine Cooperating Centres under the All India Coordinated Project on Micronutrients in soils and Plants. Of the 1 lakh soils and 15,000 plant samples analysed under the project, the extent of micronutrients deficiency has been indicated to the order of 42, 12, 5 and 3 per cent respectively for zinc, iron, manganese and copper.

(d) Practical recommendations regarding the form of micronutrient carrier, the level, method and frequency of application have been generated under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research Coordinated Project. These recommendations are being advocated by the State Extension Agencies to correct the micronutrient deficiency in farmers' fields.

Fine on Air India By F.R.G.

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

(a) whether the Federal Republic of Germany has imposed a fine on Air India for illegal transportation on a sylum seekers to that country; and

(b) if so, the amount of fine and other details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Amongst other airlines, Air India have also been fined Deutsche Marks 14,000/- (Approximately Rs. One lakh) for carrying such a sylum seekers.

Committee on Reduction in Delhi Development Authority Expenditures

*140. **DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :**

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority had constituted a committee to reduce its current expenditure;

(b) if so, when this Committee was constituted and the time by which it was directed to submit its report;

(c) whether the committee has submitted its interim report, and

(d) if so, the salient features of the report ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) The Delhi Development Authority have constituted a Sub-Committee to suggest ways and means to reduce the heavy expenditure on its establishment.

(b) The Sub-Committee has been constituted on 25-9-1987.

No time limit has been prescribed for submission of its report.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Agro-Based Industry for A.P.

*141. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up any new agro-based industrial units in Andhra Pradesh, especially in Nalgonda and Rangareddy districts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have received any proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh in this regard; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. is stated to have the following proposals under their consideration for the establishment of agro-based industries in the state :

Sl. No.	Project	District
1.	Coconut complex	West Godawari
2.	Malt processing unit	East Godawari
3.	Cotton seed processing unit	Prakasham
4.	Tapioca processing unit	East Godawari
5.	Medical processing plant unit in collaboration with A.P. Agril. University.	Rangareddy
6.	Processing and canning of super sweet corn	Rangareddy
7.	Feed stock project	Nalgonda

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Doordarshan Projects for Hill Areas of Uttar Pradesh

*142. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the Doordarshan projects approved for hill areas of Uttar Pradesh for the current Plan period;

(b) the efforts made so far for the implementation of these projects; and

(c) the time by which these projects are likely to be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) Establishment of a 100 W TV transmitter at Tanakpur, a 2×10 W TV transmitter each at Almora, Gangotri, Gopeshwar, Haldwani, Kausani, Ranikhet and Uttarkashi and a TV transposer each at Narendernagar and Srinagar in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh, is included in the Seventh Plan of Doordarshan.

(b) and (c) While TV transmitters at Tanakpur and Almora have been already commissioned into service and another transmitter is expected to be installed and commissioned at Gopeshwar during the current financial year, five more TV transmitters, one each at Gangotri, Haldwani, Kausani, Ranikhet and Uttarkashi are expected to be installed and commissioned into service during 1988-89. Orders for major equipments for the above transmitters have been placed and sites at Gopeshwar and Haldwani have been finalised. The commissioning of the TV transposers will depend on the availability of the required equipment, infrastructural facilities and annual allocation of Plan resources.

[English]

*143. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHI-MALA BALI :
SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of cases are pending in the Labour Courts in the country;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to open more labour courts in the country; and

(c) if so, the details of the plans in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The Central Government has set up eleven Central Government Industrial Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts throughout the country to deal with cases falling within the Central sphere under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The eleventh Court at Bangalore was set up recently, in January 1987, after taking into consideration the pendency of cases in the four Southern States. A statement showing the pendency of cases/applications in these courts is given below. No. proposal is at present under the consideration of the Central Government to set up any other Central Government Industrial Tribunal-cum-Labour Court.

Statement

Pendency of cases/applications of Central Government Industrial Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts as on 30-9-1987.

S. No.	Tribunal	Cases	Applications
1.	No. 1 Dhanbad	158	47
2.	No. 2 Dhanbad	625	52
3.	Asansol	57	75
4.	No. 1 Bombay	59	603
5.	No. 2 Bombay	110	484
6.	Calcutta	248	178
7.	Jabalpur*	311	1288
8.	New Delhi	186	1527
9.	Chandigarh	147	2104
10.	Kanpur	230	566
11.	Bangalore	145	—
		2276	6924

*Information is available only upto July, 1987.

Safety Measures in Mines

*29. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drive for mine safety lost its zeal soon after the Chasnala tragedy in 1975;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how Government propose to revive and strengthen the safety measures in mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Director General of Mines Safety and his officers enforce the statutory

provisions in respect of mines safety. Mines are periodically inspected by the officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety. A Standing Committee on safety in coal mines headed by the Union Energy Minister reviews from time to time the status of safety in coal mines. The Mines Act 1952 has also been amended with a view to making safety provisions more effective and also to provide for workers' participation in safety management. Hence, strengthening and modernising the safety measures in mines have been and still are a constant and continuous process keeping in view as far as possible the modern scientific and technological advancement of mines safety.

Indo-Canadian Edible Oil Tie-up

1263. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far in the Indo-Canadian edible oil tie-up;

(b) the quantity of edible oil likely to be imported; and

(c) the mode of its distribution and utilisation in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Governments of India and Canada has been executive on 17-10-1987. As per the agreement Canada will provide an assistance upto C \$ 89 Million.

(b) About 1,25,000 tonnes crude rapeseed oil is likely to be imported.

(c) The gift oil received would be distributed through the participating Agencies like state level oilseeds Growers Cooperative Union/Federations for sale at market price. The funds thus generated

will be utilised for implementing the various components of the NDDB's oilseeds project.

Guidelines to States for Raising Fodder

1264. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether guidelines have been issued to State Governments indicating financial assistance for the raising of fodder during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount allotted for the purpose under the drought relief programme to each State/Union Territory ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Financial assistance for raising fodder was provided to seven States during the current financial year.

(b) State-wise details are given below :

Sl. No.	State	Area (ha)	Amount sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Rajasthan	50,000	175.0
2.	Gujarat	50,000	175.0
3.	Madhya Pradesh	25,000	87.5
4.	Tamil Nadu	25,000	87.5
5.	Bihar	25,000	87.5
6.	Punjab	25,000	87.5
7.	Haryana	25,000	87.5
Total		2,25,000	787.5

Implementation of Integrated Rural Development Programme

1265. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Integrated Rural Development Programme has not been fully implemented by various State Governments;

(b) whether Government have received any report from the State Governments in regard to the progress of the Integrated Rural Development Programme;

(c) if so, the names of those States which are lagging behind and the reasons therefor and the action taken by Union Government in this regard; and

(d) the instructions issued to the State Governments to fully implement the Government's policy in regard to implementation of rural development programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) :

(a) The Integrated Rural Development Programme is implemented in all the States/UTs. In the current financial year upto the end of September, 1987, 12.79

lakh families have been assisted i.e. 32.71% of the annual target.

(b) The Government is receiving monthly progress report on the implementation of IRDP from all State/UTs.

(c) A statement indicating the progress under IRDP upto the end of September, 1987 is given below. The target for assistance upto the end of September, 1987 is 35% of the annual target. Most of the State have achieved this target. The States lagging behind are Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Union Territories of Delhi and Lakshadweep. The main reasons for shortfall are diversion of block and DRDA staff for relief operation for drought in many States, the time spent in identification of beneficiaries, projects and their approval by the banks etc. The Department has written to the concerned States to step up the implementation so that atleast 70% of the annual target is achieved by December, 1987.

(d) Detailed guidelines have been issued for implementation of the programme. From time to time, whenever certain shortcomings are observed, the State Governments are further addressed to overcome them.

Statement

Statewise families assisted under IRDP during 1987-88 till September, 1987.

(Provisional)

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	Annual target (Nos.)	Physical achievement till Sept., 87	% to target
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	273909	102954	37.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	18860	1544	8.19
3.	Assam	81256	18109	22.29
4.	Bihar	536427	201759	37.61
5.	Goa	5210	2255	43.28
6.	Gujarat	147421	61408	41.65

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Haryana	49438	16926	34.24
8.	Himachal Pradesh	27930	13648	48.87
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	37745	9429	24.98
10.	Karnataka	161239	33667	20.88
11.	Kerala	115419	50812	44.02
12.	Madhya Pradesh	384078	125004	32.55
13.	Maharashtra	276970	71128	25.68
14.	Manipur	7741	2920	37.72
15.	Meghalaya	9718	524	5.39
16.	Mizoram	7368	1919	26.05
17.	Nagaland	10720	1035	9.65
18.	Orissa	208680	58716	28.14
19.	Punjab	55158	30108	54.59
20.	Rajasthan	198162	42425	21.41
21.	Sikkim	2017	1058	52.45
22.	Tamil Nadu	269380	100266	37.22
23.	Tripura	10662	7088	66.48
24.	Uttar Pradesh	766063	237460	31.00
25.	West Bengal	239674	84437	35.23
26.	A & N Islands	1640	580	35.37
27.	Chandigarh	425	NR	NR
28.	D & N Haveli	445	162	36.40
29.	Delhi	3038	879	28.93
30.	Daman & Diu	1042	NR	NR
31.	Lakshadweep	900	70	7.78
32.	Pondicherry	2280	819	35.92
All India :		3911015	1279109	32.71

NR— Not Received.

[Translation]

Development of Mazar of Hazl Waris Ali Shah

1266. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop 'Mazar' of Hazi Waris Ali Shah in Barabanki, U.P. as a tourist spot;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The Central Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to States for development of tourist infrastructure on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments. The Ministry has not received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for development of 'Mazar of Hazi Waris Ali Shah in Barabanki'.

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

[English]

Touching Calcutta By PAN AM, K.L.M. Airlines

1267. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approached PAN AM and K.L.M. to operate their flight via Calcutta;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the results achieved so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir, PAN AM and K.L.M. are, however, entitled to operate to Calcutta as per air services bilateral agreement.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Construction of Fish Cold Storage Capacity at Visakhapatnam

1268. DR. T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government are aware of the need to construct a fish-cold storage of one thousand tonnes capacity at Visakhapatnam;

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

(c) the steps taken to ensure that lack of cold-storage facilities for fish may not crash the fish prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c) No study has been made so far on the requirement of cold storage facilities at Visakhapatnam. However, such proposal can be considered if based on investigation and economic viability of the project.

S. R. Sen Committee

1269. SHRI MANIK SANYAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether S. R. Sen Committee recommended allocation of additional funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for increasing agriculture productivity in Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the funds released by Union Government to the States, Statewise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) Dr. S. R. Sen Committee on Agriculture productivity in Eastern India worked out a rough estimate of public outlay and needs of credit to provide a broad indication of the magnitude of efforts required for implementation of the programmes recommended by the Committee. The important areas of activities recommended by the Committee are; adequate input and extension support,

adoptive research, irrigation drainage, land reforms, provision of agricultural credit, etc.

(c) Central assistance is given to the States in the form of block loans and grants and not allocated for individual Heads of Development of Schemes. To supplement the efforts of the State Governments, the Central and Centrally Sponsored Programmes are also financed fully or partly by the Central Government. Further, for agricultural development, the Seventh Plan has earmarked higher order of resources for the States than for the Centre for covering new activities for agricultural development. The programmes recommended by the Committee being within the broad Plan framework, funds are available under State/Central Schemes for utilisation by the States based on relative priorities.

Vayudoot/Helicopter Service to Kerala

1270. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the States that have been extended Vayudoot and Helicopter services for promotion of tourism; and

(b) whether Vayudoot and Helicopter services are available for private charter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Pawan Hans Ltd. has placed helicopters, on wet-lease terms, at the disposal of the State Govt./Union Territories mentioned below :

1. Jammu & Kashmir
2. Sikkim
3. Nagaland
4. Lakshadweep.
5. Andaman & Nicobar Islands

The manner in which these helicopters are to be utilised is the prerogative of the lessees.

Vayudoot is operating services to the following States/Union Territories :

1. Andhra Pradesh
2. Arunachal Pradesh

3. Assam
4. Bihar
5. Goa
6. Gujarat
7. Himachal Pradesh
8. Karnataka
9. Kerala
10. Maharashtra
11. Madhya Pradesh
12. Manipur
13. Meghalaya
14. Mizoram
15. Nagaland
16. Orissa
17. Punjab
18. Rajasthan
19. Tamil Nadu
20. Tripura
21. Uttar Pradesh
22. West Bengal

Union Territories

23. Chandigarh
24. Daman & Diu
25. Delhi

(b) Yes, Sir.

World Bank Aid for Multi-State Cashew Projects

1271. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the multi-state cashew projects sponsored by the World Bank are in operation in some States;

(b) if so, the names of States and the targets fixed to undertake cashew plantation in these States during 1987-88 and by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) whether Government propose to request the World Bank to extend the period of aid for implementing multi-state cashew project in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the steps taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Multi-State Cashew Project assisted by World Bank is in operation in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Orissa. No specific targets have been fixed for Seventh Five Year Plan. The state-wise targets of fresh plantation during 1987-88 is given below :

State	Target (Ha.)
1. Andhra Pradesh	560
2. Karnataka	1900
3. Kerala	750
4. Orissa	1000

(c) and (d) Originally the project was sanctioned upto September, 1985. It has been subsequently extended upto September, 1987 with the credit closing date as on 31st March, 1988 for all the participating States including Orissa.

Demands of Workers of Mother Dairy

1272. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mother Dairy Workers Welfare Union observed one day fast on 30 September, 1987 and if so, the demands raised by the Union; and

(b) the steps taken for the redressal of their demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA

(MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) The Mother Dairy have reported that the Workers Welfare Union did not inform them whether they observed one day fast on 30-9-1987. However, some reports which appeared in the Press indicate that the Mother Dairy Workers Welfare Union observed fast in front of Lt. Governor's office on 30-9-1987. The Press Reports contained some allegations of corruption and mis-management which the Mother Dairy have refuted.

Zonal Procurement Price for Crops

1273. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a demand for fixation of zonal procurement prices for principal crops in the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) There have been a few demands regarding fixation of procurement/minimum support prices on a zonal basis. However, a uniform procurement/minimum support price for the whole country is justified on the ground that it encourages crop specialization and leads to efficient utilisation of resources by promoting greater investment and production in relatively low cost areas.

LPT at Kasargod and Malappuram

1274. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the time by which the low power TV transmitters at Kasargod and Malappuram are expected to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : As per the present indications, a 100 W TV transmitter each at Kasargod and Malappuram in Kerala is expected to be installed and commissioned into service during 1987-88.

Occupancy in ITDC Hotels

1275. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the room occupancy of I.T.D.C. hotels has declined during the first six months of 1987 as compared to the first six months of 1986;

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

(c) the steps proposed to increase the room occupancy of IDTC hotels during the next six months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) No Sir. The overall average percentage room occupancy in ITDC hotels during the first six months of 1987 was 70% as against 64% for the same period of 1986. In order to achieve higher percentage room occupancy, a number of steps are being taken by the ITDC which *inter-alia* include :

- Participation in travel trade forums in overseas market like ITB Berlin, PATA, ASTA, etc.
- Sponsoring of familiarisation tours of foreign travel agents to India in coordination with Air India.
- Sponsoring of travel writers and journalists from abroad for writing about India and the Ashok Group Hotels.
- Signing of special rate contracts with foreign tour operators by offering incentives on the basis of volume of business to encourage group movement, etc.
- Establishing personal contracts with major tour operators and travel agents promoting traffic to India.

Vayudoot Service between Calcutta Haldia

1276. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce Vayudoot service between Calcutta and Haldia;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) Constraint of aircraft capacity and paucity of other resources do not permit inclusion of Haldia in immediate expansion plans of Vayudoot.

ILO Study About Bonded Labour

1277. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the phenomenon of bonded labour in India has attracted the attention of the ILO and the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations;

(b) if so, whether the ILO has sponsored any study on the subjects; and

(c) whether Union Government have extended necessary cooperation for such a study or survey ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir, The subject has been discussed by the Working Group on Slavery of the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations and ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Telecast of Janvani Programme

1278. SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL : SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Janvani' programme has been discontinued;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether a demand has been made from many quarters to restart the same;

(d) if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(e) the time by which the said programme will be restarted ?

31. THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b) Since almost all the Central Ministries have already been covered in the programme 'Janvani', this programme has come to an end.

(c) to (e). A few requests for reviving the programme were received. However, at present, there is no proposal to revive this programme.

Report of Fact Finding Committee on Newspapers Economics

1279. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any action has been taken on the observations made in the Report of the Fact Finding Committee on Newspapers Economics (January, 1975) about the close links between Newspapers Companies and other Companies;

(b) whether the Report inter-alia recommended investigation in certain specific cases; and

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

1. THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) to (c) The report of the Fact Finding Committee was examined but before a final decision could be taken, there was a change of Government in 1977 and subsequently the entire question relating to diffusion of ownership of the Press was remitted to the Second Press Commission which also noted the recommendations of the Fact Finding Committee. The Commission has, in general, emphasised the need for insulating the Press from the dominating influence of other business interests in order to enable it to become a vehicle of free thought and expression. The problem, however, continues to evade solution because of the legal, constitutional and other complexities involved.

Storage of Seeds with National Seeds Corporation

1280. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Seeds Corporation has failed to produce quality seeds to meet the requirement of seeds for the next sowing seasons;

(b) whether the wheat stock with Food Corporation of India has been found to be incapable of germination;

(c) if so, the likely requirement of seeds for various crops for the next sowing seasons and the shortfall if any and the manner in which shortfall is to be met; and

(d) whether Government propose to import seeds on a limited scale to off set the shortage and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The wheat grain procured from Food Corporation of India to be used as seed is subject to the germination test. Hence, the question of such seeds being incapable of germination does not arise.

(c) The likely seed requirement for various crops for Rabi, 1987-88 is about 42.00 lakh quintals. Due to untimely rains in the states of Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh at the time of harvesting during this year, the wheat seed production was adversely affected to the tune of 20-25%. The Government of India under a special scheme has entrusted National Seeds Corporation with the responsibility of supplying uncertified wheat seed to Bihar (3 lakh quintals) and Jammu & Kashmir (0.91 lakh quintals) after procurement from Food Corporation of India's godowns. The other wheat growing states are making their own arrangements. In respect of other crops where there is shortage, the states are making their own arrangements.

The drought conditions prevailed in most of the states during Kharif, 1987 and the seed production programme of various crops was affected badly. In order to make available sufficient quantities of different seeds during kharif, 1988 additional production Programme to the extent

of 1,04,145 lakh quintals is proposed to be taken during Rabi, 1987-88.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

Import of Butter-Oil

1281. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to import butter-oil from the United States of America;

(b) if so, the quantity of butter-oil proposed to be imported during 1987-88; and

(c) the purpose for which the butter-oil is going to be utilised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) During 1987-88, it is proposed to import about 5200 MT of butter oil which the USAID have approved as donation to erst-while Indian Dairy Corporation. Further, under the United States Sugar Quota Compensation programme, the Delhi Mother Dairy's Fruit and Vegetables Unit is receiving about 2305 MT butter oil.

(c) Butter oil is proposed to be utilised for supply to dairies for use for recombination into fluid milk and for direct sale to consumers/users.

T.V. Serial "Chunauti"

1282. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the T.V. serial 'Chunauti' was acclaimed by the public as the best series telecast by Doordarshan on drug addiction;

(b) if so, the reasons for not extending the serial;

(c) whether Doordarshan propose to give extension to the T.V. serials based on their popularity; and

(d) if so, the details of the T.V. serials granted extension solely on account of their popularity ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) The serial 'Chunauti' was one the popular serials telecast on Doordarshan recently. The serial dealt with the problem of education-system, students and teachers alike. Only a few episodes dealt with the drug problem among the students.

(b) Approval for revival of serial with nine more episodes has since been given to the producer.

(c) and (d) All proposals for extension are considered strictly on merit and not solely on the basis of popularity. So far, no serial has been given on the reason of popularity alone.

Employment to Drought Affected People

1283. SHRI H. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission has made any assessment of the steps taken to provide employment to people in drought affected States;

(b) whether Government have received any information/report from the States in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Government of India has made a preliminary assessment.

(b) and (c) Drought affected States have been requested to submit reports periodically on number of works and number of labourers employed in relief works, Details of relief works and number of labour employed, as reported by the States, as on 10th November, 1987 are as under :

State	No.	Relief works
		Labourers (lakhs)
1. Gujarat	3325	8.86
2. Haryana	693	0.57
3. Karnataka	1585	0.37
4. Madhya Pradesh	2976	1.65
5. Rajasthan	60664	10.00
6. Tamil Nadu	N.R.	*
7. Uttar Pradesh	1365	0.27

*70,429 lakh No. of mandays generated.

Reports from other affected States have not been received.

Allotment of Flats Under Self-Financing Schemes by DDA

1284. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of applications received by the DDA for the allotment of residential flats under self-financing schemes during the years 1985, 1986 and 1987 so far; and

(b) the number of flats allotted and the number of applications still pending with the DDA for allotment of flats ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Registrations for Self-Financing Schemes have been made by the D.D.A. over the years prior to and including 85-86. After registration, applications for allotment of residential flats under the schemes are invited when flats are proposed to be constructed in various localities. The number of applications received during 85-86 to 87-88 (Upto October, 87) for specific allocation of flats is as follows :

Year	No. of applications
1985-86	3013
1986-87	3322
1987-88 (Upto Oct. 87)	16213
	22548

(b) The number of flats allocated is as under :—

Year	No. of applications
1985-86	1678
1986-87	2009
1987-88 (upto Oct '87)	3010
	6697

No application is pending. Under SFS allocation is made on the basis of preference of localities given by the registrant in his application submitted in response to release of flats during a particular period. After allocation, the applications of un-successful registrants are filed, and they apply afresh as and when the flats are released again for allocation.

Development of Brackish Water Fish Farming

1285. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States where brackish water fish farming is prevalent;

(b) the estimated area in hectares under brackish water fish farming, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken for the development of brackish water in order to increase shrimp and fish farming ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Brackish water fish farming is prevalent in all maritime States viz, West Bengal, Orissa Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(b) State-wise estimated area under brackishwater fish/prawn farming is as follows :

States	Area in ha.
(i) West Bengal	30,000
(ii) Orissa	1,500
(iii) Andhra Pradesh	1,000
(iv) Tamil Nadu	100
(v) Kerala	8,000
(vi) Karnataka	1,800
(vii) Goa	6,500
(viii) Maharashtra	1,800
(ix) Gujarat	100

(c) Some of the important steps taken by the Government for the development of brackish water fish farming are as follows :

- (i) Central Institute of Brackish Water Aquaculture has been established for carrying out research and extension.
- (ii) Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery has been set-up to undertake survey, investigation and formulation of projects for helping the States to develop the brackish water farms.
- (iii) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme, viz., Integrated Brackish Water Fish Farm Development is in operation to extend financial and technical support to the State Governments in the task of development of brackish water farming.
- (iv) In order to effect the transfer of technology in the brackish water farming and hatchery and feed

formulation, the Government have approved an UNDP project, operative from April 1986.

- (v) The Ministry of Commerce is also playing a supportive role to promote prawn farming in brackish water areas extending financial and technical support to the States and the prospective entrepreneurs.

Guidelines for Foreign Postings

1286. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN :

Will the Minister of Tourism be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down in his Ministry for postings abroad;

(b) if so, what are these guidelines;

(c) whether there have been any instances when these guidelines were not followed in making such postings during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the reasons for making deviations from the normal guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A copy of the guidelines followed by Ministry of Tourism (Department of Tourism) for foreign postings in its 18 field offices abroad, is given below:

(c) and (d) These guidelines have been framed for administrative convenience and are not of mandatory nature. In certain cases it is not possible to adhere to all the conditions given in the guidelines. Selections for overseas postings are made keeping in view their performance and experience at the Headquarters/field offices.

Statement

The following guidelines may be adopted for purposes of foreign postings of Regional Directors and Directors :

- (a) The officer should have rendered at least 7 years of service in the

Government. Out of this, two years should have been spent in the Department of Tourism, Government of India;

- (b) An officer who has returned from overseas posting should normally be considered only after a period of 3 years. However, an officer showing outstanding performance of special merit may be considered after two years;
- (c) The officer should have a good record of service and no departmental action should be pending against him;
- (d) Other things being equal, the place of posting should be determined keeping in view the knowledge of local language and communication skills;
- (e) The Officer should not be on the verge of retirement. Officers having less than 3 years service should not be considered for foreign posting;
- (f) Preference may be given to senior officers who have not done any foreign posting, provided the officer has requisite qualifications and capability.

The normal tenure should be *two years*. During this period a review should be undertaken and in case the officer is doing outstanding work, the period could be extended by one year.

Proposals as per this criterion may be put up at an early date.

Wages of Rural Labour

1287. SHRI R. M. BHOYE :
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee of Members of Parliament was set up by Union Government to visit various States for an on-the-spot study about the wages being to the rural labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(d) the States visited by the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, A Sub-Committee of the members of the Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Labour was constituted for studying and reporting on the problems of unorganised workers in the agricultural sector.

(c) The Sub-Committee is yet to submit its report.

(d) The Sub-Committee visited Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala, Orissa, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Goa.

Preservation of Neglected Monuments by DDA

1288. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI :
DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA propose to establish a conservation cell for the control and preservation of neglected monuments in the Capital; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) A Conservation Cell with core staff has been started in the D.D.A. to prepare conservation plans for important areas of urban heritage.

The work of this cell will be monitored and guided by an Inter-Departmental 'Conservation Committee' under the Chairmanship of the Lt. Governor, Delhi.

[Translation]

Development of Shanidev Temple M.P.

1289. SHRI KAMMODILAL JATAV :
Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to develop Shanidev Temple in Chambal division Madhya Pradesh, as a tourist centre; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b) The Central Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to States on the basis of proposals received from State Governments. The Ministry has not received any proposal from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for development of Shanidev Temple in Chambal Division as a tourist centre.

[English]

Production of Paddy in Tribal and Backward Areas in Andhra Pradesh

1290. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether per capita income from agriculture in the state of Andhra Pradesh in general and in the tribal and backward areas in particular is the lowest in the country;

(b) if so, average income on production of paddy in Andhra Pradesh per hectare;

(c) the average production of paddy in tribal and backward areas, particularly in Mahboob Nagar District, during the last three years, year-wise; and

(d) the average consumption of fertilisers per hectare during the last three years and also during the current drought

year and the extent to which the use of fertilizers has been increased/decreased ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No Sir. The per capita income from the Agriculture Sector in 1985-86 for Andhra Pradesh is Rs. 297.65 (at constant 1970-71 prices), which is significantly above the all India average of Rs. 284.48. Separate details regarding income from agriculture in tribal and backward areas are not available.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement given below gives production of paddy (in terms of rice) in various districts of Andhra Pradesh during the period 1983-84 to 1985-86.

(d) Table below gives the average consumption of fertilisers per hectare in Andhra Pradesh during the last three years ending 1986-87 :

Year	per hectare consumption of Fertilisers (N+P+K) in Andhra Pradesh (Kgs.)*	
1984-85	— —	73.19
1985-86	— —	66.31
1986-87	— —	67.31

—Area figures adopted for calculating the per ha. consumption relates to the year 1983-84.

During 1987-88, the per hectare consumption of fertilisers in Andhra Pradesh is likely to show an increase to 70.9 Kgs.

Statement

District-wise Production of Rice in Andhra Pradesh

District	(Hundred tonnes)		
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Srikakulam	3979	2477	4345
Vizianagaram	2479	1754	1988
Visakhapatnam	1320	879	609

District	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
East Godavari	9442	8817	9115
West Godavari	11153	11944	12009
Krishna	9343	8378	10036
Guntur	8371	6218	8100
Prakasam	3010	1383	2368
Nellore	5026	3663	4554
Kurnool	1768	1259	1418
Anantapur	1133	842	688
Cuddapah	1767	1043	1150
Chittoor	2849	2244	2587
Rangareddy	909	901	421
Hyderabad	6	6	3
Nizamabad	3410	2832	2596
Medak	2463	1512	1266
Mahaboobnagar	2465	1228	852
Nalgonda	5914	4660	4436
Warangal	3591	1728	1786
Khammam	2604	1048	2409
Karimnagar	3886	3569	3007
Adilabad	1019	706	843
Total :	87907	69091	76586

Amendment to the Minimum Wages Act

1291. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI
GUPTA :
SHRI LALITESHWAR PRASAD
SHAHI :

(a) whether Government propose to
amend the Minimum Wages Act, 1948;

(b) if so, the details of the amend-
ments to be made in the proposed Act;
and

Will the Minister of LABOUR be
pleased to state :

(c) to what extent the poor labourers
will benefit from the proposed legislation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) A number of suggestions have been made for amendment of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to make it more effective and provide expeditious relief to the employees covered under the Act. These include *inter-alia* reviewing the rates of minimum wages at short intervals unless these have variable component of Dearness Allowance, enhancement in the compensation amount, payment of interest in case of non-payment and short-payment of wages, deposit of a part of the claimed amount, restrictions on change in the conditions of service during the pendency of claims proceedings and enhancement of penalties, etc. The proposals for amendment are yet to be finalised.

Hardships to Indian Workers in Foreign Countries

1292. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY :
SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that usually passports and relevant documents of Indian workers abroad are taken away by foreign companies causing immense hardships to Indian workers;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to eliminate such a practice; and

(c) whether the Indian missions have been asked to help such workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) In accordance with local labour laws, foreign employers keep workers passports in safe custody and return them at the time of workers departure with valid exit-visas. For stay and movement in the country of employment, resident permits are given to the workers. In case of any difficulty, Indian Missions render assistance by taking up the matter with the employer and the local government.

Assistance of Scientific Organisations to Fight Drought

1293. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have enlisted the assistance of scientific organisations to tackle the occurrence of drought with the latest technical 'know-how'; and

(b) if so the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India have evolved a Programme of Action to fight drought using Science and Technology (S and T) inputs through various agencies like the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Department of Space, Department of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development, Department of Science and Technology and the Department of Water Resources.

S and T inputs are used in defining precisely the drought affected areas as well as the drought prone areas. They can also be employed for effective execution of ameliorative steps like assuring water supply for irrigation and drinking, scientific prospective for water resources, removal of contaminants for drinking water etc. In a meeting on 11-9-87, all concerned scientific and user Departments, dealing with drought, have been advised to identify specific programmes and give a thrust in the ensuing annual plans to meet the drought situation.

Floor Price for Coconut

1294. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government to propose to fix the floor price for coconut on a regular basis; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision will be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b) Government have decided to fix the support price for coconut (copra) on a regular basis as in the case of major agricultural commodities. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices is already looking into the matter.

Allotment of Newsprint to Newspapers

1295. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the policy for the distribution of newsprint to the newspapers;

(b) whether there are many weekly/daily newspapers which have been registered for the last 32 to 40 years with the Registrar of Newspapers but are not getting the newsprint quota; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) The distribution of newsprint is governed by the Newsprint Allocation Policy announced by the Government from time to time. The existing policy for 1986-88 was announced and laid on the table of the House on 13-11-86.

(b) and (c) The allotment of newsprint is made to newspapers which are registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India and who submit their applications in the prescribed proforma in accordance with the Newsprint Allocation Policy in force and comp. with the guidelines. The possibility of a number of newspapers not applying for newsprint in accordance with the newsprint Allocation Policy and thus not getting the newsprint cannot be ruled out.

[Translation]

Construction of new Servant Quarters in Western Court

1296. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether new servant quarters are proposed to be constructed by demolishing old servant quarters of Western Court, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the time by which this work is likely to start ?

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

(b) 32 new servant quarters have already been constructed. Additional Servant quarters are to be constructed after demolishing 20 old servant quarters and 10 garages. Construction will be taken up after vacation and demolition of the servant quarters proposed to be demolished.

[English]

Passenger Handling Capacity at Bombay Airport

1297. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the peak passenger handling capacities, both incoming and outgoing, separately, of each of two Modules of Bombay International Airport;

(b) the number of passengers, incoming and outgoing now being handled by the two Modules separately at the International Terminals of Bombay Airport on hourly basis on each day; and

(c) the number of passengers going to and arriving from the Gulf countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The peak-hour passenger handling capacity of the two Modules at Bombay International airport is as follows :

Terminal	Departure	Arrival	Transit
Module I	1400	700	700
Module II	1400	700	700

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

Decline in Shrimp Catch

1298. SHRI T. BALA GOUD :
SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for extending the concessional facilities for oil and berthing to fishing trawlers based on Andhra Pradesh Coast;

(b) whether there is downward trend in shrimp catch causing economic hardship to fishing units; and

(c) if so, the action contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) There is no proposal at present for extending concessional facilities for oil and berthing of fishing trawlers based on Andhra Pradesh coast.

(b) and (c) Shrimp catch during the last four years (1983 to 1986) is as follows :

1983	1.97 lakh tonnes
1984	2.03 lakh tonnes
1985	2.32 lakh tonnes
1986	2.14 lakh tonnes

The marginal decline in shrimp catch in 1986 is attributed to natural fluctuations. Since no declining trend in shrimp catch is indicated, no action is contemplated.

**Simplification of procedure to Grant Loans
by E.P.F. Organisation**

1299. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT :
SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT :
SHRI JAGANNATH PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation has liberalised the rules for withdrawals for house buildings from

Employees Provident Fund and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of house building loan applications cleared by Provident Fund Offices located in Maharashtra during 1987;

(c) whether any complaints have been received against Nagpur Sub-Regional Provident Fund Office and if so, the thereof; and

(d) the month-wise break up of house building loans sanctioned by Nagpur Sub-Regional Provident Fund Office during 1987 so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The following liberalisations have been made in the rules for withdrawals for house building during the last three years :

(i) The quantum of withdrawal has been increased from twenty four months wages to thirty six months wages;

(ii) The recovery of withdrawal, which is misused, has been restricted to cases where the recovery has been ordered by the sanctioning authority while the member is in service;

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Committee to Boost Tourism

1300. DR. G. S. RAJHANS :
CHOWDHRY AKHTAR HASAN:
SHRI LALITESHWAR PRASAD
SHAHI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee to look into the bottlenecks in the way of rapid growth of tourist traffic to India was set up;

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its recommendations to the Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and to what extent the growth of tourist traffic to India is likely to be boosted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINIS-
TRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH
TYTLER) : (a) and (b) A National
Committee on Tourism has been set up
by the Planning Commission to formulate
a long term perspective plan for the
tourism sector. The composition of the
Committee is as given below :

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Shri Mohammed Yunus
Chairman,
Trade Fair Authority of India. | Chairman |
| 2. Shri S.K. Misra,
Secraetary,
Ministry of Tourism | Member |
| 3. Smt. Kapila Vatsyayan,
Secretary,
Department of Arts. | Member |
| 4. Shri K. L. Thapar,
Adviser (Transport & Tourism),
Planning Commission. | Member |
| 5. Shri K. B. Lall,
Former Commerce Secretary,
and Ambassador to EEC. | Member |
| 6. Dr. B. Venkataraman,
Former Secretary
Ministry of Tourism and
Civil Aviation. | Member |
| 7. Shri A. N. Haksar,
Former Chairman
I.T.C. | Member |
| 8. Shri Inder Sharma,
Chairman,
SITA World Travels | Member |
| 9. Shri Gautam Khanna,
Sr. Vice President,
Oberoi Hotel and
Chairman—Mercury Travels. | Member |
| 10. Shri Rajan Jetley,
Managing Director,
Air India. | Member |

11. Shri A. B. Kerkar,
Vice Chairman & Mg. Director,
Taj Group of Hotels.

Member

12. Shri R. K. Puri,
Director,
Indian Institute of Tourism and
Travel Management.

Secretary

(c) The report has not yet been submitted.

(d) Does not arise.

Preservation and Processing of Cashew-Apple

1301. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Cashew Farmers Union in Kerala has submitted a proposal for setting up a project for the preservation and processing of cashew apple in the State;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to initiate any project for the proper utilisation of cashew apple;

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No project proposal for setting up a preservation and processing unit of cashew apple in Kerala has been submitted by Cashew Farmers Union of Kerala to Ministry of Agriculture. However, in the mass petition submitted to the Prime Minister, the Union has requested for review of the policy on alcoholic production in the cases of cashew apple processing industries.

(b) Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has no proposal to initiate a project for the utilisation of cashew apple for alcohol production.

(c) Does not arise.

Telecast of TV Serial 'Ramayana'

1302. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ramayana serial is the most popular serial on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the total income from advertisements telecast before the telecast of each episode;

(c) whether Doordarshan will have share of the proceeds from the sale of cassettes of the serial; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The average gross revenue from advertisements telecast before each episode comes to approximately Rs. 25 lakhs. In addition, an amount of Rs. 1.5 lakhs is received as sponsorship fee.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The serial is produced by a private producer. All the rights on the cassettes of this serial vest in him. Hence, Doordarshan has no share in the sales of the cassettes.

I.L.O. Report about Job Insecurity

1303. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT:
SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-
SEKHARA MURTHY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Labour Organisation has recently revealed that the

urban workers in the developing countries have been facing high job insecurity since 1980's;

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

(c) whether any survey has been conducted by Government to ascertain the job security prospects of urban and rural people in the country; and

(d) so, the details thereof and steps Government propose to provide job security to urban people in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) The reference appears to be to the conclusions of the recent ILO World Labour Report which draws attention to the fact that contract workers, out workers, domestic workers and casual workers in urban areas in developing countries suffer from different forms of job insecurity.

(b) In so far as the position in India is concerned, the Government is already aware of the problems of the categories of workers mentioned in the report.

(c) and (d) The strategy for generation of greater employment opportunities both in rural and urban areas has been laid down in the Seventh Plan, 1985-90. While the domestic workers are as yet not covered under labour legislation, efforts are being made to streamline the working of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 so as to safeguard the interests of contract and migrant workers. It may be pointed out that of late,

the Government has been playing greater attention to the problems of unorganised workers both in the rural and urban areas.

Acquisition of Land in South Delhi

1304. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news report in 'Mid Day' (New Delhi edition) of 15 October, 1987 under the caption 'Rs. 300 crores land scandal';

(b) whether Government have permitted the Delhi Administration to allow to sell 7600 acres of land of 13 villages of South Delhi;

(c) whether any notifications under Land Acquisition Act have been issued in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The notifications u/s 4 and 6 were issued in respect of 13 villages of South Delhi in the years 1980 and 1985 respectively.

(d) The list showing the names of 13 villages in South Delhi, their notification numbers under Section 4 and 6 of Land Acquisition Act and their dates is given below.

Statement

List of 13 Villages of South Delhi

Sl. No.	Name of Village	Notification U/s 4	Notification U/s 6.
1	2	3	4
1.	Shahoor Pur	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 25-11-80	F.9 (16)/85 L & B Dt. 20-5-85
2.	Net-Sarai	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (17)/85-L & B Dt. 21-5-85

1	2	3	4
3.	Saidul-Ajaib	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (18)/85-L & B Dt. 21-5-85
4.	Satbari	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 25-11-80	F.9 (20)/85-L & B Dt. 27-5-85
5.	Hauz Rani	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (19)/85-L & B Dt. 27-5-85
6.	Tughlakabad	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (21)/85-L & B Dt. 6-6-85
7.	Tigri	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (22)/85-L & B Dt. 6-6-85
8.	Khanpur	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (24)/85-L & B Dt. 6-6-85
9.	Deoli	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (23)/85-L & B Dt. 6-6-85
10.	Khirki	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 5-11-80	F.9 (25)/85-L & B Dt. 7-6-85
11.	Chhattar Pur	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 25-11-80	F.9 (26)/85-L & B Dt. 7-6-85
12.	Rajpur Khurd	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 25-11-80	F.9 (27)/85-L & B Dt. 18-6-85
13.	Maidan Garhi	F.9 (16)/80-L & B Dt. 25-11-80	F.9 (28)/85-L & B Dt. 18-6-85

Cheating of Workers Seeking Jobs Abroad

1305. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a large number of complaints from the public about cheating of workers seeking jobs abroad by agents;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering to entrust this work to employment exchanges to eliminate malpractices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A.

SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir. However, complaints against some agencies for cheating and fraud have been received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Distribution of Surplus Land to Landless Persons in Delhi

1306. DR. A. K. PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of landless persons identified by the Administration upto October, 1987 in the Union Territory of Delhi;

(b) the total area of land acquired for distribution to landless persons by the Administration upto October, 1987;

(c) the total number of landless persons allotted land by the Administration and also the total number of beneficiary landless persons who have been given the actual possession of allotted lands upto October, 1987; and

(d) the total area of land allotted and actually handed over by the Administration to the landless persons upto October, 1987 and how do the compare with the targets fixed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV):

(a) Identification of landless persons is conducted keeping in view the land available for distribution in a particular village. Accordingly, 34,926 persons are identified as landless in U.T. of Delhi.

(b) Total land acquired for distribution under the Land Ceiling Act is 1,153.30

acres and 7,564.50 acres of arable and wasteland vested in Gaon Sabha was available for distribution.

(c) Surplus ceiling land was allotted to 512 persons for agriculture purposes and 286 persons for housesites. Physical possession of allotted ceiling surplus land has been handed over to 791 persons.

Gaon Sabha land vested in Gaon Panchayats has been allotted to 34,128 landless persons for housesites and 6,971 persons for agricultural purposes. Actual physical possession has been delivered to 33,331 beneficiaries of house-sites and to 6,971 beneficiaries of agricultural land.

(d) Total surplus ceiling land allotted is 333.72 acres and area as actually handed over is 326.72 acres. Similarly, 7564.5 acres gaon sabha land was allotted for house-sites and agricultural purposes and actual possession was handed over in respect of 7,544.5 acres.

The achievements as target fixed is as under :

Year	Target Surplus land in acres	G. Sabha land for house-sites in number	Surplus land in acres	Achievement G. Sabha land for house-sites in number
1982-83	N.A.	2000	N.A.	2406
1983-84	100	4000	143	4197
1984-85	80	4000	13	4608
1985-86	50	4000	42	3781
1986-87	30	4000	18	3790

Credit Facilities to Farming Community

1307. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have under consideration any scheme to provide adequate credit facilities to farming community;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the proposed scheme is to be implemented through National Cooperative Development Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c) Under Non Overdue Cover and Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund Schemes and the scheme on contributing to the debentures of Land Development Banks Central Government provide assistance for increased flow of credit to farmers. No new scheme is under consideration. The above three schemes are not being implemented through National Cooperative Development Corporation.

Amendment to Industrial Disputes Act

1308. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to amend the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed amendments include, *inter alia*, establishment of Industrial Relations Commissions/High-Powered Tribunals comprising judicial and non-judicial members both at the Centre and in the States; provision for Collective Bargaining Agent/Council for a unit or for an industry for a specified term; identification and the method of selection of the Collective Bargaining Agent, etc. These Provisions are expected to lead to expeditious settlement of industrial disputes and promote healthy trade-unionism.

Bonus to Employees of Hotel Kanishka

1309. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the average earnings of Hotel Kanishka since it started functioning;

(b) whether bonus and other welfare facilities are provided to the employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Hotel Kanishka was commissioned on 3-8-82. Its average total annual turnover for the years from 1982-83 to 1986-87 has been worked out to Rs. 477.35 lakhs and the net profit (before tax) is Rs. 74.66 lakhs.

(b) and (c) The employees of Hotel Kanishka have been paid bonus @ 20% for the year 1986-87. The hotel has a separate staff welfare fund account administered by a Committee comprising elected workers representatives of the Hotel and the management nominees.

Foreign Expertise for Brackish Water Fish Farming

1310. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any foreign expertise has been obtained in the field of brackish water fish-farming to encourage fish and prawn cultivation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) A UNDP Project is in operation since April, 1986. The UNDP are providing international consultants on the project in the fields of farming, hatchery and feed formulation. The project is being implemented through the Central Institute of Coastal Engineering for Fishery under the Ministry of Agriculture.

(ii) The Ministry of Commerce, through their Marine Products Export Development Authority are constructing two prawn seed hatcheries, one each in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh with the expertise from France and the U.S.A. respectively.

**Coverage of Important Functions by
Doordarshan Kendra, Srinagar**

1311. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doordarshan Kendra Srinagar (Kashmir) sent a team with a cameraman on 17 October, 1987 to Kupware and Baramulla to cover two functions;

(b) if so, the cost incurred, including the charges on transport, by the Kendra; and

(c) when was the film displayed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) to (c). A TV Team was deputed by Doordarshan Kendra, Srinagar to cover two functions one at Kupware and the other at Baramulla on 17th October, 1987. However, due to unavoidable circumstances, the team was held up at Kupware and could not reach Baramulla. The coverage done at Kupware was telecast on 18 October, 1987. No other expenditure was incurred by Doordarshan on the coverage except payment of Daily Allowance to the team. The transport was provided by the Animal Husbandary Department of the State Government.

**Annual Sports Meets by Indian Council
of Agricultural Research**

1312. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research holds annual sports meets every year;

(b) whether a large number of institutes affiliated to Indian Council of Agricultural Research have already completed their annual sports meet for the year 1987;

(c) whether ICAR also propose to hold their annual sports meet for the year 1987 like rest of the institutes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINIS-

TRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of four zones, one zone, comprising thirteen institutes, has completed the zonal tournaments.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of the drought situation and the economy instructions, it has been decided in consultation with the Central Joint Staff Council to postpone the I.C.A.R. Sports Meet for the year 1987-88.

Allotment of Wheat to Rajasthan

1313. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan had asked for three million tonnes of wheat from Union Government to make payment of wages to labourers engaged in famine relief works, N.R.E.P. and R.L.E.G.P. in the State; and

(b) the quantity of wheat which has been provided to the Government of Rajasthan upto September 30, 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Government of Rajasthan in their memorandum submitted for seeking Central assistance in the wake of drought have also requested for allotment of 2.8 million tonnes of wheat.

(b) During the year 1987-88, the State Government have so far been allotted 3,48,059 M.T. of wheat.

International Flight from Trivandrum

1314. SHRI A. CHARLES : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the international flights being operated from the Trivandrum Airport at present;

(b) whether any request either from the Indian Airlines or any other Airlines for

starting new International flights have been received; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND
MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINIS-
TRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH

TYTLER) : (a) Details of international flights being operated by Air India, Indian Airlines and Air Lanka to and from Trivandrum airport at present are given in the statement below.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Details of International Flights to and from Trivandrum Airport

AIR INDIA : Air India operates 10 international flight per week from Trivandrum air port to Abu-Dhabi, Dubai, Dharan, Ras-al-Khaimah, Sharjah, Kuwait; and, 11 international flights per week into Trivandrum airport. The following are the details :

S. Flight No. No.		Day	To/From Trivandrum
1	2	3	4
1.	AI 921	Monday	To Abu-Dhabi/Dubai
2.	AI 920	Monday	From Dubai/Abu Dhabi
3.	AI 923	Tuesday	To Dubai/Abu Dhabi
4.	AI 924	Tuesday	From Abu Dhabi/Dubai
5.	AI 925	Wednesday	To Abu Dhabi/Dubai
6.	AI 924	Wednesday	From Abu Dhabi/Dubai
7.	AI 987	Thursday	To Dhahran
8.	AI 986	Thursday	From Dhahran
9.	AI 937	Thursday	To Dubai
10.	AI 936	Thursday	From Dubai
11.	AI 927	Thursday	To Sharjah/Abu Dhabi
12.	AI 926	Thursday	From Ras-Al-Khaimah/Sharjah
13.	AI 929	Friday	To Abu Dhabi/Ras-Al-Khaimah
14.	AI 928	Friday	From Sharjah/Abu Dhabi
15.	AI 979	Friday	To Kuwait

1	2	3	4
16.	AI 978	Friday	From Kuwait
17.	AI 938	Friday	From Dhahran
18.	AI 931	Saturday	To Dubai/Abu Dhabi
19.	AI 930	Saturday	From Dubai/Abu Dhabi
20.	AI 935	Sunday	To Dubai/Abu Dhabi
21.	AI 932	Sunday	From Dubai/Abu Dhabi

INDIAN AIRLINES : Indian Airlines operates a total 5 international flights per week between Trivandrum and Colombo Male. Details are given below :

1.	IC 507/508	Monday	Trivandrum/Colombo/Trivandrum
2.	IC 507/508	Thursday	Trivandrum/Colombo/Trivandrum
3.	IC 563/564	Monday	Trivandrum/Male/Trivandrum
4.	IC 563/564	Thursday	Trivandrum/Male/Trivandrum
5.	IC 563/564	Saturday	Trivandrum/Male/Trivandrum

NOTE : Whereas Air India flights are being operated with Airbus aircraft, Indian Airlines flights are being operated with B-737 aircraft.

AIR LANKA : Air Lanka is the only foreign airline which is operating to Trivandrum. It is operating 5 services per week between Colombo and Trivandrum.

Implementation of Relief Measures

1315. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received complaints against implementation of the relief works; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA

MAKWANA) : (a) One complaint has been received against implementation of relief works in Gujarat.

(b) The complaint is about wrong measurement and misappropriation of funds on the scarcity work relating to New Tank Work in Maganpura village of Kaira District in Gujarat State.

The complaints has been sent to the State Government for investigation and appropriate action, since the administration of relief works is the responsibility of the State Government.

Representation from all India Organisation of Employers Seeking Modification in Factory Act

1316. SHRIMATI N. P. JHANSI LAKSHMI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Organisation of Employers has submitted a memorandum to Government seeking modification in the Factory Act, 1948;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Factories (Amendment) Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha on 20-3-1987 and by the Rajay Sabha on 7-5-1987. A representation from the All India Organisation of Employers was received on 2-4-1987 suggesting various modifications in the Bill. The organisation urged implementation of the provisions in the Bill relating to health and safety in existing chemical plants in a phased manner spread over a period of 5 to 10 years depending on the severity of hazard. It was also of the view that the provisions of the Bill should not apply to factories employing less than 100 workers. It opposed the amendments to the Act relating to the definition of 'occupier', the right of the workers to intimate the Inspector of Factories regarding imminent dangers, penalties for violation of the provisions of the Act, etc.

(c) The Factories Act, 1948, has been amended to provide for safer and better working conditions and environment in the factories. The Government are not in favour of relaxing the provisions of the Act.

Extraction of Edible Oil from Rice Bran

1317. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the incentives given to farmers to promote extraction of edible oil from rice bran and the cultivation of

cotton on larg scale for cottonseeds and other minor oilseeds for oil extraction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : The excise rebate, at rates under the scheme, is provided on the usage of rice bran oil and the solvent extracted cottonseed oil in the manufacture of vanaspati subject to the conditions in the scheme. This excise rebate scheme would indirectly support the farmers. Also, in order to increase the production of medium and long staple cotton a Centrally Sponsored Intensive Cotton Development Programme is being implemented in most of the major cotton growing States. Under this scheme, incentive in the form of subsidy on production of certified seed and laying out of demonstration plots is provided to the farmers. There is also a provision of subsidy for establishment of 'Kapas' growing centres under the scheme.

Production of Oilseeds

1319. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the estimates of production of all oilseeds, particularly groundnuts, during 1987-88;

(b) the expected shortfall in groundnuts and different oilseeds during 1987-88;

(c) whether there is likelihood of shortfall;

(d) whether the Ministry has recommended import of edible oil and if so, the details thereof;

(h) whether the Ministry has proposed any crash programmes for production of oilseeds and groundnuts to meet the shortages; and

(f) the details of implementation of Oil-Seeds Production Thrust Project, and whether it has been modified or given up ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). Due to wide-

spread drought conditions prevailing in the principal oilseed producing States during the Kharif season, production of oilseeds including groundnut is likely to be affected. Firm estimates of Kharif production 1987-88 are not yet due from the States. Sowings of Rabi oilseeds are still in progress and it is too early to quantify the likely shortfall in production of groundnut and other oilseeds during 1987-88.

(d) The Government is already importing edible oil through State Trading Corporation (STC) for distribution under Public Distribution System. The quantity imported during the last four oil years is as below :

Oil year (Nov.Oct)	(Quantity (lakh tonnes)
1983-84	16.34
1984-85	13.68
1985-86	11.79
1986-87 (Provisional)	14.97

In addition, it is proposed that 0.5 million tonne of oilseeds be imported on aid basis only and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) would be the canalising agency.

(e) A Centrally Sponsored National Oilseeds Development Project is already in operation in 17 oilseed growing States for increasing the production of oilseeds, including groundnut, in the country. Under this project, financial assistance is given on various critical inputs like supply of improved seeds, plant protection measures, improved farm implements, large sized demonstrations etc.

(f) A new Oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP) has been sanctioned for implementation in 14 States from 1987-88. The main thrust of this Project is on plant protection umbrella, seed production/procurement, minikit distribution, application of calcium sulphate to groundnut etc.

Production Capacity of Ramagundam Unit of FCI in Andhra Pradesh

1320. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of Ramagundam unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India in Andhra Pradesh has decreased;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to revitalise the production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) and (b). No. Sir. The Ramagundam unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCI) achieved a production of 113.2 thousand MTs of nitrogen during 1986-87 as compared to 55.3 thousand MTs of nitrogen during 1985-86.

(c) The following short-term measures have been taken to improve the performance of the plant :

- (i) facility for nitrous oxide removal;
- (ii) replacement of raw gas pre-coolers with stainless steel ones;
- (iii) epoxy lining of the raw gas line;
- (iv) replacement of distiller tube bundles with better material; and
- (v) replacement of Heat Exchanger Tubes in rectisol section with stainless steel tubes to avoid corrosion and leakages.

Besides, an end-to-end survey of the plant has been carried out by M/s Krupp Koppers and they have recommended various long-term measures to rectify the inherent design deficiencies and equipment problems in the unit involving an investment of Rs. 157.56 crores. Due to resources constraints, Government has decided to consider only Phase-I Rehabilitation Programme of Ramagundam unit in the first instance. On its completion, the capacity utilisation of this unit is expected to go up to 60%.

[Translation]

Housing Exhibition of HUDCO in Delhi

1321. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a "Housing Exhibition" was organised in Delhi by HUDCO recently and if so, the purpose thereof and the total expenditure incurred thereon; and

(b) the achievements of the exhibition ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. An Exhibition titled "Habitate 87" was organised by HUDCO on the occasion of the 'World Habitat Day' which was celebrated on the 5th October, 87, to create awareness of the problem of shelter in the mind of public as well as professionals in the housing sector and to demonstrate the low cost housing designs, building materials, construction techniques, low cost housing projects, etc. The estimated expenditure on this exhibition is around Rs. 7.5 lakhs which includes permanent displays of HUDCO and will be exhibited for educational and other purposes throughout the country over the years.

(b) The Exhibition through display of projects, etc. has achieved its purpose of creating an awareness about the shelter problems in the country. As a result, HUDCO is receiving queries on the design aspects of various low cost housing projects displayed in the Exhibition as well as techniques and the use of low cost building materials

[English]

Industry Status for Tourism by States

1322. SHRI SRI HARI RAO : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States in which tourism has been accorded the status of an industry; and

(b) whether Government are pursuing with the remaining States also to declare tourism as an industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). The States of Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Tripura, Manipur and Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar have declared Tourism as Industry while the States of Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal have declared hotels as Industry. The other States are also being persuaded to take similar action.

Improvement on Overall Performance of Air India

1323. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India's performance has been deteriorating;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; ...

(c) the remedial measures taken or proposed to improve the performance of Air-India;

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to improve the customer services to bring it at par with other international carriers; and

(e) the steps taken to reassess the staff requirements of various divisions, deploying the surplus staff and to optimally employ the existing staff ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Air India's operations have remained profitable for the last several years. Due to drop in traffic in the Gulf sector, increased competitions resulting in reduced yields, increase in fuel prices, etc. the profitability of Air India has reduced.

(c) and (d). Steps taken/proposed to be taken to improve the performance and services of Air India are as follows :

(i) Intensifying marketing activities to improve yields from business and 1st class traffic;

- (ii) Improving the product by faster and more point-to-point service;
 - (iii) Improved service in cargo area by sustained marketing and sales efforts; and
 - (iv) Provide more prompt and efficient response to the requirements of the customers like introduction of automatic airport check-in, improvement in the on-time departure of flights, computerisation of cargo service improvement in the inflight service etc. and
 - (v) Keeping a tight control on cost in all possible areas.
- (e) Reassessments of staff requirement is a continuous process. Due to sustained efforts staff strength which on April 1, 1984 stood at 17,764 has been reduced to 17,443 as on April 1, 1987.

Financial Assistance To Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation

1324. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTHY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the Overseas Development Administration has sanctioned and released funds for the development of about 170 slum areas in Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total amount sanctioned under various heads for social and educational development and for providing medical and health facilities to the people in slum areas;

(c) the financial assistance requested by the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation and sanctioned by Union Government during the last three years; and

(d) the scheme and proposals which are currently under consideration for providing housing and various other facilities by Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d).

Housing and Urban Development, being State Subject, appropriate schemes in these sectors are formulated and implemented by the State Governments in accordance with their needs and plan priorities out of their plan funds. However, a proposal for improvement of 170 identified slums covering health, education and other social inputs in Visakhapatnam at a total estimated cost of Rs. 1715.70 lakhs has been posed for overseas Development Administration's Assistance.

[Translation]

Research Centres for Citrus Fruits

1325. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of research centres for citrus fruits in the country under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research;

(b) whether Government of Madhya Pradesh has submitted a proposal to set up such a research centre in the State; and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) There are two citrus fruit research centres directly under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and seven centres in the State Agricultural Universities supported by Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal to set up a new research centre for citrus in Madhya Pradesh has not been agreed to. However, the Council is considering strengthening of the research on citrus in the State under the National Agricultural Research Project.

[English]

Free Travel Air Tickets

1326. SHRI B. B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the category of employees of Air India entitled to get 1st class free travelling tickets;

(b) whether the Air India staff is getting preference over regular paid ticket passengers for the reservation of seats; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Employees of Air India in the pay scale, the minimum of which is Rs. 1,400.00 or more, are eligible to get 1st class free travel facilities.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Rules for Chartered Flights

1327. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to liberalise rules relating to chartered flights; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Air Trade of Calcutta Airport

1328. SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Calcutta Air Port's share of the total air borne trade has been declining for the last few years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken for its improvement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) : No, Sir.

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

Central Agricultural University

1329. SHRI SWAMI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to set up a Central Agricultural University;

(b) if so, the place selected for the purpose and courses to be conducted by the university;

(c) the criteria proposed to be adopted for admission for each course;

(d) whether some State-wise quota will be fixed for admission of eligible students; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research has proposed Barapani (Meghalaya) at the Headquarters of the Central Agricultural University for North Eastern Region. The proposed University also has the following constituent colleges in the States mentioned below :

Sl. No.	Colleges proposed	State/ place
1.	Agriculture College	Nagaland
2.	Agriculture College	Manipur
3.	Veterinary College	Mizoram
4.	Fisheries College	Tripura
5.	College of Horticulture and Forestry	Arunachal Pradesh
6.	College of Agricultural Engineering	Sikkim
7.	College of Home Science	Meghalaya

The courses for different degree programmes would be on the lines of the recommendations of Deans' Committee of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

(c) The pre-requisite qualification for admission to all the Undergraduate degree programmes will be 10+2 stage with Science Subjects.

(d) The number of seats for each State is proposed to be fixed after taking into account their need and requirements under various disciplines/courses and developmental programme in hand.

(e) As stated at (d) the quota for each State will be fixed from time to time to meet the manpower requirements of the respective State.

Operation Flood Programme

1330. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the main components of Operation Flood Programme;

(b) the progress made in each State during the period from 1984-85 to 1986-87;

(c) the targets fixed for each State under the programme during 1987-88 to 1989-90; and

(d) the financial outlay involved to achieve the targets fixed for each State, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Vayudoot Service from Delhi to Various Parts of the Country

1331. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce new Vayudoot services from Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Vayudoot service from Delhi to Barabanki will be introduced;

(c) if so, by what time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir,

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The resources of Vayudoot and National Airports Authority are fully stretched upto the end of the current plan period. There is, as such, no proposal to airlink Barabanki during the current plan period.

[*English*]

Circulation of Newspapers

1332. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of big, small and medium newspapers in the country as on 31st December, 1986;

(b) whether Government are aware that the publication of many small and medium newspapers is being stopped every year;

(c) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps Government have taken or propose to take to help the growth of small and medium newspapers in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). Out of 23,616 newspapers which were on the live register of the Registrar of Newspapers for India as on 31-12-1986, only 6,858 newspapers furnished circulation data and their category-wise position was as follows :

Big : 240; Medium : 499; Small : 6119.

Only 56 newspapers ceased publication during 1986.

(c) Any newspaper is free to suspend or cease publication at any time. The Government is not aware of any specific reasons in such cases.

(d) The various facilities extended to small and medium newspapers are indicated in the Statement below.

Statement

(A) Facilities Extended by Press Registrar

At present, the following facilities are available to small and medium newspapers in matter of allocation of newsprint etc :

- (i) Small newspapers with a circulation upto 2,000 copies are not required to give chartered accountant's certificate while applying for allotment of newsprint;
- (ii) The newspapers with annual entitlement of less than 300 MT are given the option to option imported newsprint either in part or in full;
- (iii) The newspapers which are printed on sheetfed machines are given an additional 5% of their entitlement for conversion of reels into sheets;
- (iv) Small newspapers with a circulation upto 5,000 copies are given allowance of 10 to 20% of copies distributed free, returned unsold or printed but neither sold nor distributed free, while calculating their entitlement of newsprint, and 10 to 15% for newspapers with circulation between 5,000 copies and 10,000 copies. In the case of others the percentage is 5 to 10;
- (v) The small newspapers are totally exempted from payment of customs duty on imported news-

print which is Rs. 550/- PMT. Medium newspapers are required to pay the duty @Rs. 275 PMT.

- (vi) The newspapers with annual entitlement of upto 50 MT are allowed to take the entire quantity in one or two instalments as against quarterly allocations.

(B) Facilities Extended by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity

Under the existing advertising policy of Government of India, the following facilities have been extended to language newspapers in general and 'Small' and 'Medium' newspapers in particular :

- (i) The general eligibility requirement of paid circulation is 1,000 copies per issue. Relaxation is, however, permissible in the case of the following :
 - (a) Specialised/Scientific/Technical Journals with a paid circulation of 500 copies per issue;
 - (b) Sanskrit newspapers/journals and newspapers/journals published in backward, border or remote areas or in tribal languages or primarily meant for tribal readers with a minimum circulation of 500 copies per issue.
- (ii) In the matter of print area also relaxation is permissible to newspapers/journals published in tribal languages or primarily meant for tribal readership.
- (iii) Newspapers/journals with paid circulation upto 2,000 copies are exempted from the requirement of submitting certificate of circulation from chartered accountant etc.
- (iv) There is parity of rates in the matter of fixing advertisement rates i.e. no discrimination is made between the English newspapers and language newspapers. However, language papers/periodicals upto a circulation of 10,000 copies enjoy a higher basic rate

than their counterparts in English. A large number of small papers/periodicals borne on DAVP Media List fall in this category.

(C) Facilities Extended by Press Information Bureau

Newspapers : The Press Information Bureau (PIB), in pursuance of its policy of providing more and more services to the small and medium newspapers, gives a number of special facilities to them. Besides making available its general services such as news releases and features, it has been supplying other types of news services such as science digests, agriculture news-letters (Krishi Patrika), ebonoid blocks, charbas (for Urdu papers only) and illustrated photo features.

News Services : A number of services tailored to the needs of small papers have been introduced. In depth stories written in simple and capsule form covering developments in various spheres such as science, economic growth, agriculture, health and family welfare are prepared and supplied to them in all major languages of the country. A weekly news digest 'Gramin Patra Seva' primarily meant for small papers was introduced in Hindi in 1977.

Photo Services : The Bureau also supplies illustrated photo features ebonoid blocks to small papers. The Charba services, which consist of Zinc block for use in Urdu Litho Print, have become quite popular.

Special Services Cell : The Bureau has set up a special service cell at the headquarters with representatives in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. The cell is entrusted with the task of preparing field based development stories and making them available to the language newspapers. The emphasis is on providing locally relevant photographs, cartographs and ebonoid blocks.

Press Parties : Organising press parties to various central Government projects is another important activity of the Bureau which enables representatives of the press to have first hand knowledge of the developmental activity going on in different

parts of the country. Representatives of different papers are taken at frequent intervals to selected projects for this type of special study. Language and small and medium papers get representation in these conducted tours.

Accreditation : Accreditation rules have been liberalised to extend greater facilities to small and medium papers. As per rules, only newspapers with a circulation of over 5,000 copies are eligible for accreditation. In order, however, to assist the smaller papers, this condition has been relaxed and now two or more small newspapers can jointly seek accreditation for a common correspondent. The rules also provide that special consideration may be shown to newspapers devoted to science and technology and to those published from hilly or backward areas or from regions underdeveloped in terms of information and communication. The Bureau's mailing list now contains a large number of small and medium newspapers as well as correspondents accredited on their behalf.

Encroachment on Government Land in Delhi

1333. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the area of land belonging to DDA and other Government agencies under encroachment in Delhi;

(b) how much land has been the encroachment upon during each of the last three years and the current year so far; and

(c) the modus operandi of the encroachers to escape action from Government's preventive machinery ?

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

All India Coordinated Research Project on Oilseeds

1334. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance extended by Indian Council of Agricultural Research to the College of Agriculture under the Kerala Agricultural University, Vellayani, for the implementation of the All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Oilseeds since 1985; year-wise;

(b) the objectives of the project; and

(c) the duration and the total estimated cost of the Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The India Council of Agricultural Research has started a new centre of the All India Coordinated Research Project on Oilseeds under Kerala Agricultural University, Vellayani from 1987-88; the year-wise break-up of financial assistance is given below :

	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	Total
ICAR Share (75 %)	64,350	54,750	56,350	1,75,450
State Share (25 %)	21,450	18,250	18,800	58,500
Grand Total :	85,800	73,000	75,150	2,33,950

(b) Development of improved location specific varieties of crops as well as to develop appropriate cultural practices for maximising productivity.

(c) The total estimated cost of the oilseed Project for five year duration during the 7th Plan is given below :

ICAR Share	: Rs. 704.61 lakhs
STATE Share	: Rs. 153.46 lakhs
Total	: Rs. 858.07 lakhs

Assistance By Public Sector Units for Natural Calamities

1335. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of assistance rendered by public sector units to fight drought and floods this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE : (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : Details of assistance rendered by various public sector units to fight drought and floods this year are given in the Statement below :

Statement

1. Hindustan Sa'ts Ltd., Jaipur

Hindustan Salts Ltd., have identified three districts in Rajasthan, viz, Nagaur, Sikar and Jaipur and one in Gujarat, namely, Khargoda, for relief measures. They are organising cattle camps in their land for which fodder purchased in other States is being brought to Rajasthan. In addition, free supply of water and free medical aid is being rendered to the needy. Jobs like bore well sinking, deepening of tanks, desilting of canals are also being taken up.

2. Instrumentation Ltd., Kota

This undertaking has planned to provide medical assistance by mobilising medical teams at short notice. Trucks and plastic drums are also being provided for transportation and storage of drinking water. Sinking of hand pumps suggested by the District authorities is also being taken up.

3. Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd.

Four villages in and around Vishakhapatnam have been adopted for around development which include relief measures, medical camps, etc.

4. Scooters India Ltd.

Drinking water from tube-wells is being collected and transported to nearby areas faced with acute water scarcity.

5. NEPA Mills Ltd.

In order to provide drinking water, pumps are being provided to the existing tube-wells and storage tanks and five more tube-wells are being sunk. Clearing and deepening of open wells in and around Nepanagar is being taken up to improve the availability of water and a stop dam across Masak river will be built for storing water. The company has plans to grow fodder on some of the vacant patches of land.

6. HMT Ltd.

A task force has been constituted to co-ordinate the efforts of relief measures and hand pumps are being installed in worst affected villages. Voluntary contribution by employees is contemplated and clothes collected from employees will also be distributed.

7. Richardson and Cruddas Ltd.

They have offered hand pumps on top priority basis for installation in areas suggested by the district authorities.

8. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

The employees have decided to contribute liberally for the relief work. The management has identified measures to improve the availability of power by way of keeping the power stations running, fast restoration of units under outages, plant/capital maintenance, deferment of capital maintenance and faster stabilization to achieve full load conditions.

9. Maruti Udyod Ltd.

Sirhau, Dundchera and Mulahera villages have been selected for undertaking development works which include improvement of sewerage and drainage facilities for provisioning of medical aid.

10. Cement Corporation of India

They are installing a water pipe line at Bellary village to provide drinking water to villagers. Essential commodities like

sugar, oil, rice, etc., are being supplied to villagers from the fair price shops through CCI consumer Cooperative stores. Medical facilities are also being provided.

11. Hindustan Paper Corporation

In their Mandi unit, arrangements have been made for providing drinking water facilities to Hulikeri village near the mills and close co-ordination is being maintained with Karnataka State Government authorities for providing additional relief measures. Contribution from employees for the drought relief fund is also being arranged.

12. Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation

The employees of the MMTC have contributed a day's wages to the P.M.'s drought relief fund. The total amount collected on this account is being ascertained. In addition, the MMTC employees' unions and the MMTC Officers' Association have decided to forego the sweets which were being distributed every year on the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the Corporation and to divert the savings of Rs. 1.25 lakhs to the P.M.'s drought relief fund. All the regional offices are being advised to draw up concrete plans in their respective areas to provide relief to drought/flood affected people in whatever way MMTC can make its contribution.

13. Trade Fair Authority of India

They have forwarded a cheque for Rs. 1,15,000/- being contribution of the company and its employees for the P.M.'s drought relief fund.

14. Spices Trading Corporation Ltd.

The employees of the corporation have contributed one day's salary to the P.M.'s relief fund. A cheque for Rs. 1,127/- has been forwarded to the Joint Secretary, P.M.'s Secretariat on 4-10-1987. The Corporation has mentioned that being a purely trading organisation in its infant stage with limited infra-structural facilities, the company is not in a position to undertake other relief measures. However, they have mentioned that they were participating in auctions to purchase spices from rural

areas by making prompt payment to farmers and helping them in Marketing their produce.

15. Cochin Shipyard Ltd.

The company has taken following measures :

- (a) The company contributed towards hire charges of a tanker lorry for 15 days to reach drinking water in the rural areas, in a programme coordinated by the District Collector, Ernakulam.
- (b) A tree plantation drive was launched during the second week of July, 1987 in which employees were fully involved.
- (c) The company extended its assistance by way of landing its cranes for transplanting some of the grown up trees which were coming in the way of widening the roads, etc.
- (d) In pursuance to the appeal from the Chief Minister of Kerala for contribution of one day's wages of employees, a sum of Rs. 53,186/- collected from the employees on voluntary basis has already been transmitted to the C.M.'s relief fund.

16. National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation

The corporation has opened three medical relief centres at Malda (West Bengal) for providing medical relief to the local people. In addition to its own team of Doctors the Corporation has also engaged qualified medical practitioners for running the medical relief centres. At each centre about 500 persons are taking medicines. NHPC has also provided tarpaulins worth Rs. 1.5 lakhs to the flood victims. In addition, the NHPC has given interest-free advances to its employees whose houses have been affected by the recent floods. Similar arrangements have also been made at the Loktak Project (Manipur) of the corporation. The Corporation has also initiated measures to re-construct its educational institutions in West Bengal and Manipur which have been affected by the recent floods. The NHPC employees have been appealed to donate one day's salary to the P.M.'s relief fund.

17. Indian Railway Construction Co. Ltd.

The Managing Director has informed that a personal appeal to allow IRCON employees to contribute one day's salary towards P.M.'s relief fund has been made. It is expected that all the officers and staff will contribute this amount from their October, 1987 salary. The company is also proposing to contribute a matching amount but not less than Rs. 1.00 lakh towards relief fund out of the profits of the company. A strict watch is also being kept on expenditure on entertainment, travel expenses, etc., to effect economy to the maximum possible extent. Instructions are also being issued to the field units that wherever they have water supply arrangements, the needs of the neighbouring drought affected villages may be met to the extent possible.

18. Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd.

The Welfare Fund Committee created by the employees of the company and the company has decided to donate Rs. 50,000/- to the P.M.'s National Relief Fund. The Chairman has also issued an appeal to all the employees to donate one day's salary towards P.M.'s relief Fund.

19. Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.

A report on the action taken by the different Refinery Units for carrying out Relief operations in the drought/flood affected areas in the various parts of the country is furnished below :

(i) *Digboi Refinery (AOD) :* The Assam Oil Division has donated a sum of Rs. 1,89,892/- to the Assam C.M.'s relief fund as a token of help for giving support to the flood victims. A cheque for the amount was handed over to the C.M. of Assam on 7th September, 1987. In addition, three more cheques were also handed over to the C.M. of Assam on behalf of Digboi Club, Digboi Ladies Association and India Club Digboi for Rs. 5,000/-, Rs. 3,000/- and Rs. 1,001/- respectively,

(ii) *Gauhati Refinery* : Recently, a cheque for Rs. 3.00 lakhs was handed over to the C.M. of Assam by General Managers, Gauhati and Digboi Refineries to carry out relief operations for the flood affected people of the State of Assam.

(iii) *Barauni Refinery* : An amount of Rs. 3.00 lakhs has been donated to the Bihar C.M.'s flood relief fund for carrying out relief operations in the flood affected areas of the State of Bihar.

The General Manager of Barauni Refinery took immediate steps for providing relief to the flood affected people in close coordination with the District Magistrate of Begusarai after visiting the affected areas. A Committee was also formed under the Chairmanship of DGM(G) and representatives of the Officers' Association and Employees' Unions, Welfare Organisations to coordinate the relief activities. Accordingly, the first consignment of one thousand cooked food packets, hygienically packed in polythene bags were despatched by the Refinery management to the affected Bakhri Block to feed the hungry people. All the members of IOC family at Barauni voluntarily came forward with cooked food, dry food, unused medicines and clothes for supply to the flood affected people. This operation went on from 20th to 28th August, 1987. The quantity of food packets was till raised to 2000 by 23-8-87 and they were distributed to the people in Gharpura Block, Naula and Jokia Panchayats. Food packets were also distributed in Telhan, Khakna, Dhuha and Tandri villages. The Marketing installation at Barauni had alone supplied around 2500 packets of pounded rice (Chura), Gram (Channa) and Laddus and other essential items for distribution to the people in the flood affected villages. A total of around 14000 food packets were distributed during the 10 days. In addition, one ton of stabilised bleaching powder was also handed over to the District Magistrate of Begusarai for disinfecting the wells, ponds and spraying around the crowded relief centres. Around 3000 pieces of old garments, sarces and other clothings, voluntarily contributed by the employees and others were handed over to the District Administration on 2-9-87

for distribution amongst the flood victims. 100 pieces of new dhotis have been distributed.

Considerable quantity of unused medicines were collected from the residents and after checking them in the Refinery Hospitals, these were dispensed on the flood victims. A medical team consisting of two Doctors and other paramedical staff of the Refinery Hospital visited Bhagwanpur and Bachwara Block on 29th and 30th August, 1987. They attended around 300 patients per day in various relief centres and dispensed a huge quantity of preventive and curative medicines. The team had even reached certain relief centres inaccessible by road or by boat.

(iv) *Other Refiners and Pipeline Units* : Instructions have already been issued to all other Refineries and Pipeline Units to render necessary assistance to the people who are affected by the severe drought conditions in large parts of the country and the havoc played by the floods in some of the States. The Units were also asked to give utmost importance to provide drinking water, medical assistance and cattle fodder in the drought/flood affected villages/areas of the States in which they have been operating, consistent with the facilities available at their command and the prevailing local conditions. A fortnightly report has also been sought from the Units eliciting information on the type and extent of relief measures undertaken by each Unit. The exact nature and extent of the helps which the different Units might be providing to the people affected by the unprecedented natural calamity would be brought out in the next report.

20. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

The company made the following major monetary and other contributions from July, 1986 onwards :

- (a) Donation of Rs. 5.00 lakhs to Maharashtra Chief Minister's Relief Fund on 4-7-1986.
- (b) Donation of Rs. 0.6 lakhs to Maharashtra Government for providing drinking water in Adivasi and backward areas on 9-12-1986.

- (c) Donation of Rs. 5.00 lakhs on 3-2-1987 to Maharashtra Chief Minister's Relief Fund.

In addition, the company has arranged, from Maharashtra Ground Water Survey and Development Agency, drilling of 15 tubewells at a total cost of Rs. 2.40 lakhs in drought affected areas in and around Pune. Besides, the company arranged 10 tank lorries in December, 1986/January, 1987 and further 5 tank lorries for transportation of water to the drought affected areas in Maharashtra at a total cost of Rs. 12 lakhs.

Apart from the above drought relief measures taken in Maharashtra, the company has made at the request of the West Bengal Government advance payment of sales tax collection as a measure towards flood relief.

21. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

During the period 1986 to August, 1987, the company has made a contribution of Rs. 7 lakhs to the C.M.'s relief fund in Maharashtra. In addition, the Corporation provided its tank trucks for the transportation of water. The relief amounted to Rs. 9,38,117/-. The company has also contributed Rs. 2 lakh to the C.M.'s relief fund in Andhra Pradesh. Besides, the company has provided 30 bore wells at a cost of Rs. 15.50 lakhs 30 the Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, West Bengal, Madras, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh.

22. Cochin Refineries Ltd.

Cochin Refineries Ltd., has been very actively participating in the relief measures at villages in the vicinity where CRL is situated. The company has given a donation of Rs. 5 lakhs to the Kerala Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The company also spearheaded an industry approach to provide drinking water facilities in and around the area where there are other industrial units like FACT, HOC etc., are situated. 150 numbers of drums were supplied to the villagers to store drinking water. Arrangements were also made to supply drinking water to the concerned areas through water tankers.

CRL has also initiated action to survey areas of water sources in and around the drought hit villages with the help of district hydro-geologists. Once such sources are identified, the company proposes to dig deep/bore wells in selected villages which have been identified by the company for adoption. The names of 3 villages so far identified are Ashramam Colony, Ettikkere and Puliampillymugal where the inhabitants predominantly belong to backward community. CRL had earlier laid 2200 mtrs. of pipeline in the Ettikkere village to provide drinking water facilities. CRL also proposes to extend this arrangement to other villages.

In addition, the company has plans to periodically conduct medical camps (once in 3 months) for the benefit of the village population. In this connection, a medical camp was conducted with various specialist doctors for the benefit of villagers on 18th October, 1987. As many as 347 people attended the camp where medicines were provided free. The company also has action on hand to depute health inspectors and nursing assistants for following up on specified dates with regard to health and hygiene in the nearby selected villages indicated above.

The CMD/CRL has separately issued an appeal to all of the employees to contribute one day's salary/wages to the P.M.'s national relief fund.

23. Gas Authority of India Ltd.

Apart from one day's salary of the officers and staff of GAIL contributed towards National Relief Fund, the company has not made any monetary contribution towards drought/flood relief funds in the respective States as it is only in the construction stage.

24. Bongaigaon Refineries and Petrochemicals Ltd.

The company has made a cash contribution of Rs. 3 lakhs to the Assam Chief Minister's flood relief fund on 17-9-1987. The employees of this company have also agreed for deduction from salary for flood relief fund and the expected amount is about Rs. 27,000/-. The amount is to be handed over to the State authorities shortly.

25. Lubrizol India Ltd.

The company has contributed Rs. 10,000/- to the Chief Minister's relief fund in Maharashtra on 31-8-87. The company has also contributed an amount of Rs. 1.50 lakhs on 19-9-1987 to the P.M.'s national relief fund.

26. Engineers India Ltd.

The company has made a contribution of Rs. 1.5 lakhs to the Reliance Cup Inaugural Cricket Match held in Delhi on 30-9-1987 for the P.M.'s relief fund.

27. Bharat Earth Movers Ltd.

The company contributed one day's wages to the extent of Rs. 6.50 lakhs to the Karnataka Chief Minister's relief fund during 1986. The company has also provided transport for carrying fodder and helped desilting tanks near their main factory at KGF. In addition, the company has dug over a dozen borewells in KGF.

28. Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.

The company has issued instructions to the Divisions to seek the cooperation of the recognised unions and Officers' Associations for contributing a day's wages to the Prime Minister's relief fund and also for implementation of other measures.

29. N.T.P.C.

Against the circular and appeal of the CMD to all employees for contributions of one day's salary/wages, NTPC has collected an amount of Rs. 2,69,454/- to be given to the P.M.'s national relief fund. The amount is being sent to the relief fund.

NTPC had curtailed expenditure on some of the publicity items and accordingly decided not to print greeting cards for the year 1988 and economies on the printing of calendars. Savings of approximately Rs. 2.30 lakhs accrued on this account are also being donated to the P.M.'s national relief fund.

A large area of the Murshidabad and Malda districts of West Bengal (where the Farrakka power station/project and its permanent township are located) were affected by severe floods this year. The management of NTPC had taken up following activities to provide relief to the flood affected people :

- (i) About 400 villagers from the neighbouring areas whose villages were submerged in flood waters were provided shelter in the temporary township (in primary schools and security barracks). These persons were provided food in the relief camps between 18th to 27th September, 1987 on which the company incurred an amount of Rs. 5,931/-.
- (ii) In addition, chura and gur worth Rs. 23,000/- were purchased and distributed amongst flood affected villagers in other areas for 5 days from 22nd to 26th September, 1987, covering about 3,000 persons per day.
- (iii) Free medical assistance was provided by a team of company's doctors moving in different areas and supply of medicines worth Rs. 22,486/- was made amongst the flood affected people.
- (iv) In order to enable the flood affected villagers to organise their shelters, 7.2 tons of tarpaulin sheets costing Rs. 1,37,750/- were distributed amongst the flood affected people of both the districts.
- (v) 4000 pieces of sarces costing Rs. 96,300/- were purchased and distributed.
- (vi) 4000 dhotis costing Rs. 63,000/- were also purchased and distributed.
- (vii) 7000 pieces of lungis costing Rs. 82,250/- were purchased and distributed amongst the flood affected people.
- (viii) A number of vehicles were hired for carrying out the relief activities in addition to company's own transport and the hire charges in connection with the relief activities amounted to Rs. 4,176.

The relief activities have since been withdrawn as the flood had receded. A total of Rs. 4,38,188/ has been spent by NTPC in the above relief activities including

some miscellaneous expenditure of Rs. 3,295/-

- (x) In addition to the above activities undertaken by NTPC for flood relief, assistance was also rendered by different Unions and Associations, the Ladies Club in this direction. The Vishwakarma Pooja Committee of the O & M Department of Farakka Plant also contributed an amount of Rs. 7,263/- for relief work.

Promotion of Cultural Tourism in Orissa

1336. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are laying great emphasis on the promotion of cultural tourism;

(b) if so, the assistance given to different States for the purpose during the last three years;

(c) the steps taken for the promotion of cultural tourism in Orissa; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND
MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINIS-
TRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH
TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the VII Five Year Plan, the Central Ministry of Tourism has given the following financial assistance to different States for promotion of Cultural Tourism :

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	238.97
1986-87	241.58
1987-88 (Up to October, 87)	66.32

(c) and (d). During the VII Five Year Plan, the Ministry has sanctioned the following financial assistance to the Government of Orissa for promotion of cultural tourism :

(Rs. in lakhs)
Amount Sanctioned

(i) Provision of toilet and drinking water facilities at Bhubaneswar and Konark (1985-86)	3.00
(ii) Open Air Theatre at Konark (1986-87)	7.10
(iii) Yatri Niwas at Konark (1986-87)	29.25

Financial Assistance to States by HUDCO for Housing

1337. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PAT-
NAIK : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the State-wise break-up of the financial assistance given by HUDCO for housing during the last three years; and

(b) the percentage out of it earmarked economically weaker sections and low income groups, State-wise ?

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 in the Table of the Sabha.

[Translation]

Procurement Price of Kharif Crops

1338. SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently announced an increase in the procurement price of kharif crops;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether price announced has caused discontentment among the farmers; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review the increase in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

Statement

Procurement/Support Price fixed by the Government

(Rs. per quintal)

Commodity	Variety	1986-87	1987-88
Paddy (Common)	FAQ	146	150
Jowar, Bajra, Maize & Ragi	FAQ	132	135
Arhar, Moong & Urad	FAQ	320	325
Cotton	F-414/H-777	430	440
	H-4	540	550
Jute	W-5 (Assam)	225	240
Groundnut-in shell	FAQ	370	390
Soyabean (Black)	FAQ	255	260
Soyabean (Yellow)	FAQ	290	300
Sunflower	FAQ	350	390
Tobacco (NFC)	L ₂ (Light Soil)	12.00	12.20
(Rs. per kg.)	F ₂ (Black Soil)	11.15	11.25

(FAQ—Fair Average Quality)

[English]

Development Projects for FACT Kerala

1339. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the profit earned by Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore Limited, Kerala during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(b) the development projects proposed for F.A.C.T. ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) The Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) earned a profit of Rs. 11.23 crores during 1985-86 and Rs. 36.44 crores during 1986-87.

(b) FACT is already implementing a huge project for the manufacture of Ammonium Sulphate and Caprolactam. Due to resource constraints, no other major project can be considered at this stage. However, a provision of Rs. 78.46 crores has been made in the Seventh Plan for revamping/rehabilitation schemes and renewals and replacements of the plants of FACT.

[*Translation*]

Abolition of Contract System in FIC

1340. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that labourers are still engaged on contract system in many godowns of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken a decision to abolish contract system; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Employment of contract labour is not illegal unless such employment is prohibited by the appropriate Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Central Advisory Contract Labour Board has constituted a committee "to study the working of contract labour system in Food Corporation of India Depots and to make suitable recommendations whether the employment of contract labour in the Food Corporation of India should be prohibited or not." The Committee has given its report. The report of the committee has to be considered by the Central Advisory Contract Labour Board which in turn shall make its recommendations to the Central Government.

[*English*]

Additional Funds to Maharashtra Under Drought Relief Programme

1341. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether under the drought relief programme, additional allocations were made to create jobs in the drought affected areas of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the total allocation made so far for this purpose and how much of it has been utilised;

(c) whether more mandays of jobs could be created; if so, the details thereof and the number of families helped; and

(d) whether the activities undertaken were of a permanent nature and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). A ceiling of expenditure of Rs. 14.64 crores has been approved for Maharashtra for employment generation programmes for the period September, 87 to June, 88. The details of utilisation of funds are furnished by the states at the time of claiming releases of central assistance.

(c) A total of 197.91 lakh mandays are expected to be generated with the above Central assistance in the drought hit areas during the period September, 87 to June, 88. However, relief works are executed by the State Governments having regard to the employment generation needs of the areas at different points in time. The number of families benefitted depends on the exigencies of situation and number of persons reporting for works.

(d) Implementation of various relief programmes in the wake of natural calamities is the responsibility of the State Government concerned. Government of India issues guidelines from time to time for the guidance of the State Governments for effective management of the drought situation. It is not possible to ensure that all relief works lead to permanent assets because employment is the prime objective in the execution of relief works. However, under the employment generation programmes, the State Governments have been advised to give priority to works like tube-wells, ponds, field channels, soil conserva-

tion and water harvesting, roads, which help in drought proofing an area.

Availability of Central Government Publications at Bangalore

1342. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the places where the Central Government's publications are available at Bangalore City;

(b) whether Government are aware that the people are finding it difficult to get Central Government's publication like various Acts Rules and other documents at Bangalore; and

(c) whether Government propose to open a Sales Office at Bangalore for selling its publications and give wide publicity about it to the people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) A list of Government and Private Agencies who are selling Government of India publications at Bangalore as authorised agents of the Department of Publication, is given in the statement given below :

(b) No, Sir. It is considered that there being 14 agents for selling Government of India publications at Bangalore, the public should not have any difficulty in getting them.

(c) At present, the Government of India has no plan for opening a sales office in Bangalore.

Statement

List of Agents at Bangalore

Restricted Agents

1. L.B. Publishers and Distributors Pvt. Ltd., 90-91, M.G. Road, Bangalore.
2. Veena Book Centre, 1st Floor, Aparana Shopping Complex, Subedar Chet Ram Road, Majestic Bangalore.

3. Coming Man, Residency Road, Bangalore.

4. Bhagyalakshmi Stores, 524 Shrinagar Main Road, Barashankari, Bangalore.

5. N.S.A. Majeed Khan C/o Khan Transport and Air Travels, Roopa Complex Building, Cham Rajpet, Bangalore.

Regular Agents

1. International Book House (P) Ltd., M.G. Road, Bangalore.

2. Standard Book Depot, Avenue Road, Bangalore.

3. Vichar Sahitya Ltd., Balapet, Bangalore.

Sales & Return Agents

1. The Registrar of Companies, 162, Brigade Road, Bangalore.

2. The Assistant Director, Publicity and Information, Vidhan Sabha, Bangalore.

3. The Controller of Imports and Exports, 7th Floor, BWSSB Wing, Cauvery Bhavan, Bangalore.

4. The Director of Industries and Commerce, Bangalore.

5. The Director of Census Operation Mysore, Basapa Cross Road, Shanti Nagar, Bangalore.

6. Small Industries Service Institute, Industrial Estate, Rajaji Nagar, Bangalore.

Luxury Coaches for the Tourists

1343. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to import luxury coaches to improve the transport facility for tourists;

(b) if so, the total number of luxury coaches proposed to be imported; and

(c) the other facilities propose to be given to attract tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir. No such proposal is before the Government at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In view of the comprehensive benefits from international tourism, Government have been taking measures to promote tourism to India. For this purpose Government have streamlined frontier formalities, relaxed entry regulations and undertaken a massive publicity campaign in important visitor source markets. Air India have added to their capacity and are offering excursion fares on a number of more popular tourist routes. In addition charters are being encouraged to operate to Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Goa, Trivandrum and Bangalore. This year some additional flights were operated to Srinagar. After the expansion of Bhubaneswar airstrip, charters would be permitted to land at Bhubaneswar also. Similarly capacity within the country by air and surface has been augmented. Facilities at international airports have been improved. For tourist centres which do not have airstrip even for small aircrafts convenient connections by helicopters have been introduced. Government have also initiated steps to improve the quality of road transport. Government have also decided to diversify the image of Indian tourism and to augment facilities for mountaineering trekking, skiing and other adventure sports activities.

Central Assistance to Karnataka for Urban Development

1344. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total funds provided by Union Government to the State Government of Karnataka for Urban Development in 1987-88; and

(b) the schemes which have been undertaken in the Karnataka State for Urban Development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Funds are made available under State Annual Plans for Urban Development out of which the State Governments formulate and implement appropriate projects in accordance with their needs and priorities. Besides, Central Government assists State Governments and provides funds under the Scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns and Urban Basic Services. Release of funds during 1987-88 would depend on the progress of implementation of projects and furnishing of project reports, etc. by State Government under these schemes. Till date, Rs. 7.45 lakhs have been released to Karnataka under IDSMT during the current year.

[Translation]

Construction of Motel at Jagdalpur (M.P.)

1345. SHRI MANKURAM SODI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the foundation stone of a Motel (Tourist Hostel) was laid by him in Jagdalpur on 17 February, 1986 during his visit to Bastar in Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the time by which its construction work is likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction work is likely to be completed by the end of 1989.

World Bank Assistance for Jagdalpur

1346. SHRI MANKURAM SODI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any scheme to see financial assistance from World Bank for the development of Jagdalpur district

Bastar, Madhya Pradesh alongwith other cities of Madhya Pradesh during the year 1986-87; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) The following towns are being considered under the World Bank Assisted Madhya Pradesh U.D. Project, Indore, Dewas, Ujjain, Raipur, Durg, Bhilai, Ratlam, Sagar, Khandwa and Shahdol.

(b) The details of the World Bank Assistance for Madhya Pradesh U.D. Project for the year 1986-87 are given below :

	Loan (Rs. in lakhs)
1. Area Development Authority	444.34
2. Slum Upgradation	271.55
3. Solid Waste Management	3.73
4. Municipal Maintenance	13.09
5. Technical Assistance	14.69
G. Total :	747.40

Demolition of Jhuggies Near Taj Hotel,
New Delhi

1347. SHRI AKHTAR HASAN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi paid to the D.D.A. an amount of about Rs. 25 lakhs and 40 thousand for demolition of about 300 jhuggies near hotel; and

(b) the number of the families so displaced and the number out of them who have been provided with houses so far and type of accommodation proposed to be allotted to such families ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) There were 254 unauthorised jhuggies on Government land. Hotel Taj Palace authorities had paid Rs. 25,40,000 to DDA towards shifting of jhuggies from the exit gate of Taj Palace during September, 1986.

(b) During the clearance operation from 19-9-1986 to 22-9-1986 DDA had demolished 254 jhuggies opposite Taj Palace Hotel at Sardar Patel Marg.

253 squatter's families were allotted alternative built-up transit camp accommodation in Transit Camp Raghunagar. DDA could not release the demolition slip in one case as there is a dispute amongst the family members and the matter is subjudice.

[English]

Purchase of Aircraft from U.S.S.R.

1348. SHRI KAMAL NATH :
SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA
NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR :
SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-
GRAHI :
SHRI H. B. PATIL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a high power team visited Moscow to evaluate and negotiate the purchase or lease of Soviet-built aircrafts for the Indian Airlines and Vayudoot;

(b) if so, the recommendations made and the decision taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the cost of each aircraft and the total number to be purchased; and

(d) the mode of payment for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Negotiations for purchase/leasing of aircraft for Indian Airlines and Vayudoot are in progress.

Italian Proposal for a Joint Venture Gas Based Fertilizer Project in Gulf Area

1349. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Italy has proposed that India join with it in a gas based fertilizer project in Gulf-area;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the project including its total cost and location;

(c) the share India would be getting and the benefit by joining this project; and

(d) when the project is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) to (d). There is no such proposal from the Government of Italy. However, M/s. Snamprogetti, a company incorporated in Italy, sent in December 1986 a pre-feasibility study for setting up a gas based fertilizer project an estimated cost of US \$ 309 million in Bahrain and certain other Gulf countries in association with an Indian Public Sector company. M/s. Snamprogetti have been asked to prepare a detailed feasibility report, without which, it is not possible to indicate the extent of Indian participation in the joint venture, time schedule for its implementation and the benefits likely to accrue therefrom.

Payment of Railway Freight Subsidy to Fertilizer Manufacturing Units

1350. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to stop payment of railway freight subsidy due to various fertilizer manufacturing units; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal for stopping payment of freight subsidy under Government's consideration at present. However, a group has been constituted by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation for going into the modalities for calculation of primary and secondary freight based on ECA allocations.

Edible Oil Crushing Units

1351. SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the effect on oil crushing industry (expellers) due to shortfall in oilseeds output owing to prevalent drought in the country; and

(b) whether Government propose to import oilseeds for smooth running of expellers and for making available oil-cakes for the cattle ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) It is reported that the capacity of units crushing oilseeds is under-utilized. Due to the drought, some fall in the production and the availability of oilseeds is anticipated. This may affect the capacity utilization of crushing units.

(b) It is proposed that 0.5 million tonne of oilseeds be imported on aid basis only and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) would be the canalising agency. The actual imports, quantum, and the specific oilseeds to be imported would depend upon the source, availability etc. of aid for oilseeds. The limited import of oilseeds, if and when made will be regulated carefully by NDDB.

FACT Plan for Joint Venture with Algeria

1352. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK :
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) is preparing a feasibility report on a joint venture with Algeria for a phosphatic fertiliser unit producing among other things phosphoric acid, diammonium phosphate and Triple Super Phosphate (TSP); and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) and (b). Yes, sir; a prefeasibility study is being prepared for a joint venture fertilizer project, jointly by FEDO (a division of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited) on behalf of the Government of India and M/s. ENEP of behalf of ASMIDAL of Algeria. No details are available as the report is awaited.

Purchase of Boeing 747 and Airbus 300 for AI

1353. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India propose to purchase Boeing 747 and Airbus 300 aircrafts;

(b) if so, the total cost involved and the foreign exchange component thereof;

(c) the time by which aircrafts will be put into service; and

(d) to what extent the air service will improve after introduction of these two aircrafts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c). Air India has signed a definitive purchase agreement with the Boeing Company for acquiring two B 747-300 (Combi) aircraft at a total estimated project cost of Rs. 371.74 crores, (including rupee expenditure). The foreign exchange expenditure on this project is US \$ 274.20 million equivalent

to Rs. 356.46 crores. These aircraft are due for delivery in October/November, 1988 and are expected to be put into regular scheduled service in November, 1988. There is no proposal to purchase Airbus 300 aircraft at present.

(d) Air-India plan to operate additional point-to-point non-stop service with the new B 747-300 Combi aircraft, thus, providing a better product and faster flights on the India-Europe sector. Additional services will also be operated on the India-Japan route after induction of these aircraft.

Social Security System for Displaced Labour

1354. SHRI S. M. GURADDI :
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the industry has proposed to Government to evolve a retrenchment compensatory system or a social security system to take care of the displaced labour resulting from the fierce free play of market forces;

(b) if so, the other suggestions made by the industry in this regard; and

(c) to what extent Government have accepted these suggestions of the industry ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b). A suggestion for devising an unemployment insurance scheme to give relief to the surplus labour in the industries was received from the Federation of Indian Chambers and industry in May, 1986.

(c) The suggestion was carefully examined but it was not found feasible to introduce an unemployment insurance, for the present.

Growth Rate in I.A.

1355. SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has registered a growth rate of 7.6 per cent during the first four months of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the growth percentage during the same period last year;

(c) the steps proposed to improve the services for the passengers travelling by the Air-bus; and

(d) the steps proposed to improve the quality of snacks served in aircrafts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Traffic growth in aviation industry is measured in terms of Revenue Passenger Kilometers. The growth rate achieved by Indian Airlines in terms of Revenue Passenger Kilometers (RPKs) during the first four months of the current financial year has been 10.24% as against 10.10% during the corresponding period, last year.

(c) Improvement in passenger services is continuous process in areas of reservation (extension of CRTs (Cathode Ray Terminals) to more stations, opening of more mini booking offices), passenger services (flights information, no baggage express counters for Airbus flights), cabin and catering services, etc.

(d) Indian Airlines' qualifies Catering Manager visits the station of upliftment and arranges demonstration of food in the Caterer's premises, so that the meals are prepared as per the recipes. Qualified officers also carry out surprise checks of the meals uplifted from various caterers. With a view to providing variety in food items, menus for major meals like breakfast, lunch and dinner are rotated on daily basis.

Vayudoot Service from Bangalore to Madras

1356. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start

Vayudoot service from Bangalore to Madras;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) the number of flights per day proposed to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Surcharge on IA Tickets

1357. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Airlines has been charging Rs. 10 as surcharge on each ticket for domestic flights;

(b) if so when was it introduced;

(c) whether the Indian Airlines issue any receipt for this surcharge;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, how this surcharge is properly accounted for; and

(e) the legal sanction of the competent authority to impose this surcharge ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Effective 15.4.1987, Indian Airlines has been charging Rs. 10 as "passenger service fee", on each sector of domestic tickets, issued within India.

(c) and (d). No separate receipt is issued but the amount of fee is shown separately on Indian Airline's tickets.

(e) The fee has been introduced in terms of the provisions of the National Airports Authority Act, 1985 and the International Airports Authority Act, 1971.

Telecast of Film "Spread the Light of Freedom"

1358. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times the short film "Spread the light of freedom" is telecast on Doordarshan every day;

(b) whether the pictures of only sportsmen and athletes are shown in this short film; and

(c) whether Government propose to telecast the pictures of freedom fighters, patriotic persons and national leaders also while the message of national integration is conveyed through this short film "Spread the light of Freedom" ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) The short film titled "Spread the Light of Freedom" was telecast 23 times between 15th August, 1987 to 11th October, 1987. The details of the frequency of telecast are indicated in the Statement below.

(b) The short film also focuses/includes children besides Sportsmen and Athletes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Statement

Hindi

S. No.	Date	Timings
1.	15.8.87	at 2.50 pm.
2.	15.8.87	at 9.00 pm.
3.	19.8.87	at 9.00 pm.
4.	23.8.87	at 4.45 pm.
5.	30.8.87	at 5.42 pm.
6.	1.9.87	at 9.00 pm.
7.	4.9.87	at 6.52 pm.

8.	13.9.87	at 9.27 pm.
9.	17.9.87	at 8.33 pm.
10.	20.9.87	at 7.27 pm.
11.	26.9.87	at 9.27 pm.
12.	4.10.87	at 5.15 pm.
13.	10.10.87	at 8.36 pm.

English

14.	15.8.87	at 8.40 pm.
15.	15.8.87	at 9.56 pm.
16.	20.8.87	at 9.50 pm.
17.	24.8.87	at 9.50 pm.
18.	29.8.87	at 9.50 pm.
19.	9.9.87	at 9.00 pm.
20.	15.9.87	at 9.27 pm.
21.	3.10.87	at 9.27 pm.
22.	7.10.87	at 9.26 pm.
23.	11.10.87	at 7.42 pm.

Foreign Tourists During April-September

1359. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of foreign tourists who arrived during April-September, 1987 as compared with the arrivals during the corresponding period last year;

(b) whether the arrivals are less than the target fixed; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to increase the growth of tourism ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The foreign tourist arrivals including the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh during the period from April to September, 1987 were

6,63,257 as compared to 6,49,212 arrivals during the same period of the previous year.

(b) and (c). Though the arrivals excluding the nationals of Pakistan and Bangladesh are likely to reach the target, there may be shortfalls in total arrivals due to decline in tourist traffic from Pakistan and Bangladesh. The main reason for this decline is the prevailing tension in the region. The steps initiated by the Government to further increase the growth of tourism to the country include vigorous publicity campaigns with emphasis on consumer advertising, stepping up of public relations with overseas media agencies, promotion of special interest tourism, organisation of promotional seminars and development of infrastructural facilities etc.

Rice Production in States

1360. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the major areas in the country growing rabi and kharif rice crops;

(b) whether in view of the prevailing drought situation, the rice production pro-

gramme is expected to be reviewed and are planned; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the quantity of rice expected to be harvested in kharif and rabi crops this year and the quantity produced last year, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) State-wise average rice area during kharif and rabi/summer seasons is given in the Statement below :

(b) The rice production programme was reviewed in the national conference held at New Delhi on October 6-7, 1987. Due to drought conditions prevailing in several States as well as floods in some of the eastern States, the production of kharif rice in 1987-88 is likely to be adversely affected. In view of this review, a decision has been taken to raise the rabi/summer rice production target from about 50 lakh tonnes to 60 lakh tonnes.

(c) It is too early to quantify the anticipated production of kharif/rabi/summer rice crops state-wise for the year 1987-88. The estimates for 1986-87 are under finalisation.

Statement

Statewise Average Kharif and Rabi/Summer Rice Area (Triennium Ending 1985-86)

(Lakh Hectares)

S. No.	State/U.T.	Kharif	Rabi
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	27.67	9.43
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.07	—
3.	Assam	23.22	0.45
4.	Bihar	50.93	0.59

1	2	3	4
5.	Goa	0.54	—
6.	Gujarat	5.32	—
7.	Haryana	5.58	—
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.93	—
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.72	—
10.	Karnataka	9.89	1.50
11.	Kerala	6.30	0.86
12.	Madhya Pradesh	49.55	—
13.	Maharashtra	14.99	0.28
14.	Manipur	1.64	—
15.	Meghalaya	1.09	0.02
16.	Mizoram	0.48	—
17.	Nagaland	1.19	—
18.	Orissa	41.58	1.85
19.	Punjab	16.09	—
20.	Rajasthan	1.53	—
21.	Sikkim	0.16	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	23.45	0.21
23.	Tripura	2.41	0.36
24.	Uttar Pradesh	54.53	0.03
25.	West Bengal	47.15	4.87
26.	A. and N. Islands	0.12	—
27.	Dadara and Nagar Haveli	0.11	—
28.	Delhi	0.03	—
29.	Pondicherry	0.23	0.06
All India :		390.53	20.51

Increase in Rabi Crop Production

1361. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to boost rabi crop production in view drought this year;

(b) whether there is a sufficient quantity of certified seeds to meet the situation;

(c) the requirements thereof, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the details of supply of seeds made, States and Union territory-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The steps taken to increase Rabi production during 1987-88 includes (i) the involvement of extension experts of fertilizer industry to promote use of fertilizers, their participation in farmers' training programme at the village level and active association in disseminating messages for

maximising agricultural production (ii) scientific management of water resources; (iii) ensuring judicious use of scarce water at critical stages of crop growth; (iv) optimal use of agricultural inputs; (v) diversion of area from high water consuming crops like wheat, to low water intensive crops like oilseeds and pulses through extension media; (vi) ensuring quick availability of credit and conversion of short-term loans into medium-term loans in drought affected areas; and (vii) quickening the pace of implementation for full utilisation of funds under Small and Marginal Farmers Programme, National Oilseeds Development Programme, National Watershed Development Programme, Oilseeds Thrust Programme, etc.

(b) As on time, sufficient quantities of certified seed are not available to meet the situation. However, the State Governments have been advised to make immediate arrangements for meeting their requirements of seeds for various crops.

(c) and (d). A statement indicating State and Union Territory-wise requirements and availability of seeds for Rabi 1987-88 is given below :

Statement***State-wise Seed Requirement and its Availability for Rabi, 1987-88***

(Quantity in lakh Quintals)

Sl. No.	State	Seed requirement	Seed availability	Shortage/ Surplus
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.32	1.32	—
2.	Assam	1.35	1.08	(—)0.27
3.	Bihar	7.52	5.72	(—)1.80
4.	Gujarat	0.28	0.46	(+)0.18
5.	Haryana	1.36	1.34	(—)0.02
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2.02	2.00	(—)0.02

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.49	1.48	(—)0.01
8.	Karnataka	1.17	1.20	(+)0.03
9.	Kerala	0.11	0.11	—
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2.95	2.25	(—)0.70
11.	Maharashtra	1.34	1.26	(—)0.08
12.	Orissa	0.74	0.61	(—)0.13
13.	Punjab	1.64	1.63	(—)0.01
14.	Rajasthan	1.27	0.92	(—)0.35
15.	Tamil Nadu	1.25	1.46	(+)0.21
16.	Uttar Pradesh	11.06	4.78	(—)6.28
17.	West Bengal	4.40	4.40	—
18.	Manipur	0.10	0.10	—
19.	Pondicherry	0.01	0.01	—
20.	Tripura	0.18	0.17	(—)0.01
21.	Mizoram	0.02	0.02	—
22.	Nagaland	0.01	0.01	—
23.	Delhi	0.14	0.06	(—)0.08
24.	Meghalaya	0.03	0.03	—
25.	Sikkim	0.08	0.08	—
26.	Goa	0.01	0.01	—
Total :		41.85	32.53	(—)9.32

NOTE : In Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, the demands are only 245 and 391 quintals respectively.

Implementation of Oilseeds Production Thrust Project

Government to implement the "Oilseeds Production Thrust Project" for kharif crop of 1987;

1362. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

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

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(c) the States where the project is being implemented; and

(a) whether it is a fact that various State Governments were urged by Union

(d) the States which have been successful in implementing the project !

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. During kharif 1987, Oilseeds Production Thrust Project was sanctioned for 14 important oilseeds growing States for implementation. The main thrust of the project is on Groundnut, Soyabean and sunflower crops. Emphasis has been laid on plant protection umbrella, seed production/procurement, minikit distribution of improved varieties and application of calcium sulphate to groundnut.

(c) The States where the project is being implemented are : Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(d) All the concerned States have implemented the project except the State of West Bengal, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh who have reported that the project could not be implemented in full, during kharif '87, due to aberrant weather conditions. However, the scheme is extended for Rabi season also so as to make good the losses in the production of oilseeds with the available moisture/irrigation in these States.

[Translation]

Misappropriation of Relief Funds

1363. DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Union Government has been drawn to reports regarding alleged misappropriation of relief funds given to States; and

(b) if so, what corrective action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir, in a general way.

(b) Reports are too general and vague to permit pursuit of a definite course of action.

[English]

Government Accommodation to Ex-Presidents

1364. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ex-Presidents get Government accommodation after laying down office; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of Government.

[Translation]

Development of T. V. Centres as Full-Fledged T. V. Studio in Hill Area of Uttar Pradesh

1365. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to develop any of the Television Centres presently functioning in the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh into a full-fledged Television Studio;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the action being taken by the Doordarshan for projecting the art and culture of these areas at the National Network ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) No, Sir. There no such scheme in the Seventh Plan of Doordarshan.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present, Doordarshan Kendra Lucknow caters to the programme requirements of the hill areas of Uttar Pradesh,

projecting *inter-alia* their art and culture in its programmes. Some of these programmes are also telecast on the National Network of Doordarshan.

[Translation]

Assistance to U. P. for Development of Almora

1366. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to give financial assistance to Uttar Pradesh during the year 1987-88 for the development of Almora under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Almora town has been included under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of I.D.S.M.T. and Central assistance of Rs. 19 lakhs has been released for this town since the project was taken up. No funds have been released during 1987-88 till date. Further release during this year or the subsequent years would depend on progress of implementation of the project.

[English]

Sea-Food Processing Research Centres

1367. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHI-MALA BALI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to set up a seafood processing research centre in Cochin; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE : (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

Report of Enquiry about Collapse of Rice Godown in Delhi

1368. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :
SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA :
DR. SUDHIR ROY :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the inquiry into the collapse of rice godown in North Delhi killing 10 labourers in January, 1987, has pointed out lethargy and irregularities by official agencies and certain individuals;

(b) if so, the findings of the enquiry and penal action taken against the erring officials; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration have stated that according to the report of the enquiry officer, the godown was not constructed with the approval of the competent authority and was structurally not sound. The Administration accepted the report and requested the concerned organisations to take necessary action against the persons responsible for lapses. They have further stated that the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking have got the matter inquired into by their Vigilance Department and the findings of the inquiry have been submitted to the disciplinary authority for appropriate action against four officials. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi have placed a Zonal Engineer (Bldg.) of the area under suspension with effect from 15-4-1987.

Prevention of Mine Explosions

1369. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI :
DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether a bacteria has been found by the scientists of the Central Mining

Research Station, Dhanbad that helps prevention of mine explosions; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SINGMA) : (a) and (b). According to the Scientists of Geo-microbiology Division of the Central Mining Research Station, Dhanbad the bacterial degassification technique, can reduce omission of methane gas from gassy coal seams. In this technique, the methane-utilising bacteria are either injected under pressure through bore-holes or allowed to migrate under gravity in the coal pores. The bacteria utilise carbon of methane contained in the coal seam for their cell growth and help convert methane into single cell protein and carbon-dioxide. Thus omission of methane from the coal seams gets reduced. This technique has been tried at nine locations in four coal mines so far.

Purchase of a Boeing from Singapore Airlines

1370. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :
DR. V. VENKATESH :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have purchased an 8 year old Boeing 747 from the Singapore Airlines recently;

(b) if so, the cost thereof;

(c) whether proper evaluation of the aircraft was made before its purchase; and

(d) the reasons for going in for a second hand aircraft ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir. Air India has recently purchased one Boeing 747-200 aircraft of 1979 make from Singapore Airlines.

(b) US \$ 47.00 millions.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The aircraft was acquired to meet the immediate requirements arising out of the loss of Boeing 747 'Kanishka' in an accident in June, 1985. Purchase of a used aircraft facilitated oimmediate delivery and replacement of lost capacity. In addition, the cost was considerably cheaper than that of a new aircraft.

Constitution of Drought Commission

1371. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a permanent drought commission for tackling recurrent drought in the country; and

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government of India to constitute a permanent drought commission.

(b) Does not arise.

Price Policy for Kharif Crops

1372. SHRI BHADRESHWAR TANTI :
DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Commission for Agricultural Cost and Prices has suggested that the price policy of kharif crops be announced in the last week of March every year;

(b) if so, whether this is to enable the farmers to take rational decisions regard-

ing allocation of resources among the competing crops; and

(c) if so, the decision that Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) in its Report on Price Policy for Kharif Crops of 1987-88 season had recommended that to enable the farmers to take rational decision regarding allocation of resources among the competing crops, from the 1988-89 season price policy for all kharif crops, including cotton and paddy, be announced simultaneously during the last week of March.

(c) The recommendation of the CACP is under consideration.

Rabi Crops in Bihar

1373. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have advised Government of Bihar to make use of the excessive moisture in the soil due to floods this year, for better rabi crop;

(b) if so, the expected production of this crop in the State; and

(c) whether additional land is to be brought under cultivation to make up for the kharif crop loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. In the National Conference on Rabi Campaign held in New Delhi on 6th and 7th October, 1987, the Bihar State was advised to make use of the adequate moisture available in larger areas due to floods for increasing production during the rabi season.

(b) On account of adequate availability of soil moisture, the target of rabi foodgrains production in Bihar State has been raised to 65.85 lakh tonnes as against the original target of 50.35 lakh tonnes.

(c) The increased level of production in rabi is expected both from increase in area as well as increase in productivity.

ESI Hospitals in Andhra Pradesh

1374. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received some proposals from Andhra Pradesh for construction of new ESI hospitals and to renovate the existing ones in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken together with the outcome thereof;

(c) the number of hospitals constructed/to be constructed, repaired/ to be repaired and renovated during the last five years in Andhra Pradesh and the amount spent for the purpose together with details thereof; and

(d) the plans and projects, if any, for the years 1988, 1989 and 1990 separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Flights from Trivandrum to Gulf Countries

1375. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been demands for more flights to the Gulf countries from Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the names of Gulf countries to which no flight operates from Trivandrum; and

(d) the steps taken proposed to operate flights to those countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Demand for the introduction of Air India flights from Trivandrum to Muscat (Oman) Bahrain, and Qatar have been received during the preceding 5 years.

(c) Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and Jeddeh (Saudi Arabia).

(d) The existing number of Air India flights between Gulf countries and Trivandrum is considered adequate to meet traffic demands between Gulf and Trivandrum.

Development of Tourist Places in Kerala

1376. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allotted to Kerala for development of tourism for 1987-88; and

(b) the details of the work undertaken and the names of new places, which are going to be developed at tourist centres during this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The Central Ministry of Tourism does not allocate funds Statewise but schemewise.

(b) During 1987-88, the Central Ministry of Tourism has approved financial assistance to the Government of Kerala for development of tourist infrastructure at the following tourist centres so far :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Project	Amount sanctioned
1. Aquatic sports at Malampuzha	7.82
2. Floating Restaurant at Veli	13.44

3. Speed Boat at Pathiramanal 36.72

4. Mini Buses for Wynad Wildlife Sanctuary 5.53

5. Floodlighting of Trivandrum Museum and Kanakakannu Palace 14.82

6. Luxury Cruisers for Kovalam and Cochin 190.00

Manufacture of Deep-Sea Fishing Trawlers

1377. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government has taken steps to encourage the entrepreneurs to manufacture deep-sea fishing trawlers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of trawlers manufactured indigenously during the last two years;

(d) the total number of trawlers required; and

(e) the details of the plan to meet the requirement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A subsidy at a flat rate of 33 % of the cost of the trawlers and duty free import of component and equipment upto a value of 20% of the cost of the trawlers is allowed to trawler manufacturers. Moreover, 10% price preference is given to the indigenous trawler manufacturers over the imported trawlers.

(c) 21 trawlers financed through erst-while Shipping Development Fund Committee were manufactured during the last 2 years.

(d) and (e). During the 7th Plan period, it is proposed to increase the number of deep sea fishing vessels to 500 through indigenous construction, import, charter of foreign fishing vessels and joint venture schemes.

Aircraft Purchased by Air India

1378. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of flights cancelled by Air India due to shortage of aircraft, during 1987;

(b) the step taken to rectify the situation;

(c) whether Air India has now obtained the requisite number of aircraft; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). During the period January to October, 1987, 42 flights of Air India were cancelled or combined with other flights, due to the following reasons;

(i) Engineering,

(ii) Commercial,

(iii) Impounding of Airbus aircraft at Lagos, and

(iv) Operation of extra section flights.

The impounded aircraft was released towards the end of October, 1987, further easing the situation.

(c) and (d). There are requisite number of aircraft with Air India for operating scheduled services. As a part of the fleet augmentation programme, two B-747-300 (combi) aircraft are being acquired by Air India in Oct/Nov., 1988.

Arrival/Departure of Passengers/Aircrafts at Bombay/Delhi Airport

1379. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the figures of the aircraft arrivals and departures and passenger arrivals and departures at Bombay and Delhi International Airports during the day night and indicating the peak hour of both aircrafts and passengers arrival and departure at these two terminals;

(b) the reasons for bunching of aircraft arrivals and departures at a certain hour; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) A statement furnishing the requisite information is given below.

(b) The bunching of aircraft arrivals and departures is mainly due to night curfew restrictions at other airports in the East and West.

(c) A Standing Central Scheduling Committee has been constituted to deal with the problem. The matter is also being pursued with the IATA, IAAI have informed IATA that a system of incentives and disincentives will be introduced if the bunching of flights is continued by foreign airlines.

Statement**Aircraft/Passenger Figures****Bombay Airport***

	Day (0601—1801 hrs)	Night (1801 to 0600 hrs.)
	1	2
No. of flights	3	4
International Arrival (per week)	97	181
International Departure (per week)	97	180

1	2	3
<i>No. of passangers</i>		
International Arrival (per week)	16.864	20.579
International Departure (per week)	8.050	27,920
Delhi Airport**		
<i>No. of flights</i>		
International Arrival (per week)	59	116
International Departure (per week)	89	90
<i>No. of passengers</i>		
International Arrival (per week)	5,857	11,407
International Departure (per week)	8,806	10,450

*Based on August 1987

**Based on September 1987

Peak Hour of Traffic**1. Bombay Airport**

		Time (in hours)
International	A/C	0001 to 0100 on Wednesday
Arrival	Pax	0300 to 0600 on Wednesday
		Time (in hours)
International	A/C	0100 to 0200 on Wednesday
Departure	Pax	2300 to 2400 on Wednesday

2. Delhi Airport

		Time (in hours)
International	A/C	0500 to 0600 on Saturday
Arrival	Pax	0500 to 0600 on Saturday
		Time (in hours)
International	A/C	0001 to 0100 on Tuesday
Departure	Pax	0630 to 0730 on Friday

Air India Funds in Foreign Countries

1380. **SHRI AMAL DATTA** : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3287 on 17 August, 1987 regarding restriction on remittances by airlines and state the year-

wise accumulation of funds of Air India in various countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Year-wise accumulation of Air India's funds in various countries are as under :

(Rupees in crores)

Country	1986-87	1985-86	1984-85	1980-84 and earlier
Nigeria	10.83	10.06	2.49	—
Iraq	2.42	8.48	9.28	2.06
Iran	0.41	0.70	0.59	4.51
Zambia	0.55	0.45	0.58	0.22
Libya	0.47	0.65	—	—
Other Countries	0.09	0.12	0.28	0.54

Alternate Crops in Case of Failure of Rains

1381. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any attention has been paid to the evolution of a suitable strategy for growing alternate crops, in case of failure or inordinate delay in the onset of monsoon or other rains, so essential for sowing and growing the crops;

(b) If so, the outline and nature thereof and the steps taken in this regard during the past three years including the current financial year; and

(c) if not, whether such a strategy would be evolved in the view of the serious and recurring droughts faced by the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The ICAR research system and other research organisations have evolved suitable strategy for growing alternate crops keeping in view the rainfall situation. These recommendations are being followed in development programmes. For the current year the State Governments were advised a contingency plan for alternate crop strategy.

(c) Question does not arise.

Selection of Community Development Blocks in Hill State by NIRD

1382. **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 99 on 27 July, 1987 regarding selection of Community Development Blocks in Hill States by NIRD and state :

(a) whether the formulation of the Development Plan for Nadaun Block of Hamirpur District (HP), undertaken by the National Institute of Rural Development, Hyderabad has since been completed;

(b) if so, the date of completion of the study;

(c) the date when the study was first begun and the reasons for delay in the completion of the study; and

(d) if not, the likely date by which the study would be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b). The formulation of the Development Plan for Nadaun Block of Hamirpur District, Himachal Pradesh has not been completed.

(c) and (d). The study was first begun in March, 1983. However, it could not be completed as the person in charge of the study was transferred from the headquarters of the Institute to the Regional Centre at Guwahati. Fresh data on certain items was collected in September, 1987 and the study is likely to be completed by March, 1988.

Utilisation of Funds by DDA for Slums

1383. DR. G. S. RAJHANS :
SHRI BANWARI LAL
PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the slum department of the DDA has failed to utilise the funds earmarked for the development of slums;

(b) if so, the details of the allocations made to DDA for slums during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the details of the amount spent during the last three years and the reasons for not utilising the funds in full for the development of slums ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) It is not correct to say that DDA has failed to utilise funds earmarked for the slums.

(b) and (c). The requisite information is as under :

Year	Funds allocated (Rs. in lakhs)	Exp. incurred (in lakhs)
1984-85	550.00	498.81
1985-86	500.00	477.69
1986-87	550.00	453.07

Besides the above expenditure, the cost of land which has been utilised for the construction of the assets works out to Rs. 80 lakhs (approximately). The question of not utilising the funds therefore does not arise.

Indo-Swiss Agreement on Cattle Breeding

1384. SHRI VAKKOM PURUSHOTHAMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Indo-Swiss agreement was concluded in December, 1985 for cattle breeding;

(b) if so, the extent of assistance received from Switzerland under the project so far; and

(c) the details of the progress made in Kerala under the Project ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. An agreement was concluded in December, 1985 in respect of Followup Phase (1985-88) of the Indo-Swiss Project for Cattle Breeding, Fodder Production and Dairy Development in Kerala.

(b) Assistance from Switzerland envisaged during the Follow-up Phase (1985-88) of the Project is of the order of Rs. 89.00 lakhs. The total Swiss assistance received under the Project since inception, till 30.9.1987 was of the order of Rs. 768.39 lakhs.

(c) The activities of the Project form an integral part of the general efforts undertaken by the State Government of Kerala in the Dairy sector. The assistance

received under the Project has been mainly utilised for developing infrastructural facilities and manpower development programmes to support cattle breeding and fodder production activities in the State. Under the Project, three Bull stations one Bull Mother Farm, six Regional Semen Banks and eleven liquid nitrogen plants have been established. Cryogenic equipment has been provided to 1380 Artificial Insemination Centres. In 1986-87, 13.62 lakhs doses of frozen semen and 2.12 lakh litres of liquid nitrogen were distributed. Data on the productive and reproductive performance of the crossbreds are collected and evaluated. About 30 metric tonnes of fodder seeds are distributed annually and seeds of selected varieties are produced in Project farms as well as through certified seed growers.

Payment of Wages in Drought Relief Works

1385. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have

received complaints about non-payment or delay in payment of wages in drought relief works undertaken in drought affected States; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No specific complaint about non-payment for delay in payment of wages in any specific drought relief works undertaken in the affected States, has been received so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Production of Tobacco

1386. SHRI AMARSINH RATHWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of tobacco producing States and the quantity of tobacco produced in each State annually; and

(b) the quality of tobacco produced in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Tobacco is mainly grown in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Bihar, and West Bengal. The quantity of tobacco produced in various States during 1984-85 and 1985-86 is given in the statement below.

(b) In India, tobacco is mainly classified into cigarettes, bidi, hookah, chewing, cigar, cheroot and snuff categories. Except cigarette tobacco, all other categories are not cultivated in any other country than India. Hence, the quality of these types of tobacco can not be compared to the tobacco produced in any other country of the world. The virginia cigarette tobacco produced in the light soils of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh is comparable to the best tobacco produced in the world. However, virginia tobacco produced in black soils has more nicotine and lower sugar nicotine ration and is categorised as of 'medium' quality.

Statement

Quantity of tobacco produced in various States during 1984-85 and 1985-86

S. No.	State	Production ('000 tonnes)	
		1984-85	1985-86
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	170.6	141.4
2.	Assam	3.5	2.9

1	2	3	4
3. Bihar		16.1	15.0
4. Gujarat		173.5	167.8
5. Haryana		0.2	0.1
6. Himachal Pradesh		0.1	0.1
7. Jammu and Kashmir		0.1	0.1
8. Karnataka		31.2	30.5
9. Kerala		1.0	1.0
10. Madhya Pradesh		0.6	0.5
11. Maharashtra		4.9	7.7
12. Meghalaya		0.6	0.6
13. Orissa		9.4	9.6
14. Rajasthan		3.1	2.8
15. Tamil Nadu		25.7	15.6
16. Tripura		0.3	0.3
17. Uttar Pradesh		28.1	28.1
18. West Bengal		16.5	14.9
19. Arunachal Pradesh		0.1	0.1
20. Mizoram		0.3	0.3
Total :		485.9	439.4

New Scheme for Rural Upliftment

1387. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formulated a new scheme for the rural upliftment and whether the scheme envisages creation of cadre of young men and young women who are willing to adopt rural development as their profession;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the manner in which these schemes are likely to help to provide gainful employment to the rural poor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

**Report of Pay Review Committee for
Employees of ICAR**

1388. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether the pay review committee
constituted for the employees of Indian
Council of Agricultural Research has sub-
mitted its report and if so, when;

(b) the recommendations made there-
in; and

(c) the steps being taken for its
implementation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY
OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA
MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The pay
Review Committee submitted its report
in July, 1987.

(b) and (c). Recommendations of the
Committee relate to the revision of the
pay scales of the scientists working in the
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
system and other connected matters. The

recommendations are under consideration
of the Government.

Production of Fertilizers

1389. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be
pleased to state :

(a) the details of the indigenous pro-
duction of fertilizers in the country during
the last three years, year-wise and percen-
tage of capacity utilisation in each of the
units;

(b) what are the details of the year-
wise imports of fertilizers during the same
period; and

(c) what is the inventory position in
each of the units during the same period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN
THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
(SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) The details of
the indigenous production of nitrogenous
and phosphatic fertilizers, in terms of
nutrients, in the country during the last
3 years and percentage of capacity utiliza-
tion in respect of each of the units are
given in Statement-I below.

(b) The details of the year-wise imports
of fertilizers in the country for the last
3 years are as under :—

(in lakh tonnes)

Year	Fertilizer Nutrients Imported			
	N	P	K	Total
1984-85	20.08	7.45	8.71	36.24
1985-86	16.80	8.16	9.03	33.99
1986-87	11.13	2.87	8.82	22.82

(c) The inventory position of the manufacturing companies during the same
period is given Statement-II below.

Statement I

Indigenous production of fertilizer in the Country during the last three years in each unit (in terms of nutrients) and percentage of capacity utilisation

I. Nitrogen

(000' MT)

Name of Company/Plant	Production			% Capacity Utilisation		
	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>(i) Public Sector</i>						
FCI : Sindri Modn.	125.2	74.1	135.3	57.2	33.8	61.8
: Gorakhpur	82.4	78.9	84.1	62.9	60.2	64.2
: Ramagundam	93.4	55.3	113.2	41.0	24.3	49.6
: Talchar	55.1	52.9	58.8	24.2	23.2	25.8
NFL : Nangal-I	52.6	60.8	57.1	65.8	76.0	71.4
: Nangal-II	137.8	138.3	134.3	90.7	91.0	88.4
: Bhatinda	143.6	168.2	169.4	61.1	71.6	72.1
: Panipat	157.1	141.9	190.0	66.8	60.4	80.9
HFC : Namrup-I	21.6	17.1	8.8	48.0	38.0	19.6
: Namrup-II	66.7	58.7	86.9	43.9	38.6	57.2
: Durgapur	57.5	46.2	50.8	37.8	30.4	33.4
: Barauni	37.7	92.8	61.6	24.8	61.1	40.5
FACT : Udyogamandal	51.2	59.3	52.5	65.6	76.0	67.3
: Cochin-I	107.9	56.3	105.5	71.0	37.0	69.4
: Cochin-II	65.6	64.4	80.0	164.0	79.5	98.0
RCF : Trombay	84.3	81.2	85.7	93.7	90.2	95.2
: Trombay-IV	55.6	51.8	61.7	74.1	69.1	82.3
: Trombay-V	125.0	136.0	153.7	82.2	89.5	101.1
: Thal	48.9	376.5	479.2	—	55.1	70.2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
MFL : Madras	151.4	191.0	157.3	86.0	74.4	89.4
SAIL : Rourkela	49.8	34.5	40.0	41.5	28.8	33.3
NLC : Neyveli	58.9	59.1	51.9	84.1	84.4	84.1
PPL : Paradeep	—	—	76.1	—	—	58.5
By Product	16.1	16.3	13.1	53.6	54.3	43.7
<i>(ii) Cooperative Sector</i>						
IFFCO : Kalol/Kandla	321.9	272.8	316.4	106.6	90.3	104.8
: Phulpur	200.1	191.0	222.2	87.8	83.8	97.5
KRIBHCO : Hazira	—	126.7	579.4	—	56.9	86.7
<i>(iii) Private Sector</i>						
GSFC : Baroda	215.5	252.7	253.5	91.3	107.1	107.4
CFL : Vizag	73.3	81.8	74.6	87.3	97.4	88.8
SFC : Kota	143.7	163.1	147.2	94.5	107.3	96.8
IEL : Kanpur	286.3	267.8	270.6	92.4	86.4	87.3
ZAC : Goa	148.1	191.3	213.0	86.6	96.6	108.6
SPIC : Tuticorin	307.3	308.3	334.9	104.9	105.2	114.3
MCF : Mangalore	134.0	110.8	141.8	85.9	71.0	90.9
EID Parry : Ennore	9.2	9.6	11.4	115.0	120.0	142.5
Hari Ferts : Varanasi	2.1	3.9	3.1	21.0	39.0	31.9
GNFC : Bharuch	212.8	270.7	283.9	77.9	99.2	104.8
TAC : Tuticorin Alk.	13.3	12.8	12.1	83.1	80.0	75.6
PNF : Nangal	—	6.8	6.3	—	42.5	39.4
HLL : Haldia	—	1.9	17.0	—	—	58.6
By Product	4.1	4.0	6.6	34.2	30.6	50.8

II. Phosphate

(i) Public Sector

FACT : Udyogamandal	29.0	31.7	30.3	78.4	85.7	81.9
: Cochin-II	85.3	70.4	90.0	74.8	61.8	78.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
RCF : Trombay	41.1	39.8	39.7	91.3	88.4	88.2
: Trombay-IV	55.6	51.8	61.7	74.1	69.1	82.3
MFL : Madras	112.4	93.0	103.0	100.4	83.0	92.0
HCL : Khetri	8.3	6.4	7.8	9.2	21.3	26.0
PPL : Paradeep	—	0.9	194.5	—	—	58.8
SSP Units	8.8	10.0	7.0	25.1	28.6	20.0
<i>(ii) Cooperative Sector</i>						
IFFCO : Kandla	348.3	351.9	342.0	134.0	113.9	110.7
<i>(iii) Private Sector</i>						
GSFC : Baroda	51.4	60.4	70.1	102.8	120.8	140.2
CFL : Vizag	79.4	86.4	77.6	76.3	83.1	74.6
ZAC : Goa	37.5	124.0	114.8	89.3	111.7	103.4
SPIC : Tuticorin	160.9	163.3	148.5	112.5	114.2	103.8
MCF : Mangalore	—	—	—	—	—	—
EID Parry : Ennore	11.5	12.0	14.2	115.0	190.0	142.0
HLL : Haldia	—	5.0	43.4	—	7.0	61.1
SSP Units	229.9	320.6	291.4	79.6	64.8	58.9

Statement-II

*Inventories of indigenous fertilizers with the manufacturers
(in terms of nutrients)*

(000' MT)

Name of Company	Nitrogen			Phosphate		
	1.4.85	1.4.86	1.4.87	1.4.85	1.4.86	1.4.87
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>Public Sector</i>						
FCI	71.0	78.5	120.70	—	—	—
NFL	54.9	52.5	108.57	—	—	—
HFC	46.4	77.4	93.71	—	—	—
FACT	19.9	42.2	57.59	12.9	20.5	25.03

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
RCF	24.9	317.9	506.75	7.1	25.3	24.2 ¹
MFL	38.0	33.2	64.30	19.9	16.0	29.30
SAIL	10.7	0.9	6.13	—	—	—
NLC	14.9	14.8	11.64	—	—	—
PPL	—	—	50.42	—	—	128.64
By Product	0.3	0.3	0.50	—	—	—
HCL	—	—	—	0.6	0.8	2.45
PPCL	—	—	—	—	—	1.18
SSP Units	—	—	—	0.6	0.8	1.50
<i>Total (Public Sector)</i>	281.0	617.7	1020.31	42.7	63.4	212.49
<i>Cooperative Sector</i>						
IFFCO	145.1	96.6	190.70	93.0	114.8	160.60
KRIBHCO	—	88.7	184.00	—	—	—
<i>Total : (Coop. Sector)</i>	145.1	185.3	374.70	93.0	114.8	160.60
<i>Private Sector</i>						
CSFC : Baroda	35.0	55.7	47.29	6.3	17.0	15.02
CFL : Vizag	3.3	2.4	2.30	3.3	3.3	2.86
SFC : Kota	7.9	12.1	19.76	—	—	—
IEL : Kanpur	6.7	33.9	47.14	—	—	—
ZAC : Goa	24.8	43.7	39.43	11.4	36.5	31.27
SPIC : Tuticorin	58.9	74.7	148.45	40.1	22.3	130.50
MCF : Mangalore	29.5	39.6	79.02	—	—	—
EID Parry Ennore	0.9	0.9	1.10	1.1	1.1	1.30
Hari Fert.	5.5	5.5	0.91	—	—	—
GNFC : Bharuch	36.3	54.5	92.84	—	—	—
TAC : Tuticorin Alk.	5.1	5.1	5.22	—	—	—
PNF : Nangal	—	—	0.10	—	—	—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
HLL : Haldia	—	—	4.12	—	—	10.54
By Product	0.2	0.2	0.50	—	—	—
SSP Units	—	—	—	11.0	11.2	54.00
Total (Pvt. Sector)	214.1	328.3	488.18	72.6	161.4	245.49
Grand Total	640.2	1131.3	1883.18	208.2	339.6	618.58

Purchase of Boeings

1390. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government issued a letter of intent to the Boeing Company for purchase of 21 Boeing 757 passenger aircrafts;

(b) whether the decision to purchase these 21 Boeings was taken in the year 1985-86;

(c) whether any tenders were invited for the purpose;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons for the withdrawal of the letter of intent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). No letter of intent was issued to the Boeing Company in 1985-86 for the purchase of 21 Boeing 757 aircraft. However, on the 24th of July, 1984, with Government approval, Indian Airlines had issued a letter of intent to the Boeing Company for the purchase of 12 B-757 aircraft.

(c) and (d). Indian Airlines did not call for any tenders. Indian Airlines carried out a techno-economic study of the then available aircraft in 1983-84. The technical and commercial offers were received/obtained from the respective aircraft manufacturers.

(e) Because of the techno economic advantages of Airbus A-320 aircraft over the B-757 aircraft, the former was preferred.

Catering Arrangements at Airports

1391. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the low quality of catering arrangements at the airports in the country;

(b) the executive department responsible therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to provide better quality food stuff at reasonable rates at the airports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) There have been some complaints regarding catering arrangements at the airports in the country.

(b) International Airports Authority of India at the international airports and National Airports Authority at other aerodromes are responsible for making suitable catering arrangements.

(c) The following steps are being taken to provide better quality food stuff at reasonable rates at the airports :

(i) More competition is being introduced by bringing in reputed hoteliers;

- (ii) Different agencies who are operating presently are being cautioned about the quality of their service;
- (iii) Notices of termination have been issued in some cases; and
- (iv) Regular inspection of the catering arrangements are being conducted.

Marketing Facilities for Fish

1392. SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a huge quantity of fish is being thrown away by deep sea fishing trawlers; if so, the steps taken to check it;

(b) the action being taken to create and organise marketing facilities for fishermen; and

(c) the available budget for acquiring railway refrigeration cars to transport fish to urban centres from fishing ports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No report has so far been received on throwing away of a huge quantity of fish by deep sea fishing trawlers.

(b) Marketing of fish is looked after by Fishermen's Cooperatives and State Fisheries Corporations. Assistance for export marketing is provided by Marine Products Export Development Authority.

(c) Since operation of refrigerated rail van was found to be uneconomical earlier, no budgetary provision has been made.

Sea-Plane for Andaman Nicobar and Lakshadweep

1393. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce seaplane developed by West Germany for rendering passenger service to the Andaman Nicobar and Lakshadweep people to and from mainland;

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

(c) the time by which the Project is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir,

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

Construction of Lakshadweep Airport

1393. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the progress of construction work of the airport in Lakshadweep is satisfactory; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The aerodrome site has been cleared of jungle and developed. Plant, machinery and labour have been transported to the Island. Site office, labour camps, workshop and laboratory have been established. Subgrade preparation is in progress. Transportation of construction materials like cement, bitumen, crushed stone aggregate, etc., to the Island (Agatti site) through mechanised sailing vessels is in progress.

Information Regarding Arrival/Delay of Flights at Palam Airport

1395. SHRI P. M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no arrangement of making announcement regarding actual arrival of flights or regarding flights which are delayed at Palam Airport, Delhi;

(b) whether there is any enquiry office to give such information to people who go to receive their friends and relatives; and

(c) whether Government propose to put up an electronics indicator showing time of arrival of various flights at the exit gate and also to make some minimum waiting arrangements, keeping in view the difficulty of those who go to Palam Airport to receive their near and dear ones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Public Address system and CCTV have been provided in all the Terminals of IGI Airports. In addition Electronic Flight Information Boards have also been provided in Terminal II of the International Terminal.

(b) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines have enquiry counters in Terminal-IA, IB and IC and Vayudoot in Terminal IA and IB. An enquiry office also exists in Terminal II to disseminate flight information on telephone. Flight information can also be obtained from the office of the Airport Manager who is available round the clock.

(c) Electronic Flight Information Boards have been installed inside the concourse both in the departure as well as Arrival levels of Terminal II. On the city side area, information is available on CCTV monitors and Public Address System. There is no immediate proposal to install additional Electronic Boards at the IGI Airport. Existing arrangements are being modified for the facility of visitors.

Shortage of Cattle Fodder in Famine Affected Areas

1396. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether shortage of cattle-fodder in famine affected areas had adversely affected the cattle population;

(b) if so, the steps taken to assist the State Governments for providing required cattle-fodder to the famine affected areas; and

(c) whether Union Government had taken steps to set up cattle-camps in adjoining or adjacent States so that cattle population of famine affected areas may be shifted or allowed to migrate to such cattle-camps for their survival?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Major steps taken to assist the State Governments for providing the required cattle fodder to the famine affected areas include :

- (1) Procurement of fodder from surplus pockets, within the State or from surplus States and supply on subsidised rates through Panchayat Samitis/Voluntary agencies etc.
- (2) Providing subsidy on transport of fodder purchase of chaff cutters and developing common grazing land and for fodder production.
- (3) Distribution of fodder seeds at subsidised rates or free of cost or purchasing of fodder seed through interest-free loans.
- (4) Distribution of fodder-minikit for popularising high yielding fodder varieties.
- (5) Initiating silvi-pastoral and farmers' three grower cooperatives schemes and supply of saplings free of cost.
- (6) Conservation of surplus fodder by making hay/silage etc.
- (7) Encouraging farmers to use chaffed, treated/fortified fodder to minimise losses and make the fodder more nutritious.
- (8) Ten per cent of the total production of molasses is now reserved for livestock feeding. Department of Chemicals and Petro-Chemicals has made special inter-State allocation of molasses for feeding livestock.

(9) Establishment of silvi-pastoral farms in marginal/sub-marginal/wastelands/community lands for which grant is provided through State Government/other agencies upto 50%, limited to Rs. 1250 per hectare subject to the provision of matching grant by State Government/individual/ other agencies. The scheme has been initiated by the Wasteland Development Board.

(10) A scheme for fodder cultivation by small and marginal farmers and agricultural labourers has been sanctioned for implementation in seven drought affected States.

(11) FCI is releasing damaged wheat and rice for livestock feeding in drought affected areas.

(c) The Union Government advised the State Governments for establishment of cattle camps in the famine affected areas for providing succour to the affected livestock. The cattle camps were organised in the States like Rajasthan and Gujarat by the State Government in association with voluntary organisation.

Facilities to Passangers on Cancellation/Delay of Flights

1397. SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the details of the facilities for the comfortable stay at the airports, particularly at Madras airport, provided to the stranded passengers of the delayed/cancelled flights of Indian Airlines till the alternative flight is arranged ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Retiring room facility is available for transit passengers at the major airports at Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Hyderabad and Bangalore. Whenever scheduled flights are delayed beyond 60 minutes, refreshments/snacks/meals are served to passengers through the airport snacks bar/restaurants. Where restaurant

facility is not adequate at any airport, meals are provided on board the aircraft or at the nearest leading hotel in the city. Boarding and lodging facility is also provided to outstation passengers of cancelled flights.

[Translation]

Acquatic Hyacinth as Fodder

1398. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether scientists of Irrigation and Power Research Institute, Amritsar have recommended the use of aquatic hyacinth (Jal Kundi) as an alternative fodder to meet the acute shortage of fodder due to current drought; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No recommendation about the use of Aquatic Hyacinth (Jal Kundi) as an alternative fodder to meet the acute shortage of fodder due to current drought has been received from the scientists of Irrigation and Power Research Institute, Amritsar so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Drinking Water Problem for Foreign Tourists in Rajasthan

1399. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the flow of the foreign tourists to historical and other places of Rajasthan has declined due to acute shortage of drinking water at the tourist places; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH

TYFLER) : (a) As per the statistics available from the State Government, the number of foreign tourists who visited Rajasthan during the first 6 months of 1987 was 1,49,643 as compared to 1,44,084 during the corresponding period of the previous year, thereby registering an increase rather than a decline in the tourist arrivals.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Hot Mix Plant of NDMC

1400. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL :
SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether serious financial irregularities were detected in the working of the NDMC Hot Mix Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted in the case; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken in cases where responsibility was fixed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d). On receipt of information by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) about improper functioning of the Hot Mix Plant of N.D.M.C. at Ring Road, New Delhi, the Chief Technical Examiner's Organisation of CVC conducted technical examination and forwarded a report to N.D.M.C. during 1980 pointing out various lapses in the efficient running of the plant. Administrator, NDMC, has appointed a High Power Committee to investigate the entire matter and fix responsibility.

Higher Targets for Production of Foodgrains
During Seventh Plan

1401. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed higher target for the production of foodgrains during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) if so, the target set for the foodgrains production in Karnataka in Seventh Plan;

(c) the strategy adopted and the Central assistance provided to Karnataka to increase the production of foodgrains; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir, An All-India target of 178-183 million tonnes of foodgrains has been fixed for the Seventh Plan period as against the target of 153.60 million tonnes for the Sixth Plan. period.

(b) The target for foodgrains production in Karnataka for the Seventh Plan has been fixed at 8.50 million tonnes out of the All-India target of 180 million tonnes (mid-point of 178-183 million tonnes).

(c) and (d). The broad strategies for increasing production of crops including foodgrains are : (i) introduction of improved technology; (ii) reinforcing agricultural extension; (iii) planned supplies of quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. as also credit; (iv) integrated development of dryland farming specially for increasing production of coarse cereals, pulses, oilseeds, etc.; and (v) involvement of farmers in the implementation of programmes.

Of the total State Sector outlay of Rs. 3500.00 crores for the Seventh Plan period for Karnataka, net Central assistance earmarked for the State Plan programmes (including agricultural programmes) is Rs. 873.73 crore. The Central Government also supplements the efforts of the State Government in the development of agriculture through provision of necessary funds for implementation of Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

Coconut Plantation in Karnataka

1402. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will

the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps to grow hybrid coconut in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the additional hectares of land proposed to be brought under coconut plantation in Karnataka during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the steps taken for the protection of coconut trees from Caterpillar pest and other diseases; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Coconut Development Board is implementing schemes for growing coconut hybrids in Karnataka.

(b) An area of 1650 hectares is proposed to be brought under coconut during the Seventh Five Year Plan through programmes of the Board.

(c) and (d). A scheme for the integrated control of leaf-eating caterpillar in Karnataka with a physical target for release of one million parasites annually has been taken up by the Coconut Development Board from 1987-88 at a total cost of Rs. 6.843 lakhs to be shared equally by the Board and the State Government,

Development of Bangalore City

1403. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARSIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government propose to take some steps for the development of Bangalore city;

(b) whether some specific proposals have been submitted by the State Government in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the schemes cleared under the development programme of Bangalore city ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (d) In order to augment the drinking water supply to Bangalore city by an additional supply of 60 Mgd, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board submitted the Cauvery Water Supply Scheme Stage-III at an estimated cost of Rs. 240 crores. A decision has been taken that the project will be implemented with LIC and other assistance. As reported by the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Cauvery Stage-III Water Supply Project will be completed by 1990 and the total Water Supply available to the people of Bangalore city will be 705 Mld from the existing water supply resources and the Cauvery water supply scheme Stages I, II and III put together.

Fertilizer Production

1404. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the fertilizer production in public and private sector units in India from April, 1987 till 31st October, 1987;

(b) the off-take of fertilizer for different States;

(c) the accumulated stocks, if any, in different plants, as on 31st October, 1987; and

(d) whether it has resulted in slowdown in production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) The nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers production, in terms of nutrients, in public, Cooperative and Private Sector units from April, 1987 till October, 1987 is given in Statement-I below.

(b) The off-take (i.e. consumption of fertilizers) figures are being maintained season-wise (i.e. Rabi and Rharif season). The estimated state-wise consumption of fertilizers during Kharif-1987 (i.e. April to September, 1987) is given in statement-II, below.

(c) The indigenous stock of fertilizers as on 31st October, 1987, in terms of nutrients, is given in Statement-III below.

(d) Due to unfavourable weather conditions during the last three years in a row, fertilizer consumption has been below

the targetted levels. As a result, the stocks of indigenous fertilizers have gone up. This, along with factors like power cuts, equipment problems and shortage of water has contributed to the slowing down of production.

Statement-I

Fertilizer production (In terms of nutrients) during April-October, 1987

1. Nitrogen

(000'MT)

Name of Company/Plant		Target	Production
1	2	3	4
(i) Public Sector			
FCI	Sindri Modn.	70.6	77.8
	Gorakhpur	42.4	33.3
	Ramagundam	50.5	15.8
	Talcher	27.0	46.2
Total :		190.5	175.1
NFL	Nangal-I	32.9	34.0
	Nangal-II	72.4	76.6
	Bhatinda	97.6	100.6
	Panipat	94.0	127.1
Total :		296.9	338.3
HFC	Namrup-I	5.1	2.8
	Namrup-II	47.4	45.7
	Namrup-III	18.7	22.4
	Durgapur	40.5	15.4
	Barauni	44.6	36.9
Total :		156.3	123.2

1	2	3	4
FACT :	Udyogmandal	26.7	29.1
	: Cochin-I	51.0	27.4
	: Cochin-II	48.6	46.3
	Total :	126.3	102.8
RCF :	Trombay	46.2	52.9
	: Trombay-IV	34.3	32.7
	: Trombay-V	76.4	65.0
	: Thal	291.5	324.1
	Total :	448.4	474.7
MFL :	Madras	78.3	12.0
SAIL :	Rourkela	34.9	23.1
NLC :	Neyveli	31.4	27.9
PPL :	Paradeep	63.2	32.7
By product		8.0	8.0
	Total : (Sub. Sector)	1434.2	1315.3
(ii) Co-operative Sector			
IFFCO :	Kalol/Kandla	166.0	166.3
	: Phulpur	115.2	113.0
	Total :	281.2	279.3
KRIBHCO :	Hazira	323.0	409.5
	Total : (Coop. Sector)	604.2	688.8
(iii) Private Sector			
GSFC :	Baroda	149.4	142.0
CFL :	Vizag	32.9	36.3

1	2	3	4
SFC : Kota		89.2	58.7
IEL : Kanpur		168.0	143.1
ZAC : Goa		101.4	108.6
SPIC : Tuticorin		177.0	176.2
MCF : Mangalore		83.7	24.0
EID Parry : Ennore		5.9	5.7
Hari Ferts. Varanasi		2.1	2.1
GNFC : Bharuch		148.2	172.2
TAC : Tuticorin Alk.		4.2	6.0
PMF : Nangal		5.6	6.2
HLL : Haldia		13.0	10.4
: Sikka		20.4	—
By Product		2.8	2.8
Total :		1063.8	894.3
(Private Sector)			
Grand Total	(i+ii+iii)	3042.2	2898.9

11. Phosphate

(i) *Public Sector*

FCI : Sindri Refn.	—	—
FACT : Udyogmandal	15.8	15.3
: Cochin-II	61.4	55.6
Total :	77.2	70.9
RCF : Trombay	22.1	27.7
: Trombay-IV	34.3	52.7
Total :	56.4	80.4
MFL : Madras	53.9	15.3
HCL : Khetri	11.0	5.0
PPL : Paradeep	161.0	65.5
SSP Units	11.0	10.0
Total :	370.5	261.9
(public Sector)		

1	2	3	4
(ii) Cooperative Sector			
	IFFCO : Kandla	198.5	169.7
	Total :	192.5	169.7
	Total : (i+ii)	563.0	430.8
(iii) Private Sector			
	GSFC : Baroda	41.2	44.7
	CFL : Vizag	37.4	37.6
	ZAC : Goa	60.4	56.9
	SPIC : Tuticorin	98.0	57.0
	MCF : Mangalore	33.0	10.2
	EID Parry : Ennore	7.6	7.3
	Sikka	52.9	Nil
	HLL : Haldia	34.0	26.5
	SSP Units	215.0	194.0
	Total (Private Sector)	579.5	434.2
	Grand Total (i+ii+iii)	1142.5	865.0

Statement-II

Estimated Consumption of Fertilisers during Kharif 1987 (April-September, 1987) and Percentage Variation over Kharif-1986

(000' MT)

S. No.	State/U.T. Commodity Brd.	Consumption in Kharif-86				Consumption in Kharif, 1987				Percentage variation over Kharif-86
		N	P	K	Total	N	P	K	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	303.04	130.23	35.29	468.56	310.50	126.37	33.12	470.00	+0.3
2.	Karnataka	179.07	99.35	61.45	339.87	192.61	99.18	67.07	358.86	+5.6
3.	Kerala	33.73	20.43	31.58	85.76	36.67	22.59	34.08	93.32	+8.8
4.	Tamil Nadu	127.52	58.05	58.69	244.26	111.73	56.80	53.37	221.90	-9.1
5.	Pondicherry	4.23	1.30	2.19	7.72	4.26	1.23	2.05	7.54	-2.3
6.	A and N Island	0.05	0.03	NAG	0.08	0.06	0.03	0.02	0.11	+37.5
7.	Gujarat	144.15	53.67	17.94	215.76	120.00	65.00	18.00	203.00	-5.9
8.	Madhya Pradesh	151.36	88.44	18.15	257.95	180.08	102.69	19.12	301.89	+17.0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9.	Maharashtra	293.00	116.00	68.00	477.00	318.00	117.00	73.00	508.00	-6.5
10.	Rajasthan	58.68	18.99	1.55	79.22	39.92	16.80	0.65	57.37	-27.6
11.	Goa	1.19	0.81	0.72	2.72	1.40	0.88	0.79	3.07	+12.9
12.	D and N Haveli	0.18	0.18	0.01	0.37	0.22	0.17	0.01	0.40	-8.1
13.	Haryana	126.88	15.45	1.73	144.06	109.05	16.80	1.56	127.43	-11.5
14.	Punjab	354.50	63.93	9.63	428.06	358.00	62.00	10.00	430.00	-0.7
15.	Uttar Pradesh	555.72	68.34	26.68	650.74	364.50	39.81	19.05	423.36	+34.9
16.	Himachal Pradesh	10.77	0.73	0.40	11.90	8.98	0.66	0.36	10.00	-15.9
17.	Jammu and Kashmir	16.83	3.68	0.72	21.23	25.95	6.77	1.90	34.62	+63.1
18.	Delhi	2.69	0.31	0.09	3.09	3.04	0.37	0.06	3.47	+12.3
19.	Chandigarh	0.41	0.05	NAG	0.46	0.25	0.02	0.01	0.28	-39.1
20.	Assam	5.10	1.78	2.51	9.39	5.54	2.01	2.42	9.97	+6.2
21.	Bihar	158.83	37.58	15.74	212.15	171.31	40.84	17.48	229.63	+8.2
22.	Orissa	44.73	18.02	11.01	73.76	48.76	14.53	8.11	71.40	-3.2
23.	West Bengal	114.37	43.31	38.50	196.18	131.84	50.39	44.24	226.49	+15.4
24.	Tripura	2.19	0.64	0.43	3.26	2.57	0.75	0.69	4.01	+23.0
25.	Manipur	4.19	1.03	0.15	5.37	6.12	1.51	0.21	7.84	+45.9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
26.	Meghalaya	0.84	0.55	0.11	1.50	0.86	0.59	0.14	1.59	+6.0
27.	Nagaland	0.15	0.13	0.02	0.30	0.08	0.07	0.02	0.17	-43.3
28.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.12	0.04	0.04	0.20	0.12	0.04	0.04	0.20	—
29.	Mizoram	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.09	0.08	0.06	0.02	0.16	+77.8
30.	Sikkim	0.44	0.26	0.10	0.80	0.63	0.44	0.05	1.12	+40.0
31.	Tea Board (NE)	8.31	1.01	5.78	15.10	11.13	1.46	7.40	19.99	+27.1
All India		2703.28	844.39	409.23	3956.91	2564.28	847.87	415.04	3827.19	-3.3

Statement-III

Closing stock of Indigenous Fertilizer (in terms of Nutrients) as on 31st October, 1987

(000*MT)

Name of the Company		Nitrogen	P ₂ O ₅
1	2	3	4
<i>Public Sector</i>			
1.	FCI	142.37	—
2.	NFL	240.60	—
3.	HFC	121.20	—
4.	FACT	36.38	20.41
5.	RCF	516.76	23.79
6.	MFL : Madras	17.30	2.80
7.	SAIL : Rourkela	4.73	—
8.	NLC : Neyveli	8.78	—
9.	PPL : Paradeep	34.77	88.84
10.	By Product	0.6	—
11.	HCL : Khetri	—	0.96
<i>Cooperative Sector</i>			
1.	IFFCO	172.00	128.00
	KRIBHCO	304.62	—
<i>Private Sector</i>			
1.	GSFC : Baroda	82.88	18.96
2.	CFL : Vizag	8.91	9.20
3.	SFC : Kota	18.40	—
4.	IEL : Kanpur	88.18	—
5.	ZAC : Goa	49.43	18.07
6.	SPIC : Tuticorin	122.34	63.78
7.	MCF : Mangalore	23.19	9.92
8.	EID Parry : Ennore	0.10*	0.10*

1	2	3	4
9.	Hari Fert. : Varanasi	0.58	—
10.	GNFC : Bharuch	111.40	—
11.	TAC : Tuticorin Alk.	5.40*	—
12.	PNF : Nangal	6.33	—
13.	HLL : Haldia	2.56	6.53
14.	By Product	0.6	—
15.	SSP Units (Estt.)	—	25.00

*Stock as on 1st October, 1987.

**Setting up of Colour TV Centre at
Kondapalli**

1405. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a suggestion has been made to Union Government for establishment of Colour T.V. Centre at Kondapalli near Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh by the Philips Company of Holland in collaboration with the Andhra Pradesh Electronics Development Corporation; and

(b) if so, when the Union Government will grant permission ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) No such suggestion appears to have been received by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**Loans to Group Housing Societies by
HUDCO**

1406. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the rules governing advance of loans to the Group Housing Societies by HUDCO;

(b) the names of the societies which have applied to HUDCO for loans for the construction of houses and the names of those societies which have not been given loans so far;

(c) the reasons for not advancing the loans to the societies; and

(d) the time by which loans will be provided to all societies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Following two sets of rules governing advance of loan to the Co-operative/Group Housing Societies by HUDCO are enclosed [Placed in Library See No. I/T-5071/87]

(i) Guidelines for Financing Co-operative Housing Schemes (Annexure-I).

(ii) Guidelines for Financing ownership Housing schemes out of the funds of the Group Insurance Housing Schemes for Central Government Employees. (Annexure-II).

(b) to (d). Sixty three Group Housing societies had applied for loans from HUDCO. Loans have been sanctioned in favour of 48 societies. In the case of the

re-remaining 15 societies loans could not be sanctioned for various reasons such as non-execution of agreement, non-receipt of approval of D.C.H.F.S, problem relating to security of the scheme etc. A statement indicating names of the societies which have applied to HUDCO for loan, whether the scheme has been sanctioned or not and reasons for sanction is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT—5071/87]. The loans in the remaining cases will be sanctioned by HUDCO of fulfilment on the requirements communicated to the societies by HUDCO.

[English]

DAVP Publicity Materials

1407. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount spent by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity during the years, 1984-85, 1985-86, 1986-87;

(b) the amount spent by DAVP towards posters, folders, brochures, booklets and wall hangers, separately;

(c) whether the DAVP publications are, to a large extent, dumped without being utilised;

(d) whether DAVP have any proposal to use a less costly paper for their publications to reduce the cost; and

(e) if so, the details of the cost saving measures, if any, proposed/implemented by DAVP in their publications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). The information is given in the statement below.

(c) No, Sir. The mass mailing wing of DAVP handles distribution of various kinds of publicity materials and these are promptly distributed to numerous categories of the target audience.

(d) and (e). DAVP normally uses paper as per the requirement of the print jobs. The good quality paper is only used for

some prestigious and specialised jobs as and when required. In order to reduce the overall cost, the inside pages are of different quality of paper than the outer covers. By and large DAVP uses indigenous paper of all varieties for its print jobs. Efforts are also made by DAVP to avoid any infructuous expenditure on various print jobs.

Statement

Total amount spent by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity during the Years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87.

Year	Amount
1984-85	Rs. 8,21,73,000.00
1985-86	Rs. 10,24,21,000.00
1986-87	Rs. 8,70,99,000.00

Statement showing the amount spent by DAVP towards posters, folders, brochures, booklets and wall hangers during the Years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87.

Year	Amount
1984-85	Rs. 98,15,000.00
1985-86	Rs. 64,28,000.00
1986-87	Rs. 84,14,000.00

Enactment of Land Ceiling Legislations

1408. SHRI SHANTRAM NAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of States and Union Territories which have enacted agriculture land ceiling laws;

(b) whether Union Government have issued directions to the remaining States and Union Territories to enact such laws; and

(c) the grounds advanced, if any, by the States and Union Territories who have not enacted such laws ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV :
(a) to (c). The following States/UTs have enacted agricultural land ceiling laws :

1. Andhra Pradesh 2. Assam 3. Bihar
4. Gujarat 5. Haryana 6. Himachal Pradesh 7. Jammu and Kashmir 8. Karnataka 9. Kerala 10. Madhya Pradesh 11. Maharashtra 12. Manipur 13. Orissa 14. Punjab 15. Rajasthan 16. Sikkim 17. Tamil Nadu 18. Tripura 19. Uttar Pradesh 20. West Bengal 21. Dadra and Nagar Haveli 22. Delhi 23. Pondicherry.

Some of the North-Eastern States and a few small Union Territories as well as the State of Goa have not enacted such legislations. The reasons for not enacting such laws by these States/UTs are shown below against each of them.

1. A and N Island

Survey and settlement not yet completed in the entire Territory.

2. Arunachal Pradesh

The land has not been surveyed. It is owned by clans or village communities, and is distributed for cultivation to families as per customary rights and practices. There are no land or crop records.

3. Meghalaya

Land belongs to community and the clans. It is difficult to enact any law on ceiling.

4. Mizoram

Land is held with common rights of use. Survey and settlement operations have not yet been done.

5. Nagaland

The land is held by the community and clans. It is difficult to enact any law on ceiling.

6. Lakshadweep

The entire area of the Territory being very small, the desirability of imposing a ceiling has not arisen.

7. Chandigarh

There is no land for distribution.

8. Goa

The agricultural land ceiling law will be enacted as early as possible.

9. Daman and Diu

Up-to-date records not yet completed.

Government of India monitors the progress of Land Reforms including legislation on ceiling laws in the Revenue Ministers' Conference and provides necessary guidance on policy matters. The last such Conference was held in November, 1986.

Outdoor Broadcasting Vans

1409. **SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :**
Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Maharashtra Electronics Corporation has started manufacturing Outdoor Broadcasting vans, indigenously;

(b) if so, the number of vans purchased so far;

(c) whether any further order has been placed for purchase of these vans;

(d) if so, the names of the Television to which the vans are proposed to be allotted; and

(e) the cost of each van and the functions performed by it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Orders were placed on Maharashtra Electronics Corporation for supply of 9 OB vans in March 1986 and for another one in July 1986. Out of these, one has already been supplied and the remaining nine are awaited.

(d) These OB vans are meant for AIR Stations at Jaipur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Suratgarh, Srinagar, Jammu, Barmer, Jalandhar, Siliguri and Thimpu (Bhutan) No OB van has been ordered for Doordarshan.

(e) The cost of each of the 9 Vans ordered in March 1986 was Rs. 12 lakhs and that of the tenth Van ordered in July 1986 was Rs. 9.28 lakhs excluding duties and taxes. OB vans will be predominantly used for recording field based programmes in far flung rural and border areas.

Improvement of Quality of News Bulletins

1410. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Doordarshan proposes to improve the substance and quality of news bulletins;

(b) if so, the steps proposed in this connection;

(c) whether any special arrangements have been made to make the T.V. capsules shot by their reporters away from the capital, same day in the Doordarshan studio; and

(d) the steps proposed to obtain and telecast news-value news-item ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). Improvement in the substance and quality of news bulletins telecast by Doordarshan is a continuous process.

(c) and (d). It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to obtain visual news stories pertaining to the events inside and outside the country within the available manpower and technical resources. To supplement Doordarshan's own system of visual news gathering, empanelled stringers are assigned for the purpose. Besides, Doordarshan has commissioned several private TV news agencies for the supply of news scripts and news features. These agencies concentrate their activities in those areas where adequate coverage by Doordarshan's own team is not possible. Doordarshan also procures visual news stories pertaining to events happening in foreign countries via satellite communication. At present, these news stories are received from M/s. Visnews, London (twice a day) and M/s. Asia Vision. Topical news stories are also received through microwave feed from Bombay, Madras, Jalandhar, Srinagar,

Calcutta and Lucknow. Special arrangements are also made to record coverages from other news originating Kendras whenever occasion arises.

External Assistance for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Sector in Orissa

1411. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the financial assistance given to Orissa for animal Husbandry and dairy development sector during the current financial year ;

(b) whether any external assistance has also been made available to the State during above period and if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the scheme or project for which external assistance was given to the State ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The financial outlays recommended by the Planning Commission for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development during 1987-88 are as follows :

(i) Animal Husbandry
Rs. 440.00 lakhs

(ii) Dairy development
Rs. 130.00 lakhs

(b) No external assistance was made available to the State in 1987-88 for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development.

(c) Question does not arise.

Paradeep Fishing Harbour

1412. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to undertake the work for the establishment of Paradeep Fishing Harbour, Orissa into two phases ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the cost of construction of each phase ; and

(d) the time by which the construction of the Harbour is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The fishing harbour facilities at Paradeep are proposed to be developed in two parts *viz.*, (i) for deep-sea fishing vessels to be located within the commercial port; and (ii) for mechanised fishing vessels to be located at the mouth of river Mahanadi, north of the commercial port.

(b) and (c). The project report indicating the details of the facilities and the estimated cost is not yet prepared. However, tentative estimate for the harbour facilities for deep sea fishing vessels to be located inside the commercial port is Rs. 425 lakhs and that for mechanised fishing vessels at the mouth of the river Mahanadi is Rs. 1890 lakhs.

(d) The time of commencement of the construction cannot be estimated now as the project is not yet approved by the Government.

Additional FFDA to Orissa

1413. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to sanction additional Fish Farmers Development Agencies to Orissa ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) and (b). The Government are proposing to increase the number of Fish Farmers' Development Agencies (FFDAs) in the Country from 184 to 200, under Centrally Sponsored Sector during the Seventh Five Year Plan. The proposal of increasing the number of FFDAs in the States including Orissa, is yet to be approved by the Government.

[Translation]

Training Centre for Agriculture Marketing in Madhya Pradesh

1414. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government have sent a proposal to Union Government seeking financial help for opening an agriculture marketing training centre in the State ; and

(b) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken on the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) No such proposal has been received in the Department of Rural Department.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Preference to International Passengers for Bombay-Madras Sector by Air India

1415. SHRI B. B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the international passengers travelling from a long distance are being kept wait-listed for Bombay-Madras flight by Air India whereas the local passengers are being given preference; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to give preference to the international passengers on this flight ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). International passengers are given preference over domestic traffic by Air India not only on the Bombay-Madras sector but on all domestic sectors.

National Symposium on Pest Control

1416. DR. T. KALPNA DEVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether National symposium on Pest Control was held during October, 1987;

(b) if so, the details of view expressed in the symposium; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No such symposium was held by this Ministry. However, according to information available from the Press reports and the College of Agriculture, Trivandrum, a National Symposium on 'Integrated Pest Control-Progress and Perspectives' was organised at Trivandrum by the Association for advancement of Entomology, Trivandrum and others, between October 15-17, 1987.

(b) The views expressed during the said Symposium were concerning effective surveillance system for Integrated Pest Control (IPC) and encouragement to research on various components of IPC.

(c) The Government is already encouraging the total concept of Integrated Pest Control and its adoption by all concerned.

Decline in the Production of Oilseeds and Maize

1417. DR. (MRS.) T. KALPANA DEVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is imminent shortfall in the output of oilseeds and maize due to drought conditions, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure availability of adequate stock of oilseeds, poultry and animal feed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Due to widespread drought conditions prevailing in many States and floods in some States in

the Eastern region during the Kharif season, production of maize and oilseeds in 1987-88 is likely to be affected. Firm estimates of Kharif production are not yet due from the states. Sowings of Rabi crops are still in progress. It is, therefore, too early to quantify the likely decline in the production of oilseeds and maize during 1987-88.

(b) It is proposed that 0.5 million tonne of oilseeds be imported on aid basis only and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) would be the canalising agency. It is also proposed that maize be imported upto 10 lakh tonnes through National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED), under counter trade arrangements, aid etc. Ten per cent of the total production of molasses is reserved for livestock feeding and special Inter-State allocation of molasses has been made for feeding livestock. In addition, Food Corporation of India (FCI) is releasing damaged wheat and rice for livestock feeding in drought affected areas.

Study about the Cost of Cultivation of Crops

1418. SHRIMATI D.K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the States where comprehensive study of cost of cultivation of principal crops has been launched;

(b) the objectives of this study;

(c) whether the cost estimates for certain crops have been received by Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed to initiate such a study for other crops ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The comprehensive study on cost of cultivation of principal crops is in operation in 16 States of the country, namely; Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar,

Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. A Special Study on VFC Tobacco in Andhra Pradesh has also been undertaken under the Scheme.

(b) The objectives of this study are the collection of representative data on inputs and outputs in physical and monetary terms and estimating therefrom the cost of cultivation per hectare and cost of production per quintal of the principal crops for formulation of appropriate price policies for these crops.

(c) and (d). The cost estimates for paddy, wheat, jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, barley, gram, arhar, moong, urd, groundnut, rapeseed and mustard, soyabean, onion, cotton, jute, potato, sugarcane and VFC tobacco in respect of major growing States are generated and forward to Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) for their use for recommendation of price policy in respect of these commodities.

(e) A crop-complex approach is being followed under the scheme and all the principal crops grown in the producing States are covered under the study. The crops for study are selected from time to time on the basis of requirements of data by the CACP for various crops.

Rented Cars for Tourists

1419. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether international car renting agencies are suddenly flocking to India;

(b) if so, which are these and the names of towns and cities likely to be covered, already covered by these agencies and terms and conditions of their operations;

(c) whether some agencies are making Franchising arrangements and whether the ITDC is involved in these arrangements in any manner; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any move to bring in self-drive rental cars by some of these

agencies; if so, in what manner and their likely mode of operation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Two Indian companies have entered into collaboration arrangements with two foreign Rent-A-Car companies viz Hertz International Limited, USA and Budget Rent-A-Car Inc. USA with the approval of Ministry of Industry (Secretariate for Industrial Approval). ITDC is not involved in these arrangements made by private agencies nor has ITDC asked this Ministry for entering into any franchise arrangement in the matter of Rent-A-Car with foreign firms.

(d) Under the collaboration arrangements of Rent-A-Car approval the concerned private agencies will be permitted to operate self-drive cars within the framework of the laws of the country.

Development of NCR

1420. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made so far under Development of the National Capital Region Plan; and

(b) the contribution made in this behalf by the Centre, Delhi Administration and the neighbouring States concerned in various spheres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Till March, 1987, 37 Schemes comprising residential, industrial, commercial and infrastructural projects have been taken up in the NCR Towns of Haryana, Rajasthan and UP. On the whole, 4599 acres of land have been acquired of which 2890.70 acres have been developed at a cost of Rs. 6746.67 lakhs which includes the States' share also.

(b) Of the total amount of Rs. 6746.67 lakhs spent on the NCR schemes upto

March, 1987, the Central Government, including the NCR Planning Board contributed an amount of Rs. 2143.40 lakhs. The neighbouring States namely, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have contributed an amount of Rs. 4603.27 lakhs till March 1987. No NCR Scheme has been taken up till March, 1987 by the Delhi Administration in the Union Territory of Delhi.

Transfer of Flats of the Deceased Allottees

1421. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1160 dated 3 August, 1987 regarding the transfer of DDA flats of the deceased allottees and state :

(a) whether any policy decision has since been taken in the matter; if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Not yet.

(b) The case is under process and is being placed before the Authority.

Recruitment of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Indian Airlines, Air India, Vayudoot and International Airports Authority of India

1422. DR. B. L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1074 on 3 August, 1987 regarding the recruitment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Indian Airlines, Air India, Vayudoot and International Airports Authority of India and state :

(a) the number of vacancies out of those referred to in the statements at Annexure I-III of the above reply in the

'General category', which fell within the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe quota and could not be filled up and had to be carried forward;

(c) the manner in which the vacancies referred to in these Annexures were filled up; and

(c) the number of persons appointed against the various posts locally in the above undertakings without observing the prescribed formalities of being sponsored by the employment Exchange ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Assistance to Kerala for Development of Small and Medium Towns

1423. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to Kerala under the scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns during the last three years;

(b) the names of the towns for which the amount was allocated; and

(c) the amount utilised for each town, yearwise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b). During the last three years the following amounts were released to Kerala as central assistance under the IDSMT :

Funds released (Rs. in lakhs)			
Town	1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
1	2	3	4
1. Guruvayor	13.89	—	—
2. Kottayam	—	6.80	—

1	2	3	4
3. Trichur	12.00	—	—
4. Kayamkulam	4.80	—	10.00
5. Tellicherry	8.88	8.00	—
6. Tirur	6.27	—	—
7. Changanacherry	6.36	12.50	3.50
8. Badagara	8.45	5.00	—
9. Thodupuzha	—	20.00	10.50
10. Mallapuram	5.00	9.80	5.00
11. Manjeri	—	20.00	—
12. Palghat	—	—	13.50
	65.65	82.10	48.50

(c) The projects are implemented by the State Governments and its agencies. Progress of expenditure is reported by them from time to time when demands for further release are made.

Developed Land for Displaced Families

1424. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of revenue villages in the Union Territory of Delhi whose land has been acquired for urban development;

(b) the present range of compensation being paid for the land acquired;

(c) the present range of market value of such land; and

(d) whether it is proposed to provide developed land to the displaced families?

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.

Snags in A.I. Aircraft While in Flights

1425. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of occasions during the period January-September, 1987 when IA Aircrafts developed technical snags while in flight;

(b) the number of occasions of in-flight engines shut-down;

(c) the steps taken in order to reduce the incidents of technical snags; and

(d) whether any technical committee has been set up to deal with the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) During the period, January-September, 1987, technical snags in Indian Airlines' aircraft developed on 144 occasions, while in flight. The period of "flight" for "technical Snags in flight" is the period from "Check off" to "Check on". Therefore, a number of snags, out of these 144 that occurred, also include the snags before the aircraft were actually airborne.

(b) There have been 6 inflight engine shut downs.

(c) Indian Airlines aircraft are subjected to rigid inspections during every check schedule carried out at specified intervals. The check schedule and its periodicity are determined with the approval of Airworthiness Authority and the manufacturers of the aircraft. Defects experienced in flight and observed during routine maintenance are rectified and attended to by Licensed Aircraft Maintenance Engineers. Besides, defect review meetings are also held by Indian Airlines, assisted by representatives of the Directorate General, Civil Aviation. At these meetings, adequacy or otherwise of the maintenance action taken to rectify the reported/observed snags, is reviewed and maintenance schedule revised, wherever considered necessary. Performance of the various aircraft systems and components is also monitored and their service life is reduced/increased for optimum reliability.

(d) All cases of incidents to Indian Airlines aircraft are investigated by a Permanent Investigation Board (PIB). A representative from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation is also associated with these investigations. The investigation reports and the recommendations made by the PIB or any incident are reviewed by the Flight Safety Sub-Committee (FSSC) of Indian Airlines.

Extension of Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme

1426. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 188 dated 10 August, 1987 regarding extension of comprehensive crop insurance scheme and state :

(a) whether Government have any plan to extend the comprehensive crop insurance scheme for all farmers whose crops have been affected adversely by drought floods or other natural calamities in view of the serious damage of agriculture production in the country;

(b) if so, the scope and nature of extension and the other relevant details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely date by which the scheme would be

enlarged, so as to provide an insurance cover to the adversely affected farmers on account of recurring droughts, floods and other natural calamities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) to (c). The Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme (CCIS) is applicable to all farmers availing of crop loans from Cooperative Credit Institutions Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and Commercial Banks for growing Wheat, Paddy, Millets, Oilseeds and Pulses crops. The CCIS is 'Area based' and hence only those loanee farmers belonging to areas notified for crops covered under the Scheme would get the benefit who have taken insurance coverage prior to occurrence of a natural calamity.

There is no decision to cover the Non-Loanee farmers under the CCIS as inclusion of such farmers would involve creation and deployment of an elaborate administrative machinery for collection of premium, assessment and scrutiny of yield data, payment of claims, etc.

Loss to Helicopter Corporation of India

1427. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Helicopter Corporation of India has been running at a loss; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). Pawan Hans Limited (formerly Helicopter Corporation of India) set up on 15th October, 1985 incurred losses during the financial years 1985-86 and 1986-87 for the following reasons :

(i) the operational activities of Company commenced in October, 1986; and

- (ii) high incidence of depreciation and obsolescence reserve had to be allowed for the full year in 1986-87, while revenue generation began only after the phased induction of helicopters from, September, 1986.

Gas-based Fertilizer Projects

1428. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether International Finance Corporation (Washington) has found that estimates of the planned gas-based fertilizer projects are higher than those of plants being built in other countries, if so, by how much in each case; and

(b) the names of the projects contracts for which have been given to the Italian firm Snamprogetti and for how much each ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU) : (a) In September, 1986, there was a reference from the International Finance Corporation (Washington) to the Government of India indicating that the estimates of the gas-based Sawai Madhopur Fertilizer Project being implemented in the private sector appeared to be higher by about \$ 40-118 million compared to those estimated by IFC (W) and the budgetary prices given by internationally known contractors. The Department of Fertilizers, after detailed scrutiny, concluded that on a comparable scope of the project infrastructure development, sources of supply of equipment, cost of steel and cement, taxes and duties, interest rates, etc. the project costs in India compared well with those in other developing countries.

(b) Contract for some portions of the work relating to Vijaipur, Aonla and Jagdishpur projects were awarded to Snamprogetti for which the amounts payable/paid to Snam in respect of each of these projects will be as follows :

Name of the Project	Rupce Amount Paid/Payable (At current Re./US \$ exchange rate)
Vijaipur :	Rs. 4.37 crores
Aonla :	Rs. 14.60 crores
Jagdishpur :	Rs. 27.39 crores

In respect of the Sawai Madhopur Project, Government approval, in principle to the proposed agreement between the Promoters and Snam for process licence and technical services has been accorded. Firm indication of the payments to be made to Snamprogetti will be known when the agreement is received for being taken on record.

[Translation]

Non-Transmission of Fruits of Research to Farmers

1429. SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the benefits of research work done by Narendra Dev Agriculture and Technology University, Faizabad are not reaching the farmers and their utilisation is not being done fully due to various irregularities in the university as reported in 'Janasatta' dated 7 October, 1987;

(b) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Narendra Dev University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad is doing very good work in the field of transfer of technology by conducting first-line extension work for educating the farmers as well as the extension functionaries of the State Department of Agriculture. No irregulari-

ties have been noticed so far in the transfer of technology work of the University.

(a) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise in view of the statement at (a) above.

Setting U.P. T.V. Centres

1430. SHRI DAL CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of transmission centres of Doordarshan, the range of each such transmission centre and the population benefited by them;

(b) the expenditure incurred on setting up of various types of transmission centres and the annual expenditure incurred on each type of transmission centre;

(c) the number of relay centres at present; whether Government proposed to increase their number and if so, the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon annually; and

(d) the income earned through advertisement and whether this income will be spent on setting up new transmission centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) At present there are 217 TV transmitters of varying power in the network of Doordarshan, covering about 71% of the country's population. The number and range of the various types of transmitters are as under :

Type of transmitter	No. of transmitters in service	Coverage Range (KMs)
High Power (10 KW)	42	120
High Power (1 KW)	6	60
Low Power (100 W)	163	25
Very Low Power (2×10 W)	6	8
217		

The above range is subject to terrain conditions.

(b) The present estimated cost of setting up of different types of transmitters and annual expenditure incurred on their operation and maintenance is as under :

(in lakhs of Rupees)

Type of transmitter	Present estimated cost of setting up transmitters	Annual Expenditure on operation and maintenance of the transmitters
High Power (10 KW)	307.70	10.00
High Power (1 KW)	225.00	8.00
Low Power (100 W)	37.05	4.00
Very Low Power (2×10 W)	31.00	1.00

(c) With the implementation of VII Plan schemes, the number of TV transmitters in the country will increase to 392 from the present 217. Annual expenditure on the additional transmitters would be at the rates given in reply to part (b) above.

(d) Gross revenue of Doordarshan from commercial advertisements and sponsored programmes during 1986-87 was Rs. 98 crores. Part of the revenue is spent on further development of Doordarshan network.

[English]

Children Film Society of India

1431. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN :

SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL :

SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Children Film Society of India (CFSI) has been producing good films for children;

(b) the number of films produced by the Society during the last three years and the names with details thereof;

(c) whether all the members of the executive Committee of CFSI resigned in September, 1987, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any enquiry in the matter has since been made;

(e) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(f) the steps taken to nominate members in place of those who have resigned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI A. K. PANJA) :

(a) to (f). The question about quality of the movies produced by Children's Film Society of India involves value judgement. Nevertheless, considering the fact that some of the movies like 'Aaj Ka Robinhood', 'Kukdoo Koo' and 'Karuna Ki Vijay' produced by the Society have been acclaimed widely, it can be said that the Society has been producing good films.

The number of films produced by CFSI from 1985-86 are as follows :

1985-86

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| (1) Kuk Doo Koo | — (feature film—Hndi) |
| (2) Babula | — (feature film—Oriya) |
| (3) Karuna Ki Vijay | — (short, animation film—Hindi) |

1986-87

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) Asman Gir Raha Hai | — (short animation film—Hindi) |
| (2) Dhooma-ketu | — (feature film—Hindi) |

1987-88 (upto date)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| (1) Aaj Ka Robin-hood | — (feature film—Hindi) |
| (2) Rhino | — (feature film—Hindi) |

The Chairman and three other non-official members of the Executive Council of Children's Film Society of India tendered their resignation through a letter dated 22.9.87 addressed to Minister for Information and Broadcasting. In the resignation letter they alleged non-cooperation of the Government in vague and general terms. They also alleged that Government had failed to provide a Chief Executive Officer (C.E.O.) to the Society.

The CFSI, being an autonomous body, has its own regulations to appoint its officers and staff. On request from the Society, Government had initiated steps to make available to the Society a panel of Officers, who could be considered for appointment to the post of C.E.O. The Executive Council of the Society is to consider these names shortly and to make selection.

In the resignation letter dated 22.9.1987, the Chairman and other non-official members had expressed their willingness to continue till the completion of the 5th International Children's Film Festival of India to be held at Bhubaneswar from November 14-23, 1987. This offer has been accepted by the Government and the Chairman and the said three non-official members are continuing.

Helicopter Fleet with Helicopter Corporation of India

1432. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state.

(a) the fleet of helicopters with Helicopter Corporation of India as on date;

(b) the price at which these helicopters were brought and equipped and names of the countries of origin;

(c) the estimated cost of overheads and maintenance, per year and actual expenditure incurred in 1987;

(d) the charge levied by Helicopter Corporation of India for helicopters per flying hour; and

(e) how many of these helicopters have been contracted for use and how many remained idle in 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The present fleet of Pawan Hans (Helicopter Corporation of India) comprises 35 helicopters. Of these, the number of Dauphin helicopters is 20 and Westland helicopters 15.

(b) The average cost of each Westland helicopter acquired from United Kingdom comes to Rs. 4.57 crores and that of each Dauphin helicopter acquired from France is Rs. 3.10 crores.

(c) The budgeted cost and the estimated actual expenditure on overheads relating to establishment expenses and maintenance from April to September, '87 are as follows :

	Budgeted cost	Provisional actuals
Overheads	Rs. 1.89 cr.	Rs. 1.68 cr.
Maintenance	Rs. 4.42 cr.	Rs. 3.60 cr.

(d) Based on an average 1000 hours utilisation per annum for each helicopter effective hourly lease charges come to Rs. 19,834 and Rs. 15,286 for Westland and Dauphin helicopters respectively.

(e) On a standard norm of 80% serviceability, Pawan Hans should have deployed 28 helicopters of the 35 received so far. The number of helicopters already deployed and those expected to be deployed very shortly is 27.

Development of Calcutta Airport

1433. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISHRA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for the development of Calcutta Airport during Seventh Plan period;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount released so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) and (b). It is proposed to take up the construction of a New International Terminal Complex at Calcutta Airport during the Seventh Five Year Plan. The Terminal will have an area of approximately 15,800 Sq. metres and will be provided with two in-contact aircraft bays equipped with aerobridges and two remote bays. Provision has also been made for approach roads, a car park and other services. The Terminal will have a peak-hour capacity of 1,425 passengers and will be capable of handling 7.05 lakhs passengers per annum.

(c) The project for construction of a New International Terminal is estimated to cost Rs. 23.12 crores. Work on the project has not yet started and no amount has been spent so far.

Research on Betel-Vines

1434. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken for research and development work on betel-vines during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) the results achieved during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been operating a Coordinated Research Project on Betelvines at 9 locations in the country since 1981. A new centre at Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa has been sanctioned during VII Plan. The project aims to develop suitable agro-techniques for betelvine cultivation and management of pests and diseases including establishment of disease free nurseries.

(b) The results achieved in the last three years are as follows :

- (i) The key diseases, insect pests and nematodes of betelvine have been identified and disease free nurseries have been established at all the nine centres to supply healthy planting material to the growers. In addition, sources of resistance to various diseases have also been identified.
- (ii) Control measure for Anthracnose and *Phytophthora* foot and leaf rots have been developed.
- (iii) Soil organic amendments like neem cake and saw dust have been identified for the control of root knot nematodes.
- (iv) Increase in betel leaf production can be achieved through the manipulation of nitrogen and potash levels.

Loss to Air India

1435. SHRI K. S. RAO : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India has incurred heavier losses during 1987 as compared to 1986;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to minimise these losses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH (TYTLER) : (a) During 1986-87, Air-India did not incur any loss. During the first five months of the current financial year-1987-88, Air-India has made an estimated net loss of Rs. 2.84 crores.

(b) Some of the main reasons for the loss are :

- (i) Declining business and yield in the Gulf Market on account of adverse/competitive conditions;

(ii) Severe undercutting of fares by carriers;

(iii) Increasing fuel prices; and

(iv) Expenditure of Rs. 4.68 crores as a result of sanction of ad-hoc relief/interim relief.

(c) The following steps have been taken/initiated to improve the financial performance of Air-India :

(i) Intensifying marketing activities to improve yields from business and 1st class traffic;

(ii) Improving the product by introducing faster and more point-to-point service;

(iii) Improved servicing in cargo area by sustained marketing and sales efforts; and

(iv) Provide more prompt and efficient response to the requirements of the customers like introduction of automatic airport check-in, improvement in the on time departure of flights, computerisation of cargo service.

(v) Keeping a tight control on cost in all possible areas.

Support Price for Coconut

1436. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is demand from Karnataka and Kerala for support price for coconut; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA : (a) and (b). Government have received a number of representations from various sources for fixing a support price for coconut (Copra). Some coconut growers from Karnataka and Kerala

also represented to Government to take steps to increase the price of their produce.

Government have decided to fix the support price for coconut (copra) on a regular basis as in the case of major agricultural commodities. The Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices is already looking into the matter.

Import of Oilseeds and Maize

1437. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to import oilseeds and maize and

(b) if so, the quantity to be imported and the names of the countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) It is proposed that 0.5 million tonnes of oilseeds be imported on aid basis only and National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) would be the canalising agency. It is also proposed that maize be imported upto 10 lakh tonnes through National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED), under counter trade arrangements, aid etc.

(b) The actual import, quantum, variety, type would depend upon the source, availability etc. of aid for oilseeds and maize. The import of maize, source of import etc. will also depend upon the necessary counter trade arrangement being considered by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED).

UNICEF Offer to Use Drilling Rigs in Tribal Areas

1438. SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the South-East Asia office of UNICEF has offered to provide drilling rigs in the hill and tribal areas in the next

year to meet the acute drinking water shortage in those areas; and

(b) whether any agreement has been reached in this respect ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV) : (a) and (b). No specific agreement has been reached between UNICEF and the Government of India for supply of drilling rigs to Hill and tribal Areas. However, under the Country Programme of Cooperation between Government of India and UNICEF (1985-89), UNICEF has been providing various types of drilling rigs suitable for different terrains.

Price Support for Spices

1439. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce a permanent price support mechanism for the different spices grown in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other specific measures proposed to be taken to save the growers and spices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Prices of major spices are monitored on a continuous basis. Cooperative marketing organisations undertake marketing operations for selling in domestic markets and for exports. These operations help in assuring remunerative prices to the growers.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI (Adilabad) : Sir, regarding the Adjournment

Motion which has been disallowed, I would like to make a small submission.

MR. SPEAKER : No submissions are allowed.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Let me explain to you.

MR. SPEAKER : The simple question is. . . Please listen to me.

The question is : this is a legal matter. There are High Courts. We have got a free Judiciary. I have got notices from Professor and from you. The Professor's case is simple, that if it is a case of contempt of Court, they can take it up straightaway. Secondly.....

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Not only that.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati) : It is an attack on the freedom of the Press.

MR. SPEAKER : One minute. Secondly, the question is; Government has also gone to the Court. They have filed a case. So, this is *sub-judice*. also, I have got no problem in giving anything which is to be discussed and I will allow anything which can be discussed under the rules. If it is something which is not under the rules, I cannot allow.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Not only the building but the machinery has also been seized. They are not being permitted to publish the Paper.

MR. SPEAKER : I think my Press is quite powerful enough to safeguard its interests. We are in a free democratic society.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Sir, you must allow a full discussion.

(*Interruptions*)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have a submission on what you have said. A number of Newspapers like the Times of India, The Patriot, The Statesman, they are also having tenants. If this is allowed, I tell you, a number of Newspapers will face difficulties. . . (*Interruptions*). It is an attack on the Press.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : The simple question is . . .

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No, Not allowed.

(*Interruptions*)** .

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : They have violated the Supreme Court judgement.

MR. SPEAKER : The Minister wants to say something.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Is she making a statement ?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : I will go by the rules. But I do not want to surb anything which is bound to be discussed under the rules.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : No. Not allowed.

(*Interruptions*)**

MR. SPEAKER : Now, you listen to her.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER : You may see the rule book. I have read all the rules.

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : Sir, I am not making any statement. But Shri Madhu Dandavate and

our friends on the other side, are saying as if we are curbing the freedom of the Press

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Yes.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI
H.K.L. BHAGAT): Are you trying to shout
her down? Listen to her. All of you are
senior Members. Don't try to shout her
down. Please hear her.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody-else is allow-
ed except the Minister.

(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Order, order. I have
allowed her. Why don't you listen to her.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Please
listen to me. What we have done is that we
have an established practice. We have a Con-
stitution in which judiciary is given its due
place. (Interruptions) Listen to me. Don't
interrupt. Please sit down. What I say is
that we have to go according to rules and
according to law. That is why we have an
independent judiciary. And I think, we
can be proud of our independent judiciary.

(Interruptions)

[Translations]

MR. SPEAKER: That is what I am
saying. Please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Listen to me. You
get agitated so quickly.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA: One is
bound to be agitated over it.

MR. SPEAKER: What I simply mean
to say is that if we have confidence in our
independent judiciary, then.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: They can take care
of this contempt if it has been done.
They can take care of it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now let her explain.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not accept it.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. The
High Court and the Supreme Court are
quite competent enough to proceed against
anyone whether it is Government or the
opposition or anybody else. They can take
action. The Minister is going to explain.
I do not know what she is going to say.
I will not bar any discussion which is
under the rules.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: We
agree that the Supreme Court is the highest
judiciary. But when they give a judgement
and the Government violates it, what is to
be done?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: They can take care of
it. Listen to her.

[Translation]

Please listen to what she says.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat):
What is the Government's justification for
taking over the building?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know. Now
listen to her.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI :
Please listen to me. I can not shout.

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. SPEAKER : I only know that judiciary is independent and it is quite capable of taking care of it.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : It is nobody's gift to ourselves.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Just like judiciary is independent Parliament also is independent and we have a right to raise an issue about the violation of Supreme Court judgement.

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed because it is sub-judice.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI : There is one thing. As you stated, the matter is *sub-judice*, and, therefore, I cannot make any statement here. But looking to the reaction of the Members just now, it appeared to me that whatever misunderstanding is in their hearts today. . . *(Interruptions)* Whatever we have done or the Ministry has done or whatever orders we have given are according to the law and just now you have said that judiciary is independent. . .

[English]

Let the court decide what is right and what is wrong.

**

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I am not concerned with the pros and cons.

**Not recorded.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : She is misleading the House. They have violated the directives of the Supreme Court.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The case is sub-judice. I can't allow.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Why do you allow the wrong statement to go on record ?

MR. SPEAKER : No Sir, That will not form part of the record.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : She gives an impression as if they have not violated the directives. They have violated the Supreme Court's directives.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Dandavate, that Statement will not form part of the record, because I didn't want that any proceedings which may reach the court may influence anyone. The court is to decide. . . *(Interruptions)*... No pros and cons in this case. Let the court decide.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

*(Interruptions)***

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : The Government should inquire into the fact that in West Bengal 15 thousand bullets have been stolen from the Railway armoury. This is a very serious matter.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You give in writing.

[English]

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : Okay Sir, I will write to you.

PROF. MADHU DANADAVATE : If the matter is subjudice, why did they take action ?

MR. SPEAKER : That can also be taken care of.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : What about the Bhopal case ? The Government is going behind the back of Parliament and having an out-of-court settlement.

MR. SPEAKER : We are taking up tomorrow a Calling Attention motion on that subject.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram : Calling Attention will not do.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Calling Attention is no use, we want to have a discussion.

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara) : The Air India has spent Rs. 15 crores on the Prime Minister's travelling...

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. You can give a question and I will get it answered.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Instead of Calling Attention, please convert it into a discussion under Rule 193, Sir.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Please allow a discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : We agreed on that and that is why I have done it. Now you don't go back.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We did not agree.

MR. SPEAKER : Did'nt you agree ?

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : Why are you shouting Sir ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am asking my friend because you won't let me hear.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, you have given a ruling. It seems that because the matter is subjudice that is why you are putting off a Supreme Court judgement violation. Inspite of the matter being subjudice she has made a statement and you have allowed that to go on record.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not allowed that. I told you that I have not allowed that.

[Translation]

Prof. Saheb I have ruled that would not go on record.

I did not allow that.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Allow us to discuss it under Rule 193 Sir or in any other appropriate manner.

MR. SPEAKER : No, Sir.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Later on.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : There is only one day left. The day after tomorrow they are going to have an out-of-court settlement.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may take a decision about Bhopal. A decision was taken in my presence, Guptaji was also there....

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me. Why do you not allow me to speak ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : A decision was taken in my presence that a Calling Attention may be given. I had told that I will talk about it and I will allow it. I have held talks and Calling Attention has been admitted for tomorrow.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Now it is very difficult to spare time.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Many would like to participate, please allow it under Rule 193 Sir.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati): I want to raise a very important matter.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

MR. SPEAKER : I am taking action on your notice.

[English]

I have already taken note of it and I have already done it.

[Translation]

Whatever you have said to me.

[English]

I have already taken action.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : On the 18th the Nagaland elections are taking place.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have already said Goswamiji that I have written to them.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : A very serious law and order situation is developing.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I am telling you that I have already done what was within my powers.

[English]

What more you want from me ?

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Allow us a discussion.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I have said that I am trying. . . .

[English]

I am trying my best.

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : We have only two days left.

MR. SPEAKER : I can't promise you. But I am looking into the matter and I have already written.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : I want to point out...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, not allowed. Not like that. No question.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I beg of you, Sir, all sections of the House are agitated over this reported out of court settlement in the Bhopal case. Please allow a full discussion. It cannot be handled by a Call Attention motion.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You have already decided with me and now you are going back on it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : We have given adjournment motion also...

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : We had decided.

[English]

We had agreed. When we met together we had agreed.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Kindly convert it into discussion under Rule 193. You have done it before on another occasion.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You may consult and then decide.

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You have the right of conversion. It is a voluntary conversion from Call Attention to discussion under Rule 193.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Saheb, you know the procedure. Both of you hold consultations and then come to me. I will convert discussion under 193 to 184. I have no objection.

[English]

I will not stand in the way.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : They are surrendering before this multi-national company.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You hold consultations. I will do whatever you say. I have no objection. Why are you wasting all my time ?.....

(Interruptions)

[English]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Sir, one query regarding the proceeding of the House. When the House is in Session they are making policy statements about a second Chamber.

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : If you give notice, I will look into it.

[English]

I do not know the pros and cons of it. I have to study the matter.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : On the eve of the elections can he make a statement ?

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : One by one, every one is asking me a question. What is its solution with me ?

[English]

You give me something and I will look into it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Would you like the Government to come before the House with a *fait accompli* after they have signed the agreement ?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I will examine it, if you give me something in writing. Why are you wasting the time of the House ?

[English]

Not allowed.

(Interruptions)**

12.18 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Annual Report of Chief Commissioner of Railway safety on the working of Commission of Railway Safety

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety on the working of the

Commission of Railway Safety for the year 1986-87.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4981/87]

Notifications Under Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944, Delhi Sales Tax Act, 1976, Customs Act, 1962, Income Tax Act, 1961

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the
Table :

- (1) A copy of the Central Excise (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 867 (E) in Gazette of India dated the 20th October, 1987 under sub-section (2) of section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4982/87]

- (2) A copy of the Delhi Sales Tax (Amendment) Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. F. 4 (27)/87-Fin (G) in Delhi Gazette dated the 30th October, 1987 under section 72 of the Delhi Sales Tax Act, 1976.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4983/87]

- (3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

- (i) G.S.R. 851 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding Notification No. 49/84-Customs dated the 1st March, 1984.

- (ii) G.S.R. 852 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th October, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification

No. 232/87-Customs dated the 5th June, 1987 so as to prescribe a uniform rate of 60 per cent basic customs duty on all types of magnetic tapes including audio magnetic tapes.

- (iii) G.S.R. 860 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th October, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendments to Notification No. 155-Customs dated the 1st March, 1986 so as to authorise even the Joint Director of Industries to issue necessary certificate of recommendations for availing of concessional rate of import duty on import of components required for setting up assembly or manufacture.

- (iv) G.S.R. 891 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 4th November, 1987 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding revised rate of exchange for conversion of Russian Rubble into Indian currency or vice-versa.

[Placed in Library. see No. LT-4984/87]

- (4) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961 :

- (i) S.O. 2944 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Co-operative Finance Corporation Limited, Hyderabad' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.

- (ii) S.O. 2945 published in Gazette of India dated the

- 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Delhi Society for the Welfare of Mentally Retarded Children' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1982-83 to 1987-88.
- (iii) S.O. 2946 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'The Forum of Financial Writers, New Delhi', under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1982-83 to 1986-87.
- (iv) S.O. 2947 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Indian Dairy Corporation' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 and 1986-87.
- (v) S.O. 2948 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1987-88 and 1988-89.
- (vi) S.O. 2949 published in Gazette of India dated the 31 October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Shri Sadguru Seva Sangh Trust Bombay' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (vii) S.O. 2950 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Ecumenical Christian Centre, Bangalore' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (viii) S.O. 2951 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Seva Mandir, Udaipur' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89.
- (ix) S.O. 2952 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'The Salesian Province of Calcutta' (Northern India) under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (x) S.O. 2953 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Andhra Pradesh State Seeds Certification Agency, Hyderabad' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1984-85 to 1988-89.
- (xi) S.O. 2954 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Family Planning Foundation' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89.
- (xii) S.O. 2955 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Lal Bahadur Shastri National Memorial Trust' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment year 1988-89.

- (xiii) S.O. 2956 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Lady Tata Memorial Trust' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (xiv) S.O. 2957 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Army Wives Welfare Association, Bombay' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (xv) S.O. 2963 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Greater Calcutta Leprosy Treatment and Health Education Scheme (GRECALTES)' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (xvi) S.O. 2964 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'King George V Memorial, Bombay' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 to 1988-89.
- (xvii) S.O. 2965 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, Bombay' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (xviii) S.O. 2966 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Indian Meteorological Society, New Delhi' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1987-88.
- (xix) S.O. 2967 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Sanjivani Trust, Bombay' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 and 1987-88.
- (xx) S.O. 2968 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Railway Women's Central Organisation' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.
- (xxi) S.O. 2969 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Consumer Education and Research Centre, Ahmedabad' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1986-87 to 1988-89.
- (xxii) S.O. 2970 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Gujarat Ecological Education and Research Foundation, Gandhinagar' under section 10(23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1987-88 and 1988-89.
- (xxiii) S.O. 2971 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Gujarat Rajya Rahat Samiti' under section

10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.

(xxiv) S.O. 2972 published in Gazette of India dated the 31st October, 1987 regarding exemption to 'Akhil Bharat Krishi Goseva Sangh, Wardha' under section 10 (23C) of the Income-tax Act, 1961 for the period covered by the assessment years 1985-86 to 1988-89.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—4985/87]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI (Guwahati) : Please give an assurance that there will be a discussion on the Assam-Nagaland problem.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : How many times I should tell you.

[English]

I have already initiated the action.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : If you could assure us that there will be a discussion then it is all right.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : I told you in the morning also and telling you now that I have already started the work.

[English]

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : We are very reasonable. This is the last day and if you assure us that you will allow a discussion then it is all right.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Dinesh Goswami, I told you this morning. I tell you again that I have already initiated. I have written to the Ministry to get some information so that I can put it on record before the discussion. So simple it is.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : Okay. That should come on record.

MR. SPEAKER : That is what I could do. A learned man like you should not raise it again and again.

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram) : Are you allowing a full discussion on Bhopal ?

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you ask time and again. I have already told you that whatever the House does is binding.

[English]

I am in the hands of the House.

[Translation]

You may say it once or fifty times. It is all the same for me.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : It should have some impact on you.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Arif, it is having the necessary impact. The House is my master I carry out its orders faithfully.

(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down. Not allowed.

(Interruption)**

SHRI SUBHASH YADAV (Khargone) : Mr. Speaker, Sir I want to draw your attention towards an important matter. A discussion on Sati was held on 13th instant and hon. Member, Shri Shanti Dhariwal had referred to your name. He has said that you did not offer your comments in this regard. A press-report to this effect has also appeared. I request that it may be expunged.

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you bother about it ? It is a trifle matter. Besides, I was not in the Chair at that time. Mr. Chairman was in the Chair. He had expunged the name of the Speaker. With reference to Sati, he said that I had not

gone there. What can I do if he is not aware of this thing. I do not belong to Sikar only. I belong to the whole nation. I am a servant of all of you. I travel throughout the country. I shoulder the responsibility of whole of India. I have been made the Speaker by all of you. Bal Ram is nothing, but a servant of all of you.

[English]

Nothing to do with this.

[Translation]

It is my primary duty to follow the rules framed by you. We should work for the upliftment of the country. Efforts should be made to create an anti-Sati atmosphere. Geeta Ji is well aware that we jointly work against that practice. It is not proper to say that we did not do this and that thing. Nobody has a right to use abusive language for others and not for me also. It is worse than an abusive language to say that I support this practice. It is an insult. We should create an atmosphere wherein father, mother, brother, sister, all should rise and march forward. I am of the view that all sisters rendering service are Satis. We may take into account the sacrifices made by Rani Jhansi and Sarojini Naidu. To die is cowardice and a symbol of impotence. Really alive are those who work hard. To die cannot be called Sati. Satimeans the symbol of truth. All our sisters sitting here and rendering service to the nation are Satis.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) : These sentences should be expunged from the proceedings of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : These sentences have already been expunged. Why do you interrupt ? Please resume your seat. It is my duty to move ahead and not go back. It is not today, but at that time also I had said :

"I am also very much worried. I think the Prime Minister is also seized of the situation and she knows that it is not a mediaeval age. We are not going into that barbaric age again. We

will not allow this nation to lapse into revivalism."

That's how I have said and done about it.

[Translation]

It is a barbarous act towards the nation, the humanity and women-folk. How can I support it ? It is a sign of meanness. Those who indulge in such talks are not human beings. I have no ill-will against Shri Shanti Ji. When Jesus Christ was crucified, he had to say :

[English]

God, forgive them because they don't know what they are doing.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : We fully trust you. We have full faith in you.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : You should have understood why my name was referred to. The entire country is my territory.

[English]

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : **.....

(Interruption)**

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. I have not allowed this gentleman to go on record.

[Translation]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : He should have made a statement.

MR. SPEAKER : If it is not read, what can I do ? I am on the record. You can go through my record which has appeared in the newspapers. If you do not read, how am I to be blamed ? I have clear understanding. It is an eternal truth. It is not a thing of today. If somebody chooses to keep his eyes shut, what can I do, Shri Gupta ? Those who ought to have prevented did not do so.

12.33 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—
Contd.

**Tobacco Grading (Commercial) Rules,
1987**

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAMANAND YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Tobacco Grading (Commercial) Rules, 1987 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 601 in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 1987 under subsection (2) of section 3 of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act 1937.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-4986/87].

12.24 hrs.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER ON THE PETITION OF SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA RE : DISQUALIFICATION OF SHRI LAL DUHOMA FROM THE MEMBERSHIP OF LOK SABHA ON THE GROUND OF DEFECTION.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House that on 21st July, 1987, Shri Ram Pyare Panika gave a petition under paragraph 6 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution and rule 6 of the Member of Lok Sabha (Disqualification on ground of Defection) Rules, 1985 against Shri Lalduhoma, a Member of this House, praying that Shri Lalduhoma be declared to have incurred disqualification for being a Member of the House under paragraph 2(a) of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution for having resigned from the Congress (I) Party in March, 1986 and forming a new party.

In terms of rule 7(3) of the said Rules, I caused copies of the petition together with its annexures to be forwarded to Shri Lalduhoma and to the Leader of the

Legislative Party concerned for furnishing their comments in the matter.

Having since received these comments and having regard to the nature and circumstances of the case, I have decided to refer the petition to the Committee of Privileges under rule 7(4) of the said Rules for making a preliminary enquiry and submitting a report to me.

12.26 hrs.

**STATEMENT RE : SITUATION IN
FIJI**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : The current crisis in Fiji began on 14th May, 1987 when a handful of soldiers led by Col. Rabuka overthrew the popularly elected coalition Government of the Labour and National Federation Parties led by Dr. Bavadra. Col. Rabuka moved again on September 25, 1987 at a time when the chances of national reconciliation seemed bright and a formula for an interim bi-partisan government involving all political parties had been worked out. The second coup dealt a severe blow to the hopes of reconciliation. The light of freedom has been dimmed in a beautiful pacific island, not for long, we hope and pray.

We have kept a close watch on the melancholy developments in Fiji. Government's concern has been made known on a number of occasions. We have, in no uncertain terms disapproved of Rabuka's coups and condemned the racist overtones of his pronouncements.

Col. Rabuka's stated objective is to guarantee political supremacy for the indigenous Melanesian community. Some of the extremist groups believed to be supporting Col. Rabuka have made even, more unreasonable demands. These objectives can only be at the cost of the interests of the people of Indian origin.

While we consider that the first loyalty of ethnic Indians overseas is to the country of which they are citizens, we are responsive to their problems and cannot remain unconcerned when their safety and welfare

are at stake. There are about 347,445 people of Indian origin constituting 48.6 per cent of the population of Fiji. Besides, there about 250 Indian nationals. The people of Indian origin have made a significant contribution to the development of that country. Their contribution has been acknowledged by the ethnic Melanesian population. The constitution of 1970, which had been worked out after long and painstaking negotiations between the UK Government and all political parties in Fiji, was specially designed to safeguard the political interest, land ownership rights and other traditional rights of the Melanesians. The constitution was itself a document tilted in favour of the Melanesian community. It was accepted in good grace by the people of the Indian origin and, as acknowledged by former Prime Minister Ratu Mara, the leader of the Allians party which ruled Fiji for 17 years, it served Fiji well for 17 years in promoting racial harmony, stability and progress. Its abrogation by the military regime has put the clock back; thus endangering the prospects of racial harmony, peace and prosperity in a country, where a multi-racial democracy was looked upon by the rest of the area as something of a model. This precious asset has been thrown away, and is in the process of being destroyed.

In May my colleague Eduardo Falerio visited Australia and New Zealand to discuss the Fiji problem with the Prime Ministers of those countries. At the same time I visited London to have talks with the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe. On the eve on the Commonwealth Summit I met Prime Ministers Hawke, Lange and Mugabe in Canberra, Wellington and Harare in this connection. I also met President Kaunda of Zambia in New York in early October. Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi addressed letters to several Commonwealth leaders in this connection.

As for our nationals, we have made it clear to the Fijian authorities that their safety and welfare is the primary responsibility of the latter and we expect them to ensure that no harm will come to our nationals. Whenever cases involving harassment of Indian nationals have come to notice, they have been promptly and effectively

pursued by our Mission in Suva with the authorities.

We have strongly and unequivocally condemned the actions of the military authorities in Fiji at various international forums. Speaking in the United Nations General Assembly on 29-10-87, I said that attempts to deprive citizens of the country of their legitimate rights merely on the basis of their racial origin, were against all tenets of democracy and human rights and were contrary to the UN Charter. What we condemn in South Africa, we cannot condone in Fiji.

At the Commonwealth Summit in Vancouver Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said that adventurism in Fiji had shocked us by its casual and cavalier repudiation of every democratic value, its unacceptable racial overtones and the attempts to rule by fear and not by law. Prime Minister demanded the re-storation of democracy, harmony and civil rule in Fiji. He also declared that inaction would be a mockery of all that the Commonwealth stood for.

At Vancouver Fiji's membership of the Commonwealth was terminated. Fiji's re-admission is contingent upon its adherence to the principles that have guided the Commonwealth. These principles, among others, forbid discrimination on the ground of race.

India has suspended trade and technical co-operation with Fiji. We have recalled our High Commissioner in Suva to Delhi for consultations. We have also, in a statement on October 10, 1987 categorically stated that we do not recognize any government established by Col. Rabuka.

The situation is being kept under careful review and we may take further measures in the light of future developments.

There is no inherent antagonism, no controversy between Government and our friends opposite about what is happening in Fiji. All of us fervently hope that Fiji will return to democratic rule, when once again the multi-racial character and the legitimate rights of all its people regardless of race, religion or colour, are assured and safe-guarded.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Copies of the statement may be circulated to all the Members and there should be a discussion later.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is your right. Who prevented you from this.

[*English*]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I do not think all the significance has been brought out in the Minister's statement.

(Interruptions)

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) : We want a discussion on this.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : It is for you to take note of. It is for you to give notice. You may do whatever you like. We have no problem.

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : We have already submitted . . .

MR. SPEAKER : We will discuss it in the BAC at 4 p.m. today.

Now, Matters under Rule 377.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*English*]

- (i) Need to provide more funds for the on-going Irrigation projects in Orissa

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, although there is enough irrigation potential in Orissa, irrigation projects are not being implemented due to financial constraints. For instance, upper Indravati project requires additional funds to the extent of Rs. 58 crores but the Union Government has not provided the funds to get the project completed.

Similarly, in upper Kolab Rengari and Subarnarekha irrigation projects, the reservoir has been completed but the distribution system has not been implemented for distribution of water. Upper Kolab needs additional amount of Rs. 15 crores, Rengari needs additional amount of Rs. 20 crores and Subarnarekha needs additional financial assistance of Rs. 57 crores. These projects are limping for years.

Some districts of Orissa are drought-prone areas and if these projects are completed, the character of these districts will change. It will change the economy of Orissa and promote growth.

Orissa is affected by serious drought. The completion of on-going projects will be an answer to the drought situation. The Government of India is, therefore, urged to revise the 7th Plan assistance and provide required funds for completion of these irrigation projects.

- (ii) Need to set up industries in Mithila region to solve the unemployment problem

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mithila region of north Bihar is one of the most backward regions of the country. There is no industry worth the name there. In fact, in the last 40 years no initiative was taken to set up any industry there. Incidentally, it is one of the most densely populated areas of Asia. The unemployment in this region is chronic. The recent floods have further aggravated the problem. Agriculture, which is the main source of livelihood, has been completely ruined. As such, it is earnestly requested that the Central Government should take initiative to set up some industries there so that people may get employment.

- (iii) Need to review the orders regarding application of F.R. 127 for calculation of the amount of non-returnable contribution for the upgradation of EDBO/EDSO to departmental sub-Post Offices

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : The decision of the Ministry of Finance to apply the principle of 'cost

recovery' as per FR 127, for calculation of the amount of Non-Returnable Contribution to be paid for the upgradation of an EDPO/EDSO to the status of a Departmental Sub Post Office is a highly retrograde step. The imposition of this 'cost recovery, principle will enhance the amount of NRC to be paid for upgradation tremendously and any upgradation would become virtually impossible. Since a Departmental Sub-Office serves the needs of the rural community by such essential facilities as a T.M.O through MORSE Code Telegraph Office, which cannot be provided in its absence, I, therefore, request the Minister of Finance to intervene and withdraw the orders for the application of FR-127 and allow the earlier formula for calculation practised by the Ministry of Communication (Department of Posts) since independence to continue to operate. This step will help the cause of rural development. If the withdrawal of the application of this rule is not ordered, it will be the greatest setback to the expansion, improvement and upgradation of postal and also telecommunication facilities in the rural areas and it would indeed be a tragic development when the nation is celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Indian independence. Hence the request for immediate personal intervention by the Minister of Finance.

- (iv) Need to have a time-bound programme for providing drinking water to all the villages in the country

SHRI S. B. SIDNAL (Belgaum) : After 40 years of independence we have not been able to provide drinking water to large number of villages, and water is an essential need for all purposes including health. In Karnataka, 4,888 villages are facing drinking water crisis. The State Government had identified 21,000 problem villages under their rural development programme but they have not been able to solve this problem because of shortage of funds. The same is true in regard to other States also. Thus at least 70 per cent of the population in India at present is facing drinking water crisis. I, therefore, appeal to the hon. Minister that schemes for providing drinking water to all the villages in the country must be taken on a war-footing and funds should not be a hitch for providing this

basic need. I urge upon the Government of India to have a time bound programme to provide drinking water to all the villages in the country.

- (v) Need to utilise the services of retired/retiring medical practitioners to meet the shortage of doctors in rural areas

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad) : Reports that unemployed medical graduates are threatening to launch agitation for jobs should be contrasted against the fact that several thousand primary health centres are without doctors. The basic situation in which 80 per cent of the doctors are concentrated in the urban areas and 80 per cent of the villages have to be content with just 20 per cent of the total medical personnel available in the country, does not seem to have changed over the decades despite a steep increase in the number of medical colleges and their output which is even causing unemployment. It looks as though the policy of compulsory rural medical service for young medical graduates is also not succeeding. The reluctance of young medical graduates to go to rural areas, must be understood in its proper perspective. Young medical graduates have problems to fit into villages environment and find it difficult to complete with existing traditional practitioners and also work in a non-hospital environment. The villagers themselves do not have enough confidence in your medical graduates particularly in attending to complaints of female patients. Government must consider using services of retired or retiring doctors in villages by giving them services extension or other help and employ young graduates in urban areas.

- (vi) Need to set up a T.V. transmitter at Ramagundam in Karimnagar, Andhra Pradesh

SHRI G. BHOOPATHY (Peddapalli) : It is understood that the setting up of a 100 W. TV transmitter in the Coal-field areas of Ramagundam of Karimnagar is held up because of constraints of funds unless some organisations like Singareni Collieries, FCI and NTPC come forward to finance the scheme. Accordingly, the

Collector and District Magistrate, Karimnagar have sent a D.D. of Rs. 37,05,000 in favour of Pay and Accounts Officer, T.V., Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi in the month of August 1987 and promised to fulfil other requirements.

I, therefore, urge upon the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to initiate the process and start the work without any delay.

[Translation]

- (vii) Need to amend Andhra Pradesh Education Order, 1974 and Andhra Pradesh Public Employment Order, 1976 to give proper representation to the people of Telengana

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problems regarding admissions in colleges and employment in Government Services for the people of Telengana were solved with the enactment of Andhra Pradesh Educational Institution Order, 1974 and Andhra Pradesh Public Employment Order, 1975. According to this formula, it was decided to earmark 85 per cent seats for local students and 15 per cent seats for outsiders in Professional Colleges. Under the second order, it was decided to provide 85 per cent jobs to local people and 15 per cent jobs to non-locals in Government Services. It was decided to give first gazetted posts of the department viz. Doctor, Junior Engineer and Tehsildar etc. to the local people. But in certain departments viz. Agricultural Department, Marketing Department etc., first grade gazetted post was given at the State level. In this way they have resorted to localisation in an arbitrary manner in the whole of Andhra Pradesh in the matter of admission and employment. At certain places, favouritism and nepotism are being shown even in the matter of application of rules. Several complaints have been made to the Central Government and the State Government in this regard, but to no use. Hence there is the need to amend these two orders. In order to ensure implementation of these rules in letter and spirit, the Central Government should constitute a High Power Committee.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to amend these orders and form seven zone on uniform basis for admission and employment. It should be decided that the posts upto the level of Joint Director should go to the persons of respective zones.

If this matter is deferred further, there is possibility of the separate Telengana movement gaining strength. So I would again request the Government to amend these orders without further delay.

[English]

- (viii) Need to allot more power to Goa from Kaiga Atomic Power Station

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji):

At present, Goa is not having power generation capacity of its own and the State depends upon National Thermal Power Corporation for power needs.

This power is wheeled to Goa from Korba and Ramagundam. The Goa Government have to pay to the National Thermal Power Corporation and Maharashtra State Electricity Board, for Korba power at 12 paise per unit and to NTPC and Karnataka Government for Ramagundam power at 15 paise per unit as Goa has no NTPC lines terminating in its territory and has to depend upon inter-state transmission lines for getting our share of NTCP power. Apart from this, our due share is not being received by us as the intervening States draw more than their share in times of their system difficulties, placing Goa in extreme difficulties.

Therefore, as Government of India is erecting an atomic power station at Kaiga in Karwar District, which is hardly 40 km from Goa, I request that the Government of India should allot Goa maximum share of Kaiga APS power. This will reduce our transmission charges and the wastage of power in transmission stage will be reduced.

12.46 hrs.

DISCUSSION RE : SITUATION ARISING
OUT OF THE INCIDENT OF 'SATI'
AT DEORALA VILLAGE IN
RAJASTHAN AND STEPS
PROPOSED BY UNION
GOVERNMENT TO PRE-
VENT SUCH DEPLO-
RABLE INCIDENT
IN FUTURE—
Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, we take up next item. Further discussion under Rule 193 on the situation arising out of the incident of 'Sati' at Deorala village in Rajasthan and the steps proposed by the Union Government to prevent such deplorable incidents in future. Shrimati Kalpana Devi.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI (Bellary) : I have not completed. You please see the proceedings.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shrimati Kalpana Devi was on her legs, on the other day.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : No. I was on the legs. I didn't complete. I was just speaking in the meantime...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : According to the records I am telling you. She was on her legs.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : No, Sir. You can verify the records. I am 100 per cent sure. When I was speaking, Mr. Somnath Rath who was listening to me, told me that I can continue my speech on Monday.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I will check up.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I have been asked to continue on Monday. You please check the proceedings, I have not completed my speech. I have not concluded. You please allow me to conclude my speech. I did not say anything about the Rajasthan incident... (Interruptions) You give me five minutes more.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No. I will find out from the records. She was already called upon to speak. Now I cannot break that rule.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : She is on her legs, how can I allow you now ? So, I will have to check it from the proceedings. Whatever it says, I will act according to it. You please take your seat, I will call you.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : You please find out and tell me.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : You should rely upon the hon. Member's words and act according to that.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I have been asked to continue. At 3.30 P.M., I was abruptly stopped. Now, I would ask Mrs. Kalpana Devi to resume her seat. Let me conclude my speech.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : She was speaking in Kannada, probably the translator might have.....

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Madam, you please take your seat. I want to tell you something about this. At the end of your speech, you insisted that you wanted to continue on Monday. But the Chairman called Mrs. Kalpana Devi because you took a lot of time. Mrs. Kalpana Devi started her speech. She had already taken a minute. Then, the Chairman told her that she can continue her speech on Monday. That is the thing.

Therefore, I have asked Mrs. Kalpana Devi to continue her speech.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I request you to give me some time to conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : She had already spoken for one minute.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : I had also requested the hon. Minister that since I was already speaking, some more time may be given to me to conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : She had already spoken for one minute. The record is there.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : You don't want me to conclude my speech ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : How can I allow you when she is already on her legs ?

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : You can find out whether there is any provision for making an additional speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The only thing I can do is that when the Minister replies, you can seek some clarifications. That is all I can do now.

SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : He asked me to continue on Monday. It is only a request. I request you to allow me five minutes to conclude my speech.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : When the Minister replies, you can seek some clarifications.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : A Bill on Sati is coming. Members will have enough opportunities to speak.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can speak on this at that time.

DR. T. KALPANA DEVI (Warangal) : It is really shameful and unfortunate to discuss in the Parliament about Sati, a barbaric tradition, prohibited 150 years ago. Now, once again, Sati has come alive in Deorala Village of Rajasthan on September 4 by Smt. Roop Kanwar, by burning herself on the funeral pyre of her husband.

The practice of Sati is clearly violative of our Constitution. According to Article 21, every citizen of this country has a right to live, the right to live and the right

to liberty cannot be taken away by anything except by the procedure of law.

Sati is not religious but the murder of a woman is inhuman, barbaric and male chauvinism. It is shameful to think about Sati today, a blind superstition and a social evil in Independent India.

We are planning to step into 21st century, a so-called technically and scientifically advanced computer era, but this incident is reversing the gear of progress of the country again to the stone age.

I was surprised to see in the newspaper yesterday that Sati Bill passed in the Rajasthan Assembly despite opposition. Many of the MLAs of the ruling party also opposed this Bill. All these politicians want to make Sati a political issue and wish to build up their political carrier and political power by burning a woman inhumanly and by brain washing illiterate, ignorant woman by impressing upon them that there is no life without a husband.

I don't think any country will make progress when its women are denied equal rights and freedom.

Why has Rajasthan Government not taken any immediate action about the ghastly incident of Sati. It has not taken any action against the people who encourage this unsocial, barbaric act and try to glorify it and make money out of it, when there is a law in the history as early as in 1829 itself.

This inhuman, barbaric custom was prohibited in 1829 by Lord Bentinck by the efforts of Raja Ram Mohan Roy, who took up Sati as a major issue as early in 1815. Even after prohibition of Sati the Hindu orthodox people appealed to the Privy Council but on 11th July, 1832, that appeal was rejected and said that historic law is valid all over India and there is Indian Penal Code to prevent such a social crime as burning of women in the name of religion. Even during the Moghul period, they tried to suppress the practice of Sati.

But, today, unfortunately in Rajasthan they are supporting it and the Rajasthan Government does not dare enough to implement the Act in time. What a pity on our part ?

Raja Ram Mohan Roy said that it was not only the inferior status of women that was responsible for Sati, but economic greed of the relatives which forces a woman to commit Sati. By a simple legislation women will not come out of these social and barbaric customs. Unless they are educated and made economically independent, and as long as they are looked down by the society and there is every possibility of their being exploited and humiliated by society, women will continue to suffer. Sati is a shame to our nation today. We cannot compromise with the communal, obscurantist and fundamentalist reactionary forces for the sake of political survival. But unfortunately, that is what the politicians of Rajasthan have done. They wanted to build up their political career and power by burning women. That is why many MLAs opposed the Bill.

It is unfortunate that the Sankaracharya of Puri had said that *Sati* is also their democratic right. If burning of a woman is a democratic right, then where does the Constitution stand which says that every citizen has a right to live ?

Today, the entire nation and all right thinking people are against this barbaric crime against humanity and crime against our Constitution. Now, this is not a question of women alone, but it concerns the entire society. The Union Government should come forward to safeguard our culture, our civilization and dignity of women. It is shameful to know that the Rajasthan Government entertained '*Sati Mela*' in some districts and every year for which three State holidays have been given. It shows the Government's encouragement to the religious fundamentalism. It is my earnest request to the Government to take stringent steps against *Sati* glorification and raising of *Sati* temples and impose a ban on *Sati* Melas and the existing *Sati* temples.

It is true that the Government has to face lot of resistance and obstacles from the religious fundamentalists in implementing the Act to ban *Sati* but the Government should not yield for its political survival as in the case of the Muslim Women's Bill.

Burning women inhumanly denigrates women and also degrades the culture of our society. The most important and basic need of the day is to create more awareness among the rural women, where *Sati* is prevalent, that *Sati* is not religious and that it is not our culture. We must be able to create that awareness through women's organisations and mass media in our rural India.

Unless women are civilised, cultured, educated and economically independent a country cannot progress. Only women, left to themselves alone would not be in a position to achieve the goals of success, unless both women and men work together with equality. The need of the hour is to encourage women's education, creation of awareness, building up of courage and confidence to shed their backwardness and ignorance. Otherwise, they will be left behind in the race for the survival.

To eradicate this social pernicious dowry system with its attendant social ills and to improve the economic condition of women in the Hindu society the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 should be suitably amended to achieve the constitutional mandate of equality of property as it has been enacted in Andhra Pradesh in 1985. It is my appeal to all the Members of Parliament and all political parties to consider the matter seriously. It is high time that even after three decades the Indian Parliament reviews the provision of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, particularly in the light of the Andhra Pradesh Act No. 13 of 1986 for the benefit of the entire Indian women. Otherwise it amounts to a failure to enforce Article 14 of the Constitution. It is also time to bring a uniform law under a uniform civil code in this country to ensure that every woman will enjoy property equally with man as a citizen of this country.

13.00 hrs.

The Government should also think about the rehabilitation of economically poor widows to enable them to stand on their own feet for their economic needs and also to lead a respectable life in the society. It is the responsibility of the Government not only to abolish the glorification of *sati*

but also to create the ways and mean for their respectable survival in the society. The economically poor widows should be given widow pension as the Andhra Pradesh Government is giving. Then a comprehensive scheme should be evolved for the rehabilitation of economically poor widows by the Government of India and their children should be given free education. Whatever amount collected in the name of sati in Deorala village in Rajasthan should be utilised for the rehabilitation of the widows and sati should be abolished once for all. I hope the Government would come out with appropriate schemes and Bills.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Madam, what about the Lunch ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : Sir, we got a lot of Members who would like to speak on this very important subject. Hence we can forego our lunch.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hanamkonda) : No Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : At three o' Clock, the hon. Minister is going to reply.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : The hon. Minister is going to reply at 3 PM.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Otherwise the Members have to forego their speech.

Mr. Janga Reddy, do you want to forego your speech or your lunch ?

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I want to forego the lunch and also the speech.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now, Shrimati Usha Choudhari. As Shrimati Usha Choudhari is not here, I am calling Shri Somnath Rath.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Sir, the glorification of the sati is only glorification of the murder of a lady and this monstrous ritual should be put an end to and buried for ever. The sati system has no sanction of Rishis, Munis or any religion. Manu even advocated

the cause of re-marriage of widow. It is easy to appeal to the sentiments of the individuals in the name of religion and many persons do it with ulterior motive. We must not appeal to the sentiments, but it is high time that we should appeal to the reasoning to put an end to this barbaric act.

A widow is made to mount her husband's pyre and it cannot be said that it is voluntary. It is shocking that even today, some persons support the so-called voluntary sati. She is the victim of social and religious pressures which suppress her free will. She is made to believe that if she survives, her life will be worse and miserable. It is the helplessness of the widow which is taken advantage of by certain persons specially by her in-laws for their ulterior motive.

Sir, ours is a secular and democratic country. The society has undergone a tremendous change. In the medieval age, a women had got a life interest in the property of her husband, that is, only the maintenance. But now she has got a share in the property of her husband. It is but natural that other co-sharers may manipulate to eliminate her for ever so that they get more property to their share. It is also seen that certain persons for greed to or make profit, encourage this system of sati. It is a high time that a special stringent law against sati be enacted to bring such a practice to an end for ever.

About what has happened in Rajasthan many hon. Members in the House have spoken the real facts. An hon. Member has said that even a doctor has given morphia injection to that lady before the incident. Hon'ble Member have also said that the Rajasthan Government has not taken action. Now there is a law after the ordinance, but under IPC action can also be taken though it is too late. For the information of the hon. Minister, law is not wanting in our country in this connection. Section 309 contemplates punishment of a person who commits suicide. Punishment is one year imprisonment with or without fine or both. Of course, the intention of this section is not appreciated in many countries of the world. Even the Delhi High Court has acquitted

many persons who were accused of attempting to commit suicide. But one fact remains. Though so many countries have abolished attempt to commit suicide as a crime, abetment or inducement to commit suicide remains as a crime everywhere. Our country in the Penal Code section 306 makes a provision for this crime of abetment or inducement when suicide has been committed. Still there is a time for the Rajasthan Government to investigate into the matter. It should take note of the concern of the hon. Members of the House and get it investigated only not by its regular police department but by the Crime Branch and punish such persons who have either abetted or assisted in committing the sati. I would suggest to the hon. Minister that if necessary, a CBI enquiry be made in this connection and such culprits should be punished. If there is any lacuna or any going back by a particular State or by a particular officer of the State, CBI agency can be utilised for punishing the culprits since it is a matter of national importance.

What has happened after this ordinance has been promulgated in Rajasthan ever writ petitions have been filed in High Court challenging the ordinance of the Rajasthan Government on the touchstone of article 14 i.e. equality and articles 25 and 26 i.e. religious freedom. This shows what way the wind blows and whether we have got sufficient political will to combat the evil. With one voice we advocate that this is a crime that must be put an end to, but at the same time we knock at the door of judiciary, challenging the action taken by the Rajasthan Government by issuing the Ordinance.

Coming to Rajasthan Government, what they have done in the Ordinance is they have not prohibited the worship in the *Sati* temples or the *Sati* shrines. They have categorically said that it cannot be prohibited. Sir, through you I want to submit to the hon. Minister that whenever the Central Government is going to bring a Bill in the House, they must take note of this aspect also. In the Bill, it must be specifically provided that worship in any manner, in any *Sati* temple shall be punishable. Not only that, we must abolish

all *Sati* temples or *Sati* shrines existing in our country, for the simple reason that when we oppose the glorification of *Sati*, then what is the sense in allowing the people to worship *Sati* in the temples that are existing. At the same time, we should see that the punishment must be nothing short of death or life imprisonment for the person who in any manner abets or associates himself with this act. I would submit that through our media, we must inculcate in the minds of our own folk that Rani Jhansi, who fought for freedom, should be their ideal. Women in the society have not only got a duty towards their husbands, or have to be loyal to their husbands, but they have got a duty towards the country and towards their family members. Just as we are condemning the dowry deaths, we—all political parties should condemn with one voice such kinds of killings of widows as by way of this *Sati* system. As such, I would request the hon. Minister to see that this system is buried for ever and is not revived at all in future.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK (Cuttack) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we cannot express just in words our deep feelings against this ghastly incident of *Sati*—a girl of eighteen put into fire. The barbarous incident was glorified also. Not only this, even after thirty days, lakhs of people gathered on the spot and glorified it saying, "*Sati mata ki jai*". How could a *mata* be put into fire, I do not know. Perhaps it might be that the girl could become *Sati* or *mata* only after she has lost her life. One cannot forget that she belongs to the *matri jati* who is the source of creation and who has given birth to those who are now glorifying such a ghastly incident. Adi Shankracharya has said that a son can be *kuputra* but a *mata* cannot be a *kumata*.

Roop Kanwar who belongs to this 'mathru jati' may be considered as 'matmi' but she is destined to be burnt. As for the origin of *Sati*, Gandhiji, in an article in Harijan of the 20th March 1937, has referred to Diodorus, a Sicilian historian of the first Century B.C. He said that it had no spiritual sanction. An account depicts that during centuries of invasion of Saka, Hun and Muslims, the Rajputs continually suffered heavy losses of the male

population. As there was no inter-caste marriage Sati was introduced to get rid of the widows. A 17th Century Rajput painting shows that a woman going in to the pyre to be a Sati is surrounded by men with swords unsheathed, as seen when Roop Kanwar went to pyre. That denotes that if the women would change her mind, she would be beheaded as it involved the honour of the Rajputs even though history states that even in the age of Ramayan, widows were protected and honoured. In 1980, Sri Sirkar, a District Magistrate of Rajasthan, opined that vested interests were responsible for this crime. Every Sati case eventually became a money-spinning venture. The amount collected from offerings was enormous. For some, Sati has become a sort of identity and they try to spread it to other castes besides Rajputs so as to have a type of cultural hegemony.

As a matter of fact, Sati or burning of women on the pyre of their dead husbands was not confined to Rajasthan alone. Such things happened in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal. In the first quarter of the Nineteenth Century, as many as 1500 women were consigned to flames in Calcutta alone celebrating the cult of Sati which moved Raja Rammohan to plead before Lord Bentinck for the promulgation of a law to prohibit this inhuman custom. In those days, quite a lot of commendable work had been done by great social reformers among Hindus, like Swami Vivekananda, Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Swami Dayanand Saraswati but that seems to have gone haywire because of the revival of the cult again.

Now the Sankaracharya of Puri Swami Niranjan Dev Tirth has gone on record that he is prepared to go to the gallows to protect the cult of Sati. He goes on reciting from Rig Veda and Dharma Sindhu to justify that Sati has the sanction of Hindu religion. Here he says that voluntary Sati is religious but we do not know whether Sati is voluntary or involuntary. It is not at all a religious thing. The Puri Sankaracharya calls the interpretation of the Vedas by Dayananda as wrong and is determined to propagate his belief at any cost. Here I must say that some of the religious pundits had come out but many have got

their mouths tight and yet Swami Visheshwar of Pejawar Mutt of Karnataka has rebutted the Shankaracharya and says that all Hindu religious leaders should oppose the revival of Sati. These Progressive Pandits have said that in the Rig Veda, it has been misquoted. They have already said that in the sentence. "आरोहन्तु जयन्तो योनिमग्ने" instead of the word, अग्ने they have misquoted it as अग्ने. But for a common person, I must say, that everything should be taken into the context with reference to the place, time and person. (देश, काल, प्रान्त) Much water has flowed from one end of the stream to the other end. And many developments also take place.

Sir, I remember, Dryden while evaluating the opinion of one of the wisest among Greeks *i.e.* Aristotle, said :

"It is not enough that Aristotle had said so; had he seen our times, he would have changed his mind."

What strikes me most is the question, "Has nothing happened in India after the Vedas and scriptures were written? Is religion so blind as to compel a wise Swami to close his eyes?"

Prof. Ashis Nandy calls Sati as a pathology of colonialism, not of Hinduism. It was a direct result of the challenge of new social and cultural forces to the traditional life-style of the Indian people. But it is wrong to accuse the Britishers for all the shortcomings of our national life. We have to remember that it was Lord Bentinck who brought in a law to protect our women when they were getting burnt by our men folk. Some people point out that the Sati tradition has been made possible in India on account of poverty, obscurantism and political chicanery. There has been little impact of education, communication systems on the socio-religious psyche of the Indian women. But Roop Kanwar's case confronts us with a contradiction. She belongs to a city-bred educated class. Her father-in-law has a Master's Degree. Her father has a transport agency at Jaipur. Deorala has eight Schools in the village, has a high literacy rate with T.Vs. and all modern amenities of life. Sati spectacle is actually not the

result of a clash between tradition and modernity. Deorala incident proves that education really helps them to perform such miracle-studded crimes more dexterously than would have been otherwise. The Dharma Raksha Samiti had published a pamphlet 'An appeal to the Hindus.' It was at pure and simple fundamentalist appeal which inspired lakhs of people gather at Jaipur to justify their right to perpetuate Sati. The weak-kneed politicians were so terribly afraid that they did not utter even a word of protest, not to speak of any resistance. I appeal to all the political parties to come out of their party affiliations to think about this problem objectively. Sir, the incident is political chicanery in plain and simple terms and nothing else. The local regional media has played no small a measure to perpetuate this myth. Even the Jaipur edition of the *Times of India* in its editorial glorified this incident.

Having narrated the contradictions between our professions and our lives thus far, I am returning back to Gandhiji who also wrote an article on the topic titled 'A twentieth Century Sati' in *Young India*, dated 21st May, 1931. Therein he has pointed out that the human soul is a part of the Divine Life. Self-immolation at the death of the husband is not a sign of enlightenment but of gross ignorance as to the nature of the soul. Sir, Sati according to Gandhiji, had its origin in superstitious, ignorance and the blind egotism of man. Therefore, a stringent law, a comprehensive law, with severe deterrent punishment should be enacted which may give an assurance to woman that their lives have value and male domination can never compel them for self-immolation any more. All men folk among Hindus should realise that their women have not been made for burning. Humanity, justice along with human rights laid down in the Constitution should be there. The lot of the women and specially of the widows is to be improved.

Sir, we are seeking to raise the status of women from every angle and it should be raised. It should be publicised in various media and in other important fields.

Sir, we are speaking of the economic independence of the women and the economic independence of the widows. In my view, this aspect should be taken up seriously. There should be economic independence for the women, and a living place for the widows should be ensured. Here also, right to property, the relationship of women with property should be taken into account.

Various economic measures are taken to uplift the poor, to uplift the poor women also. But sometimes we face difficulties. There are lacunae in them. I would cite one example. Suppose a small farmer dies after taking loan and without paying it, the widow with 3 children is not able to get a loan from the bank. It is because, they are saying that her husband has not repaid it and therefore she cannot take up the farming work. Like this also, there are so many things. Even in the Life insurance Corporation, if a man continues his policy and pays the default payment and fine for late payment, it is all right. But without paying default payment and fine, if he dies, the widow is not allowed to continue the benefit of the life insurance. She should be at least given a grace period of one year so that, she could take the whole benefit of the LIC. Like this, there are so many lacunae in the implementation of the development and welfare measures also.

So, I would submit that priority should be given to the self-employment of the widows so that they should cultivate self-confidence in them and they are not discriminated and deprived of the benefits in the society.

[*Transtation*]

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY (Hana.A. konda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, discussion has been going on in this House on Sati incident for the last two or three days and hon. Members belonging to different parties have expressed their views against the Sati practice. I and my party are also against it. We condemn the incident that took place on the 4th December at Deorala. We also do not lag behind other parties in launching any type of movement against the Sati practice.

I can only say that there is no mention in support of Sati practice in any religion and there is no example in the scriptures that a wife committed sati by burning herself alongwith the dead body of her husband. The scriptures do not support it. So far as I think, when Rajput warriors lost their lives in the battlefield during Mughal period, then widows used to commit sati, so as to save themselves from falling into the hands of Mughals. Except this we do not find any other example. This is the reason why this practice has been more prevalent among Rajputs. But in this age no one supports this practice. If we find this practice still prevalent anywhere in the society, it is very necessary to launch a campaign to arouse people's awareness against it because the said circumstances do not exist now. We will have to do away with all those pernicious practices. An hon. Member was just saying that the population of Deorala is about two thousand five hundred only and a lot of people of the neighbouring villages gathered there to witness that incident. I would like to ask whether it was not possible to call military or para-military forces stationed 15 to 20 Kms or 50 Kms away by sending them wireless message from the Police Station situated 7 Km away from that place so as to prevent that incident. In my view the incident of sati could have been averted, but the police got scared of the huge assemblage of people there. I would like to ask why the District Magistrate or Police Officers did not take any action even when everything was in their knowledge. When this incident took place on the 4th September, why did they not arrest the accused on the 5th September? What are the reasons for which the police officers of that area, the District administration and the State Government treated this incident as an ordinary murder? The people of other countries think that India is living in the 16th century where persons are burnt alive. It has made our head hung in shame. Due to this incident our image in the foreign countries has spoilt. I would like to ask from the Rajasthan Government that when this incident took place on 4th September then why was the Ordinance promulgated after one month? This incident took place on 4th September and the Assembly was summoned on 1st

October after about a month of this incident. Later on, it was adjourned. What was the need for this Ordinance? It could have been brought in the shape of a Bill. Why was this not brought for a month? This Bill would have been passed after having discussion on it so for two to three hours in the Assembly. But they did not take this step because they were on the horns of a dilemma whether to take permission from the Centre or not. Rajasthan Government was in a fix whether to bring forward a Bill to this effect or not and was apprehensive of some harm being done to them and also of incurring the ire of the voters. So, they did not bring forward the Bill for a month. When criticism appeared in the press, they promulgated Ordinance.

There is one reason behind it. Some people might have got an excuse that when in Shahbano case, as Shri Arif was speaking, the verdict which was given by the High Court and the Supreme Court, was reversed by the Government later on, so the people were thinking that if they spoke against the ordinance, the Government may not reverse it. So the people took out the procession after a month against the ordinance.

I would like to demand in this House that a Common Code be formulated. A civil code or a Common Women Act can be brought forward. The Code should be applicable on everyone, be he a Hindu, a Muslim, a Christian or any other sect. In Kerala, when a daughter is born, she is given the right in the ancestral property. But this is not so in our area. We have a separate parent code and a separate civil code. That is why people think that the Government yields to the pressure and therefore pressure should be brought upon it. Therefore, the people took out a procession against the ordinance. Why couldn't the Government prevent the procession from being taken out? It could have been prevented. If the police had been posted on the roads from where the people were entering into the city, they could have been sent back and in this way this procession could not have been taken out but this was not done. After the people have gathered at one place; it becomes difficult to open fire. But they could

have been stopped by closing the roads whence they came. But this was not done because the Government was in a state of indecisiveness. They thought that if firing took place some people would be killed. But Government had to give in before the pressure of the people of Rajasthan and they had to promulgate the ordinance. When the Government gives in under pressure, the people try to pressurise it more. So, still there is time and the Government should introduce Common Code or Civil Code without delay. Law should apply equally to all. Fundamentalism is again rearing its head. This should be put down. Whether one is Muslim or Christian or of any other religion, there is no difference among them. All are one. The political parties should come forward to put an end to this difference. So far as my party is concerned, I would like to tell the people belonging to the Congress Party and those who criticized us, that according to the Rajasthan Patrika which is in my hand, enery M.L.A. has opposed this incident. It is written in the Patrika that the Chief Minister had said in regard to the people connected with the Sati incident in Deorala that those persons would be arrested under Section 20(7) of the Indian Penal Code. He further clarified that when the Government noticed that the subordinate officers had arrested innocent people, they released 24 persons immediately.

AN HON. MEMBER : Where have they been released ?

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : In Rajasthan,

Our partymen held discusssion over this matter which is in section 16 of the Ordinance—

[English]

Where any person is prosecuted of an offence under Section 3 or 4, the burden of proof that he had not committed the offence under said Sections will be on him.

[Translation]

If you prosecute a person of an offence, under the Act he will have to furnish proof

in the court that he has not committed an offence. The Government should state the charges against him. There are some points which relate to the natural justice and going against them is not in accordance with the law. For example, during emergency we were arrested and were asked to prove ourselves innocent. How can we prove our innocence when we have not committed any offence ? When there are no charges against us, how can we prove ourselves innocent ?

[English]

Burden of proof must be on the prosecution side and not from the accused.

[Translation]

The Members of our party have raised their voice against it.

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Are you justifying what the Sati abettors are doing ?

[Translation]

You are saying that we people were also sailing in the same boat.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : What are you saying ?

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : It is on the bridgroom family's side to prove that it was not dowry.

[Translation]

The burden of proof falls on you because no one is prepared to give evidence later on. There must be some fear among the people. If someone is prosecuted of a crime, he should prove that he is innocent.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Nobody knows about it. Under this law nobody can be apprehended. We already have Anti-Dowry Act,

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I would like to submit that similar provision has been included in Anti-Dowry Act also. Both the Houses have passed it that onus of the proof would lie on them.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I would like to submit that we have acted against them. It does not mean that we are not against the practice of Sati. But your friends have taken it otherwise and delivered speech in Lok Sabha. That is why I am saying this.

I would like to ask as to what is the necessity of the ordinance after one month. When session is convened, you would have brought forward the Bill. There is provision for a Bill. You could have passed the Bill and suspended the rule.

You convened the session of the Assembly for one day and then adjourned it. The session again started on the third day. You have acted in a very strange manner. When there was no session, you could have promulgated the ordinance. But when the incident occurred on 4th of September, what was your Government doing till 1st of October? Who had stood in your way for 26 days? You held the sitting for one day and then adjourned it and promulgated the ordinance. Why? You could have introduced the Bill. Did you want to prove that you were against the practice of Sati. You simply show that you are against it. You should act on what you say. You should have the same feeling for women, be she a Hindu or a Muslim.

We have voted against this ordinance, because your method of its promulgation is wrong. We want that you should enact laws, but these should not be passed just to show to the people that laws are being passed. If you enact the laws, these should be implemented effectively.

Police personnel were posted at a distance of 13 Kms, but not even a single person was arrested for one month. Patwari was there, Police officers were there, but nobody gave the information. That man died at 7 AM and at 10'clock, he was cremated. Could your Police not be called within 5 hours, when it was available at a distance of 13 Kms.?

I would, therefore, urge that if you have sought any enquiry report about the incident of Deorala, we may also be apprised of that. We have come to know that she had fled from that place thrice, but she was subjected to a Morphine injection and killed forcibly. If you have all such information we may kindly be informed of that.

The M.L.As. of our Party had supported the Bill, but they opposed the way it was brought forward. After all, what was the reason for adjourning the session of the Assembly and promulgating the ordinance? During the session of the Assembly, you could have introduced the Bill and got it passed. If some deficiencies were found later on, those could be removed by bringing amendments to it.

I would like to urge the people of the Congress Party to work whole-heartily and try to grant equal rights to the women of all religions. If you bring forward any such Bill, we would extend our full support to you.

[English]

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY (Puri) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, During this debate, I was inspired by the speech delivered by my young friend from the other side, coming from the Communist (Marxist) Party of India. I saw he was in anger and that was quite natural. This is how the younger generation should react very sharply to such incidents and such practices.

I want to place before the House that this practice is neither of Indian origin, nor it is a religious custom of Hindus. As a matter of fact, in earlier days it started with Greeks and it came with Greek civilization and when they came to India, they brought it and subsequently, it was adopted by the nobles, kings and royal families. Who does not know how it started? The reasons are quite obvious. There were wars and when the king was defeated, or the nobles were defeated, their wives were ill-treated, humiliated and tortured. To obviate that this practice came in. This is a part of the feudal structure of the society. Further, this was not the only reason, there were other reasons also. When women were

limited owners of properties—they were, not now—, naturally they wanted to eliminate women so that they can have the full rights over the property. Apart from that, some kings and nobles thought that after their death, whatever enjoyments they had in this world, they would carry them to the other world. In some countries, particularly in Uganda, the wife at the time of her husband's death is tied to her husband, so that she will also go to the other world and give company to her husband. So, there are a number of reasons. As a matter of fact, in a number of countries, this practice flourished, in China, it flourished and in a number of others countries, it flourished and somehow it came to India and it was mainly confined to the higher strata of society, and very hardly it penetrated to the lower strata of the society, the common man.

I saw a press report two or three days earlier. Rajputs have combined together, have made it a sentimental issue and they want through this Sati system to project their identity

I think the identity is wanting in this country. I do not want to blame any political party or any political leader as such. Now, the time has come when we have to carry the entire nation forward and we have to create a cultural upsurge of the country so that we can fight these evils. It is not only the widow burning but we also have the child marriage. You know during the medieval period, the concept that women in Hindu religion is Sudra was introduced which means that she cannot walk along with her husband. She cannot share food on the same table and she is denied to read religious scriptures. It was so because the scriptures were so manipulated that it was believed that a woman cannot get 'mukti' or salvation. She has to die and again takes birth as a man; then only she will get the mukti. So, these are all feudal manipulations of the scripture. Who does not know about the untouchability? How the Rig Veda was manipulated. How the Brahmins, the Kshatriyas and the Shudras were manipulated. But so far as the Rig Veda is concerned, nowhere it has sanctioned the widow burning. Even during the Epic era nowhere it has happened. You can imagine, what happened to Kunti on Parashar marry-

ing Satyawati? Who does not know about the Gargi, the great saint? She contributed so much to the Rig Veda. She attended the Philosophers' Conference organised by Janak. There she argued and contested with Yagnevilkyā. Yagnevilkyā was the prominent Philosopher. She went there nude, without putting any cloths. You must be knowing about the Maitreyi. She asked Yagnevilkyā, "could I realise the 'Brahma, Could I win the mortality? Could I be immortal?" Yagnevilkyā said, "No, marriage only will not give mortality. If you know Brahma, then you can get the immortality." That is the tradition. Nowhere in the religion it has been mentioned and those who want to give it a religious colour are those who want this practice to go on. Somebody in the House said that, "if you can protect the personal laws of Muslims, then why do not you protect the personal laws of Hindus." But I would say, it is absolutely not related to the religion.

Now, the question is how to tackle the situation. Of course, it was not prevailing when Raja Ram Mohan Roy or Ishwar Chand Vidya Sagar was there. It was prevalent before the Sati Act came into operation. Shri Janga Reddy has just now said, "Why could not you take immediate action?" I do not want to indulge in that. But does he not know that his own friends and political party workers were indulging in glorification of sati in Rajasthan. I tell you that Sati melas are taking place in different parts of the country since the centuries. In Calcutta it is going on; in Rajasthan it is going on. But would you blame the Government for all this? What is the Government? Government is formed by the political parties only. Mr. Jyoti Babu is there in Calcutta but still the Sati Mela is going on. So, I would say, do not politicise it. I do not want it to be politicised rather it should be socialised.

13.50 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the Chair*]

We should create an atmosphere which is conducive to social change. I would like to make just one appeal to the hon. Minister. It is well and good that the hon. Minister is coming forward with some legislation on this matter. But let us exa-

mine one thing, because the day has come when we have to see this problem in all its totality. We must examine all its aspects. For example child marriages are taking place in hundres and thousands in Rajasthan. I myself had put many a question on this issue here. But what to do about it ? Also, children are deprived of their religious rights in some parts of the country. They are not entitled to read Vedas. Though I do not want to mention any names, we all know that in some religions the women are not allowed to visit the church. Women from all religions, whether they are Christian, Muslim or Hindu, have to suffer a lot of deprivations. Now, time has come for an 'all women's movement' comprising women from every section of the society. This is not a question of Hindu women, Muslim women or Christian women. An all women's movement should build up in this country and that should be in the forefront of our struggle against feudalism. This is the need of the hour and we have to build up this movement and take up the challenging task.

As far as the problems faced by women are concerned, we are very well aware as to how Christian women are suffering from a number of limitations. We also know how Muslim as well as Hindu women are deprived of many rights. I am mentioning this again so as to stress that I do not make any distinction between one religion and another. Women of all religions—Hindu women, Muslim women and Christian women—are discriminated in many respects. They are denied equal rights assured to every citizen of this country and which are enshrined in our Constitution itself. So, the time has now come for all political parties and all social organisations to raise with one voice and one vision and work to eliminate such discriminatory practices with regard to property, education, social life or religion. We have to create a public opinion in favour of equality for women in all respects.

Now, I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that she should set up a Commission on Women to examine this problem and to receive various suggestions and recommendations from various social

organisations and women's movements. This will enable us to have a comprehensive basis for adopting legislative as well as other measures at social and political levels.

So far as political parties are concerned, I would really not like to go into this controversy at this stage. As I have mentioned, we all know that Shri Janga Reddy's party is also associated with it. But we are also aware that many political parties are associated with it. The other day, I read in an editorial published in 'The Hindustan Times' that** is indulging in the activities of a communal organisation.

SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHURY :
(Katwa). Who ?

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :
Your** is indulging in communal activities. I do not want to mention his name. Nor do I know his name for that matter.

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) :
How can you say**

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please address the Chair.

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : I am addressing the Chair only. Whether I am looking at you or not, what all I speak here is addressed to you only.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY :
By that I mean that hon. member's**

Now we are also aware of the part played by the General Secretary of the Janata Party. Anyway I do not want to mention his name. He is involved in communal activities. It is the same case with many political parties. That is why our political party system also requires strengthening. Whenever there are instances of communal conflicts, language conflicts or any other conflicts, political parties are not commanding the leadership that they ought to do. It is unfortunate that political parties do not command the leadership when

such disputes or controversies arise. These are the problems we have to remember and then only we have to go ahead and tackle them. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO WALIA (Sangrur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, with regard to the incident of Sati, I would like to submit that it is a very abominable and shameful incident. It has not been written in any book of history or religion that committing of Sati or its glorification is a good thing. In the sixteenth century, the third guru of Sikhs, Amardas was born. At that time Akbar was the emperor in Delhi. Guru Amardas visited Amritsar where free kitchen was organised, Akbar was pleased with guruji and told him to ask for anything he wanted. He told guruji that he wanted to give as much land as he wanted for organising free langar. Guruji told him that Guru Nanak Dev Ji, who was the earlier guru had said, he was quoting from the Guru Granth Sahib : "Sokyo Mande Ankhyan, Jit Jamme Rajan" The women give birth to the kings and the brave people, but they have been given women a lower status. Akbar said that was why he was asking as to what should he give to Darbar Sahib, Amritsar, Guru Amardas said that he did not require any land. People donate food-grains for organising free kitchen in Darbar Sahib of Amritsar, but if he was an emperor, he should do only two things. First, the Zazia on the pilgrim centres of Hindus be abolish and secondly, the practice of Sati be banned. This is all part of our history. He asked as to what he could do. Guruji told him that Purdah system among Muslims be abolished. Purdah among women is a sign of inferior status of women. All these things were said by Guru Amardas in sixteenth century and are also recorded in Guru Granth Sahib.

Now I would like to know as to why there is glorification of Sati incident all of a sudden. The incidents of Sati have been taking place during the last two hundreds years at one place or the other. Raja Ram Mohan Roy tried to have it banned. I would like to submit one thing to hon. Shri Narsimha Rao ji and the Government

that in my view this habit of glorification of Sati incident has been formed due to increasing influence of funamentalism in our politics. Fundamentalism among Sikhs is also increasing. They say that one should have open beard and sword should be put on from above. One might be an M.A. and having good qualifications, but that does not make any difference. Even then funamentalism is being mixed in politics. Similarly, there is chauvinism among Hindus. They do not wear *dhooties* to the full length and this is the shortcoming among them. Fundamentalism is also growing among Muslims. This is diverting our attention from economic policies to other things. As a result, developmental works are being hampared. We are elected representatives of the people. You are running the Government and we are on the other side of the House, but it is the responsibility of all of us that we make effort, for the economic development of our country. We have to strengthen the good values in our country. I think that due to chauvinism, a person from the Golden Temple said that one person has to kill 35 persons each and this created riots in Delhi. One person said that perhaps killings would solve the problem and that is why there is trouble on Ram Janam Bhumi issue. Fundementalism is also causing glorification of Sati. I would, therefore, urge the Government through you, sir, that it should be considered as to why fundamentalism is growing so much during the last 6 or 7 years. The growth of fundamentalism benefits the capitalists, the rich imperialist forces and the elements indulging in the exploitation of the poor and the workers. I am, therefore, of the view that we would have to take stern measures against the practice of Sati. I do not know as to why friends of the opposition are opposing the enactment of law in this regard. If Government enacts any stringent law in this regard, I myself and my Party would extend full support to the Government. The women who committed Sati is already dead, but the persons who are engaged in the glorification of Sati are inciting others to commit Sati. This is even more dangerous. I, therefore, feel that when a woman commits Sati, then her share of property *i.e.* the property of her dead husband should not be allowed to

remain with the family. If the widow continues to live in the family, the property of her husband should be inherited by her. This is also one of the reasons to compel her to commit Sati. Greed for the money may also be one of the reasons. Therefore, if a woman commits Sati in any family, her share of property should be acquired by the Government. Therefore, her mother-in-law and other members of her-in-laws' family would not allow her to commit Sati and they will think that if she commits Sati, they would lose her share of property also. They would, therefore, not allow her to commit Sati. At present, they encourage her to commit Sati.

Secondly, I would like to submit that with a view to lowering the position of widow, it was written in our old books that woman is like a lamp made of flour. She is in a very vulnerable position whether inside the house or outside the house. She has been driven to such a position. The Government should bring about some change in such a situation and if a woman becomes a widow, then some facilities should be given to her so that her life could be comfortable in future. If a widow is educated, should be provided some job and if a widow remarries, then the person coming forward to marry her should be given an incentive of Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 5,000 and should also be given some service so that widow may feel that her future is not dark.

I also think that history is being presented in a distorted manner. I also want that Radio and TV should be extensively used for condemning the persons who indulge in the glorification of Sati. There have been five respected Satis—Sati Savitri, Sati Sita, Sati Anusaiya, Sati Vrinda and Sati Tara. These five Satis did not commit Sati, they did not burn themselves alive. In their praise, it has been written in Guru Granth Saheb:

“Satiyam Ye Na Akhiyam,

Jo Madiye Lag Jalan

Satiyam Se Hi Nanka,

Jo Biraho Chot Maran.”

They are not Satis who are burnt alive. They are Satis who maintain piety in their lives. Therefore, we should discourage such elements and should try to condemn those persons through Radio and TV, who glorify the practice of Sati.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, a lot has been spoken about Sati during the last three days. I would not like to repeat the points already covered. However, I would like to express my views on a few points such occasions when hon. Members of both the sides are unanimous, are rare. Hon. Members from both the sides condemned the practice of Sati in categorical terms. I am full of all praise for Shri Madhu Dandavate who said in clear terms that both the leaders of Rajasthan who indulged in the glorification of the practice of Sati cannot remain in his party. The whole House should appreciate this gesture of Shri Madhu Dandavate.

Some of our friends here spoke about the role of the press in this respect. There is no doubt that some newspapers have glorified the Sati incident. But we cannot lose sight of the fact that most of the newspapers in the country have condemned this practice. One of the newspapers in the country carried the photographs of the Chunri and also the photograph of people circling around Sati with bare swords in their hands. There should be no difficulty in identifying those persons. Why should they not be arrested and punished? As has already been said by some of the hon. Members the whole episode should be got inquired into by the C.B.I. so that the facts may come to light. If we criticise each other, we will reach nowhere.

It is not the question of Sati and it does not confine itself to Rajasthan only. There are a number of Sati temples in the country. They are being glorified. Will the Governments of different States prevent people from constructing such temples and put a ban on the melas which are being organised around the Sati temples?

(Interruptions)

I was going to say that she was a girl from Ranchi and was given in marriage in Rajasthan. She committed Sati. Several

stories are circulating about her and a lot of things have been said in this regard. When she was being taken to the funeral pyre, she said to her father whom she loved so much that "Papa, I don't want to be burnt alive." But she was forcibly pushed into the funeral pyre. The country will remember the Sati Incident at Deorala just as it remembers the gas tragedy at Bhopal and blinding cases in Bhagalpur jail.

Now people say that if Sati temple is not allowed to be built in Rajasthan, it should be built in Ranchi, the native place of the girl. In this connection, I would like to make an appeal to the Government of Bihar through you not to allow construction of any temple there and not to glorify the incident. We should oppose it tooth and nail.

It is not the question of Sati only. I would like to say in this connection. . . .

SHRI V. TULSIRAM (Nagarkurnool) : Mr. Chairman; Sir, he is expressing his views on Sati. I had raised a question at zero hour the day before yesterday that some girls have been sold for Rs. 30,000. He was talking of the girl, who, when pushed to the funeral pyre had told her father that she did not want to be burnt. What about the other girls who are being sold for Rs. 30,000 ? What are they saying ?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : Please let him speak. Why are you standing ?

(Interruptions)

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : What I mean to say is that this incident does not confine itself to Rajasthan only. It is a socio-economic problem. It is more a matter of superstition. It is a case of blind belief. In course of time, a wrong belief has been inculcated among people that the woman who dies alongwith her husband will reach heaven on her next life. She will be provided with a big throne there and she will rule over the whole universe. Nobody has seen the heaven and nobody has seen the next life. There is lot of feudal system in the eastern part of the country. When a poor man's 5 to 10 years old son dies, the society forces him to perform the

funeral rites and feed the entire village for three days. He is forced to sell off his land. He bears the burden of loan throughout his life. He goes on repaying the loan amount. How to eradicate such superstitions from the country ? We blindly follow these superstitions and there is no way to get out of them. At the time of constructing a bridge, the contractor says that without human sacrifice the bridge construction work will not be completed. A poor man's child is picked up and thrown into the river. There is no end to such blind beliefs.

The snakes bite us. But our people worship them. They do not go to a doctor for treatment. If anybody goes through the history of Japan, he will come to know that is also used to follow so many superstitions. But the Japanese people rose above the superstitions and came out of them. Then only Japan was able to progress. In China women were asked to put on shoes made of iron. It was only due to superstition. In the revolution that took place in 1950, the Chinese people came out of all these superstitions. Very recently I visited China. I found the country very prosperous. In the British history, there was a time when Churches dominated the people. Blind belief was prevalent in the churches. England progressed only when it cast off its blind beliefs. All of us should set aside all superstitions irrespective of our religious faiths. Now-a-days widow marriage takes place at some places. But it is forbidden at most of the places. Women are being treated as second and third rate citizens. If a female child is born to a family, the father starts cursing himself. In no construction industry or rural area men and women workers are paid equal wages. The plight of widows is very pitiable in eastern parts of the country. People of my constituency hardly earn Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 in a month by spinning cotton on spinning wheels. Female workers are paid half the wages as compared to their male counterparts. They are told that being women they are supposed to get half wages. Is there any law in the country which could bring the males and females at par ? If it is not done, long speeches made in this House will serve no purpose. It is said

that "Yatra naryastu pufyate ramante serve devata". Where women are worshipped, God is present there. There is God and no where a woman is worshipped. Women are being burnt. In dowry death cases either girls are burnt or they are forced to burn themselves. These are entirely socio-economic reasons. In order to eradicate these superstitions, the Central Government should bring forward a comprehensive legislation, un mindful of its effect on any religion. Unless we show courage and give a new dimension to the country women will continue to be exploited in the name of Sati, dowry death and for some other reasons. With the words I conclude.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : The incident of Sati in Rajasthan is a very sorrowful and shameful incident. We condemn this incident. It is a sign of lawlessness and barbarism. It is a matter of regret that while we are heading towards the 21st century, such incidents show that we are going back to the 18th century. It is a good thing that a discussion is being held on Sati in the House today. I belong to Bengal. It was Raja Rammohan Roy who first of all brought-forward a Bill in Bengal during the tenure of Bantinck. It is a matter of great regret that after such a long time, our country has been compelled to think over this matter again.

[English]

What Bengal thinks today India thinks tomorrow.

[Translation]

The Government should, therefore, bring forward a comprehensive Bill in this regard.

If the Rajasthan Government had paid some heed, the incident of Sati in Deorala could have been averted. We have come to know about the speech delivered by Smt. Margaret Alva in the Rajya Sabha in this regard. She also condemned this incident. Anything which is wrong should be condemned. Now a days if a woman commits Sati then some other is burnt for dowry. It is a matter of great sorrow for the country. We will also have to look into the socio-economic aspect about which Shri Rajhans just now expressed this views,

Today women education is most essential in the country. In several cases, women are much ahead of men. They are much ahead in decision making. There are women Members in this House also. But in our country women are supposed to be a burden on the family. They are not given equal rights and equal opportunity in employment. The Prime Minister alone cannot eradicate this problem. It is only by the combined efforts that this can be eradicated. All of us should make joint efforts for their socio-economic development. In this connection I would like to suggest that the entire House should pass a motion that if in future any such incident takes place, the entire House will unanimously oppose it. We have to awaken our countrymen. Raja Rammohan Roy had made such a propaganda. It is a matter of sorrow that a mela is held in Bengal for Sati. The State Government made efforts and issued orders that no such mela should be held. I congratulate the State Government for taking this action.

[English]

It is not a partisan matter.

[Translation]

All of us should unanimously condemn the practice of Sati in this House. All the Sati temples should be banned and closed down and all the rallies held to glorify this practice should be banned. Persons glorifying the Sati Practice should be disqualified from contesting the elections. Glorification of Sati should not be made an election issue.

We think that there is politics of votes in this country. When the people in the opposition are trying to politicise this incident, it will become difficult for us to convince the people at the time of elections, especially, when the Opposition parties will be blaming us. But this incident is not such that they should make political capital out of it. Such evil practices should be rooted out with the cooperation of one and all. Our Prime Minister has promised to bring forward a comprehensive Bill in this regard and I am grateful to the Opposition parties also that they too have condemned this incident. But my submission is that whatever stand we

take, it should be bold and in the common interest. It should not smack of any discrimination.

There are many States in the country which have made a provision for widow pension, but there are some States which do not have such a provision. I am of the view that all the States should have provision for widow-pension. This should be made compulsory by the Centre. The reason is that most of the people in our country are poor and in the event of death of the earning member, the family has to face a lot of problems. Therefore, I would request the Madam Minister that she should make a provision to reserve a certain percentage of Government jobs for those women who become widows at the age of 18 to 35 years on the lines we have made reservations in Government jobs for scheduled caste and scheduled tribes. Besides priority should be given to widows in the matter of sanctioning bank loans, so that they could earn a livelihood by starting a self-employment project. The Government should give it a serious consideration. Otherwise, poor and destitute women in our society will continue to be burnt and tortured sometimes in the name of Sati and sometimes in the name of dowry. We should come forward for their socio-economic development and arrange to give them ration, besides giving speeches.

Although, there are a number of media of mass-contact in our country, such as radio, television, newspaper, etc., yet we should organise seminars and symposia from time to time to create public awareness against such evil practices. A big mass-contact programme should be started through which incidents like Sati should be condemned publically. Such a programme should be used to create awareness among the people. This is how we can condemn various social and religious evil customs prevalent in India. For this, we shall have to formulate publicity and mass-contact programmes because in spite of a number of laws having been enacted in the country, the citizens do not know about them due to the low rate of literacy. They do not know what the Government wants to do for them, because most of them can not read newspapers or listen to radio and

T.V. news. Most of the people in the rural areas are unable to know about the government schemes. For that, we shall have to strengthen our publicity media so that public opinion could be mobilised against the social evils.

In the end, one more submission that I would like to make to our Madam Minister is that she must give serious consideration to the problems of the women. Although a legislation providing "right to equal wages" has been on the Statute book since the days of the former Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi when the year 1975 was observed as "Women Year", but there is a pressing need to observe a year as "right to equal employment opportunities year". I want that you must enact such a legislation so that we could start an organised campaign against Sati, dowry, communal forces, parochial forces and fundamentalists. We shall have to change our attitude because we are to march forward towards the 21st century and not towards 18th century. With these words, I express my gratitude to you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN (Bahraich) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the debate on Sati incident.

Both the sides have condemned the Sati incident that took place in Deorala on 4th September, and this feeling is not confined to this House alone. The entire country has condemned the attempt to revive this evil practice. This fact is clear from the public reaction which we are receiving through the newspapers or through other media.

Sir, a lot has been said about this incident in the House. The newspapers too are full with articles about it. There is not even an iota of doubt that nowhere in the Vedas and other religious scriptures, the evil practice like Sati has any sanction whatsoever. This is a different thing that some fundamentalist who want to revive the evil customs are trying to prove them right. If we go through the scriptures, mention has been made time and again that the widow will perform monthly, half yearly

and yearly Shradha of her husband after his death by taking all types of his property gold, money and clothes etc. The relationship between the wife and the husband continues even after the death of either of them. By leading a calm and principled life till death, the widow can do good to her late husband. She will be committing a suicide if she chooses to burn herself alongwith the deadbody of her husband. Sir, references can be traced in Manusmriti, Brahaspati Smriti, Aprarth and many other scriptures to prove that it has no sanction of Vedas and Shastras. But, I want to go a step further. When Mahatma Gandhi started a movement against untouchability in this country and said that there was nothing in Vedas or scriptures which could support untouchability, he was shown black flags in many cities, and wherever he went, he was greeted with slogans raised against him. Thereafter, a time came when, if I am not wrong, all the four Shankracharyas and an another religious person who was in high esteem, issued a statement saying that Mahatma Gandhi was wrong in so far as he said that it had no religious sanction. Shastras did support untouchability. To this, Mahatma Gandhi replied that he was not prepared to accept that religious scriptures could support such an inhuman system, but if Dharamgurus laid stress that it had the support of religious scriptures, he would refuse to accept such scriptures. Such was the courage of Mahatma Gandhi, such was the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. Our national movement at that time was not merely a political movement to grab power. It was a movement for the development of the country, a movement to root out evil customs, to create scientific temper in the country, to acquire knowledge and to enlarge the human outlook. I am of the view that if we have failed to accomplish all those things, we have not been able to do justice to our national movement and to our national leaders.

Whatever happened in Deorala can be called nothing but a criminal act. No amount of harsh words will suffice to condemn the incident in which an innocent women of 18 years of age was murdered and that is why I do not want to go into details. Whether or not Sati enjoys religious sanction is a secondary thing. The basic thing

is that we are feeling today that there is no law regarding Sati. Not that it is not known to the custodians of law. They are aware of it. But I think an attempt is being made to divert the attention of the people. Merely enacting legislation does not help. The question is whether you have the will to implement the law which you enact or it will confine only to its being passed by the House. Sir, I do not want to name, but I would like to draw your attention to a law passed by this House two years ago. In reply to my questions, the Government has admitted that ever since the new law was enacted, neither any Muslim women has filed any case in a court of law under this law nor has any woman been given any relief by the court. Not only this, no Wakf Board in the country has provided means of livelihood to Muslim women. No Wakf Board has made any provision as was provided in that law. My submission is that merely passing laws does not solve the problem. What is important is whether you have the will to implement that law or not; whether you want to achieve the object for which the law is enacted. The Government want to divert the attention of the people from the atmosphere of condemnation and criticism that is obtaining in the country. You are giving an assurance in the House, which you do not intend to fulfil.

From what we see today, it appears that somewhere an attempt is being made to drive the nation back to the dark era and to negate the very values of our civilization and humanity.

In this context, I want to draw your attention to the new chapter—the fundamental duties—which was added to the Constitution during the Prime Ministership of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. It has been laid down therein that the customs which are against the dignity of the women should be discarded.

I am of the conviction that the malaise does not lie in the Deorala incident. A renowned jurist once said.

[English]

"Society prepares the crime, the criminal commits it."

[Translation]

The society prepares an environment for crime and the criminal commits it. We have committed many mistakes in the past as well.

We have to ponder whether there has been a cardinal mistake on our part due to which reactionary and fundamentalist forces are trying to revive evil practices in the name of religion.

Sir, the fundamentalism has increased in the country. Although this is not relevant, yet I am raising this because it has pained the people of the country. To what extent has it reached ? Earlier, if riots took place during a match between India and Pakistan it was considered to be a shameful thing whereas today riots take place in various cities in our country irrespective of the team which Pakistan or India may be playing against and there is no need for a match between Pakistan and India now to create riots. Is this the progress that we have made in our communal bonds? Has there been a cardinal mistake on our part due to which, instead of improving mutual relations, wiping out fundamentalism and encouraging scientific temper, we have somewhere encouraged fundamentalism and superstition ?

The new law which is going to be enacted, will apply to an incident which may take place after Deorala. We already have a law to deal with incident of Deorala. It was enacted in Bengal and provides for many things. My submission is that when a woman was forced to commit Sati in Deorala, the administration and police did not get the report in time, but the glorification ceremony took place many days later and in spite of a stay order by the Rajasthan High Court glorification went on. This is what pains me and the people of the country. But I am not surprised by this happening because, when a Union Minister can make insinuation against the Supreme Court, the Constitution and the law in his speech in this House, they can go to any extent. If the Centre can allow such people to show disrespect to the Supreme Court, the law and the Constitution, I am not surprised, if Rajasthan High Court ruling has been flouted.

I once again return to the cardinal question. What are the reasons that the 'Chunri Mahotsava' was held despite an order of the High Court and glorification was allowed ? I feel that while on the one hand it is encouraging superstition, on the other, it is basically contempt of court, administrative machinery and the Constitution. I am of the view that when people in such a large number come out to violate the law and order, it cannot be considered as an ordinary violation. It is an indication of the diminishing faith of the people in the political leadership where frustration is growing among the masses and they feel that unless they take to streets with naked swords, their voice will not be heard and that they can protect their customs—whether they are right or wrong—only in this manner. They have found that if they take to streets, raise slogans and create tension in the society only then is their voice heard. This has not happened for the first time but has happened many times. This has happened in this House as well and the people are following the message given by you.

I would like to reiterate that we should try to find out whether we have committed some basic mistake which perhaps has encouraged superstition and fundamentalism or helped in reviving evil practices or whether we have yielded to slogans or agitations and taken decisions accordingly due to which we are facing such a situation in the country today wherein efforts are being made to revive these evil practices.

Now, I would like to point out the extent of degradation of human values and the way the law was violated in the Deorala incident in Rajasthan. What did the Centre do? I am not levelling charges against any particular person. A letter was sent to the Chief Minister of Rajasthan twenty days after the incident and the opening sentence congratulated him for having dealt with the situation firmly, and the Sati incident was condemned thereafter in a few lines. And we know what the situation was like. Lakhs of people gathered in Deorala and thousands with swords took out a procession through the streets of Jaipur. You must have read in the newspaper last week that during a demonstration outside the State Assembly in

Jaipur all types of abuses were hurled at our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I do not know how to express myself, but when the demonstrators with naked swords were abusing late Shrimati Indira Gandhi and others outside the Rajasthan Assembly, I felt as if a crippled Government was at the Centre which was not able to enforce the law or take action against the violators of law.

Mere legal debate or enactment of a law will not serve the purpose. What is primarily required is the will to take action against those who are violating the law. The Government will have to come out in unambiguous terms that it is not compromising with its political philosophy and principles in order to further its political ends. This is a general impression and it will have to be removed. Besides, there has been a general impression in the country during the last two years or so that Government think it more important to remain in power than to ensure respect and dignity to women. Even if all the women, instead of one Roop Kanwar, are consigned to flames, the Government will not feel perturbed. I am not speaking for the rights of women. Two years back all the newspapers published that

[English]

"Equality of sex is a western concept."

[Translation]

When a delegation went to the meet Government against the enactment of a law here, they were told not to talk of equality as

[English]

"equality of sex is a western concept."

[Translation]

This should be clarified.

(Interruptions)

This was published in the newspapers. If you want to know the name I can tell you, but this was published in all the newspapers.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Are you speaking against a Minister? Who was that Minister?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : The hon. Prime Minister had said it and now after two years you are saying.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Equality of sex is accepted in the Constitution. I am not challenging the concept.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV : He is misquoting and has concocted it. Reference to the Prime Minister is not correct. Nothing can be more irresponsible than this. This should be expunged from the record. Sir, he should be asked to name the newspaper in which it has appeared.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I can understand the compulsion of Shrimati Alva. She is constrained to say like this in the House. I shall not repeat what she said when the law was being enacted.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : What is that? You can say whatever you like.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I shall not divulge. That was her compulsion.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : Does not matter.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : When I rise to speak in the House, I am fully aware of my responsibilities. If I am mis-stating or misquoting, a notice for privilege motion should be moved against me here and now. So far as I remember correctly, the Prime Minister had stated this and Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee and Fazia Hassan, a teacher in J.N.U. were also

present there. The Prime Minister had said—

[English]

“equality of sex is a Western Concept”.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

I am glad today that if not the Prime Minister, at least, Shrimati Alva has cared to say that it is not so. I am ready to agree with you.

(Interruptions)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am concluding. He has said it.

(Interruptions)

I feel that whatever happened in Deorala is not a disease in itself but it is a symptom of that disease which has been spreading fast during the past 2-3 years as a result of Governments' yielding to the fundamentalist and Communal elements. Sati and other evil practices raise their ugly head because of this disease.

Through this august House, I would like to appeal to the women of this country that they must assert their power and should not depend on the Government alone for their rights.

I shall conclude my speech with a couplet :

“Tere mathe pe yeh anchal
bahut hi khoole hai lekin,
Tu is anchal se ik parcham
bana leti to achha tha.”

[English]

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHIMALA BALI (Madras South) : Sir, when I stand here to condemn with all the force at my command, the brutal, reprehensible, barbaric and savage act of Sati committed at Deorala, our hearts melt and we really feel ashamed of ourselves being taken back to pre-18th century. Everyone of us here has vehemently condemned, decried and criticised the heinous crime that has been committed to the young girl, Roop Kanwar,

in Deorala village in Rajasthan. I do not understand why Sati is still in vogue when this social evil was abolished way back in 1829 by a British law.

Sir, it is not a question of showing sympathy for the women in our country. But it is a question of protecting and saving the women in the country from the clutches of religious, orthodox and fundamentalist sycophants.

Sir, while we claim in the world that India has a rich cultural heritage of which we are proud, it is one of the oldest cultures and stood the ravages and all the tests of the past centuries. It is most degrading and disgracing to allow such a serious and heinous crime to take place in our own country in the name of Sati. Wherever I went in the other parts of the world, the people of these countries had all praise for our Indian culture. Such is our culture and when we are proud of our culture, it is most debasing and distressing to witness such a murderous crime in Deorala village in Rajasthan.

The Father of our Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, had all his life preached Ahimsa i.e. non-violence. I would like to ask : Are we following and practising non-violence that has been preached by a great Mahatma ? It is a shameful act perpetrated on a very young, beautiful girl, Roop Kanwar, by her greedy and avaricious in-laws. We have to go into the root cause as to why Sati was forced upon this young girl. It is because of the dowry system which entrenched perpetually in the customary Hindu marriages. The Anti-Dowry Act, recently passed by Government, has not made much dent in the society. It is, therefore, necessary that the Government should bring forward, before this House, an amendment to the Anti-Dowry Act, making it compulsory to register with the Authority all the Hindu marriage in whatever manner they are performed. There should be a provision enabling one of the Government officials to supervise each marriage and report to the authorities.

Sir, this barbarous act of crime forced upon this young girl and getting publicity in the news media by the anti-social and

anti-Government elements is only to tarnish the fair name of the greatest democratic country in the world that is India, especially when our country has been taking part, in a very successful manner, in many world forums, headed by our dynamic Prime Minister, like the NAM, SAARC and others.

Sir this lone distardly act of crime was focussed with so much fanfare, perhaps to poison the minds of the people and to lose their faith in the democratically elected Government. I would like to remind our friends here that there are many murderous of young women taking place almost everyday, every moment on one pretext or the other like bride-burning, for not bringing enough dowry etc. Should we not stop and shun this cold-blooded crime being committed by the in-laws, day-in and day-out ? Unless we put an end to the dowry-taking practice, the nasty social evil and prevent bride-burning, any amount of preaching, at the top of the voice, in any forum will not be effective. We have to fight this cancerous evil not only politically, meaning thereby joining hands by all the political parties, but we should also create social awareness among the people. One way to create awareness among the girls and women-folk is to give them compulsory education and provide them jobs.

Sir, I would like here also to add that while we claim in the world that India has its cultural heritage, why should all these things happen ? This barbarous act of crime has been indeed an eye sore not only to all the woman folk but, I think, all the men should be ashamed of such a thing being allowed in such a great country having a great cultural past. Government should take all steps to improve the economic conditions of the women in rural areas. Apart from social reason, economic reason is also one of the main contributing force to make them dependent on the men. *(Interruptions)*

Yes, it includes all men in general. I would say, economic reason is one of the main contributing factors to make them dependent on the men. Government should introduce scheme by which widows can be rehabilitated and by providing jobs they will be able to stand on their own legs and look after their dependent children.

Sir, hostel accommodation should be constructed separately for widows in all important towns and cities. A certain percentage of job in Government offices should be reversed for the widows and a certain percentage of jobs should also be reserved for widows in all the public sector undertakings.

Re-marriage of widowed young women should be encouraged and given all the support in the educational institutions like schools and colleges. Women preferably educated widows, should be given preference in the employment of teachers and other cadre. In the hospitals also, these women should be given preference by giving relaxation in the minimum educational qualifications and also by giving age relaxation.

Sir, I would also like to suggest ways to put an end to all these heinous crimes and the evil practices that have been going on in this country. I think the Government should come forward with a stringent law while they claim of our heritage, while they claim of our glorious colour, I do not understand, why these have been given a political name. I would say that the religious people, religious heads are in a way backing such a heinous crime like this. I would say, religion should, on the contrary, help to put down such barbarous act, such a barbarous crime. I would plead with all the religious heads wherever they are, whichever part of the country they belong to, that they should see to it that such a barbarous act is curbed.

I would like to add that this cold-blooded practice and the anti-social evil should at all cost be prevented. This can only be done if the Government and all the people concerned irrespective of which party they belong to should decry this heinous crime. Unless this is done, there is no way out to curb the practice of Sati. I would also like to request that the Government should bring a comprehensive legislation to put an end to such unsocial practice which is being followed in this country and also to raise the standard of all these religious heads who preach religion and who still want to go back into the past. They don't understand that we are proceeding and marching ahead in

this progressive India in which our dynamic Prime Minister is leading us to. We should put an end to all these dastardly acts and end Sati. This should be unanimously done by one and all.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV (Alwar) :

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the whole country is agitated over the incident that took place on 4th September, 1987 in Deorala, a small village of Rajasthan where Shrimati Roop Kanwar was burnt alive. Having regard to the way the people are agitated over this incident, all hon. Members are of the view that such incidents should be condemned publically. The manner in which the local police and the local administration have shown slackness towards that incident shows that it is the local administration which is to be blamed for it. The hon. Member from Bahraich has said that the people belonging to a particular caste held a rally in Jaipur with naked swords in their hands and delivered some speeches in support of Sati custom. With reference to the political will he has talked about, I would like to ask him as to which leader or person was named in those speeches ? Who is that leader for whom it was said that he was opposed to Sati ? He is Rajiv Gandhi. It was said that he was opposed to *Sati* practice. It is a fact. Therefore, everybody knows that the hon. Member from Bahraich was mistaken when in his speech, he referred to the political will and the leadership and criticised it. I would like to tell him that the first leader who has condemned this incident at political as well as administrative level is Rajiv Gandhi. He has condemned it outrightly. But the hon. Member from that side has delivered this type of speech just to divert the attention from the main issue and his logic is illogical. He has not been able to say in clear terms what he wanted to say in support of his contention. In fact, he has not condemned the custom of *Sati* with the same vehemence with which he has criticized the leadership and the political will. Therefore, those who indulge in double talking are not, in fact, determined to root out this practice. I would like to ask as to which are the political parties and the persons who addressed that rally in Jaipur and who were the Dharamgurus (religious teachers) present in

that rally ? Government must think about taking action against those who issue such statements, whether he is Shankracharya, Janata Party President or leaders of other parties. The Government should try to find out who are these people who want to make political capital out of this incident and what methods they are adopting to serve their political ends. It is not justified for them to say in the House that they have no truck with them. I want to ask whether the President of Rajasthan unit of Janata Party was expelled from the party ? Is he no more in the party ? What action has been taken against him and whether he is bound by the code of conduct or not ? As long as the political parties and the politicians do not set a code of conduct about Sati and accept it, we cannot get rid of this social evil.

At the same time, the press should also adopt a code of conduct in order to root out this evil. No newspaper should glorify the Sati incident in future as some of them have done in this case. What is needed today is that the entire press as well as the political parties should adopt unanimously a code of conduct. If any Member speaks in support of *Sati*, he should not have any right to remain a member or acquire membership of any political party. A provision should be added in the anti-defection law to the effect that a Member who speaks in favour of *Sati* practice shall cease to be a Member of this House. In my view, such an action is needed to be taken.

In addition, I would submit to the hon. Minister that this social evil does not have its origin in the Vedic era or in Pauranik age. Nothing of this kind was heard in Satyug, Treta and Dwapar eras or there is no mention of it in the scriptures or the stories associated with those eras. This evil is the product of modern age. There are other reasons of this social evil too—superstition and conventionalism. Besides, there is an economic reason. We passed the Hindu Marriage Act. You will not be doing full justice to the women unless provision regarding coparcenary in property in the Hindu Succession Act is done away with. Therefore, first of all, you should amend the Hindu Succession Act. This provision of coparcenary in the Hindu Succession

sion Act does not provide right to property to the women under the old Hindu Law.

15.00 hrs.

The women cannot get the residential and agricultural property divided at her own instance. As long as you do not remove these provisions, the woman will not get her legitimate rights after the death of her husband. She will remain entangled in litigation throughout her life. What I want to say is that you must make an express provision in the Hindu Succession Act, 1955 under which the woman should have the right to remarry in the event of death of her husband and at the same time her right to the property of her late husband should also remain intact. Hindu Succession Act should be so amended so as to bring it at par with the Indian Succession Acts, or similar Acts in christianity. By doing this, you can assure that woman that she will enjoy the same dignity and respect during widowhood or in the event of remarrying and that she will not face any difficulty in earning her livelihood.

I would also submit that whatever has been said about providing jobs to such women is perfectly right. The hon. Members who spoke before me have also said that such widows should be given preference in the matter of employment. Rules should be framed making it obligatory for the States as well as the Central Government to give preference to those widows who want to join service. Age bar should be removed in their case. The age limit of 18 to 35 years is not justified. This age limit should be relaxed upto 50 or 55 years and the widows desirous of getting jobs should be assured that they will not face any difficulty from the Government as well as the society in earning a livelihood.

Besides, I would like to submit that the religious heads should be governed by a code of conduct. The Shankracharya has no right to say that committing Sati is a matter of pride for the Hindu Society. Nobody has a right to propagate like this. Those who have weak minds and are afraid of religious heads, should try to understand that preachers of reactionary things have no place in our society. We should condemn

such religious heads and tell them point blank that we do not need their services, blessings and discourses anymore.

As you know, there are economic reasons for this evil but illiteracy also plays an important role. What is the level of women's education in Rajasthan where this Sati incident has occurred? Only 15 to 16 per cent of women are educated in Rajasthan. Unless the women are educated we cannot wipe out conservatism, superstition and this social evil completely. I think that after Kashmir, the lowest percentage of educated women is in Rajasthan. A categorical statement should be made in the House regarding the proposed steps that are being taken to spread education among the women and girls because unless this is done we cannot wipe out conservatism, superstition and this social evil completely.

15.02 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the Chair*]

I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for having raised his voice against this social evil and those committing such heinous crimes besides arousing a new consciousness in the country, which has forced all of us to think afresh that it is our prime responsibility to end such an evil practice. I appreciate the steps taken by the Hon. Prime Minister in this direction. Much has been said against the Rajasthan Government. . . (*Interruptions*) Kindly listen to me. You face the truth. It is true that people belonging to only one community were there. But merely blaming one community is not justified. This tradition does not exist in all the Rajput families and all of them are not in favour of the *Sati* practice. If the Rajasthan Government had used force on the rally wherein lakhs of people had gathered, and resorted to firing, it would have resulted in the death of numerous persons. It was essential to save so many people from being shot dead. So, it is not justified to say that the Rajasthan Government did not take such action (*Interruptions*).

Rajasthan Government is not there to kill people. But at the same time it wants to end this evil practice. It also wants to

avoid direct confrontation or clash with such groups of people. I feel that it is for the first time in the country that Sati Practice Abolition Act has been passed by a State Government viz. Rajasthan Government. It itself illustrates that Rajasthan Government and the Centre are determined to wipe out this social evil of Sati. In the end, I would like to submit that ours is a land of great saints and social reformers like Swami Dayanand, Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Ishwarchand Vidya Sagar who spread a new message among the people and the same was carried forward by Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru and Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I hope that our party, under the stewardship of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, will be able to root out this evil in an effective way. The hon. Minister will bring a stringent law in this House to deal with this evil practice.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Chairman Sir, I have a point of order. The President of the Indian Olympic Association Shri Vidya Charan Shukla has been arrested at 11 Am today. . .

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing to go on record.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, it will take its own course. You give a notice. This is not allowed. Please take your seat.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is not going on record. Mr. Narasimha Rao.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to the Hon'ble Members who participated in the debate. We also thought it necessary for as many Members to participate as possible because a very clear unanimous

opinion has emerged from this debate. It is so unanimous, so categorical, that it needs hardly any explanation, clarification or any reply whatsoever. So, I shall confine myself to a very few pertinent points and I shall be very brief.

During the debate, we have had speeches characterised by certain emotion which is absolutely justified and also certain introspection, again which is very, very necessary, and lastly, a determination which actually gives us the motive force to go ahead. So, the combination of emotion, introspection and determination is something for which I would like to express my special feeling of gratitude to the Members. Most of them—almost all of them—rose above party lines. They were really speaking for the people of India, on behalf of the people of India. Therefore, I would say that the sentiments, the views, the suggestions given here would be the starting point, would be the basis on which Government action would have to be thought of and as the Home Minister has already stated apart from what has been done by the Rajasthan Government, apart from the law that has been passed by the Rajasthan Assembly, we are going to have Central Legislation here. As has been explained already, there are certain provisions of the IPC, which were being invoked in cases of this nature. There have been several of cases but not very many. I think about 16 or 20 cases were of this nature. In other places also, there have been cases of this nature. Some cases, may be 3 or 4, have been convicted in the Allahabad High Court and some other High Courts. In Rajasthan itself, most of the cases ended in acquittal but we have to really go into the details as to why they ended in acquittal or whether the judgements delivered in those cases revealed any weaknesses of the law or weaknesses in the interpretation of the law. That is one part of it. One or two cases ended in conviction. Some cases are still pending. Some incidents could be averted in time. Some other incidents could not be averted. So, it is the mixed picture that we have. But today what the Central Government has decided, in consonance with the spirit of the House, with the spirit of the time, is to consolidate

all this in such a way that there is no loop-hole left whatsoever so far as the law goes. The procedure or aspects and all the other necessary and relevant aspects will have to be considered. Just to mention a few aspects which the Government thinks necessary to consider are, deterrent punishment for glorification of sati, confiscation of funds and property collected or acquired for the purpose of glorification of sati, prevention of construction of temples or other structures for glorification of sati, casting obligations on officials of Government to report about the commission of the offences and prescribing minimum punishment for the offences. Some of these aspects are included in the Rajasthan legislation. The legislation also includes the provision to change the burden of proof on to the accused to show that the accused himself or herself, whosoever it is, has not abetted or assisted in the commission of sati. The moment the facts are known, it will be presumed that they brought about the death of the woman with an intention to make her commit sati. That would be the presumption. They have to prove that it was not so and they did not participate.

Therefore, immediately burden shifts to the other side as has been done in the case of bride burning, dowry and so on. So, the principle is well accepted by the House, by the Parliament of India and that is being invoked here.

Now, the question whether suitable provision could be made in the election law also is going to be considered because this has been suggested by several Members here and there is no reason why any person who is so reactionary, whose thinking is so much against the grain of the Constitution that he glorifies or supports sati should be allowed to get a franchise from the people to come and sit in either House of Parliament. So, on the face of it.

I feel that the Government's first reaction is that we will certainly go into these aspects and if there is really no great impediment, we will certainly bring that amendment. It will come before the House and we will have time to debate it. The proposed law would also cover procedural matters including creation of special courts, shifting of the burden, as I submitted earlier,

and special public prosecutors also could be appointed. When we find that there is a case which cannot be really handled by the ordinary machinery of criminal investigation or prosecution, it should be possible for the Government to think of special machinery. It is only an enabling provision that we are thinking of. It may not be necessary in all cases, because the cases will be few and far between. Let us hope that there will be no case hereafter at all, but if there is any unfortunately, it could be properly taken care of by the normal machinery, but in case it cannot be taken care of for any reason, if we do not think that they will do justice to it, special machinery could be thought of.

There are certain horrendous things which have been brought to my notice yesterday after we had prepared for this debate. I would like to mention them for the first time in this House; in the other House we could not mention because they came to my notice only yesterday.

I am told that Sati is interpreted sometimes and practised sometimes as the burning of a woman, not only with the deceased husband, but with the brother also. This is something which I just cannot imagine. It is just beyond my imagination, beyond anybody's imagination. There have been cases of Sati where the woman had to burn along with her step son. So, it is not just a question of a widow, that is what we have been talking about, the law has been talking about; the word widow would have to be now changed to woman. I find that this is such a ghastly aspect that has recurred in this country here and there, may be very few cases fortunately, but even then we will have to very adequately, very fully cover that contingency also.

Then, there is another aspect. Why is Sati committed? In fact, I am really very unhappy about the word Sati, because the meaning of Sati is virtuous wife. When you say Sati Savitri, Sati Anusuya, Sati so and so, it is not because they burnt themselves with their husbands; they did not. How does 'Sati' suddenly become an act of burning the widow, along with the husband? The word Sati itself has been very badly used, very much misused in a different context. In fact, in South Indian languages,

as far as I know, Sati is just understood as a virtuous married woman. It is so understood in Telugu for instance. This practice of what is called Sati in Rajasthan and perhaps in the North and in English is because of the English language having used it in that context that it is being used like that today. We actually call it *sahgaman* that is, going along with the husband, going means, burning along with the husband, ending her life with the husband. I do not think, in any other language in the South, it is called like that, because it has been accepted according to the etymological meaning of it.

Whatever it is, the point is that if Sati is committed or caused to be committed, in order to get the property of the woman, in order to get whatever she would have got from her husband, if she had been alive, then that is where the real question, the crucial point lies. That is where you have to apply the corrective. And how do we apply the corrective? We disinherit those persons who would have profitted from the Sati. There is a parallel also from Hindu law namely patricide. According to the Hindu law, it is well known that if the son murders his father, he cannot inherit his father's property whether it is self acquired or coparcenary or whatever it is; it is absolutely banned. Hindu law is very clear on that. So, some such provision would have to be made in the new law so that the incentive of making a woman commit sati with the ultimate objective of getting her property, either through the co-parceners or reversioners, as they are called, that incentive is lost, that incentive is scotched in the beginning. Of course, the economic incentive and motivations have been brought out very clearly in the debate. When there is a sati there is a temple; there are people with offerings and lakhs and lakhs are collected and there are people who become millionaires on the death of an innocent woman. Now, this has to be very effectively stopped. That aspect would have to be gone into. It has been gone into by the Rajasthan law but whether that is adequate or not we will have to look into. So, these are the aspects which have come to my notice only yesterday and I would like to share them with the House so that

when the law is made, we can keep track of what has happened.

I would also like to say that this has not been sanctified by any ancient text as many hon. members have said. Now, it is quite possible that we would be really getting into an unnecessary controversy by going into the old texts. I would not do that. I would say that I entirely agree with Prof. Ranga when he said, "Who is Manu? We are Manu here." Dr. Ambedkar has been referred to as the Modern Manu. Now, Manu is a generic name for a law giver. It so happened that the person called Manu was the first law giver. But after Manu came Yagnavalkya, then came Narada and then Jimuthvanna who started the Dayabhaga school in Bengal and what we have been following is the Mitakshara school, not the Manusmariti in its original text. There has been a law in some country which says, 'Eye for Eye and Tooth for tooth.' If we are not following that law, there is no need for us to refer to the Manusmariti, and say there is something wrong in the Manusmariti while even about the Manusmariti there is some controversy. There is a clear opinion that nothing in favour of Sati is said in Manusmariti.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY (Kurnool) :
One clarification, Sir. Manu himself has said :

"Patni Pitaraschaiva Pitarau
Esham Abhave. . ."

that is, in succession, the widow will be the first heir. He himself has said. So, where is the question of widow dying with her husband? Perhaps, it is not correct to say that Manu misinterpreted or said that women must die with the husband.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO : I am on a different point. I do not want to know what Manu said. This is the point. When you talk of Shankracharya saying this, would you talk of some other Acharya saying this? I do not want to become a judge between some Shankracharya and Mr. Ayyapu Reddy. I would say, this is what we want today. We are the Manus of today. This House wants to take that portion

or that version of Manusmariti which is progressive. We do not want to take that interpretation of Manusmariti which is regressive, reactionary. It is as simple as that. This is what the nation wills. This is what the nation's representative body wills today and that is what will be done in the legislation. It is going to come before the House and then naturally we will have a fuller discussion and a more detailed scrutiny of all these matters. I do not think I need add any more. Much has been said about what happened and what did not happen and what were the motives. All those things, and those motives would have to be gone into. For the first time in this country probably in the Central Government, matters connected with women have been receiving greater attention than ever before. That is why most of these things are coming here for discussion. They are coming here for dissent and for debate because there is a separate machinery now. I admit that it is not adequate. In fact, we have been struggling for more facilities, more staff, more availability of persons to take care of such cases whenever they come up, with more legal assistance, etc. All these things are being done only during the last two or three years. Earlier it was a part of 'Social Welfare'. Now, it is being focussed separately and I am not at all surprised that more and more and more cases of this nature are being brought to the notice of this House. In a way, we feel that as a result of there being a special machinery, all these things are coming up. We welcome this. We would like to tackle all these matters at source, wherever they are occurring. The Government would like to be as effective as possible under the circumstances. As has been pointed out again and again by many hon. members, legislation alone is not enough. Government's action alone is not enough. Legislation has its importance, but it could only adorn the Statute Book for all the time without anything happening outside. So, it has to be a combination of certain action on the part of the society as such and on the part of the social reformers. We will have to have a new crop of social reformers today, which perhaps become more or less extinct after those very great reformers. So, it will have to be a

multi-faceted multi-front action along with legislation. And whenever, there is any inadequacy in legislation, we should always be ready to amend it and make it as effective as necessary.

This is all that I would like to submit to this House. I am again thankful to the members for having given very good suggestions and as I said, the combination of emotion, determination and introspection—this is what I feel very grateful for.

RE : DETENTION OF MEMBER

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we will take up the next item . . .

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY (Mahbudnagar) : Sir, we have learnt that an hon. member of this House. . . (Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : No please. You have to give a proper notice. It is not allowed.

(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : The Minister should make a statement.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the intimation come from the hon. Minister. Then it will be announced. I cannot allow it.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : The House has the information that a member has been physically prevented from entering the House and participating in its proceedings.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the information come. Then, we will announce. Mr. Poojary, you may please move your Bill.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : This is a wrong precedent Sir.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN

* Not recorded.

(Bahraich) : You are the custodian of the rights of the members of this House, ...

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Sir, there cannot be a worse tradition than this. You force the Government.

(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT) : There is no information. Once the information comes, the hon. Speaker himself will announce it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : I am coming from there. He has been arrested in the Indian Olympic Association office at 11.00 A.M. How can it be that the Government is not aware of it ? You are trying to evade the issue. The Democracy is being murdered. This is illegal.

(interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : We are bound to give the information to the House. As soon as it is received; it will be announced.

(Interruptions)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : MR. Chairman, after Mr. Shukla's arrest or detention or whatever it is, if that has anything to do with the affairs of the Indian Olympic Association, then Mrs. Alva should be in a position to tell us something as to what has happened.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMAN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : From 11 O'clock in the morning and since this debate is going on, I am here, I do not know what has happened.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : You are sitting in the Chair and, therefore, you are not a Member. Kindly protect our interests. Do not lose sight of the august position that you occupy. You are occupying the Chair. You are not an ordinary Member, where you may have to raise your hand before saying something.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You go and find out.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You go and find out and inform the House.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : How do I know ? He is an MP. He should go and find out.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : I had given information about it an hour ago. Sir, in this very house I have said it. What type of Government is this ? A Member has been arrested and the Government is turning a deaf ear to it.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : They will find it out.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : We would like to know, right now.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : You will have to tell us. Nothing worse than this can happen when the House is in session.

[English]

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I would appeal to the Members that when information comes, we will clarify it to the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Now, it is 3.30 P.M. . . (Interruptions)

It is a gross violation of the Rule.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :
This is a contempt of the House.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : He has been arrested by the Lodhi Estate Police Station.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly sit down. As soon as we get any information, we shall convey it to the House.

(Interruptions)

MR CHAIRMAN : The Minister has listened to what all of you have said. You may please take your seat now.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Sir, I have a point of order. What action have you taken, since I informed you an hour ago ?

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : The Home Minister should come and inform the House. *(Interruptions)*. He has been under detention from 12 O'clock.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Sir, it is already 3 PM now and he was arrested at 11.00 A.M. The Government will have to inform the House.

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Whatever the hon. Members are saying will not go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. CHAIRMAN : The rule says :

"As soon as may be, the Speaker shall, after he has received a communication referred to in rule 229 or 230, read it out in the House . . ."

I have not received any information. As soon as I receive the information, I will inform the House.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : A very wrong, a very bad convention has been set up.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Action will be taken according to rules.

*(Interruptions)**[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Only when I receive it, can I convey it to the House. I have not received it.

*(Interruptions)***

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has said she has not received it. She will find it out.

*(Interruptions)**[Translation]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has heard what the hon. Members have said, she will find it out.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :
The convention is that if any hon. Mem-

ber has himself seen that an hon. Member of the House has been arrested and he informs the House of this, then action has to be taken.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Information should come through proper channel.

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : The law should take its own course.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Information will come as per rules.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : An hon. Member has been locked up without reasons. It is a serious matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We do not know whether he has been arrested for some reasons or without reasons.

AN HON. MEMBER : I am returning after talking to the S.H.O.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Action will be taken only when the information is received.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Information should have come. Why did it not come so far ?

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : Sir, I think you will agree that Members are understandably agitated. It is reported that the arrest, or whatever it is, took place at about 11 O'clock. That means nearly five hours ago. According to the Rules of Procedure, you will kindly see that information of the arrest of a Member has to be conveyed to the Speaker at the earliest possible moment. Five hours ago the arrest has taken place here in Delhi; but nobody on the Government benches says that he knows anything about it.
(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER : Incompetent Government.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You give them time. Let them come in half-an-hour or one hour, and inform the House.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) : Why can't you tell them ?

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : I informed the House one hour before. You must take action.

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : The proceedings of the House have been on for 5 hours is now.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I hope they will find it out.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : You give them half an hour to get the information. Let it be laid before the House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Why don't you act under the rules ? Five hours have passed.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : When information comes, we will definitely inform you about this.

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : It happened in Delhi and you do not have the information ?

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : It is a contempt of the House.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : We cannot take it on the basis of what you are saying.

[Translation]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Do not make excuses. We know this Government does not work. There is nothing particular in it,

[English]

This is a non-functioning Government. We know that they cannot . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please hear. You must also know the rule that when the Chairman stands, you must take your seats. You have given some information, and we shall find it out. The Chair will now find it out. I shall inform the House. What more do you want ? How can I tell you now ?

(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN : Nothing goes on record.

(Interruptions)**

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, when you sit in the Chair, you are the custodian of the rights of the House. You must perform your duties here.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is what I am saying. I will inform the House as soon as I get the information.

(Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Let us adjourn the House.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : I would appeal to the hon. members to . . . (Interruptions)

How can I tell you just now ? We are waiting for the information because it has to come to the Speaker first. (Interruptions)

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS : Let us adjourn the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT : No. We have heard you. You have informed about it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. A. DORA (Hanamkonda) : You will not be allowed to speak.

(Interruptions)

15.41 hours

[MR. SPEAKER in the chair]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Have you been given any information ?

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard you. If you allow me, I will speak. I will try to find out what is happening and then report back to the House.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : How has the police failed to inform you ?

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Acharia Sahib, there is a rule.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, 5 hours have passed. Nothing has been done so far.

MR. SPEAKER : Just listen to me.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : I have a submission to make.

MR. SPEAKER : If necessary, I will listen to your views.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, I shall not speak after you make your observations. Therefore, please listen to me for a moment.

MR. SPEAKER : I have heard.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMED KHAN :

I am just returning from the Police station and Shri Manvendra Ji was also with me. Shri V.C. Shukla was arrested between 11 to 12 hours. Information to this effect has not yet reached here. Attempts were being made to lathi charge the people who were with him. Excesses were being committed on them. Somehow we intervened and saved the situation from taking an ugly turn.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me.

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : I am just returning after meeting him.

(interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I shall take such action to protect your rights as rules permit. According to rules, if any hon. Member is arrested within 24 hours—
(Interruptions).

[English]

SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHN (Cooch Behar) : It is writtenthere : "As soon as possible".

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : Please Let me speak. I have heard you. Now please listen to me.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : It is a clear case of violation of the rules.

[Translation]

You may please refer this case to the committee on privileges. We will give you written notice later. Kindly accept our oral notice at the moment and refer this case to the Committee on Privileges.

MR. SPEAKER : It is not done like this.

[English]

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : It is their moral duty to inform the Speaker. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed,

(Interruptions)**

[Translations]

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me. Whenever any hon. Member is arrested or any hon. Member himself courts arrest, we inform the House. If no information is given to us in this regard, we take disciplinary action and pass on the case to the Committee on Privileges and take action.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Please listen to me. If you do not listen what can I do ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : Sir, you can reprimand. You can refer the case to Privileges Committee. You can do everything.

MR. SPEAKER : I can do. I shall find out and if it is necessary to refer the case to Privileges Committee, I shall initiate action just now,

[English]

and whatever action is necessary, I will take.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a complaint- It is not related to the present issue.

MR. SPEAKER : Now you please resume your seat.

[English]

I will ask for the information. Let us proceed with the business of the House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : You will get information now. Failure to keep you

informed at the earliest possible moment is a gross breach of the rule.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : I informed the House about it one hour back and I said. . .

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Not allowed. I cannot allow.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : It is enough now. You please resume your seat.

15.46 hrs.

SHIPPING DEVELOPMENT FUND COMMITTEE (ABOLITION) AMENDMENT BILL

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : On behalf of Shri B.K. Gadhvi, I beg to move :

“That the Bill to amend the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986, be taken into Consideration.”

The Government of India has taken several positive steps in the past with the primary object of building up a self-reliant merchant fleet, capable of meeting the needs of the country during peace and war. As a result not only there has been significant increase in national tonnage both in the general shipping sector and in the fishing trawler industry but also it has contributed significantly to the emergence of India as an important maritime nation in the developing world. . .

In the past decade the shipping industry has passed through a very difficult period

because of world-wide recession and sharp decline in freight rates. This necessitated the evolving of a new financing mechanism for extending adequate support to the shipping and trawler industries. After a careful review, therefore, Government decided to wind up the Shipping Development Fund Committee and to create a new financing agency which would have wide financial resources and greater flexibility of operations. This decision was given effect to by the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986.

Based on the experience of erstwhile SDFC and the difficulties faced by it in effecting recoveries of dues certain special powers had been granted to the Government through the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986. These special powers include powers to recall of repayment of loans before agreed period, to appoint receiver without intervention of court, to appoint directors and administrators of shipping concerns notwithstanding the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, to recover dues as arrears of land revenue, etc. Such powers were to be exercised by the Government of India itself or through an agent. Section 16 of the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act had enabled Government to delegate such special powers under chapter III of the said Act to a designated person.

This power to delegate, however, does not extend to other provisions of the Act and is confined to Chapter III. This has led to some administrative difficulties since certain functions under the other provisions of the Act have an intimate relationship with the powers and functions under Chapter III of the Act. It has, therefore, been felt that it would be administratively more convenient if all the powers and functions under the Act could be capable of being delegated and could be exercised by the same authority. It is accordingly proposed to carry out an amendment to Section 16 of the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986 so as to enable Government to delegate all powers under the Act to a designated person. The delegation of all or any of the powers and functions by the Central Government to the designated person would be subject

to such conditions, restrictions and limitations as may be specified.

With these words I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Motion Moved :

"That the Bill to amend the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986, be taken into consideration."

Shri Ramaiah.

15.48 hrs.

[SHRI ZAINUL BASHER *in the chair*]

SHRI B.B. RAMAIAH (Eluru) : Mr. Chairman Sir, The Shippin Development Fund Committee (Abolition)g Act was first introduced in 1958 in replacement of the Merchant Shipping Act for the purpose of development of shipping, both merchant shipping and fishing t rawlers. But unfortunately, due to reasons which we do not know, it did not function well. Though they had advanced funds for the public sector to the tune of Rs. 1,058 crores, and for the private sector to the tune of Rs. 745.53 crores, the recoveries are poor and there are a lot of arrears, and ultimately it has been put to loss. If it happens in so many other Corporations which were operating and if they are not properly guided and properly taken care of in all respects, then they may also have to be wound up. According to the guarantee they gave in the last year for this was to have been abolished in 1986 but they would be able to safeguard and get all the people established and give them all the security and operations and give them some opportunities for new jobs.

The idea of putting up a new Corporation is to improve the performance of the shipping and the fishing trawlers. Unfortunately, they were not properly taken care of, How it should be able to operate ? For example, for the Seventh Five Year Plan, they have estimated about five hundred fishing trawlers at the imported foreign exchange cost of Rs. 480 crores and it is supposed to give export of marine products to the tune of Rs. 2,400 crores. So far, they have given licence only to 126 fishing trawlers. Unfortunately, none of

these come into operation. The reason for this was obviously is coming out is that earlier the Corporation used to give about 95 per cent for indigenous manufacturing and for imported ships about 90 per cent of the cost. But the new Corporation which has come into operation has reduced substantially by cutting it to only 80 per cent for indigenous manufacturing and 75 per cent for the imported component. The Debt Equity Ratio which was 6 : 1 earlier has now been reduced to 2.5 : 1. It had become uneconomical for people to come forward and use the facilities of the new system. I do not know whether the new Corporation will give some benefits for the development of shipping or it is going to sink like the earlier one. It has not really given any benefit so far. It has not had the advantages it had promised. They should have taken initiative on coastal shipping. We have a lot of problems in transport of goods and facilities and the surface transport is very expensive. We should have used the coastal shipping along with the development of the ports. If we improve the ports and coastal shipping, probably we can reduce a lot of surface transport cost and operational cost and the real advantage would have come out of it. For example, take Andaman. The tourism is developing very well. If we do not have proper passenger ships, how can we expect this ? They are still using the old condemned ships for this purpose and they are not able to develop it. It all depends on the type of encouragement, the type of operation, the type of mobility—these things really help. But this modification and change of Act will not really be suffice unless they take real, concrete and positive action to develop the shipping. Therefore, I feel that the main thing is that they have to take proper scientific measures to improve the operations either of the merchant shipping or marine or fishing trawlers or passenger facilities which they require for various purposes. If only they take these things into consideration and give proper incentive to them to operate and utilise their resources, it will really help the purpose. Otherwise, changing of Act will not be of any help and it will not serve the purpose,

I hope, the Government will take into consideration these things before they take further action on this.

DR. SUDHIR ROY (Burdwan) : The Bill seeks to amend the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986 so that the Central Government may delegate its powers and functions to a designated person subject to the conditions, requirements and limitations notified by the Central Government.

The Indian shipping industry started developing during the days of our national liberation struggle. Scindia Steam Navigation Company was started in 1919. When we were struggling for our political swaraj, some of our pioneers also started crusading for economic Swaraj. We all know that in those days there was stiff competition from foreign companies and there was discrimination of an alien Government. Still Indian shipping industry developed. And we find that in independent India Indian shipping industry made a considerable increase in the number of ships. Their number was 151 in 1948 and it went upto 741 in 1985. In 1948 gross registered tonnage was 3.15 lakhs and in 1986 it went upto 6.6 million GRT. But we should not be smug because our share is only 1.59 per cent of the world tonnage.

Indian shipping did much business or did flourish from '60s to '80s because most of our foodgrains which we imported were carried by our ships. Not only this, ONGC has also chartered a number of ships. But as has been pointed out by the Minister, there is a world recession and we are also reeling under that recession which started in 1973. As a result of that shipping industry all over the world has been affected. In India we are experiencing the same thing. But meanwhile countries like South Korea and Hongkong have made rapid strides in the development of shipping industry. But we are lagging behind. Why? Because, as has been pointed out by my friend from Telugu Desam, most of the ship owners mismanaged their funds, diverted their funds in other fields and their old and condemned ships sunk in the mid-sea causing loss of seamen's lives. All this had happened because the Govern-

ment was rather soft to the ship-owners who were practically guilty. But now Government has floated a corporation. We hope that now mismanagement of funds will be severely dealt with. There should be proper monitoring. Ship owners, of course, should be helped with liberal funds but it must be seen that they should face competition from foreign companies.

16.00 hrs.

Shipping industry must be modernised. In this connection I would also like to say that coastal Trade has not yet developed, though India has a vast coast line and every one says that cost of water transport is much less than that of surface transport. But because of very strong lobbying in India of the road transport or surface transport, coastal shipping and water transport has not yet developed.

It has been said that it is for the Government to develop fish trawlers, but we find that they play a negligible role in the production of fish.

Finally I want to say that you talk in terms of development of shipping industry; but what is the plight of the sea-men? The Nanda Committee was appointed to recommend certain things. Nanda Committee recommended that 30% of the seamen should be recruited from Calcutta and 70% should be recruited from Bombay. But only 18% we recruit from Calcutta.

I.L.O. said that the sea men should have continuous employment. But we find that after one employment, they remain idle. They remain unemployed for years together and they are often not paid their retirement benefits. If a sea man dies in harness, his near and dear ones are not paid in time. Not only this, we find that Nanda Committee talked in terms of introducing Unemployment Allowance for sea men. We have been told that huge sums have been lying in London Bank. The sums are due to Indian sea men serving in foreign companies but Government is not withdrawing those sums. Had this sum been shifted to our country, then Government could easily build up fund out of which unemployment allowance could be given to sea men.

Already most of the third world countries have withdrawn their deposits from the London bank. We have been further told that even leaders of recognised union of seamen are not invited to participate in the talk with the Director and, therefore, when you talk of development of the shipping industry, you should also look at the miserable plight of the Indian seamen. You cannot develop an industry when lakhs of seamen are in a very poor condition.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavcli-kara): First of all I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the plight of the shipping industry in this country. I think the Government is not paying much attention to this industry and it is one of the neglected industry in this country, whereas there is a very good scope for developing it—both inland and outward. Navigation facilities are available and recently a Corporation was formed—Inland Water Authority. No fruitful effort has been made and no progressive achievement has been made in this line. The shipping industry as such is facing very big crisis. Of course, there are international problems. But Indian problems are peculiar. If Government pays more attention to this and something can be done, it may be revived and a lot of persons can find employment, as well it can be seen that water transportation is made much cheaper than transportation by rail or by road.

My friend pointed out something about seamen. That is also one of the problems which effects my State the most—as most of the seamen working in various ships including foreign ships are originally from Kerala. On the coastal belt of Cochin and Mangalore, they go and work. Unfortunately, they have to go for recruitment to Bombay. They stay there. They have to wait there. Their service conditions are regulated by the Port of Bombay. They are put to a great disadvantage. I have personally received many representations from those people about their poverty conditions, particularly seamen in the country. Therefore, I would earnestly request the hon. Minister to look into the problems of the Seamen and to have a regulated system in this

country. My friend, Shri Sudhir Roy, pointed out about these problems and I emphatically support his views. I would request you to see that real problems of the seamen are solved and wherever seamen are available, you kindly regulate their service conditions and give them the benefits.

About the development of the Inland Water facilities some efforts are being made. One of my friends and my colleague has been appointed as Chairman of this body, and he has been looking after this body. But I don't think that sufficient support is given to him by the Central Government to go ahead with the various proposals made by him to improve the inland water navigation. I know that the Kerala Government has put up certain proposals to link the Northern zone via Malabar-Mangalore to Trivandrum by way of providing inland water transport facilities and use it to the maximum possible ways. The people are now transporting their goods through country-crafts and now if mechanised boats are used more goods can be moved cheaply and more people can find job. In this way, transportation is also made easy.

Another part of this thing is the manufacture of ships. I think the abolition of the development fund may have effect on the ship-yards very seriously. Abolition of this fund in 1986 will go against the interests of the shipyards which manufacture ships. I hope the hon. Minister will give clarifications on the points raised by me because I was told that this would really effect the ship manufacturing industry in the country, like Cochin Shipyard, Vizag Shipyard, Bombay Shipyard, etc. All these shipyards have been affected. They have to pay back some money. Earlier there was fund for them to utilise in the best manner possible. If that has gone, it is a very serious thing because Cochin Shipyard is one of the best Shipyards in Asia. But now it is in doldrum because there is no demand for the production of big ships. The big ships which you have manufactured are not in demand now and there is a demand for small ships but small ships are not available in the country. The infrastructure is not useful for the manufacture of small ships. Therefore,

the technology with which ship building was made is not fit for the manufacture of small ships. If that is so, a re-thinking is necessary.

Now, I come to the amendments to the Bill. I see a peculiar thing in the Bill. There was no explanation given. I was keenly following the hon. Minister when he was introducing the Bill. I would like to know whether he will explain what are the "certain other things" which are necessary. I put that in inverted commas. The Minister mentions "certain other things" became necessary to bring forward in this Bill. At least your officers should have instructed to tell us what are those "certain other things" Sir, Chapter-3 alone was excluded in the previous Amendment. In the provisions of the Chapter 3 alone was attracted by the previous amendment.

16.08 hrs.

[SHRI N. VENKATA RATNAM *in the chair*]

Now, Sir, you want to delegate all the powers of the Government. It is a very bad policy. I oppose that policy. Delegating the powers of an authority to any other person without any restriction will result in anarchy because that person is given the power, the Government's power, the sovereign power which is the power which people have given to you and you are delegating that power to somebody in an unrestrictive manner without telling us. The Parliament is a sovereign body. What are the powers which you are going to delegate. It is mentioned "certain other things" are being delegated. I am still in dark what are these "certain other things" and who are the persons to whom you are going to delegate these powers. I have my doubt whether you are going to sell all these things to private bodies or going to give the authority to people of your choice to do anything without any restriction. This is very bad and the approach of this Government is to privatise, delegate and shirk the Government responsibility which is wrest with the Government to other people. It is a very bad taste. This will tell upon the democracy of the country. I would request that at least enlighten us what are those "certain other things" and

kindly restrain from the delegation of powers of the Government to any other person. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members for having taken part in the debate and also barring one hon. Members others have supported it, and they have asked for certain clarifications also.

Sir, the delegation of the powers have been challenged by the hon. Member, Shri Thampan Thomas. It is not for the first time in this Bill powers have been delegated. When the Bill was brought into effect and it was passed in the Parliament also, in one Chapter the power was delegated and that was Chapter III.

Coming to the details of the delegation which has been asked for by the hon. Member, I may bring to his notice that some of the items of work which are to be delegated are : Payments to shippards at different stages on behalf of the companies; disbursements of sanctioned loans to shipping companies to enable them to meet all the instalments of deferred credit; payment of guarantees given in regard to the deferred payment of foreign shipyard; payment under invocation of guarantees to Indian and foreign banks; payment of insurance and P and I cover for shipping companies wherever warranted in respect of ships mortgaged to us or otherwise; documentation for loans sanctioned; issue of recovery notices; pursuing court cases for recovery of dues; and dealing with litigation abroad when Indian ships are seized etc.

Sir, it is true that Mr. Thampan Thomas was pleased to say that the shipping industry was in crisis and even the financing was not properly monitored. That is why the SDFC was abolished and this Abolition Act came into force and SCICI has been set up in the month of December 1986 and since then the financing is professionalised and it is properly monitored, and I fully agree with the hon. Members when they stated that the financing of this industry should be properly done. Sir, for this purpose these measures have been taken.

For the purpose of the hon. Members' information I can say, even after the forma-

tion in the last few months, the SCICI has already worked out rehabilitation packages with respect to six shipping companies and the same are under consideration. They are also in the process of working out some packages in respect of another six shipping companies which were in difficulties. They have also financed one shipping vessel after due appraisal of the case and have received five applications from different companies covering acquisition of 13 vessels. These are under various stages of processing. Similarly, on the fishing side the SCICI has already sanctioned finance to seven companies covering 13 trawlers. They have also received nine applications from different companies. In addition, a large number of inquiries have been received. Wherever incomplete applications are there, the SCICI is getting in touch with the parties to suitably advise them.

Sir, in addition to that, for the benefit of the hon. Members, I may say that the Government of India have a plan of acquiring 500 trawlers during the 7th Plan period ending 1989-90. The Government propose to reach this target as under :

Number of vessles in operation — 113

Number of vessels under construction — 53

Number of vessels for which Tripartite agreements signed and awaited to be taken up for consideration — 34

Number of vessels for which loan recommended by the Ministry but to be ratified by SCICI — 35

Number of vessels including second-hand vessels expected for letter of intent/letter of permission issued and under 100% BOU general imports — 65

Number of vessels proposed to be added under charter scheme — 200

So, the total is 500.

Sir, the total assistance extended by this new company up to 2-4-1987 was of the order of Rs. 60.76 crores. I do not want to take much of the time of the House. I definitely keep in mind the suggestions of the hon. Members particularly of Mr. Thomas. I am grateful to the hon. Members for the suggestions, particularly for the hon. Member from Andhra Pradesh, Mr. Ramaiah and I will keep in mind all the suggestions given to me.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN : There is no amendment to the Bill. The question is :

“That the Bill to amend the Shipping Development Fund Committee (Abolition) Act, 1986, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill. The question is :

“Clause 2 stand part of the Bill”.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill”.

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Minister may move that the Bill be passed.

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : I beg to move :

“That the Bill be passed.”

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

“That the Bill be passed.”

The motion was adopted.

16.19 hrs.

NATIONAL HOUSING BANK BILL*[English]*

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will go to the next item, namely item No. 8 regarding National Housing Bank Bill.

Shri Janardhana Poojary.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to move :*

"That the Bill to establish a bank to be known as the National Housing Bank to operate as a principal agency to promote housing finance institutions both at local and regional levels and to provide financial and other support to such institutions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration."

Sir, I do not want to take much of the time of the hon. House. What I want to say is that it is a burning problem of the nation, particularly housing. The nation requires today lot of housing not only for the weaker sections and also for middle-class but to the other sections of the society also. When Prime Minister presented the Budget as Finance Minister on 28-2-87, he has stated that a financial institution which will be dealing with refinancing of the housing structure would be set up. In pursuance of that promise, we have come up with the Bill and I do not want to take much of the time of the hon. Members and I will reply in detail at the end of the discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"That the Bill to establish a bank to be known as the National Housing Bank to operate as a principal agency to promote housing finance institutions both at local and regional levels and to provide financial and other support to such institutions and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, be taken into consideration.*"

Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao to speak.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Mr. Chairman, first of all, I congratulate the hon. Minister for bringing out this Bill and for taking up the housing programme in a very big way, the National Housing Bank Bill, 1987. I, on behalf of myself, as well as my Party, welcome this Bill.

In fact, this Bill should have been brought much earlier. I need not emphasise that it is one of the basic needs of all human beings whether rich or poor. A high-level group under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rangarajan looked into this problem of providing shelter to more number of people and has recommended that a National Housing Bank be established as an apex housing financial institution to act as the principal agency for promotion of housing financing institutions at various levels and to coordinate the activities of these institutions. This is the main background for bringing out this Bill. Earlier also, in the year 1976, another Committee set up by the Reserve Bank of India has recommended setting up of such a financial institution. This bank also has to play a role in formulation of policies designed to promote housing in the country such as guidelines for working of all the agencies connected with housing activities.

Before going into the provisions of this Bill, I would like to say a few words about the intensity of the housing problem in our country.

The housing problem is worsening year after year because the population is increasing at a fast rate, more number of people are migrating from the rural areas to the urban areas and less number of houses are being added to the housing stock every year.

The problem is not the same in the urban areas and the rural areas. Whereas in urban areas, the problem is the slums, the congestion and proper settlement, in the rural areas the problem is the absence of essential services and good environmental

*Moved with the recommendations of the President.

conditions. To be frank, you are aware, you are also coming from a village in Andhra Pradesh, in many instances, the houses of the poor landless agricultural labourers of the weaker sections are worse than even cattle-sheds, many times. The Father of our Nation had been emphasising that free India Government's first and major task would be to provide the people with the basic amenities like food, cloth and shelter but unfortunately the Government that has taken the reigns did not show that much interest, that much attention, that much sympathy towards the welfare of the poor people of this country. That is why, unfortunately, even after 40 years of Independence, still 42 per cent of the people are living below the poverty-line, do not have the purchasing capacity to purchase nutritious food. You know, Sir, many a time during the winter season, several hundreds of people in the Northern parts of our country are dying because they do not have the capacity to have adequate cloth to cover themselves from the chill winter.

If we look to the housing problem, the number of houseless people in this country was 12.65 lakhs in 1961 and it has increased to 23.27 lakhs in 1981. The house-less people who do not have anything, any shed at all, are living in the RCC Pipes or beneath the trees in the urban areas. An estimate was made as to what is the actual housing shortage upto 1985. It revealed that the rural areas require 180 lakh dwelling-units and in the urban areas, 56 lakh dwelling-units are required. That means, in the year 1985, a total of 236 lakhs dwelling-units is the housing shortage. That was the estimated figure, In a matter of one year i.e. by 1986, it has increased to 256 million dwelling-units. We take the pucca house or semi-pucca houses in the urban area as houses worthwhile to stay in and similarly in the rural areas pucca houses, semi-pucca houses or serviceable kutchas are considered as worthwhile to stay in. The other houses are not considered as a house at all. So, keeping this definition in view, we have come to this figure. Unfortunately, the expenditure on Housing was not adequate to cater to the needs of the growing population and the rate of increase in urbanisation. If we take into account the investment in Housing as percentage to investment in

economic spending, it has come down from 34 per cent in the First Plan to a mere 8 per cent during the 6th Plan. In respect of the rural housing, the situation is still bad. In fact, it is worse. The funds allocated are too small. It is an irony that even these small amounts were not spent actually. For example, during the Second Five Year Plan, an amount of Rs. 10 crores was allotted for rural housing and out of that only Rs. 3.7 crores was spent. During the Third Plan, an amount of Rs. 12.70 crores was allotted whereas only Rs. 4.22 crores was utilised. During the Fifth Plan, it was Rs. 108 crores which was the allotted amount but the actual expenditure was only Rs. 55 crores. During the Sixth Plan, the amount allotted was Rs. 353 crores, whereas the actual expenditure was Rs. 118 crores. That shows only the apathy, the negligence on the part not only of the Central Government but also of several State Governments which could not utilise these funds fully in providing houses to the rural poor belonging to different weaker sections. Sir, the situation is still worse in some urban areas. When you pass through either Bombay city or even places like Vijaywada, Tenali or Guntur, the situation is quite depressing. Many a time, when we go through the lanes where these slums are located, lot of foul smell comes and there is no sanitation. Even the drinking water taps will be located by the side of drains. Many a time, this drain water also will be going into this drinking water place. That is why, many times, Meningitis and other diseases spread very fast. This is really very disgusting and dreadful.

During the period between 1985-90, an additional 16.2 million units are required, 12.4 million units are required in the rural areas and 3.8 million units will be required in urban areas. By the end of the Seventh Plan, we require 31.2 million dwelling units in rural areas and 94 lakh dwelling units in urban areas.

Sir, our present Seventh Plan has allocated 36 crores of rupees to provide 72 lakh house sites. It has allotted 571 crores to be spent on providing housing assistance to 2.71 million households. Of course, it is not

bad. But what I want to impress upon the Government is that this amount is also very meagre compared to the task before us. We will not be able to help even 10% of the people who have to construct houses during this period, that is, by the end of the Seventh Plan. That is, still 90% of the people will be left and they have to look to the God or to some other agency which can come forward to help them.

One main hurdle which is coming in the way of rapid house building activity is the rigid provisions of Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act. Sir, through you, I draw the attention of the Hon. Minister that in our State of Andhra Pradesh also, this activity, especially in the urban areas, is going at a small's pace because of the provisions of the Urban Land Ceiling Act. You know, the Act was passed in the Parliament which is applicable to our State. Whereas, in the case of Tamil Nadu, after the Central Government has enacted the Urban Land Ceiling and Regulation Act, they studied that Act and they have made their own Act in the Madras Assembly keeping in view certain difficulties which have come to the notice of the Government after the introduction of the Urban Land Ceiling Act at the Centre. They have provided the provisions in such a way that they are quite realistic to the needs of the growing population and they have taken care of each member of family and because of certain flexibility in the Madras Urban Ceiling Act, the house building activity is going at a very fast pace. Actually, there are no litigation cases pending in the court. Unfortunately, in our State—because our State Act has been enacted by the Parliament—it is for the Parliament to bring forth certain amendments keeping in view the practical problems that have come up during the implementation of this Act and the Government should come up with certain amendments to bring certain changes on the lines of Tamil Nadu Act so that stornng push is given to the house building activity. Ultimately, when the private sector is also involved and private people are also encouraged to take up in a very big way this housing, then only this problem can be solved. The Government on its own, will not be in a position to solve this housing problem.

Sir, especially when we see poor people in our villages really it is a matter of pride for them when they see that our State Government has taken up construction of 1,40,000 pucca houses every year for poor people, the landless poor people the agricultural labour belonging to Harijans, Girijans, and backward classes and other weaker sections in our State. It is a very beautiful sight to see those poor Harijan people who were having nothing earlier to claim that it is his own. Now he is having a pucca and RCC roofed house which he can with all pride pass on to his children. Earlier it was not the case. Also, now he will have no grouse or jealousy which he was entertaining earlier over the landlord or some other big men who were having good houses, because he also is having that basic amenity of a pucca house now. The situation is a little different now.

Not only in our State, but everywhere else also if the poor person is provided with a house, his attitude towards the society around him would definitely change. I hope the Government will provide all necessary funds to take up the housing in a very big way.

Apart from solving the housing problem of the poor people, this is one sector which generates a lot of employment. Besides the canal digging and road construction activities, housing is one such sector where nearly 3000 to 4000 people can be employed for one crore of rupees per year. This is having a very good employment potential. So, the Government should give its highest priority for this sector.

Organisations like LIC are doing excellent work in this field and we should appreciate it. I request the Hon. Minister who is also in charge of the Finance Ministry in his capacity as the Minister of State for Finance to see that the LIC gives loans to more number of the policy holders not only in such towns as are till now under its operation but also extend it to smaller towns. Because when you give loans through the LIC, definitely the recovery will be 100% safeguarded as you are giving loans to the policy holders who are also paying their instalments towards their LIC policies,

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : That is being done even now.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Please increase it manifold to the smaller towns and big villages also.

Through the LIC if a loan for construction of house is given under equitable mortgage system, it eliminates the burden of high stamp duty and registration charges also. This flexibility and relaxation should be there and this should be incorporated in the guidelines that are being followed by the LIC towards the issue of loans to the policy holders.

Apart from the Government organisations like HUDCO or LIC, all the State Governments should also treat housing as the highest priority sector. Our State Government is planning to construct 10 lakh houses to the poor people by 1990. Earlier the scheme was costing Rs. 6,000 and the poor man had to deposit Rs. 311 and the rest was being given by the Government. Because of the escalation in the cost of construction materials like bricks, cement, steel, etc. the cost has now gone upto nearly Rs. 8000 and even now the poorman is depositing only Rs. 311 and the rest is being given by the Government. My submission to the hon. Minister is kindly to see that the amount to be spent on a single house should be as minimum as possible. Because you have to serve more and more number of people who are waiting to get a pucca house.

Sometime back the great genius from South India Shri G.D. Naidu had prepared a design and offered to the Government his services. But unfortunately, I don't know why, the Government could not come forward and encourage him.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : He did it 40 year ago.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Even later also he demonstrated at Delhi. The past is past; at least now the Government should take up in all sincerity and see that the designs are made available where local materials like bricks, *surky*, the lime mortar can be used. For constructing even a small house in a remote village if

we have to use only cement and steel . . . We are spending our scarce resources and small buildings do not require steel and cement. The buildings constructed earlier with lime and mortar have withstood the vagaries of nature for many many years and some of the arch bridges with bricks have withstood even 20-30 tonnes of load. So Government should encourage construction of houses with as little budget as possible.

As far as slum clearance is concerned really fantastic work was done in Madras city. As far as Delhi is concerned Government is spending and allocating any amount of money for housing in Delhi proper but excluding Delhi when we see other cities Madras has done commendable work for slum clearance and at low cost. I request the Government to see that in all other urban cities this slum clearance programme is taken up in a big way.

I would like to caution that in our State in 1976 the State Government had taken nearly Rs. 10 crores of loan from LIC for construction of houses. For reasons best know to them they have decided not to collect the money. Government has paid the money to LIC but this has created a wrong precedent. Now the whole atmosphere is vitiated. Those poor people who are taking these houses they think they do not have to pay the loan amount at a later date because you have written off at a previous date and this is not only in regard to housing but also in case of several other loans under IRDP, Self employment scheme etc. It has created a bad atmosphere and people think they need not pay back the loan amount. It is not a healthy sign. They should repay the amount so that people who have not been helped could be helped at a later date. Assistance should be given and there may be a subsidy component but do not encourage free housing.

Housing should be treated as an Industry. You must extend all facilities and incentives which you are now extending to the setting up of an industry. If the Government extends all facilities for housing activity then in a short time this problem could be solved.

My request to the Government is that you are setting up many head offices of many organisations either at Delhi or Bombay. Hyderabad is located centrally. Why don't you set-up headquarters of National Housing Bank at Hyderabad which is located centrally? Here you have provided two directors from amongst officials of the State government. My suggestion is that you kindly make it six so that you can appoint government officials from each region and thus get better information from all over the country during the meetings. Regarding appointment of these directors from the State you should consult the State Government.

Once again I welcome this Bill and I request the Government to provide more funds and see that housing problem is solved at least in the near future.

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Year of 1987 has been declared as "The Year of Home for the Homeless", throughout the world. While presenting the budget for this year, the Prime Minister had said that the Government would take special measures regarding housing and this Bill is a step in that direction.

I would like to make two or three points regarding this Bill. There is no need to speak much about it, because there cannot be a better Bill than this. In the objectives, you have stated on Page 24—

[English]

"2. A high level group which looked into the problem, recommended that a National Housing Bank be established as an apex housing financial institution to function as the principal agency for the promotion of housing finance institutions at various levels, to co-ordinate the activities of these institutions, to promote mobilisation of resources for housing and to extend financial support to the housing finance institutions"

[Translation]

You have further stated,

[English]

3. In addition, the National Housing Bank will also play a role in the formulation of policies designed to promote housing in the country and provide guide-lines for the working of all the agencies connected with housing."

[Translation]

Everything has been covered in it. But I would like to tell you one thing that it has been the experience that the financing done by the apex bodies of State level is simply a peripheral financing and the common man does not get the benefit. I would like to give one concrete example. The work now entrusted to the National Housing Bank was being done earlier by Reserve Bank. In the present case also, funds are being taken from the Reserve Bank. In the first instant, Rs. 100 crores would be taken which can go upto Rs. 500 crores later on. From my personal knowledge, I know about certain States. Reserve Bank used to provide loan to Housing Co-operatives for providing housing finance and there was a lot of bungling. When Housing Co-operative sanctioned loan to its members, it was openly said by the Housing Co-operative, 'a sum of Rs. 1 lakh will be given to you for the construction of a house, but you will have to give us Rs. 2500 out of that amount'. This is demanded openly. There is no secret. This is going on even today. In addition, subordinate officers also used to take their share from the sanctioned amount. After all deductions the concerned individual used to get Rs. 50,000 instead of Rs. 1,00,000. The person used to think that after all, he has got some amount, otherwise he would not have got even that much amount. Difficulty was faced at the time of recovery of amount. Reserve Bank used to find it very difficult to recover the money from the Co-operative Societies, but the loanee had to pay the loan amount at all cost. The Co-operative societies used to exploit the loanees. The functions of the Housing Bank have been mentioned at page 6, item 14 :—

[English]

"Subject to the provisions of this Act, the National Housing Bank may

transact all or any of the following kinds of business, namely :—

- (a) promoting, establishing, supporting or aiding in the promotion, establishment and support of Housing finance institutions ;
- (b) making of loans and advances or rendering any other form of financial assistance whatsoever to housing finance institutions and scheduled banks ;

[Translation]

Then on Page (7) a very good thing has been mentioned—

[English]

- (g) undertaking research and surveys on construction techniques and other studies relating to or connected with shelter, housing and human settlement.
- (h) formulating one more schemes, for the purpose of mobilisation of resources and extension of credit for housing.
- (i) formulating one or more schemes for the economically weaker sections of society which may be subsidised by the Central Government or any State Government or any other source.

[Translation]

What I want to say is very simple. You would provide finances to other institution. It has been mentioned in it that the records of that institution would be examined periodically and efforts would be made that there is no misappropriation. Such things would not help. You will have to involve yourself directly. National Housing Bank should open its own Branches and provide finances. Only then would the purpose be served. L.I.C. in our own country has been successful in this field. The persons who got loans from L.I.C. for the construction of their houses are very happy today, but the persons who took loans from other institutions for construction of their houses are very unhappy. When L.I.C.

can succeed in this field, why cannot National Housing Bank ? I would like to submit that instead of conducting research this bank should undertake housing activity directly. This Bank should open its Branch in every State, which should take up housing activity in its area. You know what the situation is today. The middle class is crushed very badly. The Ansals, D.L.F. and such other companies set very attractive terms and assure that flats would be financed and loan at 5 or 10 per cent interest would be provided and land would also be made available. The persons belonging to middle class become the victims. They think that they would draw money from their provident fund and other sources and in this way they would be able to own their flat with an investment of Rs. 1,00,000 or Rs. 1,25,000, but after two year these companies send a notice that construction cost has gone up considerably and therefore, the intending purchaser would have to pay Rs. 1,60,000 instead of Rs. 1,00,000. How can a person who had collected Rs. 1,00,000 with great effort manage an additional amount of Rs. 60,000 ? The company then says that the customer had defaulted and had not paid his instalment in time and had paid only Rs. 30,000 instead of Rs. 80,000. They very cleverly put a clause in the agreement that if the required amount is not paid in time, the entire amount would be forfeited. D.D.A. also indulges in such things which I would explain later on. You can very well imagine as to how a middle class person having a fixed income would be able to manage such an amount. In such a situation, the company tells that person that as his money is being forfeited, he should transfer his flat to A, B, C, D or any person. The company would recover Rs. 30,000 from the transferee and would pay Rs. 10,000 to the promoting customer and in this way the person loses Rs. 20,000 unnecessarily. Such a racket is going on and the Government is also aware of it. I would like to say that middle class people are being exploited in this manner and we are watching it helplessly.

Similar racket is also going on in D.D.A. It had made an announcement to allot flats on instalments, but perhaps such an allotment has been stopped now,

If D.D.A. makes mistake, it is not to be questioned, but if any individual makes any default in paying one or two instalments, his entire money is forfeited. If not entire money, substantial part of his money is forfeited and he cannot make any appeal. He cannot knock the doors of the Court. The extent to which corruption is prevalent in D.D.A. it is not prevalent in any other organisation of the country. I am saying this with my personal knowledge and I can give proof also to the hon. Minister.

[English]

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Mr. Poojary, you have to take notice of it.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : I throw a challenge; I can prove it right in the House.

[Translation]

When a person of middle class or a salaried class has some dealing with housing finances, the Government will not be a silent spectator. There is a provision in this Bill that this Bank would provide finance to the financial institutions. I want that this Bank should take over the construction activity itself whether in urban areas or in rural areas because the people still have confidence in the Central Government corporations. People still have a feeling that the Ansals, D.L.F. and the skipper can do a good work. I would, therefore, like to request that the housing activity, whether it is in urban area or elsewhere should be taken over by this Bank. It might not be possible to take up construction work in rural areas. Today morning, a question was asked during the question hour. A reply was given to it which is an eye-opener. The loans which were sanctioned were not drawn by the States. Why was the amount of loan not drawn? There is some connivance in it. Officers submit a note to the Minister that we should not involve ourselves in any controversy. Houses for weaker section may be constructed and they should pass their time and loan from HUDCO should not be sanctioned. There are many States which have not taken loan from HUDCO.

You should go to the countryside and see for yourself at to what is the condition in the villages. Floods have caused havoc in entire North Bihar, Assam and West Bengal. 90 per cent of mud houses in North have been damaged. I lived there for one and a half months during the rainy season. It was raining and there was water all around. Where should the people go for shelter? All the houses were destroyed as these houses were mud houses and alongwith the houses their clothes, utensils and all other belongings were also destroyed and within no time, the people turned beggars. That person can not get any loan for the reconstructions of his hut. The Government asks that man to enrol himself as a member of the Co-operative and then the Government would provide funds to the Co-operative which would provide loan to the individual members. But the Co-operative Societies ask the members to deposit 25 per cent of loan amount with them and only then the societies would provide loan to the member. It is an open thing and there is nothing secret in it. Such an injustice is being done and we are silent spectator to it. We want the welfare of the poor. If we want to make our country a welfare State, we must try to understand the problems of the poor. There are still such methods in our country, which if adopted, may lead to a low cost housing in the real sense. When a house is constructed for the weaker section with a cost of Rs. 6,000 or Rs. 10,000 the contractor wants his share in it. The B.D.O. want his share and the engineer seeks his share. The poor for whom the house is constructed says that his share would be sky only. The poor man has to repay Rs. 6,000 or Rs. 10,000 but these people have pocketed their shares. We still have such building material in the country with which low cost house scan be constructed. As you have mentioned that research would be undertaken for the construction of such houses. Just now our friend had said that lime-surkhi was used for the construction of houses. In olden days, even palaces were built with lime *surkhi*, and there is no shortage of it in the country.

17.00 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

It is not necessary that it should be constructed with cement, or covered with a concrete roof but there should be something to live in. Northern Bihar, Bengal or Assam are inundated every year. You can erect strong structures there and give tin roofs to them so that they may have something to shelter in. The damage caused every year due to floods is beyond imagination. I would say that if we do not take the housing projects seriously, the poor will go on becoming poorer and the rich, richer and we will remain helpless spectators. It is time that the Government should put its foot down. If some housing construction company announces that it will provide a flat for Rs. One lakh, then the Government should ensure that it provides the flat for that amount, be it in one year or two years and will not let the company escalate the prices. There is fantastic profit in this business. Agricultural land is purchased on throw-away prices and after dividing the same into small plots, exorbitant prices are charged for these plots. Alternatively, flats are constructed on these plots and fabulous prices are charged for them. No one's attention has gone to this aspect and even if attention has gone, a stoic silence has been maintained. A new class is emerging which is exploiting the middle class fully. I would like to say that the activities of this bank should be such that these should directly be connected to middle class housing construction. We should not consider our duty done by giving loans to the housing finance institutions; we should look into their accounts also. You should think seriously as to how we can lessen the influence of touts who exploit the people so that the low priced flats may be provided to the weaker sections of the society, the poor, the people of the middle classes and of the fixed salary groups in real sense.

[English]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara): Sir, I take this opportunity to congratulate the Hon. Minister for bringing this Bill. This is a one step forward in making some finance available for the construction of houses. But, Sir the gravity

of the problem cannot be solved by merely giving some financial help. The problem is of much bigger magnitude. Recently, an article in one of the leading Weeklies of India has enumerated the problem of the shelterless in this country, especially, in the urban areas. In Bombay, it is said that more than 36% of the population is without shelter. They live in the slum areas or in the streets. In West Bengal alone about 42% of the population of the Calcutta city is living in streets. The survey which has been conducted shows that every new city which is coming up has got slum dwellers or the people who do not have any shelter to the extent of several lakhs. So, taking it from this angle, the Bill which you are bringing may not be of much use. Being the Finance Minister you should give the greatest emphasis to it. At the same time the Government should also see as to how to solve this problem. Having a house is a fundamental right and it has been guaranteed in the Constitution also. So, this is a fundamental right and it is accepted by the United Nations. It is to be seen that how the Government is going to tackle this problem. This problem is to be discussed and solution will have to be found out in a time bound committed programme.

I am not at all in agreement with the previous speaker from Telugu Dasam who said this should be considered as an industry. I am against it and I cannot agree with that point of view. My submission is, being a socialist country and having enunciated the principals of socialism, giving shelter to the citizen is the duty of the Government. It is the citizen's fundamental right. As a human right, it has to be provided by the Government, by us the society, to the individual who requires shelter. Therefore, if it is considered as an industry, as Mr. Rajhans has just now pointed out, it will only result in trading by certain people for their profit. Actually, it is already happening. People are already trading with this fundamental right of the citizens. So, when you are making regulations, this is the time for you to plug all the loopholes so as to prevent the misuse of the money which is going to be given by this financial institution for the purpose of construction of houses. Sufficient safeguards have to be made in this respect. Otherwise, a busi-

ness man who runs a business in Connaught Place can avail of funds from this National Bank, construct a few houses somewhere, rent them out to people who are in need of shelter and thereby amass a lot of wealth along with the business that he runs in Connaught Place. It is very unfortunate because Government is bound by the Constitution to provide shelter to those people who need it. By taking Government's money itself, certain people are trading with the needy citizens' fundamental right for shelter. I would like to know how you are going to prevent such practices. What are the guarantees that you are going to give to the poor citizens who are not having houses? How can you assure them that they will get priority? Have you ever inquired into the affairs of the Co-operative Societies which are flourishing in Bombay or the co-operative housing societies which are coming up in Delhi? How many original or genuine owners are occupying the houses? A majority of them are *benami* dealers. A majority are earning rent as a way of profit.

Therefore, when it is a matter of fundamental right and when it is the duty of the Government to provide houses, private individuals should not be given the right to make a trade of that right and make a profit out of it. If you had made provisions in the Bill to that effect, I would have welcomed it all the more. Only those persons who have no houses should be entitled to get loans for the purpose of constructing a house from this National Bank. That should be the first qualification for acquiring a loan from this bank. My friend has stated that this should be considered an industry. I am totally opposed to that view, because it will be misused. My submission is that it is the duty of the Government to see that shelter is provided to everybody. But, being a mixed society, we can provide assistance by providing money to certain extent. At the present juncture we can only provide money to assist people to acquire shelter. Otherwise I would have advocated that it is the duty of the Government to see that houses are provided to each and every person in the country. But it is not possible in the present conditions and it can only be a utopia or a dream.

At the same time, I cannot agree with the suggestion that it should be considered as an industry and that some people should make money out of it. It will only open the door for exploitation. Therefore, my submission on this point is that there should be proper regulations as far as financing by the National Bank is concerned. And the first and foremost condition should be that only that person who has no house of his own alone can avail of the loan from this Bank. There should also be a provision for repayment of the loan in easy instalments.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Such a person should have the priority.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Yes. Trading should not be allowed. When it is the duty of the Government to provide shelter, private persons should not be allowed to make a business out of it.

Here I would like to mention about certain experiments made by the State Governments in this regard. About a decade back, in Kerala we had a scheme called 'one lakh houses by Panchayat'. We incorporated the association of the local bodies. That was the reason why we could make it a success. That was the first time in our country, about ten or fifteen years back, when we constructed houses in Kerala taking contributions from the people and provided houses to the homeless. It was the first stage of 'one lakh houses programme by the Panchayat'. So what we did was, we associated the local bodies—the elected bodies of the people—to construct houses for the people. Panchayat as a local body—as a grassroot level organisation—can identify the people who are in need of all these things. We know that we are not having sufficient number of houses. So, we can construct houses and give to the people who come under the category of Low Income Group.

Then comes the other system. The hon. Minister might be aware of it. We have got Middle Income Groups loan system, Housing Co-operatives, Housing Boards which are run by the State machinery. They are providing houses and all that. But still, it remains as the biggest problem.

Here you will have to pay more attention and see to it that the houses are provided to the people. The Government should take it as their responsibility in providing house to the people. This is one thing which I would like to suggest.

Another thing is about the disparity in building houses. When we see some buildings, we ask ourselves as to where are we? Are we in Wonderland? We are living in *Bungalows*, as the old Vikramaditian story says. We are living in palatious houses. How decorated it is? Thousands of rupees are being spent for the Carpets. Thousands of rupees are spent for the furniture. Crores and crores of rupees are spent for the construction of these buildings, and also mansions are being built up by using this money. This is the approach of our people. How can we change it? So, when people construct five storeyed or six storeyed buildings for five or six people to live in, they should be surcharged. Otherwise, they should not be permitted to construct all these buildings. They are also constructing buildings as a sort of monument for their future generation. That should not be allowed at the cost of the society. So every citizen of the country is entitled for his house. We should build up an ethos wherein all the people living in this country may have proper shelter to live in.

Therefore, I would say, your Bill does not say about the qualification required for acquiring loans. If a person who is influential with the Board of Directors with the bank authorities, who is managing the affairs of the bank, he can construct the house by taking the maximum amount of money. Still the problem of houses for poor people, remains as it is.

I have seen in one of the richest countries of the world, which stands at number two position in the per capita income, where top officials live in two roomed houses—small houses. They construct small—small rooms, wherein people are living. In Japan also, it is like that. In the capitalist countries, they have got different ethos. Whereas in our place—I have experienced it in my State—the people who go abroad, i.e. to Persian gulf countries, they make a lot of money with sheer hardwork, but they

put all their earnings in building big *Bungalows*. They spend their money in the cement and other things. We have to change this ethos now. We have to re-evaluate the culture, so that those people who construct big buildings should be condemned, rather than respected. If our people cultivate such ethos, naturally the people will not go for it.

Therefore, I would appreciate that you have started this in the present Bill, but it should contain the viewpoints for which we have vowed. It is the duty of the Government to see that shelter to everyone is given. It should never be like a business or trade. Whereas, it should be the aim to provide houses for all people who are not having houses. They should be given the highest priority. If you make such regulations, then you can make an improvement. Thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak.

17.12 hrs.

RE-DETENTION OF MEMBER—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members. I want to inform the House that it has been ascertained from the police authorities that no arrest or detention of hon. Member of Parliament Shri V.C. Shukla took place today, i.e. 16th November, 1987.

(Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Where is he now?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nowhere it is mentioned that he has been arrested.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : There is provision which is known as surveillance. I would like to know whether he is under surveillance? The people have got many methods. They keep a person in surveillance. I was kept in surveillance during trade union movement.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is the information I have got. (Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : I would like to know whether he is on surveillance.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please take your seats. We had asked for information. What we got is this information. (Interruptions)

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : We have seen.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If you have any evidence, you can write to the Speaker.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : He has seen it. We would like to refer to your assurance that it would be intimidated. Now the Government says that he is not arrested, or that he is not under custody. We would like to know what happened.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If the Members have any evidence, they can produce it to the Speaker. That is all I can say. Whatever information we have got from the Government, I have passed on to the House. That is all.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : It is not a correct information.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : How can you say that ?

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He saw with his own eyes. . . (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If there is no information, what can I do ? We have already ascertained from the Government. They are saying 'No'. (Interruptions) The Minister has given it in writing. If at all there is anything else, let him take the responsibility. The Minister who is responsible for that, has given it.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : May I know what he has said ?

AN HON. MEMBER : He was arrested at 11 o'clock in the morning.

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Has he said that he is not under custody, or that he has not been arrested ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has not been arrested. What I said is all that I

have got : not arrested, not in detention. (Interruptions)

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankeura) : Why was he taken forcibly to the police station, by the police ? (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Why are you saying so ? Who told you ?

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : It was narrated here by people who saw it.

MR. DEPUTY SBEAKER : Have you seen it, Mr. Thomas ? I have told you something. You have to believe it.

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : He saw it.

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura) : I have myself seen. The House is being misled openly. He was arrested there forcibly.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : He might have gone there to meet the S.H.O.

(Interruptions)**

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Not allowed; that is all. No further discussion on this. Now Mr. Shantaram Naik.

(Interruptions)**

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I do not know who is doing what. Why are you bothered ? That is the information we are passing on. What the hon. Member says cannot be passed on to the House, whoever may have got it.

Now Mr. Shantaram Naik. We are now discussing National Housing Bank Bill. Don't speak on other things. If you do not want to speak, I will call Mr. A.C. Das. Now Mr. Das.

NATIONAL HOUSING BANK BILL— Contd.

[Translation]

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jaipur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have to submit a few points on the Bill presented here. It has been stated in the Bill that housing finance institutions and private builders will be promoted, established and supported. In this connection, I would like to say that it has been said in our Constitution that ours is a Socialist Republic. On the one hand, we have not been able to provide one house to each family and on the other, there are families who have forty to fifty houses. Why have you allowed such a system to prevail and why a housing policy has not so far been finalised? When I had raised a question in this House, I was told that the housing policy has not been formulated, but it is going to be finalised. I am not arguing over this issue. I had asked as to what the Government is going to do? Whether it will provide at least one house to each family and will take over the extra houses from those who have more than one house? But I got a reply from the Secretariat that as the national policy is being formulated, my question will not be admitted. This is the position. We have been observing that housing cooperative societies have been constructing houses. Like DDA, there are agencies in the cities. People get the houses constructed by taking loans from LIC. There are builders who construct houses with bank loans. Day before yesterday, while travelling in train, one of my friends from CPI(M) told me that the banks have provided loans of Rs. 18 thousand crores. How far it is correct I do not know. Since ours is a vast country, it may possibly be true. I want to know that when you are giving so much loan from the banks, have you constructed a single house for the rural poor? You have constructed all the houses in the cities. You do not have any compassion for the poor. Why have you not constructed houses for the rural poor till date? You construct houses in urban areas and give plots, subsidy and loans to those who have money. What is this 'tamasha'? You have formulated Indira Aawas Yojana and under that scheme work has been done in our area also. Earlier you were giving Rs. 6,500,

but now you are providing Rs. 10,500, Can a house be constructed with this money for a family to live in? Have you given them land for this purpose? As such, there are certain shortcomings in Indira Aawas Yojana. You should pay attention towards them.

[English]

What are we doing? Why is it happening?

[Translation]

It is happening because we are not adopting socialistic pattern; we are following a capitalistic system because of which we are being exploited. What have you done for the poor? You have set up urban societies. Where do they construct houses? That is why this Bill benefits only the big people, and property dealers. Even if they construct the houses, it is alright. If they construct the houses in a systematic way, then this Bill will be helpful. I believe in the socialist society, but you people do not do any work and you are paving the way for exploitation. In spite of all this, I am urging that you should work properly and the funds which you are providing should be given for such villages where Adivases and Harijans live so that they too may be able to have their own houses.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before bringing this Bill the Government had announced several times that it will place before the people a new housing policy. I fail to understand as to why the Government has not brought before the House the new housing policy whereas the Bill has been brought here. Before bringing forward this Bill, the Government should have placed before the House and the people of the country the new housing policy. In the light of that policy the Bill could have been discussed in depth. But the Government did not follow this course. I do not know what the Government is upto and what housing policy it proposes to adopt. We are all in the dark and expressing our views on this Bill while being in the dark.

Before me several of the hon. Members have apprised the House of the seriousness of the existing housing problem and I know

that the hon. Members of the ruling party will say that the Government is aware of the problem and it is being solved and progress has been made in this regard, but I think that the number of houses damaged due to floods and rains every year is more than the number of houses constructed for the poor. Because of this situation, the problem is becoming all the more serious in spite of the fact that the Government constructs new houses every year. This problem has assumed alarming proportions now and we will have to give high priority to it.

Several housing schemes are under way in the country at present. In the States also houses are being constructed for low income groups, middle income groups, high income groups and the poorer sections of the society and the housing corporations are engaged in this job. But our experience is that through these corporations, those people are getting houses who already own houses and are well-to-do. These people let out their houses which bring handsome income to them. You can observe this phenomenon in Delhi or at any place. Everywhere the situation is the same. The houses which have been constructed so far under different schemes have been allotted to such people as have money and other resources or to those who already have houses. I am of the view that the Government is aware of all these things. In Delhi this type of bungling is being indulged in openly. Be he an officer of the Government, a public servant or people's representative, everyone lets out his house and earns a lot.

The Government under this Bill has decided to establish a housing bank. If this process continues, and there seems to be every possibility of its continuing, you will not be able to achieve the object of this Bill. The reason is that you are not bothering to know as to who needs the house first of all. A person who has neither land nor house needs the house first of all.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You can continue next time. Now we shall take up 'Half-an-hour discussion.'

17.30 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

FIVE STAR HOTELS

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir, I am raising in this half-an-hour discussion on the unstarred question No. 356 dated 9.11.87. The basic objective behind raising this question is the present policy or any decision or any trend towards Five Star Hotels that we are having in this country. With this objective, I had asked the question under reference, namely 'whether his Ministry have evolved a policy with respect to the opening of new Five Star Hotels in the country'. Sir, unfortunately, whether there exists a policy or not, even this answer has not been given. The question is that—I cannot force an answer—whether there exists a policy or not, I think in all humility I was entitled to get an answer. But it was not replied to. Secondly, in reply to part (c) of the question, namely 'Whether Government are in favour of allowing unlimited number of Five Star Hotels in the country', the Government could say whether they are in favour or they are not in favour. This aspect was also not replied to. Thirdly, my specific part of the question was this 'If not, the ratio of Five Star Hotels with small and medium hotels and details thereof'. I still do not understand why this ratio was not given : In any case, since we are discussing now, I am confident that he will highlight these aspects.

First of all, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there exists any gradation of hotels into Five-Star, Four-Star or Three-Star, whatever it is, and if this gradation of hotels is there, whether this gradation has been fixed by any Central Law or any State law or whether any guidelines are issued by the Central Government or State Government.

Secondly, if such gradation exists, then what are the special features of each category of the hotels, which is very essential. I would be glad if the hon. Minister, gives that information to me. This is specially because in the answer which was given to me, it was stated that 'According to the Indian Institute of Public Opinion's Report,

there is a shortage of hotel accommodation of the approved category at most of the tourist centres in the country'. Even what is the [approved category was not stated and it is very difficult to know what is the category of the hotels. Therefore, I would be glad if this information is also given to me.

Now, in Goa, there is a strong opposition to the Five-Star Hotels. This was started because the then hon. the Union Minister, Mufti Mohd. Syed went to Goa and in the Press Conference, he said that in Goa by the turn of this century, for every five kilometre there will be a Five Star Hotel. In fact, he gave the number that in the next ten or twelve years, there will be 19 Five Star Hotels. The moment the Union Minister for Tourism made a statement of this magnitude, even those who were not averse to any Five-Star Hotels were taken aback. Because they know the implications of what Five-Star hotels mean. Therefore, from that day onwards, the controversy started and some associations started opposing it. So much so—it is not good; I will also not agree—that when contour flights taking tourists from Germany came last week in Goa, these people from the association went to the airport and threw eggs on the foreign tourists who had come. This is very bad. This will very adversely affect our tourism in future. This has happened because when some associations were opposing these 5-star hotels, I think, from the State Government side also they should have been called. discussed the matter and correct policy, whatever it is, should have been evolved. On the contrary, as far as Goa is concerned, what has happened is that Goa has prepared a master plan and unfortunately in that master plan encouragement to 5-star hotels has been given. To my question No. 356 also, you listed out various facilities that the Central Government gives to the opening of 5-star hotels. That is not bad. But ultimately the ratio has to be fixed. Ultimately Government has to commit that no doubt, we will have a reasonable number of 5-star hotels in a given tourist area, but at the same time, we will stress and see that medium and small hotels are established to cater to the needs of our Indian tourists,

because the country being vast, people have not seen all the places. Therefore, it is our basic responsibility to see that small and medium hotels are established on a priority basis. If we have got extra resources, I think, a substantial part of these resources must go to the establishment of these hotels.

As far as 5-star hotels are concerned, do you know what the management of these hotels do? They go to Goa. They purchase vast tracks of land in sea area. Even if they require a particular track of land, they purchase vast tracks of land so that they can subsequently sell it off. As a result of that, fishermen community residing and doing their business in that area for several decades, is affected. Even they put artificial fencing so that common man or fisherman cannot go to the beach where he has been going for centuries. There is a place called Kaddapadda in Goa. There one company came and perhaps, Government initially did not support it. That company asked the villagers, the tenants who were cultivating paddy for years together, to sell their lands to them. They offered substantial prices. Some of the villagers sold their lands to the hotel owners. Now a 5-star hotel in a tiny village having its own culture, is coming up. Some say that it is a 7-star hotel because it will have its airstrip. People will be taken by helicopter from the airport straightaway to the hotel. On the top of that, there are so many other facilities. By disturbing the culture of a small village in Goa, are we to have such type of hotels? Secondly, even in times when water not available to the people, these 5-star hotels are having running water for 24 hours and plenty of water in their swimming pools. Outside people see the foreigners swimming in the pools when they are thirsty for a glass of water.

If we see the quantity of subsidy that we are giving for the purpose of a 5-star hotel, ultimately the taxpayer is paying crores of rupees by way of subsidy to kill himself, to his detriment only. Is it advisable or not? What I am stating, substantially all parts may not be true. Are we having any policy with respect to these hotels? You have given a decision. Decision is different. Now, we have got

Industrial Policy and Health Policy. Similarly we have got a policy on the Five Star hotels *vis-a-vis* the small and medium hotels. If so, what has been the policy and what is the future course of trend in future five, ten years, not only with special reference to Goa but country as a whole. I would like to know, what are your objectives on this subject.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Sir, I beg to inform the House and to the hon. Member that tourism is a very important industry, not to our country only but I think to many many countries in the world which are depending on tourism. At least we are lucky, we are not depending on tourism alone but I would like our country to be open to many many people all over the world who would like to come to this country.

You cannot tell the people where to go. They have to decide about the visit to different parts of the country. Referring specially to Goa, people would like to come to Goa more. There is no set policy that this particular State will have so many Five Star hotels, that particular State would have Four Star hotels. Ever since I have come, I have been insisting that Government should not get into the business of Five Star hotels because it is a very exclusive industry. Many people who have good expertise, not even that, they must have a liaison with big hotel chains and whatever experiment we have done, I think with the kind of Budget which is available to us I would rather be interested that we go in for the middle class tourists from one State to another State so they you can supply them clean bed, clean bath room and the meals probably at a reasonable price. This is our aim and this is how we are planning.

We are leaving Four Star and Five Star hotel to the private people who have money and who have know-how, how to run it. We would like to concentrate as much as possible on middle class and the lower middle class tourism and on that basis if I were to give the break up of the expenditure we have done on the Yatri Niwas and other

places of tourism and facilities to be provided, I think the Government with whatever Budget has been given, it has done a good work on this.

We have given the publicity and by what we expect in 1990, 2.5 million tourists in our country. To accommodate 2.5 million tourists, I require 59000 rooms. If I were to locate the rooms available to me, there are only 31090. That means there is shortage of 27910 rooms in the country today, if I were to accommodate 2.5 million tourists in 1990; that means, in other two years time, the tourists which I expect to come to this country and the tourists who are wanting to visit our country. The shortage of hotel rooms not in Goa alone, in Goa I expect in another two years 1120, but in places like Delhi 4600, Bombay 5200, Madras 1600, Agra 480, Jaipur 350. This is only what we have projected in 1990, when we expect 2.5 million people to come to this country. But if I were to think ten years hence, I would say that tourists are going to go so fast, that we may have to look for rooms, accommodation, other facilities which go for tourism for something like 15 million people. A small country like Ceylon, subject to correction, has 11 million people. The country like Spain has 57 million people. The earnings are in billions of dollars. I do not know why a country, as big as ours which have so many beautiful things which can offer to the world culturally and otherwise could just cross one million people and I think any State should be happy and the people are showing preference to visit that particular place. I think Goan people are known for their festivals, known for their celebrations. We should be proud that the people want to go to your State and ultimately you help the Exchequer, you precious help the country with the foreign exchange. I think if you look at it commercially, tourism is going to be one of the biggest commercial ventures in this country and would probably help ultimately in getting the foreign exchange which we could use for the defence purpose purchase of everyday necessities which are in short supply in the country. It is not that tourism you are going to look from the point of view of 5-star hotels only and a few people are going to benefit. But ultimately how much

the nation's benefits with the earning of foreign exchange which is so preciously required, that is important.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL (Chandni Chowk): Give licences to private guest houses also. These are much harassed,

[English]

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I am in favour of it.

I am telling you that as far I am as concerned, I need 25000 rooms in the country and I told you that Delhi has got 4650 rooms which means, may be another 20 to 30 hotels, right from one Star to 5-star hotels are required and we are going to request the State Governments in this regard. I am having a Conference on 27th where the Tourism Ministers of the States would be present and we are going to tell them that by all means open as many hotels as possible in their States. Of course, they are all subject to the State laws. I cannot ask them to go and open hotels. If they do not want to see that State laws are to be observed, that is for you to see to it and ultimately when the country is progressing you are selling your country in the foreign country asking them to come and visit your country and if somebody wants to sell the land for 5-star hotel and the State Government is prepared to accept it I think you should not object to it. When Multi Mohd. Syed said that the hotels should be raised, he did not mean exactly the 5-star hotels. He meant to say that people are so much interested and like to come to the country.

Sir, I would like to inform that I have just got the information that Godwick of the UK are planning to come and visit Goa. They are going to bring a charter. There is a big demand from all over the world and people want to bring charters. I do not have much room in Goa. Even today some charters have come to Goa. Some 100 people got down and others left because they have no rooms and the rest go to Nepal. It is because there are no rooms available in Delhi or in Bombay or in Calcutta or they do not want to go to any other place. So,

I should say that if you want to earn foreign exchange, if the people want to come and see your country, ultimately, your aim is to promote tourism. Tourism is one of the biggest industries in the world and today everybody is encouraging it. Why should we see to small things. I will be too happy to meet those people who object these foreigners coming to the country. Actually, I do not see what their objective was. There must be some reason, some local leadership or people who are not able to explain to them why they are coming. If the want to go to Goa, I cannot tell them go and see Delhi, go and see Varanasi and go and see Agra. They say : we don't want to go to those cities. We want to relax here, you have got beautiful beaches, you have got beautiful spots. I think the State Government should take care of these things to see that they could expand as much as possible in the remote areas so that you don't concentrate if you are afraid of that concentration.

Now, you said about the classification of the 5-star hotels. Now I have a big list to show how the 5-star hotels are made, three-star hotels are made and two-star hotels are made. This depends actually on the number of rooms, the kind of square feet of the rooms—usually the room should have the minimum number, so many feet, so much money should be spent, and I think this is monitored through our Ministry and we do allow these five-star, four star and three star, and I think this is a general practice internationally when people want to pay money for a particular class, so they know that these are the minimum requirements by them which will be available in those rooms. and if they want to pay for 5-star, who are you to tell them that 'we will not let you stay in five-star, you must stay in four-star or three-star ?' If they are staying in five-star, they bring you more foreign exchange, they are paying more money. That is why recently I allowed the hotels to charge, the five-star people to charge because in some of those hotels more than 75 per cent earning is through the foreign exchange.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK (Panaji) : It is not increasing, I heard. In the last six years our tourists have increased by 25 per

cent, but foreign exchange has increased by 2.5 per cent only.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : It is because of the fluctuation of the Dollar and so many other things. That is how I have allowed the five-star people to charge whatever tariff they can sell their hotel for. So, if a hotel wants to sell for more and says, 'I want to charge you 500 dollars a room' and if he cannot sell his room for that amount he is going to be in a loss by his room being empty. So, he is able to sell for a certain amount. Once he is able to sell—if I go to London and I pay 200 Pounds for a room, why should I come to India and say, 'I would like to pay you 20 Pounds' because I want to have the same kind of a hotel. Why should he not come and pay 200 Pounds here too? So, more foreign exchange—probably that answers your question, you know.

We do give subsidies to the hotels and that is to encourage people to open more hotels and I think you, as a person who represents Goa, I will be too happy to meet some of your leaders, those who are objecting to the foreigners coming into Goa, probably they have not been able to understand the whole picture about it or may be they have their own reasons and I may be able to convince them, and I think tourism is there, come to stay, and I think in future this country's major foreign exchange earnings will be through tourism.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Sir, the hotel industry is linked to the tourism industry and is ancilliary to tourism industry. The entrepreneurs get loans as well as subsidies from the Industrial Development Bank of India. In Orissa the hotels have been also declared an industry. So, in Orissa these entrepreneurs also get financial assistance from the O.S.F.C., i.e., Orissa State Financial Corporation, as well as from I.D.B.I. we have got the hotels at Bhubaneswar, Rourkela, Puri and one five-star hotel coming up at Konark, and they get the land from the State Government leased out at a very low rate, practically a very nominal rate, I think at 1/20th of the market price and also a huge

acreage of land. They even get subsidy. All these facilities are given to the entrepreneurs for the simple reason that these hotels will be utilised for tourist industry. But I want to know from the hon. Minister one thing. Though tourism linked hotels in Orissa are getting a huge amount of subsidy and assistance from the bank, after the hotels have been constructed, they are leased out to different banks or institutions. Some of these people have converted their black money into white under benami transactions, by constructing such hotels in the State of Orissa because hotel is also in the category of industry. The purpose for which subsidy was given for hotels was defeated and the rules were flouted by these people. They get assistance from the IDBI also, I would therefore like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will inquire into the matter or get it inquired into by CBI or some other agency to know how many such hotels in Orissa have taken the assistance from the IDBI and other financial corporations and also nationalised banks and how many of these hotels have leased out or rented these hotels to nationalised banks and other institutions and not running the hotels. If so, whether steps will be taken to realise the subsidy amount with penalty from those entrepreneurs, besides starting the case of cheating under IPC. They have practically cheated both the Central Government and Orissa Government for their personal benefit. Would the Government also take such other methods both civil and criminal courts to put an end to such malpractices which are being indulged in the name of industry.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Harish Rawat—not present. Shri T. Basheer.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) : I am not putting the question because the hon. Minister has covered the points.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Shri Chinamani Jena.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : I am grateful to the hon. Minister that he has very elaborately answered the necessity of 5-star hotels which are a very good

foreign exchange earner, and also the reason for having such 5-star hotels in our country.

In his answer to the question put by my hon. friend, Shri Shantaram Naik, he has told that some of the States have declared hotel and tourism as industry and the concessions are being given to them. May I know from the hon. Minister which are the States which have declared hotel business as industry and after such declaration, how many such five-star hotels have come up and what is the percentage of foreign tourists who are accommodated after this declaration?

My hon. friend, Shri Shantaram Naik has categorically put one question but the hon. Minister has not told anything about the ratio of 5-star hotels, with 2-star and 3-star hotels. May I know from the hon. Minister—besides our country, there are 5-star hotels in Western countries which have more tourist spots and tourist attractions—what is the ratio of 5-star hotels in these countries? We are considering domestic tourism as another factor to boost national integration and contribute to the general economy of the country. Is the Government considering to provide any concessions to the domestic tourists? If any domestic tourists occupies 5-star hotel, will he be given any concession? The hon. Minister has referred that people like us who are middle class and low-middle class would be accommodated in Ashok Yatri Niwas and such type of hotels.

18.00 hrs.

The hon. Minister will be sorry to know what is happening in Hotels like Ashok Yatri Niwas which is a 16-storey building. There is no liftman to operate the lift. If somebody will go to the upper storey, he cannot come down. The persons occupying the upper storeys cannot come down nor can they go up. This is the system. Of course, I agree with him that when we do not pay more, we should not expect more amenities and more facilities. That is true. But the minimum requirements should be provided like helping the occupants of these 2-star, 3-star or such middle-class hotels, so that the middle-class people who

are occupying those hotels should not be put to difficulty.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that even in spite of so many concessions and provision of so many subsidies as per the MRTD Act etc., the entrepreneurs and private hoteliers are not giving amenities to the occupants of those 5-star hotels even though they are paying more, but the amenities are less because of which the occupation in 5-star hotels is much less in our country. What is the Government's reaction to this so that this type of things should not come up? I fully agree with him that we are now attracting more tourists and we should attract more tourists to earn more foreign exchange.

Similarly, the concessions and subsidies given to the hoteliers should not be misused nor should they help the middlemen. The middlemen should not be allowed to take advantage of the simplicity and good wishes provided by the Government.

With these words I conclude.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now the hon. Minister would reply.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : First of all, I would like to thank hon. Member Mr. Somnath Rath who has spoken on this subject. The most that the Central Government can do to these hotels which are misusing the premises is to withdraw the rating. I was given some information on this. I could take it up with the appropriate authority. We are not interested to see that anybody who has got concessions from the Government either land or other equipment, to misuse the position because, on the one hand, I am finding shortage of rooms and on the other, this is being misused. I hope we are not making a mistake because some hotels have branches of the banks in them. If that is a part of accommodation which has been sanctioned, in that case, we would take it up.

I would like to inform the Members that all hotels all over the country get interest subsidy of 1% on the first Rs. 75 lakhs of loan and the Government of Orissa thus provided land at a concessional rate.

I would like to inform you that we are very soon going to expand Bhubaneswar airport so that you could have a bigger aircraft landing and people can come to Orissa direct on chartered flights.

Shri Chintamani Jena asked the present ratio of 5-star hotels. The present ratio of 5-star hotels in India is 30% of the total classified hotel accommodation available in the country.

We cannot coerce any 5-star hotel to give concessions to the local tourists. This is the tariff which is approved and whoever wants to go to 5-star hotel, I am sure, he can afford to pay 5-star rates. That is one of the reasons why our Ministry is concentrating more on Yatri Niwas smaller hotels, where, atleast, my aim is that we could give cleaner room, a clean bed-sheet and a clean bathroom and also a reasonably priced meal. . . (Interruptions) The point is that all foreigners do not stay in Five Star Hotels. There are poor people as it exists in our country. There are rich people also.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What about the maintenance of the Centaur Hotel in Bombay, which is a Five Star Hotel ? This is an Air India Hotel.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Sir, do you mean the new-one or the old-one ? (Interruptions) Please stay in the new-one and you will not have any complaints. About the old-one, I would like to say that we are trying to renovate and we are trying to refurbish it.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In the Airport, there is one Hotel. Is it a new-one or an old-one ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Shri Chintamani Jena wanted to know as to which are the States which have declared Tourism as an industry. I would like to state that Himachal Pradesh, U.P., Haryana, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Andhra, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Tripura, Manipur, Goa and the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar have declared tourism as an industry while the States of Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal have declared Hotel as an Industry. But, we have got a letter, just this morning only, from the Chief Minister of Orissa that he is also thinking of considering Hotel as an Industry. I think this answers almost all the questions.

18.06 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Forty-third Report

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Sir, I beg to present the Forty-third Report of Business Advisory Committee.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to meet again at Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, November 17, 1987,

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday,
November 17, 1987/Kartika 26,
1909 (Saka).*